

LOCAL

Truxton Academy Charter School welcomed the addition of a new small animal barn on Wednesday.



Page 3

SPORTS

Homer boys lacrosse is headed to the Sec. III Class C semifinals after defeating Indian River Wednesday.



Page 9

Cortland Standard

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THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2024

CORTLAND, N.Y.

Homer's DRI list finalized

11 projects to share \$9.7M, leverage \$22.4M in total investment

By MARGARET MELLOTT
Staff Reporter

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After years of pitching, planning and pruning a few dreams, the village got word Wednesday of the final 11 projects to share \$10 million in state funding. Now the work begins.

And while she's optimistic of the outcome, Amanda Castillo is a little nervous about that. "The traffic," she said Wednesday afternoon as she walked her dog in front of her home at 42 James St., across the street from what will become a mixed-use facility. "And the noise."

But once the work is done, she said, "It'd be nice." She particularly likes that the initial plans for the former Brockway factory would keep the oldest and most historic part of the complex. She's from a large city in Texas; she likes Homer's quaint history.

"I love the country, and I love the stories," she said.

The Local Planning Committee submitted the final project proposal in December — it proposed 13 projects asking for \$14.6 million. A state committee whittled the list down to 11 projects totalling \$9.7 million in state investment; \$300,000 of the \$10 million goes to project consultants, C&S Cos. Total investment for the 11 projects is \$22.36 million.

"We're ecstatic that we got the decisions and we can start moving forward with the projects," said Deputy Mayor Pat Clune.

The village of Homer won the sixth round of Downtown Revitalization Initiative funding in February. From there, the Local Planning Committee was formed to review project applications and decide on a wish list for the state to select projects from.

Projects were meant to represent a mix of public and private investment, ensuring economic diversity for the community.

"Our downtowns are the epicenters of our communities, and I am dedicated to making sure residents and visitors alike can enjoy all they have to offer," Gov. Kathy Hochul said in a news release. "These projects will go a



Todd R. McAdam/Managing Editor

Briggs Hall on N. Main Street in Homer will get the largest single block of Downtown Revitalization Initiative money, \$3.5 million, to create a boutique hotel.

long way in making these villages welcoming to all."

Projects include:

Developing a boutique hotel — \$3.5 million

Renovations of The Manor at Briggs Hall,

11 N. Main St., will turn it into a 34-room full-service boutique hotel with dining, lounge, and conference facilities. It will be attached to a wellness spa on a neighboring property. **Total cost: \$11.1 million.**

See HOMER, page 6

Moravia gets final list of New York Forward projects

Six projects to share \$2.25M

By DOUG SCHNEIDER
Staff Reporter

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cortlandstandard.com

MORAVIA — Moravia would improve its Main Street streetscape to support business and pedestrian activity. Transform the former Elmira Savings Bank building into a bar and restaurant. Redesign Ethel Fuller Park.

The state has winnowed a list of proposals for a \$2.25 million NY Forward grant to six projects, it announced Wednesday.

"Our downtowns are the epicenters of our communities. I am dedicated to making sure residents and visitors alike can enjoy all they have to offer," Gov. Kathy Hochul said in a statement. "These projects will go a long way in making these villages welcoming to all."

Moravia officials applied for the state grant last fall, said Mayor Chris Fulton.

"The last time we did anything was in September or October," he said.

Now, he looks forward to a visit from state representatives to offer guidance, he said, "and help us with what we need to do next."

The villages of Moravia, Cayuga County; Hamilton, Madison County; each won \$2.25 million in "New York

Forward" grants. Phoenix, in Southern Oswego County, gets a \$4.5 million New York Forward grant. Homer got a \$10 million Downtown Revitalization Initiative award.

Fulton was particularly excited about modernizing Ethel Fuller Park.

"It was in pretty rough shape," he said, because it gets significant use.

It could use a nicer playground, with elements moved toward the front of the park and public events in the back.

A park pavilion would be enlarged and safety would be increased, state officials said.

Fulton also is excited about the possibilities for two restaurants in a community that has focused on carry-out businesses.

"All of the sudden, we'd have a couple of restaurants," he said, that would attract seasonal visitors.

The 6 projects:

Establish a small project fund for mixed-use and commercial improvements — \$300,000

Transform former bank at 142 Main St. into a tavern — \$500,000

The project will convert the vacant former Elmira Savings Bank building into a bar and restaurant.

Improve Main Street streetscape — \$640,000

This project will build on See MORAVIA, page 6

Iranians overseas cheer, and fear, after president's death



AP Photo/Damian Dovarganes

The Pink Orchid bakery and cafe and the Taste of Tehran restaurant are seen in the so-called "Tehrangeles" neighborhood in the Westwood district of Los Angeles on Monday.

By JILL LAWLESS
Associated Press

LONDON — Among Iranian communities from London to Los Angeles, few tears are being shed over the death of President Ebrahim Raisi, killed in a weekend helicopter crash.

But there are not always loud cheers, either.

While some hope the demise of a powerful figure in Iran's authoritarian Islamic government may bring change, others fear it could result in more repression.

"It's a better world without him," said Maryam Namazie, a U.K.-based women's rights campaigner. "He is one of the pillars of the Islamic regime of Iran. He has been there since its inception."

But, she added: "Raisi, however much of a pillar he was, is expend-

able. There are many others to take his place."

Inside Iran, authorities are keeping a tight lid on reaction to the crash that killed Raisi, Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian and six others. The government declared five days of mourning, encouraging people into the streets in displays of public grief and support. Prosecutors have warned Iranians against any public celebrations, and a heavy security force presence has been on the streets of Tehran.

Outside Iran, some expatriates felt bold enough to dance in the street. Nazeen Ansari, editor of Kayhan London, a news website for Iranians abroad that is critical of the country's theocracy, said that within hours of news of Raisi's death, Iranians gathered in cities across Europe and beyond to celebrate.

The Iranian diaspora is large, including those who fled soon after the 1979 Islamic Revolution and later waves who left because of continued repression or economic woes. More than half a million Iranians live in the U.S. — many in California — and there are large communities in European cities, including London, Paris and Stockholm.

Dissidents have shared social media videos showing dozens of Iranians dancing and cheering in the streets of Toronto and Cologne, Germany, Ansari said.

"I understand their anger, I understand why they are celebrating," she said. "For me, I wish this guy stayed alive so he can be taken to an international court, to look in the eyes of his victims and reply to them. I'm sorry he

See IRAN, page 6

Average US vehicle age hits record 12.6 years amid high prices

By TOM KRISHER
AP Auto Writer

DETROIT — Cars, trucks and SUVs in the U.S. keep getting older, hitting a record average age of 12.6 years in 2024 as people hang on to their vehicles largely because new ones cost so much.

S&P Global Mobility, which tracks state vehicle registration data nationwide, said Wednesday that the average vehicle age grew about two months

from last year's record.

But the growth in average age is starting to slow as new vehicle sales start to recover from pandemic-related shortages of parts, including computer chips. The average increased by three months in 2023.

Still, with an average U.S. new-vehicle selling price of just over \$45,000 last month, many can't afford to buy new — even though prices are down more than

\$2,000 from the peak in December of 2022, according to J.D. Power.

"It's prohibitively high for a lot of households now," said Todd Campau, aftermarket leader for S&P Global Mobility. "So I think consumers are being painted into the corner of having to keep the vehicle on the road longer."

Other factors include people waiting to see if they want to buy an electric vehicle or go with a gas-electric hybrid or

a gasoline vehicle. Many, he said, are worried about the charging network being built up so they can travel without worrying about running out of battery power. Also, he said, vehicles are made better these days and simply are lasting a long time.

New vehicle sales in the U.S. are starting to return to pre-pandemic levels, with prices and interest rates the big influencing factors rather than ill-

ness and supply-chain problems, Campau said. He said he expects sales to hit around 16 million this year, up from 15.6 million last year and 13.9 million in 2022.

As more new vehicles are sold and replace aging vehicles in the nation's fleet of 286 million passenger vehicles, the average age should stop growing

See CARS, page 6

INDEX

- Ask Amy..... 4
- Bridge..... 15
- Classified..... 15
- Comics..... 14
- Crossword... 14
- Deaths..... 2
- Editorials..... 5
- Horoscope... 14
- Living..... 4
- Lottery..... 2
- Police/Fire... 3
- Sports..... 9

WEATHER



Sunny
Tomorrow's Weather:
High near 76
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.



Weather

Local

Rest of today: Mostly clear, with a low around 52. Calm wind.

Friday: Sunny, with a high near 76.

Friday night: Mostly clear, with a low around 52.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 78. Chance of precipitation is 50%.

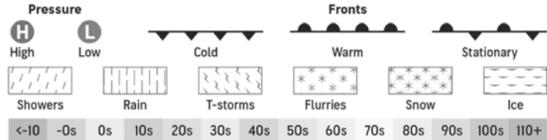
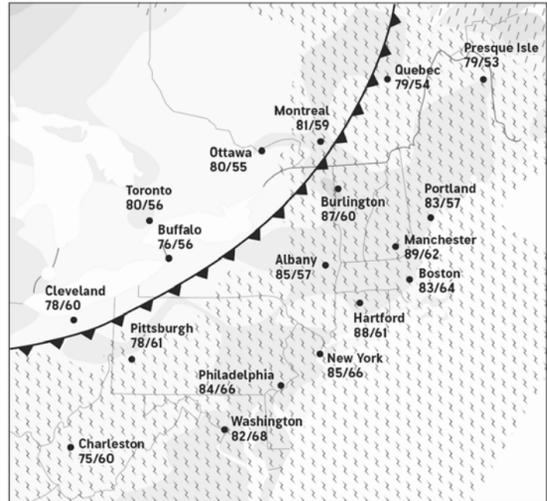
Saturday night: A chance of showers and thunderstorms before 2 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 57. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

Skies Today

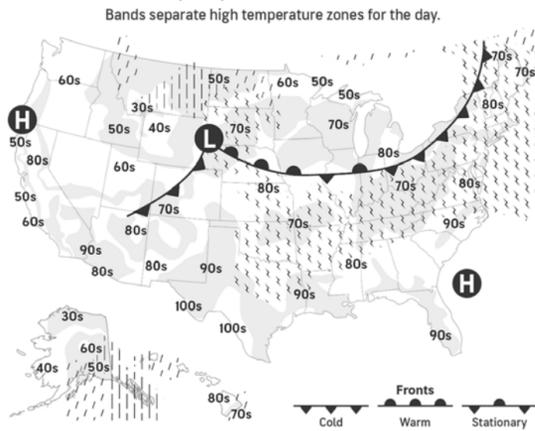
Thursday, May 23, 2024

Sunset today 8:28 p.m.
 Sunrise tomorrow 5:35 a.m.
 Normal high temperature 69
 Normal low temperature 46
 Average temperature 58
 Last quarter moon May 30

Forecast for Thursday, May 23, 2024



Forecast for Thursday, May 23, 2024



NATIONAL SUMMARY: Thunderstorms could bring damaging winds, flash flooding and hail from Texas to the Dakotas today. A few tornadoes may also occur within this zone. Severe thunderstorms are also anticipated in parts of the area from eastern North Carolina to Massachusetts. Extreme heat will continue over the Florida Peninsula and in South Texas.

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Lottery Winners

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

Numbers: Midday: 1-4-3, Evening: 1-6-7; **WinFour:** Midday: 1-2-5-4, Evening: 7-9-7-8; **Pick 10:** 9-10-11-16-18-23-29-32-34-35-37-40-42-48-58-59-67-68-69-76; **Take Five:** Midday: 4-9-14-17-18, Evening: 15-17-26-34-39; **Cash4Life:** 7-13-19-22-40, Cash Ball: 2, **Lotto:** 9-21-25-28-42-56, Bonus: 14, **Powerball:** 5-16-18-26-67, Power Ball: 4, 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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NY senator won't face charges after he was accused of shoving an advocate

By MAYSOON KHAN
Associated Press

ALBANY — A New York state senator won't face charges after he was accused of shoving an advocate in the state capitol building last week.

Disability rights advocate Michael Carey, who filed a complaint with New York State Police after a heated exchange with state Sen. Kevin Parker turned physical, told The Associated Press that he spoke with Parker on Friday and they "resolved things in a peaceable way."

New York State Police Spokesperson Stephanie O'Neil said late Tuesday that they closed an investigation and no criminal charges were filed in what they referred to as a "disturbance" at the state capitol building that day.

Parker's office did not re-



New York Sen. Kevin Parker, D-Brooklyn, stands at the podium, flanked by Senate members, Feb. 6, 2017, during a news conference at the Capitol in Albany.

before a May 15 committee meeting about supporting a piece of legislation when an

argument broke out between them.

Carey said Parker grabbed him by his shoulders and shoved him, causing him to stumble back. Carey said Parker then shoved him again.

"I wish it never got to that point," said Carey. "It's way better that we can work things out."

Parker has a history of violent behavior.

In 2005, he was arrested on a third-degree assault charge after he was accused of punching a traffic agent who gave him a ticket for double-parking.

Parker was arrested and ultimately convicted of misdemeanor criminal mischief charges in 2009 after he chased a New York Post photographer and damaged his camera. He was stripped of his position as majority whip in the state legislature during that time.

Voters in Onondaga County school district resoundingly reject electric bus purchase

By ELIZABETH DORAN
syracuse.com (TNS)

Voters in the Baldwinsville school district Tuesday overwhelmingly turned down a proposal to buy an electric school bus.

Voters rejected the measure 1,423 to 716.

The state legislature electric school bus mandate, enacted in 2022, requires new school bus purchases to be zero emission by 2027 and all school buses in operation to be electric by 2035.

Baldwinsville School Superintendent Joseph DeBarbieri said in a statement that "the result of this vote helps us gauge where our community stands

on the issues surrounding this mandate. This information will be provided to our state officials."

Baldwinsville residents approved the purchase of 14 diesel-powered school buses, not to exceed \$2.6 million to replace the aging fleet.

That was approved 1,429 to 708.

In a video to the community, DeBarbieri told voters the proposition will help the district see where community sentiment lies.

Gov. Kathy Hochul's mandate to transition to electric school buses has been getting pushback around the state.

In the Mexico School District in Oswego County, voters rejected a proposal to buy an electric bus. It was turned down 381 to 199.

Long Island school officials joined Republican lawmakers in arguing that the mandate will cost an estimated \$9 billion and could not be supported by the state's current infrastructure, including charging stations, according to a news report.

There are state grants available to help districts cover electric bus costs.

In a video message to Baldwinsville taxpayers, DeBarbieri said the cost after state aid of an electric bus is about \$109,000,

and about \$33,000 for a traditional school bus.

He urged voters to "vote with their heart" taking into consideration how they feel about zero emissions.

Hochul said school districts and school bus operators can apply for up to \$65,000 per electric bus to purchase and install chargers and related infrastructure, according to School Transportation News.

The funds are part of the \$500 million New York School Bus Incentive Program under the \$4.2 billion Clean Water, Clean Air and Green Jobs Environmental Bond Act passed by voters in 2022.

Obituaries

Joseph E. Ludewig

October 25, 1930 to May 14, 2024

Joseph E. Ludewig, retired publications editor at State University College at Cortland, died May 14, 2024 at Cortland Park Rehabilitation and Nursing. He was 93 and resided at 3817 Highland Rd., Cortlandville and then at the Elizabeth Brewster House in Homer. He also had a summer home in Roxbury, NY.

Before moving to Cortland in 1966 Mr. Ludewig was city editor of the Poughkeepsie (NY) Journal. He previously was a reporter and suburban editor for the Rochester (NY) Democrat and Chronicle. He retired from SUNY in August 1992.

Born October 25, 1930 in Rockville Center, Long Island, he attended school in Wappingers Falls NY and graduated from Syracuse University in 1952 with a bachelor's degree in journalism and political science. He was drafted into the Army in the Korean War and was in the public relations office at Fort Dix in New Jersey. He was discharged as a sergeant.

He held office in the American Newspaper Guild in Rochester, was a member of the SUNY Council for University Affairs and Development for 26 years, and for several years chaired a statewide publications committee for SUNY colleges.

For nine years he represented the Homer Central School District on the board of education of Cortland-Madison BOCES and its successor, Onondaga-Cortland-Madison BOCES. He was a frequent Red Cross blood donor, volunteered as a sorter for the annual Cortland Free Library book sale, and was a long-time lector at St. Margaret's Catholic Church in Homer where he also served a term as parish trustee.

His wife, the former Elizabeth Goddard whom he married in Rochester in 1958, died in September 2021. He is survived by a daughter, Katherine F. Ludewig, in Broadalbin (NY); a daughter and son-in-law, Jenny and Jay Shain, in San Jose, CA; a son and daughter-in-law, David and Robin Ludewig, in Toluca Lake, CA, four grandsons, twins Nathaniel and Benjamin, in New York City, Harry Ludewig in Toluca Lake and Gabriel Shain in San Jose, and a granddaughter, Elena Shain, in San Jose, and nephews, nieces and cousins. His sister, Frances L. Frisina, died in 2013.

A Funeral Mass will be celebrated St. Margaret's Church, Homer, at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, May 29, 2024. Burial will be in Roxbury.

Mr. Ludewig requested that no flowers be sent and that memorial gifts be given to the public library of choice.

The Wright-Beard Funeral Home of Cortland is serving the family, online condolences may be left at www.wright-beard.com.

Christine M. Garfield

It is with deep sorrow we announce the passing of Christine M. Garfield on May 21, 2024. She passed away peacefully at Cayuga Medical Center, surrounded by her loved ones.

Chris was born in Queens, NY to Howard and Rose Garfield, grew up in East Islip, NY and graduated from SUNY Cortland in 1988.

Chris was loved by all who met her. She enjoyed riding topless in her Jeep, hiking the NYS Finger Lakes Trail, having her feet in any sand available, and spending time with her many nieces and nephews. Chris, famous for her sharp wit, was perpetually behind the camera, capturing life's moments with a smile and a clever remark.

Chris was employed by Northside Wine & Spirits in Ithaca, NY, for over 30 years. She was previously employed by Divi Resorts covering her favorite island of Aruba.

Chris is survived by her wife Chantalise DeMarco; her parents Howard and Rose Garfield; sisters Patti (Joe) Sullivan and their children Gregory (Anna) Quigley [Jaxon, Christina, Kyle and Cole], and Katie Quigley [Jacob and Jeremiah]; Janna (Danny) Reynolds and their children Cal (Taylor), Connor, Allyn and Shealeigh; in-laws Joseph (MaryAnn) DeMarco; Kathryn (Bob) Wilcox; and Grandpa Joseph J. DeMarco Sr.; sisters- and brothers-in-laws, Jennifer (Greg) LoBalbo and their children Kaelyn and Luciano; Michael DeMarco, and his child, Anthony; Bobby Wilcox, and his children Grace and Molly; Kelley (Derek) DeMarchi, and their children Adrianna, Leila and Elyse; Kristie (Jason) Pound and their children Jaxson, Thomas and Joney.

Calling hours will be held on Saturday, May 25 from 10 a.m.-1:45 p.m. at Wright-Beard Funeral Home, Cortland NY, with services to follow at 2 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, the family encourages donating blood and registering as an organ donor with Donate Life America registry (donatelifenet).

Monetary donations can be made to the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation (crohnscolitisfoundation.org), American Red Cross, or the American Syringomyelia & Chiari Alliance Project (asap.org) in Chris Garfield's memory.

The family wishes to extend their gratitude to Visiting Nurse Services of Ithaca and Cayuga Medical Center ICU staff for their support and extraordinary care during Chris's illness.

To offer online condolences, please visit www.wright-beard.com.



Death Notices

CROUCH — Timmy Crouch, 59, of Cortland, died on May 18, 2024. Burial will take place on Friday at 10 a.m. in Glenwood Cemetery in Homer. Wright-Beard is assisting the family.

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Voters adopt all 10 greater Cortland area school budgets

From Staff Reports

Voters in 10 greater Cortland area school districts approved proposed 2024-25 school budgets Tuesday, as well as other spending propositions. They also elected school board members.

Across the state, The New York State United Teachers reported 97% of public school budgets passed. Of the 31 districts that tried to override the tax cap with a supermajority vote, 19 succeeded, 10 failed and two were still pending.

The details, in complete but unofficial tallies:

CORTLAND

The Cortland Enlarged City School District's budget was adopted, 433-192. The budget for 2024-25 would be \$53,135,150, up 5.8% from this year's \$53,046,042 budget. Its proposed levy of \$19,328,429 is up 4.1% from this year's \$18,573,268.

However, because the city of Cortland reassessed its properties, the property tax rate drops to \$12.54 per \$1,000 assessed value from \$13.84 per \$1,000.

Also on the ballot:

The purchase of three buses, one wheelchair bus and one Suburban for \$768,000, adopted 452-167.

\$461,024 to maintain Cortland Free Library, passed, 396-225.

A \$6.5 million capital project, largely renovating Barry Primary School. The district has set aside \$1.2 million for the project, but would bond for the remaining \$5.3 million, adopted 428-192.

Appointing a student non-voting board member from the senior class; passed 507-115.

Three people were elected to three-year school board terms: Sherlyn Pallassino with 485 votes, Brett Barnes with 463 votes and Christine Gregory with 476 votes.

HOMER

Homer voters adopted the budget, 490-128. The \$49,538,835 spending proposal increases spending 5% from this year's \$47,195,532 budget. It comes with a \$17,535,266 property tax levy, up 3% from this year's \$17,027,266 levy.

Voters agreed to lease buses, 499-115, and fund Phillips Free Library, 510-109.

KC Slade with 419 votes, Kevin Mack with 371 votes and Stacy Petri with 308 votes defeated John Dean and Emily Olsenwik for seats on the school board.

DRYDEN

Dryden's \$47.05 million spending plan for 2024-25 was adopted, 373-153.

The \$47,049,383 budget proposal increases spending 0.5% from this year's \$46,827,740 budget. The proposed budget levies \$21,057,870 in property taxes, up 3.2% from this year's \$20,397,856, district budget data show. The budget uses \$750,000 in available cash to balance.

Voters also approved a bond to buy buses, 373-152, and a project to make water system and other improvements at Freeville Elementary School, 399-128.

Four people were seated on the school board: Incumbents Bridget Flanigan, with 419 votes, and Justin St. Juliana, with 402 votes, joined Tami Tabone with 318 votes for three-year seats. Leslie Debo, with 89 votes, gets a one-year seat.

GROTON

Groton's budget was adopted, 133-77. The \$25,073,035 spending plan decreases spending 2.8% from this year's \$25,801,249. Its proposed property tax levy of \$6,938,159 is up 3% from this year's \$6,736,731.

Voters also re-elected two school board members, Samuel Rose and Susan Bishop, with 147 and 181 votes, respectively.

McGRAW

McGraw's budget was adopted, 189-56. The plan would spend \$16.56 million, up 1.7% from this year's \$16.28 million budget.

The plan raises spending 1.7% from this year's \$16.28 million

budget. Its property tax levy would be \$3.48 million, a 3.1% increase from this year's \$3.37 million, shows the property tax report card the district must file with the state.

The district plans to draw \$110,000 from its retirement contribution reserve, \$90,386 from its retirement contribution sub-fund and \$58,789 from its workers compensation reserve to balance the budget.

Voters also approved a bus bond, 190-52.

Three school board members were elected: Cheryl Kenyon with 196 votes; Glenn Doran with 161, and Justin Baker with 130. They defeated Megan Johnson, 102 votes, and Michael Barylski, 59 votes.

CINCINNATUS

The Cincinnatus Central School District budget proposal was adopted, 103-16. The plan spends \$18,677,720, up 3% from this year's \$17,968,722 plan. Its \$4,077,046 property tax levy is up 1.8% from this year's \$4,005,744.

Voters also approved buying school transport vehicles, 93 to 25.

Debra Kressler, the school board president, was re-elected. A new board member will be Chrystal Loomis.

MARATHON

Marathon's budget was adopted, 270-64. The \$21,916,840 budget increases spending 3.4% from this year's \$21,198,785 plan. Its proposed levy of \$4,303,597 for 2024-25 remains the same as this year.

The ballot also included a proposition to contribute \$82,000 to Peck Memorial Library, the same as this year, but results were unavailable.

Voters approved a proposition to buy a diesel bus, 272-63, and to establish a technology and equipment reserve fund, 268-61.

Justin Lilley, with 281 votes, and Floyd Parker, with 242 votes, were elected to the school board.

MORAVIA

Moravia's budget was adopted, 251-78. Its proposed budget of \$27,766,482 is down 3.2% from this year's \$28,676,344 plan. However, its proposed property tax levy of \$9,267,491 is up 2.5% from this year's \$9,041,469.

The ballot also included a proposition to spend \$418,000 to buy school buses, adopted 248-81, and a proposition to contribute \$96,390 to Powers Library, up from \$94,500, which passed, 241-91.

Three candidates sought two school board seats: Neil Stevens, with 239 votes, and Jody Marnell with 191 votes, defeated Kira Minnoe with 174 votes.

TULLY

Tully's budget was adopted, 317-190. Its \$23,584,135 budget decreases spending 0.05% from this year's \$23,595,071 budget. Its \$11,310,953 property tax levy is up 2.2% from this year's \$11.07 million.

Also on the ballot was a proposition to spend \$573,640 to buy four school buses, adopted 317-189, a proposition to contribute \$234,091 to Tully Free Library, adopted 343-165, and to spend up to \$16,000 to acquire a leased school bus, adopted 369-137. Three school board members were elected: Edward Wortley II with 398 votes, Donna Doody with 350 votes and Jeffrey Phelps with 333 votes, defeating Carley Anderson with 155 votes.

DeRUYTER

DeRuyter's budget was adopted, 157-27. The \$12,360,748 budget is up 1.5% from this year's \$12,173,478 plan. Its levy, \$4,633,488, is up 3% from this year's \$4,496,697 levy.

The ballot also included propositions to spend \$348,000 for buses, adopted 154-30; \$41,404 for DeRuyter Free Library, passed 165-18; and \$20,000 for a village of DeRuyter summer recreation program, passed 168-16.

Connor Langevin was elected to a three-year school board term.



Lily Byrne/Staff Reporter

Truxton Academy Charter School sixth-grader Hunter Crandall holds a chicken that laid an egg Tuesday night.

Truxton Academy Charter School gets new barn, high tunnel

By LILY BYRNE
Staff Reporter

lbyrne@cortlandstandard.com

Kids at Truxton Academy Charter School will now collect eggs or feed goats between their science and math classes.

Truxton Academy Charter School opened on Wednesday its new high tunnel and small animal barn, which houses goats and chickens. This has been the school's goal since it opened five years ago, said Patty Dawson, executive director of the school.

"Kids are naturally excited about learning about things like nature, life cycles and live animals," Dawson said. "It will keep them engaged, and help them retain what they are learning, because it's not just paper and pencil and then they go home. What they're learning in our classroom is then practiced when they are outside."

Sixth-grader Hunter Crandall said he's excited to take care of the chickens.

"I like picking them up and petting them," Crandall said. "When kids get animals, they learn how to take care of them, and if they like the animals, they could ask their parents to get them, too."

He hopes the school gets cows next. When name suggestions were collected for the goats, he suggested Jilly and Madame Zeroni; the latter being a reference to the book "Holes," which he just finished reading in class.

First-grader Wyatt Walters suggested Buttercup and Cookie Dough. He is looking forward to feeding the chickens and collecting their eggs, he said.

"My aunt does have some animals, so I do like them a lot, and I like wildlife



Lily Byrne/Staff Reporter

Two goats are getting used to Truxton Academy Charter School.

a lot," Walters said. His favorite animals are goats and reptiles.

The high tunnel will lengthen the school's growing season and allow for more fresh vegetables to be grown, most of which are used in lunches through the year, Dawson said.

The garden next to it is used for student gardening, said Rural Life Lab Coordinator Jamie Smart. Each grade recently created a themed garden plot, such as Peter Rabbit, a rainbow garden and a garden representing the five senses.

Each class will be assigned daily tasks, Smart said, such as collecting eggs, checking food and water, weighing eggs and cleaning the pens.

"I'm really excited about how we can learn through the lens of agriculture," Smart said. "We have our regular curriculum that kids need to learn, and then we have the agriculture curriculum, and

I'm excited about the places where those paths cross and we're able to integrate it together."

Fourth-grader Izzy Hof used to have chickens at home, and is excited for her classmates to learn as much about them as she knows.

"I would like to educate them on the fact that chickens molt," Hof said. "Don't be afraid if they start losing all of their feathers because they'll molt, so if you have chickens, it might get all over your yard."

Principal Scott Anderson said the new buildings will help foster empathy, responsibility and work ethic in the students.

"We're living the dream of what the charter school was originally set up to be," Anderson said. "We've made a lot of promises to families that we are finally going to be able to fulfill. Their kids are going to get those experiences of working with animals, working in the garden and eating food that we grow ourselves."

Eventually, older students can help the school sell the eggs or produce at a small farmers market, Dawson said.

"Agriculture is one of the few places where kids can find a role in entrepreneurship early," Smart said. "Whether they love plants or love animals or they don't like agriculture at all, that leadership and that experience of planning out a project, understanding the steps and following it through, is something that I would really like to see them get started on."

The barn was purchased using money saved from the initial grant when the school opened, and the high tunnel was purchased using a grant from the Truxton Community Center, Dawson said.

Around the Towns

League dinner set for June 19

Vivian Bosch will receive the Alice A. Walker Award June 19 during the annual dinner meeting of the League of Women Voters of Cortland County.

The dinner will be 5 p.m. at the Center for the Arts of Homer. The organization will also hear from Mallory May and Jack McGovern, both students at Cortland High School, about their experience at "Students Inside Albany" a conference for high school students in Albany.

In addition, league member Dottie Fowler will be honored.

Food will be provided by

Scratch Farmhouse Catering. Reservations are required. For cost and to reserve a spot, send an email to lwvcortland@gmail.com or call 315-427-8291.

2 Cortland seniors attend state conference

Cortland Senior High School students Mallory May and Jack McGovern attended "Students Inside Albany" this week, sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Cortland County. The conference, organized by the League of Women Voters of New York State, is designed to increase students' awareness of their responsibility in representative government, and provides

them with an opportunity to engage with state government officials and students from across the state.

May, a junior, applied to attend the conference for the opportunity to network with state elected representatives and with other student leaders. May is vice president of the Class of 2025, president of International Club, and Student Council Committee as well as a member of National Honor Society and Science Honor Society. Outside of school, May dances at Cortland Performing Arts.

McGovern is a senior, an honor student and part of the advanced degree program at Tompkins Cortland Community College. He plans to study filmmaking in college.

He has been involved in political activities, petitioning for candidates and making videos for political campaigns. He was interested to gain practical knowledge of how government functions and further his career aspirations in communications and public affairs. McGovern has produced short films and videos since he was 7.

May and McGovern will be introduced today to the Cortland County Legislature and to the Cortland Enlarged City School District school board June 11.

Their participation was supported by the league, Zonta, the Cortland Community Social Club, and the League of Women Voters Education Foundation.

Memorial Day

Flag planting rescheduled

A flag planting at Cortland Rural Cemetery was rescheduled to 4 p.m. Friday due to Wednesday's rain. The deci-

sion to reschedule was made on the spot Wednesday, the ceremony's original date, said organizer Marty Bushnell of the American Legion Post 489. The Cortland Rural Cemetery says on its website it

has a limited number of flags available at the cemetery office at 110 Tompkins St.

The website says the cemetery will collect flags in the weeks following Memorial Day and Veterans Day.

Anyone looking to plant multiple flags can contact the cemetery.

The cemetery accepts donations of small, wooden-dowel flags.

— Jack Lakowsky



Lily Byrne/ Staff Reporter

The cast of "Gilligan's Island: The Musical" rehearses the song "Let's Stick Together" during rehearsal.

'Gilligan's Island: The Musical' ready to set sail for absurdity

If you go

WHAT: "Gilligan's Island: The Musical"
WHEN: 7:30 p.m. through May 25, 2 p.m. May 26
WHERE: Center for the Arts of Homer, 72 S. Main St.
TICKETS: \$20, \$18 for seniors, \$25 day of show. Call 607-749-4900 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Tuesday to Friday.

By **LILY BYRNE**
Staff Reporter

lbyrne@cortlandstandard.com

"Gilligan's Island" is not a perfect musical, said Director Jim Coon. But the perfect cast, and perfect execution, can make it a three-hour tour instead of a three-hour ordeal.

Center for the Arts of Homer is staging "Gilligan's Island: The Musical," which tells the story of the seven castaways from the 1960s show building huts, exploring the island and discovering spooky sidequests along the way. The show runs from May 21 to May 26.

Coon grew up on the show, he said. It was on twice a day, every evening.

"I was on YouTube one day, and I saw that it was a musical," Coon said. "I watched it, and it was really bad. I was like, 'this is a really bad musical.' Then, I was like, 'is it the acting that's bad, or is the show bad?'"

Coon pursued the musical for fun, but it has proved to be a more difficult show than he anticipated, he said. The cast, however, has made the musical into something wonderful.

"All of my cast is fantastic," Coon said. "They're just great. Everybody has really



Lily Byrne/ Staff Reporter

The Center for the Arts of Homer's production of "Gilligan's Island: The Musical" opened on Tuesday.

put it together. I think if anybody were to video this show, and put it on YouTube, the title would have to be 'Gilligan's Island: The Musical, how it should be done,' because the show is not stupid, and it's not bad. It's really good."

James Boland, one of the two actors playing the dual-casted Gilligan, agreed to the role before watching an episode of the television show, he said.

"I actually had not really known anything about 'Gilligan's Island' beforehand," Boland said. "I think it suits my personal acting abilities very well, because I think that I am most suited for physical comedy, and playing the dumb, funny character."

"I didn't really know what it was about,

but my dad did," said Drew Thomas, the other Gilligan. "I went home and watched an episode and it was really funny. There's modern elements to it, but I think a lot of it is very similar to the classic comedy."

"It's a very creative and funny show," Boland said. "The humor is on point, especially considering it was adapted from a show in the 1960s."

The jokes don't feel dated, he added. If anything, they feel reminiscent of the humor from the cartoons of that decade, such as Tom and Jerry and Looney Toons.

"I'm out of my mind," Coon said. "I got my cast together, and I told them that this is a bad musical, so we need to make it good. ... It's driving my music director crazy. They wrote a song with an eight-part harmony for seven people. Why would you do this?"

Program Director Ethan Zoekler is just excited to view the show as a fan of the cast, he said, because it's the all-stars of previous center performances.

"I'm just excited to see these folks put a show together," Zoekler said. "It's a great thing to have a self-reliant, autonomous, creative group of people."

"This show is a little odd, but when you watch 'Gilligan's Island,' that show is a little odd, too," said Karina Murphy, who plays Ginger. "This musical kind of took the already ridiculousness of each character and just brought it to another level."

"I'm taking a lot of joy in the fact that it's a production that, from conception, is embracing the idea of theater being an enjoyable experience," Zoekler said. "It's fun to watch, fun to do and fun to make."

Notebook

'Jersey Boys' arrives in Auburn

AUBURN — "Jersey Boys" runs June 5 to 22 at the Merry-Go-Round Playhouse in Auburn.

A pay-what-you-will performance is 8 p.m. June 8.

"Jersey Boys" goes behind the scenes — and the music — of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons. Featuring "Big Girls Don't Cry," "Sherry," "December, 1963 (Oh, What a Night)," "My Eyes Adored You," "Stay," "Can't Take My Eyes Off You," "Walk Like A Man," "Who Loves You," "Working My Way

Back to You," and "Rag Doll." The cast is led by Jess LePietro as Frankie Valli, Caleb Albert as Nick Massi, Jeffrey Keller as Tommy DeVito, and Jake Mickel as Bob Gaudio.

The company also features Mason Ballard, Andrew Betz, Antonio Emerson Brown, Anthony Cangiamila, Joseph DePietro, Marco Giacona, Joe Hebel, Matthew J. Hoffman, Tia Karaplis, Matthew Krob, John Leone, Maggie Likcani, Justine Long, Ava Massaro, and Jared Svoboda.

"Jersey Boys" is directed by Brett Smock with music direction by Alan J. Plado and cho-

reography by Paige Faure. Alex Gutierrez is assistant music director.

Tickets are available at therevtheatre.com by calling The REV box office at 315-255-1785.

Tioga Downs hosts concert to benefit vets

NICHOLS — The rock band Night Ranger will perform at 8 p.m. July 11 at Tioga Downs Casino Resort in Nichols, a benefit concert to raise money for the Southern Tier Veterans Support Group.

All proceeds from ticket sales will be donated to the support group; Tioga Downs owner Jeffrey Gural will match the donation.

"We're grateful to have the opportunity to host Night Ranger while raising funds for this amazing nonprofit," Gural said.

The veteran support group offers a network of resources for veterans, service members and their families in the Southern Tier and the northern tier of Pennsylvania.

Tickets are \$20, available via Ticketmaster or at the Tioga Downs Gift Shop.

Husband's 'proposal' might be indecent

DEAR AMY: My husband of 45 years recently came to me with a proposal. He wants to deepen a friendship with a single woman 20 years younger.

He says she lifts his spirits, is creative, and is a great mom to her children. Their conversations are lively and interesting, and he finds that he wants to be around her more often.

I was flabbergasted and hurt to the core. To me, this is an emotional affair. Because of my reaction, he has labeled me as lacking self-esteem and accuses me of not trusting him. Am I overreacting to this proposal, or am I being perfectly reasonable?

— Hurt Feelings

DEAR HURT: If it's a true "proposal," then you get to say, "No deal. I reject your proposal." But I don't think this is a proposal. I think this is an announcement.

You've left out any context, but when you responded to this by revealing your

Ask
Amy
By Amy
Dickinson
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The Chicago
Tribune



own vulnerability, your husband chose to gaslight you.

In addition to highlighting this other woman's great qualities, he is by implication drawing a contrast to you ("She's a great mom to her kids" is a nice touch).

Because now — the way your husband is reframing this — your insecurity and lack of trust is driving him to this other relationship.

People get to have friendships. Married people need friendships. But the way to engage in a friendship with someone (younger, single, lively, spirit-lifting) is to bring the new friend around and offer to share said friend with you, at least to the extent where it is obvious that this friendship will not threaten your marriage.

This new person sounds quite captivating. You should invite her to dinner to see what the fuss is all about. Wouldn't it be wonderful if she could lift all of your spirits?

You and your husband could benefit from some professional counseling, which would help each of you to describe what about this particular episode is so important, from your individual and opposing perspectives.

You can email Amy Dickinson at askamy@amydickinson.com.

Calendar

Here's a sampling of what's going on in the greater Cortland area.

MUSIC

May 28: The Heavy Heavy, 8 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

May 31: Tinsley Ellis, 8 p.m., Rose Hall, 19 Church St., Cortland.

June 5: John Hiatt, 8 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

June 7: The Verve Pipe, 8 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

June 9: Josh Ritter, 8 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

June 16: Jazz is Dead with Steve Kimock, Alphonso Johnson, Bobby Lee Rodgers and Pete Lavezzoli, 8 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

June 20: The Young Dubliners, 8 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

June 21: Karla Bonoff, 8 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

June 25: Preservation Hall Jazz Band, 8 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

June 27: Kiefer Sutherland, 8 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

July 11: Clint Bush, 7 p.m., Summer Concert Series in Courthouse Park, Courthouse Park, Cortland.

July 12: Duane Betts and Palmetto Motel, 8 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

July 18: Steve Romer, 7 p.m., Summer Concert Series in Courthouse Park, Courthouse Park, Cortland.

July 20: Raina Sokolov-Gonzalez, 8 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

July 25: Taylor Made, 7 p.m., Summer Concert Series in Courthouse Park, Courthouse Park, Cortland.

July 29: Keb' Mo' 8 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

SOLD OUT
July 31: The Stick Men, 8 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

Aug. 1: Unreal City, 7 p.m., Summer Concert Series in Courthouse Park, Courthouse Park, Cortland.

Aug. 8: Molly and the Ringwalds, 7 p.m., Summer Concert Series in Courthouse Park, Courthouse Park, Cortland.

Aug. 8: Al Stewart and The Empty Pockets, 8 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

Aug. 9: Jimmie Vaughan, 8 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

Aug. 15: Cortland Old Timers Band, 7 p.m., Summer Concert Series in Courthouse Park, Courthouse Park, Cortland.

Aug. 22: Jim VanDeuson, 7 p.m., Summer Concert Series in Courthouse Park, Courthouse Park, Cortland.

Sept. 4: Close to You, the music of the Carpenters, 2 and 7 p.m., Cortland Repertory Theatre, Little York Lake Pavilion, Preble.

Sept. 11: Tapestry Unraveled, a Carole King tribute, 2 and 7:30 p.m., Cortland Repertory Theatre, Little York Lake Pavilion, Preble.

Sept. 18: Great Balls of Fire, 2 and 7:30 p.m., Cortland Repertory Theatre, Little York Lake Pavilion, Preble.

Sept. 25: How Sweet It is, Steve Leslie sings James Taylor, 2 and 7:30 p.m., Cortland Repertory Theatre, Little York Lake Pavilion, Preble.

Oct. 19: Wade Preston, 7:30 p.m., Cortland Repertory Theatre Downtown.

THEATER

Through May 26: "Gilligan's Island: The Musical," 7:30 p.m. May 23, 24 and 25; 2 p.m. May 26, Homer Center for the Arts, Homer.

June 5 to June 14: "My Fair Lady," Little York Pavilion, Dwyer Memorial Park, Preble.

June 19 to June 28: "The Last Romance," Little York Pavilion, Dwyer Memorial Park, Preble.

July 23 to July 12: "Escape to Margaritaville," Little York Pavilion, Dwyer Memorial Park, Preble.

July 17 to July 26: "Wait Until Dark," Little York Pavilion, Dwyer Memorial Park, Preble.

July 19 and 20: "Storybook Tales," 11 a.m. July 19; 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. July 20, starring the Bright Star Touring Co. at Dwyer Memorial Park.

July 31 to Aug. 17: "Beauty and the Beast," Little York Pa-

vilion, Dwyer Memorial Park, Preble.

FOR KIDS AND FAMILIES

June 1: Pet Fair, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Cortland County Fairgrounds, 4301 Fairgrounds Drive, Cortland.

June 1: 33rd Annual Water Festival, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Cortland Waterworks.

June 4: Cortland County Dairy Parade, 6:30 p.m., North Main Street, Cortland.

June 8: Dryden Dairy Day, Dryden.

June 8-9: St. Anthony's Festival, St. Anthony's church, 50 Pomeroy St., Cortland.

June 15: Family Fun Day, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Hope Lake Park, Virgil.

June 20-22: Homer Firemen's Field Days, South Main Street, Homer.

July 5: Movie Under the Stars, dusk, "Barbie," Courthouse Park, Cortland.

July 6: Independence Day celebration, Dwyer Memorial Park, Preble.

July 11: Movies on the Homer Green, dusk, "Migration," Homer Village Green.

July 12: Movie Under the Stars, dusk, "Super Mario Brothers Movie," Courthouse Park, Cortland.

July 18: Movies on the Homer Green, dusk, "Kung Fu Panda 4," Homer Village Green.

July 19 and 20: "Storybook Tales," 11 a.m. July 19; 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. July 20, starring the Bright Star Touring Co. at Dwyer Memorial Park.

July 20: Holiday in Homer, Homer Village Green.

July 25: Movies on the Homer Green, dusk, "Elemental," Homer Village Green.

July 26: Movie Under the Stars, dusk, "Ghostbusters: Frozen Empire," Courthouse Park, Cortland.

Aug. 1: Movies on the Homer Green, dusk, "Wonka," Homer Village Green.

Aug. 2: Movie Under the Stars, dusk, "Trolls Band Together," Courthouse Park, Cortland.

Aug. 8-10: Fillmore Days and Bathtub Races, Fillmore Glen State Park, Moravia.

Aug. 10: The National Brockway Truck Show, Homer.

Aug. 15: Movies on the Homer Green, dusk, "Barbie," Homer Village Green.

Aug. 22-24: Groton Olde Home Days, Groton.

OTHER STUFF

May 23: May Meditation: 6:30 p.m. Center for the Arts of Homer.

May 23: ComedyFLOPs Presents Improv at the AKE Gallery to raise money for JM Murray Center, 7 p.m.

June 8: Cincinnatus Yard Sale, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Cincinnatus.

June 8: Women Veterans Recognition Day, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Central New York Living History Center, Cortland.

June 15: Viking 5K, A Memorial Run for Captain Michael "Buzzy" Andersen, 9 a.m., Courthouse Park, Cortland.

June 15: Juneteenth Celebration, noon to 3 p.m., Courthouse Park, Cortland.

June 28-29: Second Annual Cortland County Bull Bash, Cortland County Fairgrounds, Cortland.

July 4: 29th Annual Public Reading of the United States Declaration of Independence, 10 a.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

July 6-7: The Cincinnatus Rodeo, starting noon, 5703 Route 23, Cincinnatus.

July 12: Lifetime Achievement Awards reception, by Cortland Arts Connect, McNeil Building Gallery, Main Street, Cortland.

July 13: Cortland Community Pride Festival, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Courthouse Park, Cortland.

July 19-20: Portrait of a Place — A Plain Air Event. Plain air competition, Center for the Arts of Homer.

July 20: Holiday in Homer, Homer Village Green, Homer.

Aug. 3: Arts off Main, downtown Cortland.

Aug. 8-11: 24th annual National Brockway Truck Show, Homer.

Our Opinion

Road to the future a little bumpy

“Construction season,” otherwise known as “summer,” is nothing new. Whether repairing the frost-heave damage that winter left behind, or conducting periodic, scheduled maintenance and repairs, road crews tear up a few streets here and there, we find a detour for a month or two, and then resume our usual routes when everything is buttoned up.

This year is a bit more intense in the city of Cortland. The reconstruction of Main Street has entered its second year, work along Groton Avenue has disrupted traffic on the western side of downtown and SUNY Cortland is making some major changes on Broadway. Our detours have become odysseys. Folks are grumbling.

We understand, and have ourselves muttered a few obscenities under our breaths when we encountered an unexpected road closing. However, our blood really boils when we hear or see people complain as if the point of all this construction is to inconvenience the public, or that the timing is terrible. Remember: this is what we need to do to improve our city, and we expect the results in a year's time will finally leave people speechless.

While your commute might be longer or more frustrating, other people will actually lose money due to these disruptions. We're most concerned about employees of those businesses who have found themselves nearly cut off from their customers. Restaurants and retailers at the north end of Main Street, especially, are in a tough spot at the moment. The work along Groton Avenue (both the street and adjacent city-owned parking lot) and the work on Main Street and its sidewalks have effectively built a moat around their businesses. They're still accessible, but reduced parking availability and the challenges of navigating an active construction area may keep some customers away.

We strongly encourage our readers to brave the inconveniences and patronize these businesses during construction. Some of them are community institutions and the equivalent of Hollywood royalty; others are sparkling, family-owned shops. Restaurant staff who rely on tips, especially, will feel the pinch.

There are some bright spots to be found for some of these businesses, at least. Most critically, the much-needed upgrades of sub-surface infrastructure downtown will better support dining and entertainment establishments — downtown's likely future bread and butter — once work is complete. Construction crews have also uncovered scads of previously unknown complications every time they've dug a hole. As a result, these problems are being fixed as part of the larger project, whereas at any other time they would have been the property owners' responsibility, probably at a much higher cost.

The work on Groton Avenue is funded with leftovers from the Clinton Avenue reconstruction, which wrapped up a couple years ago and greatly improved that entrance to the city. The work on Main Street, meanwhile, is partly funded by the state Downtown Revitalization Initiative. These projects have different timelines, contractors and funding sources, and it shouldn't be surprising that they've overlapped in ways beyond city officials' control. That said, they are both part of a major push to revitalize the city's economic and cultural heart, and improve visitors' experiences. Two years of inconvenience are the path toward a better looking Cortland for the next several decades.

In the case of Broadway, which is seeing its intersection with Neuhig Road and Pashley Drive upgraded to better accommodate and protect pedestrian traffic, it really is a case of bad timing. SUNY Cortland has been planning the project for several years, and the state finally pulled the trigger this summer. But as we discovered during those weeks when Broadway was a reasonable detour off of Groton Avenue, the level of pedestrian traffic and vehicular traffic at that intersection really made the case for these improvements.

If these projects had been spread out, we might instead have been dealing with one project after another for about five years, in addition to other road work in the city. We could argue that getting it all done over two construction seasons is actually the least disruptive option.

For the rest of the construction season, please slow down when crossing work areas — for both the safety of the road crew and for the sake of your vehicle. We have at least one colleague whose impatience got the best of him last summer, and he had to have the underside of his car repaired. And please, please spend money with those businesses that are most impacted by the work. A little inconvenience is well worth it.

Your Opinion

Teach kids to bravely explore

To the Editor:

My current favorite “kids’ book” is “The Impossible Mountain,” by David Soman. It delivers an understanding that there is a world outside of us and our experiences that is a source of inspiration, motivation and knowledge. Engaging with it and gaining greater understanding can give the courage to explore and pursue even more knowledge. Understanding makes “woke warriors” instead of scaredy cats. I’m the proud father of three non-scaredy-cat daughters (so I know what I’m talking about).

This book joins my collection of short stories, songs and poems that are all food for thought, and different ways to engage with ideas. From tastes and nibbles to bigger bites, to sweet spoonfuls... Appetizer to dessert, I suppose, and “The Impossible Mountain” is especially good because the main characters are two little children who ignore the adult cowards around them and end up the wisest of them all.

Anna and Finn live in a village surrounded by a high stone wall, and the stories they hear are all about the dangers in the world outside of the wall. One day they climb to the top of that wall to look at their village. It looks big to them, but when they turn around they see a mountain that dominates the horizon. It calls them to climb it. Though all the villagers say they will surely meet their doom in a half-dozen horrible ways, one illustration shows the adults gathered to send them out the gates through that high wall and into the dangerous world, unprepared. Long story short: These kids meet and defeat the dangers they’ve heard of and more, see how tiny their village looks from above, and return far wiser and more thoughtful (woke?) regarding the world outside and around themselves than the grownups.

I love me those woke warriors.

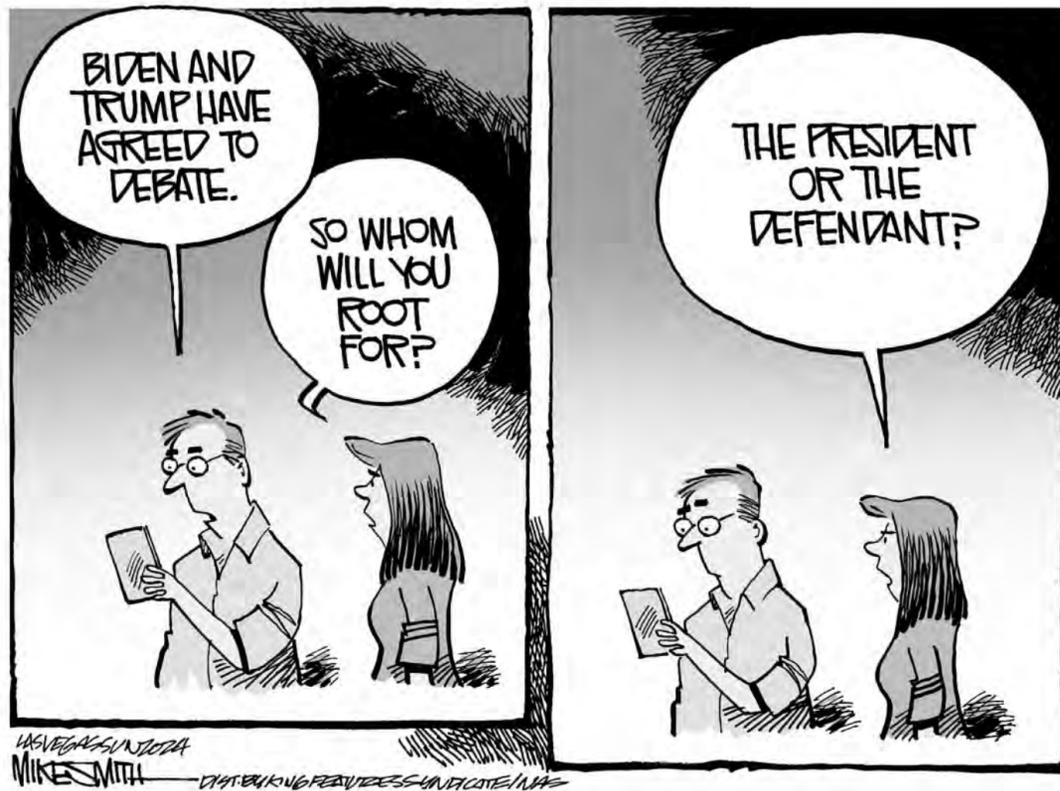
Dan McConnell
Virgil

Good Old Days

May 23, 1974

Program chairman, Harry N. Davis, of the Cortland Art League advises that some 400 applications for exhibiting at the Park Art Festival have been mailed out to local as well as area artists. The annual art show is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, June 15 and 16, on the Church Street Courthouse lawn.

Any area artist not already contacted can obtain application forms at Love of Pete or Barbara Moss stores on Main Street in Cortland, at Spaulding Studios on Groton Avenue, Our House on Tompkins Street or from Harry N. Davis, 39 N. Church St.



“Stormy Daniels Put Trump’s Toxic Horniness on Full Display,” read a Daily Beast headline. What has really been put on display is Donald Trump’s desperate need to portray himself as a hunk with an awesome sex drive. He’s done that his entire adult life. Now that he’s an obese man of 77, the urgency to come off as a young buck has never been greater.

As psychiatrist Peter Kramer wrote in his book “Should You Leave?” “We all know that older men need younger women not because the men still have it but because they don’t; it takes something special to get them started.”

And for Trump it’s not just younger women. They have to be models or porn stars or Playboy Playmates. Talk about requiring extra arousal.

Even when he was still handsome and in his 30s, Trump would hang around Studio 54 to mix with the teen models. He later set up his own agency, Trump Models. Accused of cheating the models over matters of contracts and pay, the company was shut down in 2017.

Since biblical times and before, insecure men have strived to put young beauties on their

Trump the dude? Not quite

From
Harrop



arm as evidence of their being very much in the game. And face it, many stunning women attach themselves to men with a lot of money, mainly to partake of the money.

Which brings us to Melania. Trump’s former fixer Michael Cohen testified in the Stormy Daniels hush-money trial that he asked his boss how the story of his tryst with a porn actress would “go upstairs,” meaning with his wife. “Don’t worry,” Trump reportedly replied. “How long do you think I’ll be on the market for? Not long.”

And that would be true. Trump could go out and find another, even younger babe highly interested in whatever wealth he has left. Setting the money part aside, an industri-

ous beauty could find ways to monetize a relationship with such a famous man.

Stormy Daniels testified that Trump told her that he and Melania were sleeping in separate beds. If true, then good for Melania.

Women who have recently given birth are generally not keen to have sex for a while. And one could venture a further guess that the more Trump fools around with other women, the less he would bother her. She had already gotten what she wanted.

Not to be too cynical about Melania’s motives — she may think he’s a wonderful mate — but she took all the right steps in nailing down a rich man. Once the ring was on her finger,

she immediately got pregnant. That’s right in the “manual.”

Melania’s annoyance at the Stormy Daniels circus may reflect the nick it inflicted on her dignity more than the distress over how it could affect Donald’s candidacy. But if self-respect were a big thing for her, she wouldn’t have let Trump order her to stroll around Mar-a-Lago in a bikini. He did this, an Australian businessman and club member said, “so all the other guys could get a look at what they were missing.”

One assumes that Melania labors under a beast of a prenup agreement. (Trump’s older children would not have it otherwise.) But should that marriage break up, Melania should know that she also has market value, despite her public humiliations.

She’s still good-looking, and men of means have been known to “buy” prestige by marrying a former first lady. The widowed Jackie Kennedy wasn’t attracted to shipping tycoon Aristotle Onassis based on looks alone.

Meanwhile, probably no one knows better than Melania that Trump is not quite the dude he pretends to be. And what might be of greater concern, he’s not as rich either.

Fix Social Security with ownership

Star
Parker



The trustees for Social Security have just issued their annual report. And, as we have learned annually over recent years, the system cannot meet its obligations.

According to this latest report, the Social Security system will not be able to meet its obligations to retirees by 2035. In 2035, the system will be adequate to meet just 83% of its obligations.

This is supposedly good news because the projected shortfall occurs one year later than reported last year.

But the change simply reflects the fact that the system is so massive — it’s the single largest government program, with annual expenditure of \$1.2 trillion — that small changes in assumptions in the planning model produce big changes in the projected results.

Young people today start working and immediately have 6.2% of their paycheck deducted in payroll tax for Social Security, with their employer matching this with another 6.2% — all paid into a system that is bankrupt.

Our political leaders, to the extent they choose to speak about this issue, reiterate their commitment to “save the system.”

But “saving the system” means just taking a bad situa-

tion and making it worse. Who wants to “save the system” by raising taxes, raising the retirement age or cutting benefits?

Many still believe that Social Security is some kind of retirement investment program, but it’s not. It is a government tax and spending program.

Individuals are forced to pay the payroll tax. And those payroll taxes are used to pay retirement benefits for those currently retired.

Even if you think this is a good idea, it no longer works. When the system began in the 1930s, there were over 40 working Americans per retiree. Today, because of longer life spans and declining birthrates, there are just a little over three working for each retiree. Worker’s taxes soon won’t be enough.

I have been writing for years that the system should not and

cannot be saved, and I make this same declaration now.

It is quite reasonable for the government to insist that individuals take steps to secure their future in retirement. But it is not reasonable for government to step in and take away an individual’s freedom on how to take care of themselves.

Individuals should be allowed to take ownership of the payroll tax they are forced to pay and use these funds to invest in their own personal retirement account.

The benefits of giving individuals freedom to take ownership of their own earnings and invest are huge.

For one thing, putting funds into the equity markets over a 45-year working life yields far higher returns than Social Security provides.

In one study, done a number of years ago at the Cato Insti-

tute, they looked at a theoretical average-income couple that retired in 2009, one year after a huge crash in the stock market. Despite a 37% market decline in 2008, the cumulative returns they received since they started investing when they were 21 in 1965 yielded savings of \$855,175. This is based on the actual market returns over those years, not theory. This is 75% more than what they would have gotten from Social Security, per the study.

Lack of ownership in stocks greatly accounts for the huge difference in household wealth between Black households and white households. Whereas, per the Federal Reserve, 65.6% of white households own stocks, only 39.2% of Black households do.

As a result, average household wealth in assets among white households is approximately \$1.5 million compared to \$297,000 among Black households.

Plus, investing gives everyone “skin in the game” to limit government and keep our American system of capitalism alive and healthy.

No move could do more to restoring economic vitality and individual freedom in our country than transforming our broken Social Security system into a nationwide personal investment program.

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.

HOMER

continued from page 1

Developing a wellness spa — \$500,000

A deteriorating residential building will become a wellness spa. The 3,000 square-foot destination for Homer residents and visitors will be connected to the boutique hotel. **Total cost: \$3.3 million.**

Improving the Homer festival grounds — \$1.42 million

Renovations include creating a pathway from Main Street, overflow parking for downtown events, new sidewalks, additional grassy areas and a small craft boat launch. **Total cost \$1.42 million.**

Redeveloping the Little White Church — \$1.17 million

The funding will initiate renovations of the Little White Church, but not complete them. Renovations include the excavation and replacement of foundation walls, roof, basement floor and restoration of the stained glass windows. **Total cost: \$2.5 million.**

Developing a commercial kitchen, community center and year-round farmers market — \$823,000

Renovations to the 4,600 square-foot space at 41 James St. include a commercial kitchen with a multi-use space for a year-round farmers market and community center.

It can be used as a performance and rehearsal venue, or rental classrooms for educators. **Total cost: \$952,500**

Constructing a riverwalk overlook — \$652,000

A riverwalk overlook will be constructed on the banks of the Tioughnioga River, near the festival grounds.

Total cost: \$652,000

Administering a small projects fund — \$500,000

The village will administer a fund for small projects, including building improvements to boost the visual appeal of downtown Homer. **Total cost: \$500,000**

Developing a commercial space at 11 Wall St. — \$396,000

The 11 Wall St. building will undergo renovations to restore a Victorian-era train station. The mixed-use development will include a café, local art and gift items, an area to display the works of local artists and a performance area are also planned. **Total cost: \$990,000.**

Creating a downtown marketing program — \$300,000

The village will create promotional materials and new signage to better attract visitors. **Total cost: \$300,000.**

Restoring the Water Street Bridge — \$300,000

The historic Water Street Bridge will be restored — making necessary safety improvements to reopen it for pedestrian use. Also included are lighting fixtures and a fresh coat of paint. **Total cost: \$300,000.**

Restoring the Village Food Market interior — \$139,000

The Village Food Market, which has been operational for more than a century, will update the interior of the grocery store — new flooring, butcher counter, grab-and-go counter, accessible rear entrance and accessible parking for people with disabilities. **Total cost: \$347,500.**

Managing Editor Todd R. McAdam contributed to this report.



AP Photo/Ted Shaffrey, File

Commuters wait to drive through the Holland Tunnel into New York City during morning rush hour traffic in Jersey City, New Jersey, March 8, 2023.

CARS

continued from page 1

and stabilize, Campau said. And unlike immediately after the pandemic, more lower-cost vehicles

are being sold, which likely will bring down the average price, he said.

People keeping vehicles longer is good news for the local

auto repair shop.

About 70% of vehicles on the road are 6 or more years old, he said, beyond manufacturer warranties.

Those who are able to keep their rides for multiple years usually get the oil changed regularly and follow manufacturer maintenance schedules, Campau noted.

MORAVIA

continued from page 1

the recent intersection improvement at Cayuga and Main street to improvements stretching 875 feet away.

Redesign Ethel Fuller Park — \$392,000

Public improvements will include upgraded playing courts and a larger pavilion.

Transform 66 Central St.

into a restaurant — \$328,000

The project will renovate a vacant former medical office into Rowan's Bar & Grill, a restaurant, bar, and event space with outdoor seating.

Create flexible outdoor space at Powers Library — \$90,000

The project will add outdoor amenities to the library grounds for shared community use.

IRAN

continued from page 1

won't be able to stand in a court of law and take responsibility for his actions."

Raisi, 63, was reviled by opponents, and sanctioned by the U.S., for his role in mass executions of political prisoners at the end of Iran's long war with Iraq in the 1980s.

Many also hold Raisi responsible for the death of Mahsa Amini, who died in police custody in September 2022 after being detained for allegedly violating Iran's mandatory headscarf law.

Amini's death sparked mass protests against the country's ruling theocracy, and a security crackdown that saw more than 500 people killed and over

22,000 detained. A U.N. fact-finding mission found Iranian authorities responsible for the "physical violence" that led to Amini's death.

"Each member of this regime that goes is a victory for us," said Guilda Torabi, spokesperson for the Homa association, an Iranian support group in France. "It's a step forward, a little victory for the Iranian people. It's one step to vanquishing the regime. We are getting closer to the objective, which gives us hope."

Raisi had long been considered a potential successor for Iran's supreme leader, 85-year-old Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, in whose hands power ultimately rests, and his death could complicate that process.

Still, short-term instability ap-

pears unlikely. First Vice President Mohammad Mokhber has been appointed caretaker president, and a presidential election was called for June 28.

Even thousands of miles from Iran, some expatriates were unwilling to relax their reticence. Iranian critics of the government have been attacked overseas — including Pouria Zeraati, a newscaster with Farsi-language TV channel Iran International, who was stabbed in the leg near his London home in March.

The channel has been demonized for years by Iran's government, as well as other foreign-language Farsi broadcasters and their journalists. Television in Iran is entirely state-controlled and run by hardliners, often airing coerced

confessions of prisoners.

In the Los Angeles area nicknamed "Tehrangeles" — home to Persian cafes, ice cream parlors, grocery stores and rug shops — a husband and wife eating at the Pink Orchid bakery said that while they cheered the president's death, they were not optimistic it would bring major changes.

"Everyone knows someone worse is going to come," said the wife, who grew up in Iran and left when she was 21.

The couple refused to give their names for fear of retaliation against family and friends who remain in Iran, as well as concerns about their own safety.

Poone, who only gave her first name for fear of retaliation against her family in Iran, said

Raisi's death provided a measure of justice. She said the late president "had a lot of blood on his hands."

Others saw reason for hope.

As news of the crash circulated in Iran on Sunday night, anti-government chants could be heard in some areas of Tehran. Namazie said many Iranians shared dark jokes and social media memes.

Aliasghar Ramezanpoor, executive news director at Iran International, said many Iranians were contacting the station to express happiness at Raisi's death.

Ramezanpoor said the Islamic Republic's authorities would likely be shaken by the realization that many Iranians saw the president's death as cause

for celebration.

"People are talking about the crash as a kind of sign of hope," he said. "Everyone sees how losing a president (caused) national celebration — which sends a powerful message to everyone in the government."

Namazie said political instability might bring more brutality as the government moved to repress dissent. But even so, "any infighting opens up the space for people to be able to push back the regime, to weaken it."

"It opens up the space for protest," she said. "That's what we need — from below, not any kind of regime change from above, not foreign intervention. People themselves will be able to challenge this regime and bring it to an end."

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Gyoza: easy-to-make Japanese comfort food

By **GRETCHEN MCKAY**
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
(TNS)

Rie McClenny grew up in southwest Japan with family members who not only loved to cook but, as the owners of a tearoom and cafe in their small seaside city, were pretty darn good at it.

The simple, home-cooked meals her mother, Yoko, and maternal grandmother, Kiyoko, prepared for their rural customers, using seasonal local ingredients and traditional recipes, were far from fancy. Yet their skillful mix of salty, sweet, sour and bitter — key elements in authentic Japanese cuisine — were rich with umami flavor.

The women were particularly good at making one beloved Japanese comfort food: the ground pork- and cabbage-filled, pan-fried dumplings known as yaki-gyoza.

As McClenny recalls in her first cookbook “Make it Japanese” (Clarkson Potter, \$30), they were absolute whizzes at folding dough wrappers around the savory filling to create tasty bundles that were juicy and tender on the inside and crispy, golden-brown on the outside. So good, in fact, that she never felt the urge to learn to make them herself.

“I enjoyed baking, and also enjoyed reading recipes in cookbooks and magazines,” she says from her home in Los Angeles, “but my mom was such a great cook I didn’t feel I needed to do it.”

Instead, she watched her mother for “hours on end as she folded gyoza faster than my eyes could follow and never measured ingredients — one circular pour of soy sauce, a handful of bonito flakes, a dash of sake,” she writes in the book’s intro.

While her mom imparted a few basics before she left the house to go to university in Osaka, it wasn’t until McClenny landed in a rural town in West Virginia during a year abroad that she realized reading about cooking is a sad substitute for actually doing it.

Also, being away from Japan for so long made her more aware of her heritage as well as homesick for her mom’s cooking. So pulling herself up from her non-cooking bootstraps, she started re-creating those recipes — gyoza included — using a “mishmash” of three ingredients found in every Japanese pantry: soy sauce, sake and mirin.

“There was only one Asian market, so I used what was available,” she says.

At age 33, she enrolled at the French Culinary Institute (now the Institute of Culinary Education), thinking she might become a food stylist. She had so much fun and loved cooking so much that, after graduating, she became a chef instead, moving to Los Angeles with her husband to work as a chef at two Santa Monica restaurants.

She cooked professionally for three years before burning out one night after working more than 300 meals. Deciding that a food media job would be less stressful (but still fun), in April 2016 she applied for a position as a recipe developer at Tasty Japan, the Japanese



The Post-Gazette’s Gretchen McKay has Japanese gyoza, fried dumplings, cooking at her home in Ben Avon, Pennsylvania, April 12.

Sebastian Foltz/Pittsburgh Post-Gazette/TNS

edition of BuzzFeed’s food media brand Tasty.

Three months later, she was hired as a full-time video producer and she soon was also appearing in videos on YouTube for BuzzFeed, though she admits to being very self-conscious about her English skills and Japanese accent.

“But the more I did it, the more I realized people didn’t care so much,” she says. “They just want to learn how to cook. They are not learning English from me, but Japanese culture and food from a person from Japan.”

Despite the long hours to get there, she says, “it was exhilarating to finally pursue what I loved.”

Showcasing the beauty of Japanese cuisine on camera made her realize she wanted to show that “Japanese home cooking can be for everyone.” So when a publisher reached out to her in 2021 to do a cookbook, she said yes, and started writing that same year, drawing on the nourishing food her mom cooked throughout her childhood for inspiration.

Geared to those new to Japanese cooking, the book also includes instructions on how to stock a Japanese pantry and has a short chapter on essential Japanese cooking tools.

Eaten in Japan since ancient times, the long, grass-like blades are more pungent and garlicky than regular chives. In addition to dumplings, they’re a go-to flavor-booster for everything from soup to kimchi, stew to green onion pancakes, after trimming off the root end and white tips.

Her mom’s recipe also includes seasoning the ground pork filling with

grated ginger, soy sauce and sake and adding fresh shiitake mushrooms and lots of finely chopped cabbage for a bit of silky heft. “But every home has a different recipe,” she says.

While gyoza originated in China, where they are called jiaozi, they’re actually very different, says McClenny. For starters, Chinese potstickers boast a thicker dough. They’re also boiled, whereas “when we say ‘gyoza,’ we usually mean pan-fried.”

Though you can (and just might) make a meal of them, gyoza in Japan are almost always a side dish, says McClenny. They’re also made with super-thin premade wrappers in Japanese homes because they’re easy to find in any grocery store. Plus, a recipe makes so many of them, and stuffing and folding the dumplings just so — gathered on one side and flat on the other — takes time. So why complicate matters by adding homemade dough to the equation?

That said, even with premade wrappers, it might take beginners a lot of practice before their fingers develop the requisite muscle memory to fill, fold and pleat at a record pace.

“But don’t stress,” says McClenny. “It’s just practice. Channel your inner grandmother or mother, try your best and, if it doesn’t look great, it still tastes good anyway.”

GYOZA WITH CRISPY ‘WINGS’

For the prettiest pleats, be careful not to overfill the wrappers. Adding a little cornstarch slurry to the pan while cooking the dumplings will create a lacy, crispy crust on the bottom called “hane”

— Japanese for wings.

Unless you’re an overachiever, don’t worry about making dough from scratch for these pan-fried dumplings. Even in Japan, most home cooks use premade wrappers, which you can find in any Asian market.

Japanese gyoza are meant to be very garlicky, so if you can’t find nira chives at your local Asian market, use the same amount of scallions or chives, but also add 2 grated garlic cloves to the filling.

For dipping sauce

- 1/4 cup soy sauce
- 1/4 cup rice vinegar
- 1 tablespoon toasted sesame oil
- 1 teaspoon chili oil

For filling

- 8 ounces ground pork
- 1 cup finely chopped green cabbage (about 3 ounces)
- 3/4 cup finely chopped nira chives (about 1 1/2 ounces)
- 1/4 cup finely chopped fresh shiitake mushrooms (about 3/4 ounce)
- 1/2 teaspoon finely grated fresh ginger
- 1 1/2 teaspoons soy sauce
- 1 1/2 teaspoons toasted sesame oil
- 1 1/2 teaspoons sake
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

For dumplings

- Cornstarch or potato starch
- 35-40 gyoza wrappers
- 2 teaspoons neutral oil, such as canola or grapeseed
- Kosher salt

Toasted sesame oil

Make dipping sauce

In small bowl, whisk together soy sauce, vinegar, sesame oil and chili oil. The sauce will keep in an airtight container in the refrigerator for up to 3 weeks.

Make filling

In a large bowl, combine ground pork, cabbage, nira chives, shiitake, ginger, soy sauce, sesame oil, sake, salt and pepper. Using your hands, mix well to combine.

Make dumplings

Dust a baking sheet with cornstarch. Fill a small bowl with water.

Place a gyoza wrapper in the palm of your nondominant hand. Using the other hand, place a scant 1 tablespoon filling in the center of the wrapper.

Dip your fingers in water and lightly wet one half of the wrapper’s rim. Fold the wrapper in half.

Using your fingertips, pleat only the top half of the wrapper, pressing against the bottom half to seal the gyoza. (The bottom half of the wrapper remains flat; you only fold one side of the wrapper.)

Place gyoza on the prepared baking sheet. Repeat with the remaining wrappers and filling. Sprinkle with more cornstarch if the gyoza seem to be sticking together. Uncooked gyoza will keep in the freezer in a resealable plastic freezer bag for up to 3 months.

In a 10-inch nonstick skillet with a lid, heat 2 teaspoons neutral oil over medium heat. Add enough gyoza to fit in a single layer (about 12), arranging them in a circular pattern. Cook until slightly golden on the bottoms, 1-3 minutes.

In a small bowl or measuring cup, combine 1/3 cup water, 1 1/2 teaspoons cornstarch and a pinch of salt. Pour cornstarch mixture into the skillet.

Cover with lid and steam the gyoza until most of the water has evaporated, 6-8 minutes.

Uncover and continue cooking until the water has completely evaporated and the cornstarch has thickened to a gel-like web at the bottom of the skillet, about 2 minutes.

Drizzle some sesame oil around the edges of the gyoza. Increase the heat to medium-high and cook, uncovered, until the cornstarch dissolves and dries, forming “wings” that are lacy and crispy, 2-4 minutes. Remove skillet from heat and let the gyoza rest in the skillet until any bubbling subsides, 1-2 minutes.

Using chopsticks or a spatula, loosen the “wings.” Place a large plate on top of the gyoza. Flip the skillet upside down to invert the gyoza onto the plate. Wipe the skillet clean and repeat with remaining gyoza.

Serve hot with dipping sauce.

Serves 6-8.

— “Make it Japanese: Simple Recipes for Everyone” by Rie McClenny (Clarkson Potter \$30)

Here are 3 reasons why you may be craving milk

By **EBONY WILLIAMS**
The Atlanta
Journal-Constitution
(TNS)

Milk cravings are more common than you might think, and sometimes it has nothing to do with wanting a companion for your cookies.

According to experts, craving milk can be caused by feeling nostalgic during the holidays, or it could be an emotional trigger.

“When we experience stress, our body releases stress hormones like cortisol. Cortisol can increase our appetite and drive cravings for calorie-dense ‘comfort’ foods, particularly those high in sugar and fat,” Dr. Johannes Uys, a general practitioner at Broadgate General Practice based in London told Healthline. If you managed to have your stress under control, there are a few other reasons why — as an adult — you’re wanting milk.

Heartburn

If you indulge in acidic foods, chances are you’ll experience heartburn. Sometimes you’ll grab an antacid, other times your body will want a tall glass of milk.

“Milk has basic properties that help in reducing acidity in the stomach. Therefore, when you crave milk, your body is trying to reduce the acidity naturally,” Courtney Pelitera, MS, RD, CNSC, a registered dietitian specializing in sports nutrition and wellness nutrition for Top Nutri-



Alexandra Malyk/Dreamstime/TNS

Milk cravings are more common than you might think. There’s lots of reasons why you might want milk, and it doesn’t always have to do with wanting a drink to go with your cookie.

tion Coaching, told Parade.

Craving

When we avoid certain drinks and foods, our body tends to crave them more, which could be why diets are at times hard to stick to.

“I always tell my clients that it’s OK to eat what you’re craving,” Ashlye Bergen, owner and personal trainer at A-Team fitness told The Atlanta Journal-Constitution. “When we deny our cravings, that leads to binge eating or overindulging. The trick is to do it in moderation.”

From lifestyle changes to deficiencies, craving milk could be a signal you need more nutrients in your diet.

Micronutrient deficiency

Milk is considered a complete food because it has 18 of the 22 essential vitamins and minerals. Sometimes a milk craving is caused by a lack of necessary nutrients. To help combat it, update your eating habits by incorporating a more balanced diet.

“When your body is deficient in a particular nutrient, it sends a signal to your brain to pass along this information. Your conscious mind then decodes this signal as the urge to eat a certain type of food,” according to wellness company Feel.

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Cortland Standard

What you need to know about Google Wallet

By ROBERT DESALVO
Wealth of Geeks

After June 4, Google Pay users will no longer be able to send, request, or receive funds through the United States version of the app. Since the service launched in 2018, millions of people in more than 180 countries used Google Pay to securely check out when online shopping.

But while the proverbial sun is setting on Google Pay, parent company Alphabet Inc. is replacing the aging stand-alone app with Google Wallet, a multifunctional digital wallet that can do many of the same things that Google Pay does and much more.

According to TechCrunch, people already use Google Wallet five times as often as Google Pay. Diehards have until June 4th to transfer their remaining Google Pay balances to their bank accounts. But if they forget, users can still transfer money from the Google Pay website after that deadline.

In addition to online mobile payments, Google Wallet — just like Google Pay — allows people to buy items and services in stores. Google Wallet also holds a digital copy of your airline boarding passes, concert tickets, store loyalty cards, gift cards, public transit tickets, library cards, vaccination records, and so much more, all in one place on your phone. If your car has the capability, you can even start it with a digital key stored in Google Wallet.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, interest in tap-and-go mobile transac-

tions and digital wallets skyrocketed as people tried to minimize touching germ-riddled surfaces in public. Many governments and health organizations also encouraged the use of contactless payments to reduce the spread of the virus.

This resulted in increased awareness and promotion of contactless transactions, driving awareness of digital wallets.

“This shift towards digital and embedded finance is reshaping consumer behavior and expectations, driving the need for innovative solutions that streamline transactions and improve financial management,” says financial advisor Angel Escobedo.

Traderoot CEO Jan Ludik told Finextra Research that more and more daily transactions are shifting to contactless as people get comfortable with the payment method during this digital wallet renaissance. Another factor driving the interest in mobile wallets such as Google Wallet is the rise of payment-enabled wearable accessories.

“Smartwatches, rings, bracelets and other devices seamlessly sync to bank accounts and integrate with digital wallets and virtual cards, enabling contactless transactions to happen effortlessly and often unexpectedly by simply passing applicable terminals or sensors,” said Ludik. “Think about the impact this can have on public transport, retail and other sectors where we no longer have to queue at a bottleneck till-point.”

Although Google will retire Google Pay in the United States, the app will



TechCrunch reports people already use Google Wallet five times as often as Google Pay — the latter of which will be discontinued after June 4.

continue in places such as Singapore and India because of the launch of Google's wireless speaker, SoundPod, to merchants in those areas. According to Gadgets 360, Google's SoundPod is a wireless speaker that verifies payments made via the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) instant payment system to small merchants. Google started test-

ing SoundPod in 2023 and will roll out the service overseas later this year.

Google says they want to make the transition as smooth as possible. In a February update, they state, “Anywhere you normally use Google Pay — from checking out online to tapping and paying in stores — remains the same. And for the millions of people who use the

Google Pay app in India and Singapore, nothing will change as we continue to build for the unique needs in those countries.”

Although Apple Pay and Apple Wallet work well for iPhone users and Samsung Wallet is an excellent choice for those with Samsung phones, only Google Wallet offers multiplatform support. As long as it's a smartphone, Google Wallet will work on it in some capacity, although it should be noted that iOS cannot use Google Wallet's tap-to-pay feature.

According to Android Authority here are some of the key reasons why Google Wallet is possibly the best overall digital wallet currently on the market:

“Google Wallet is easy to use with a functional, simple, and good-looking app. It's not perfect, but it works on the largest number of devices and websites compared to all other competitors on the list. It supports the latest stuff, like COVID-19 vaccine records, state IDs, driver's licenses, etc. Even though Google is setting up Wallet as the successor for Pay in the United States, it's unclear if every single feature of Pay will get imported into Wallet.”

Android Authority continues, “The features are split, so you need both apps to get every feature. Between the redesigns and the rebranding, Google has been sloppy with this over the last few years. Google is streamlining the experience, though, and Android Pay will be gone in June 2024, at least in the U.S.A.”

Changes from Visa will mean fewer physical cards to carry

By KEN SWEET
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — Your wallet may soon be getting thinner.

Last week, Visa announced major changes to how credit and debit cards will operate in the U.S. in the coming months and years.

The new features could mean Americans will be carrying fewer physical cards in their wallets, and will make the 16-digit credit or debit card number printed on every card increasingly irrelevant.

They will be some of the biggest

changes to how payments operate in the U.S. since the U.S. rolled out chip-embedded cards several years ago. They also come as Americans have many more options to pay for purchases beyond “credit or debit,” including buy now, pay later companies, peer-to-peer payment options, paying directly with a bank, or digital payment systems like Apple Pay.

“I think (with these features) we're getting past the point where consumers may never need to manually enter an account number ever again,” said Mark Nelsen, Visa's global head of

consumer payments, in an interview.

The biggest change coming for Americans will be the ability for banks to issue one physical payment card that will be connected to multiple bank accounts. That means no more carrying, for example, a Bank of America or Chase debit card as well as their respective credit cards in a physical wallet. Americans will be able to set criteria with their bank — such as having all purchases below \$100 or with a certain merchant applied to the debit card, while other purchases go on the credit card.

The feature, already being used in Asia, will be available this summer. Buy now, pay later company Affirm is the first of Visa's customers to roll out the feature in the U.S.

Some of Visa's new features are in response to online-payments fraud, which continues to increase as more countries adopt digital payments. The San Francisco-based company estimates that payment fraud happens roughly seven times more often online than it does in person, and there are now billions of stolen credit and debit card numbers available to criminals.

Other new elements are also in response to features that non-payments companies have rolled out in recent years. The Apple Card, which uses Mastercard as its payment network, does not come with a printed 16-digit account number and Apple Card users can request a fresh credit card number at any time without having to dispose of the physical card.

Visa executives see a future where banks will issue cards where the 16-digit account number, if the new cards come with them, is largely symbolic.

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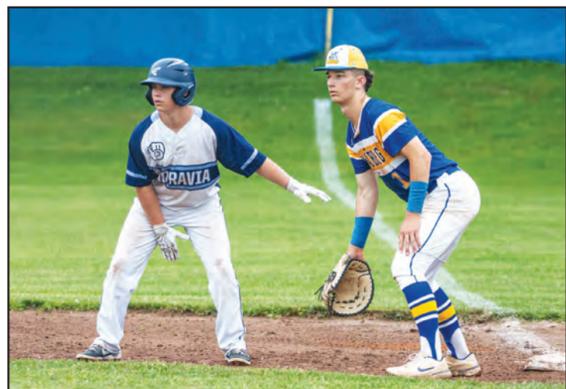
Sports

Paul Cifonelli
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THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2024

Page 9

H.S. Baseball



Matt Czeitner/sports reporter

Moravia's Thomas Palmer, left, leads off first base Wednesday at Trumansburg Central School.

T-burg tops Moravia in sectional semis

Trumansburg 10
Moravia 0

By MATT CZEITNER
Sports Reporter

TRUMANSBURG — The No. 3 Moravia baseball team was unable to keep up with No. 2 Trumansburg Wednesday, as the Blue Raiders slowly pulled away from the Blue Devils and won 10-0 in five innings via the run rule in the semifinals of the Section IV Class C tournament at Trumansburg Central School.

Down 8-0 in the bottom of the fifth, Moravia looked to halt Trumansburg's momentum and put together a rally of its own in the final innings. Eli Landis surrendered a single to Willoughby Puryear to begin the inning, but

followed that with two quick outs. Owen Fulton then worked a walk, followed by Chandler Wright hitting a two-run double that cleared the bases and gave the Blue Raiders the win.

Moravia's best chances came in the fourth and fifth, as it got some traffic on the bases but couldn't convert with runners on.

In the fourth, Dillon Palmer and Luke Landis walked to begin the inning, but Jairen Francis struck out, Noah Corbett grounded out and Hunter Boynton struck out to end the inning.

Thomas Palmer led off the fifth with a single, followed by Robert Balk striking out and Carson Andrews reaching base on a walk. Eli Landis then hit

See MORAVIA, page 11

High School Boys Lacrosse

Hard-hitting Homer boys lacrosse edges Indian River

Homer 7
Indian River 6

By PAUL CIFONELLI
Sports Editor

pcifonelli@cortlandstandard.com

The No. 3 Homer boys lacrosse team laid the lumber for all 48 minutes and Cooper Swartz scored the game-winning goal with 4:41 left as the Trojans beat No. 6 Indian River 7-6 Wednesday night at Homer High School. Homer will face No. 2 South Jefferson at 11 a.m. Saturday at Fayetteville-Manlius High School in the Section III Class C semifinals.

Swartz's late goal came off a rebound from his own shot. The junior's initial shot came from a sharp angle on the right side of the goal and was saved by Indian River goalie Aaron Russell, then he caught the rebound and put it over Russell's right shoulder to give his team the lead for good.

The goal was Swartz's fourth of the game and came in a big moment. He put away two goals in the second quarter and another early in the third, all of which either tied the game or gave Homer the lead. Swartz now has at least three points in three of his last five games and appears to be getting on a roll.

"I had a good week at practice and we just had to stand up and capitalize because it's the



Paul Cifonelli/sports editor

Homer's Cooper Swartz, center, celebrates with his teammates after scoring a goal Wednesday night at Homer High School. Swartz scored the game-winning goal in the Trojans' 7-6 win.

last home game of the season," Swartz said.

"Cooper is finally fully healthy; he had some little things that were lingering and maybe not letting him be his best," Homer head coach CJ Nye said. "Right now, he's clicking. He can shoot with the best of them and when he has

his confidence going I don't think there's many attackmen that can put the ball in the back of the net like Cooper."

Indian River put up a fight after Swartz put Homer up 7-6. The Warriors had a couple close calls, but Homer goalie Ben Bradshaw stopped a one-on-one attempt with 1:38 left in the

game to help the Trojans seal the deal. Indian River got one more shot, but it was wide of the cage.

Both teams were slugging it out all game, with Homer providing a couple extra high-light-reel hits. Homer's defense

See SCHOOLS, page 11

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A collection of items for sale from the storied 3rd floor of the Cortland Standard

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DAY EVENING, AUGUST 3, 1929. TEN PAGES

AMERICAN RADIOS PICK UP ZEPPELIN

Tennis

This might be Rafael Nadal's last French Open

By HOWARD FENDRICH
AP Tennis Writer

If this is, as expected, Rafael Nadal's final French Open, it will be one that everyone — the 37-year-old Spaniard included — surely will remember vividly.

No matter how healthy the guy everyone calls "Rafa" might be. No matter how long his stay in the bracket lasts. No matter whether he somehow adds another championship at Roland Garros to the record 14 he owns.

Narrator: Not even Nadal truly believes that is possible. Indeed, as of Wednesday morning, he had not announced definitely whether he would be in the field, although he showed up on-site to practice.

"I am not negative," he explained. "I am just realistic."

Think back just a couple of years ago to Serena Williams' farewell at the U.S. Open. That's the sort of atmosphere and adoration likely to be on display whenever Nadal swings a racket or simply strolls around the compact-for-a-Grand-Slam-grounds in the southwest section of Paris where the clay-court tournament begins Sunday.

"I cannot predict what kind of emotions I am going to have there," said Nadal, who has been saying for a while that he thinks 2024 will be his final season before retirement. "I just want to enjoy every day."

That's been difficult lately because of hip and abdominal muscle injuries that limited him to 20 matches, and a 9-11 record, over the past 20 months. Nadal missed nearly all of 2023 after hurting his hip during a loss at the Australian Open that January. He had surgery almost exactly a year ago and sat out the French Open for the first time since making his debut there in 2005, when, naturally, he claimed the trophy at age 19. A torn hip muscle this January forced Nadal to miss the Australian Open; an ab problem sidelined him later. He returned in April, but in three places he's won a total of 27 titles — Barcelona, Madrid, Rome — Nadal made it no further than the fourth round anywhere and called himself "unpredictable."

That stretch was capped by a 6-1, 6-3 loss to Hubert Hurkacz at the Italian Open, a result so dispiriting that Nadal wondered aloud whether he should bother showing up at Roland Garros, although did say he was reluctant to skip "the most important event of my tennis career."

The 22-time major champion is not able to run at full speed or compete with full force. He does not have the match-readiness required to succeed.

"For him to feel like he's going in with his 'C' game — not 'B' game; 'C' game — and maybe fearing almost that he could lose first or second round?" said Chris Evert, who won seven of her 18 Grand Slam titles in Paris. "He's been such a perfectionist on that surface, why would he want to expose himself at that level?"

No man has won even half as many French Opens as Nadal. His winning percentage there is .974. He had streaks of five championships in a row, four in a row and three in a row.

This says it all: There's already a statue of him near the main stadium.

"It's really a paramount challenge to play him in Roland Garros," said Novak Djokovic, whose 24 major trophies make him the only man with more than Nadal. "He's an incredible athlete. The tenacity and intensity he brings on the court, particularly there, is something that was very rarely seen, I think, in the history of this sport."

Major League Baseball

Yanks beat Mariners to stop skid

NEW YORK (AP) — Juan Soto homered twice, Aaron Judge and Alex Verdugo also went deep and the New York Yankees beat Seattle 7-3 to stop their first two-game losing streak in three weeks.

Nelson Cortes (3-4) gritted through five scoreless innings for the AL-best Yankees (34-17), who improved to 3-0 when Judge and Soto both homered. The three homers by Soto and Judge were opposite-field drives off Bryce Miller (3-5).



AP Photo/Frank Franklin II

Yankees' Juan Soto, left, celebrates with Aaron Judge after hitting a two-run home run against the Mariners during the third inning Wednesday, in New York.

GUARDIANS 6, METS 3

CLEVELAND (AP) — Johnathan Rodriguez singled home David Fry in the seventh inning for his first major league hit, driving in the go-ahead run for Cleveland in a victory over the N.Y. Mets.

Rodriguez, playing in his second game since being recalled from Triple-A Columbus two days earlier, slapped a grounder through the right side of the infield off Reed Garrett (5-1) to snap a 3-all tie.

TWINS 3, NATIONALS 2

WASHINGTON (AP) — Carlos Correa hit a solo home run and made a diving play to prevent a game-tying run, and the Minnesota Twins beat the Washington Nationals 3-2 on Wednesday.

CARDINALS 3, ORIOLES 1, 1ST GAME

CARDINALS 5, ORIOLES 4, 2ND GAME
ST. LOUIS (AP) — Brendan Donovan doubled home two runs and scored the go-ahead run on a throwing error, lifting St. Louis to a win

over Baltimore in the finale of the three-game series.

ANGELS 2, ASTROS 1

HOUSTON (AP) — Rookie Kyren Paris hit a two-run shot for his first major league home run and Tyler Anderson pitched eight strong innings to lead the L.A. Angels to a win over Houston.

ROYALS 8, TIGERS 3

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Cole Ragans allowed one hit in six innings and Freddy

Fermin drove in three runs as Kansas City beat Detroit Tigers for a series sweep.

MARLINS 1, BREWERS 0

MIAMI (AP) — Jesús Lizardo threw eight scoreless innings of three-hit ball in his longest career start and Miami beat Milwaukee.

Jazz Chisholm Jr. homered for the only run of the game as the Marlins won their third consecutive series.

The game was completed in 1 hour and 54 minutes.

PADRES 7, REDS 3

CINCINNATI (AP) — Luis Arraez went 4 for 5 with a home run and two RBIs and San Diego beat Cincinnati.

PHILLIES 11, RANGERS 4

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Bryce Harper and J.T. Realmuto hit solo homers and Edmundo Sosa had a three-run shot to lead the Phillies past Texas.

RED SOX 8, RAYS 5

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — Willyer Abreu and

Connor Wong both drove in two runs, Brayan Bello overcame a tough second to go six innings and Boston beat Tampa Bay to complete a three-game sweep.

Boston swept the Rays on the road for the first time since April 19-21, 2019. The Red Sox had lost 15 of their previous 16 games at Tampa Bay entering the series.

BLUE JAYS 9, WHITE SOX 2

TORONTO (AP) — Bo Bichette homered and had three RBIs, Daulton Varsho reached base three times and drove in a pair, and Toronto used a seven-run second inning to beat the Chicago White Sox.

BRAVES 9, CUBS 2

CHICAGO (AP) — Max Fried struck out nine while throwing a three-hitter for his second complete game of the season, and the Atlanta Braves beat Justin Steele and the Chicago Cubs.

Marcell Ozuna, Matt Olson and Adam Duvall homered for Atlanta, which had dropped five of six.

GIANTS 9, PIRATES 5

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Patrick Bailey hit the first of three RBI singles in a four-run 10th inning, and San Francisco rallied from a five-run deficit for a win over Pittsburgh. Bailey started with a single to right off Carmen Mlodzinski (0-1), scoring automatic runner Thairo Estrada, before Jorge Soler followed with one up the middle to bring in Matt Chapman.

Yankees owner Hal Steinbrenner credits clubhouse technology for team's fast start

By RONALD BLUM
AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK — Yankees owner Hal Steinbrenner credits new clubhouse technology with helping New York get off to an AL-best 33-17 start, is pleased Juan Soto has bonded with teammates and fans, and is confident his club can return to the playoffs after a one-year absence.

"Our injuries have been below average as opposed to way above average, which we've had at least two of the last five years," Steinbrenner said Wednesday at the Major League Baseball owners' meetings. "And it makes a difference. We did a lot in the clubhouse, a lot of new technology: red light therapy, infrared saunas, hyperbaric chambers, I guess. Stuff that's right over my head. But these players, they really, really like it. Maybe in some way, shape or form all that new technology is helping with the injury situation."

New York began Wednesday with the second-best record in the major leagues, trailing only Philadelphia (35-14).

The only major injuries have been to

ace Gerrit Cole, who could return in late June from an elbow injury; third baseman DJ LeMahieu, expected back next week from a broken right foot; and centerfielder Jasson Domínguez, who is working his way into shape following Tommy John surgery in September.

"It's made a difference in just our players' recovery — ability to recover better and go back out there each and every day," manager Aaron Boone said. "I've done the red light and, well, the hot and cold stuff, but I got to try out that hyperbaric chamber at some point. Maybe I can turn back the clock."

Soto, a three-time All-Star acquired from San Diego in December, is hitting .309 with 11 homers and 37 RBIs.

"I had no doubt Juan Soto would perform in New York. The market, the pressure, none of that was going to be a problem. How would he interact with our fans, how would he interact with you guys, how would he interact with the teammates were the three questions I had," Steinbrenner told reporters.



AP Photo/Seth Wenig, File

Yankees' owner Hal Steinbrenner attends a news conference at Yankee Stadium Dec. 21, 2022, in New York.

NCAA

Proposed \$2.8B settlement clears 2nd step of NCAA approval. Big 12, ACC OK deal

By RALPH D. RUSSO
AP College Football Writer

A potential multibillion-dollar settlement of an antitrust lawsuit cleared the second of a three-step NCAA approval process Tuesday, and the presidential boards of two of the five conferences named in the complaint voted to approve the deal.

The NCAA Division I Board of Directors voted to move forward on a proposed \$2.77 billion settlement of House vs. NCAA, according to two people who had been briefed on the vote. They said the vote was not unanimous, but it was unclear exactly how the 24 member-board voted.

The people spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the NCAA was not revealing its internal discussions related to the settlement. The NCAA Board of Governors still must sign off on the deal for final approval. It is scheduled to meet later this week.

The D-I board's finance committee recommended on Monday to stick with the original finance plan for the settlement, which has drawn the ire of non-

power conference leaders who believe their leagues will bear a disproportionate financial burden.

The NCAA, Big Ten, Big 12, Atlantic Coast Conference, Pac-12 and Southeastern Conference are defendants in the House case, a class-action lawsuit that seeks back pay for college athletes who were denied name, image and likeness compensation dating to 2016. The NCAA lifted its ban on athletes earning money for sponsorship and endorsement deals in 2021.

The Big 12 on Tuesday became the first conference to approve the settlement, with its board of university presidents and chancellors voting unanimously in favor, another person with direct knowledge of the decision told the AP. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the conferences were not making any public statements about the settlement for now.

Later Tuesday, the ACC presidents also voted to approve the settlement, according to a person with knowledge of their vote who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The Big Ten, SEC and Pac-12 presi-

dents were scheduled to vote on whether to approve the settlement deal later this week.

Moving forward, it will be the Big Ten, Big 12, ACC and SEC making the largest investment as the settlement includes a proposed revenue-sharing system that asks their schools to commit upward of \$20 million per year to be paid directly to athletes. The overall commitment is expected to be about \$300 million per school over 10 years.

The NCAA office is set to cover nearly \$2.8 billion in damages over 10 years. A reduction of operating expenses, insurance and reserve funds is expected to cover about \$1.2 billion. The rest would come from withheld distributions to 352 Division I member schools. The NCAA distributes more than \$700 million per year to its 1,100 member schools in three divisions, the vast majority to Division I.

The approved finance plan for the settlement calls for the NCAA to cover 41% of the \$2.77 billion in damages, with the Power Five conferences accounting for 24% and the other five major college football conferences — the so-called

Group of Five — covering 10%.

The conferences that compete in the second tier of Division I football, the Championship Subdivision, would cover 14% of the overall settlement and the non-football D-I conferences would be on the hook for 12%.

The conference commissioners from leagues that do not compete at the highest tier of Division I football, the Bowl Subdivision, have taken issue with the \$1.6 billion in withheld distributions portion of the settlement.

The 27 conferences not named in the lawsuit are expected to cover 60% of withheld distributions, with the other 40% coming from power conferences that currently comprise 69 schools.

The commissioners of the 22 non-FBS conferences sent a memo to NCAA leadership, proposing the finance structure be flipped so power conference withheld distributions cover 60% of the \$1.6 billion.

Big Sky Commissioner Tom Wistrill said earlier Tuesday the non-FBS conferences were holding out hope for reconsideration.

"We're fighting uphill," he said.

Golf Log

WALDEN OAKS MONDAY MIXED LEAGUE
Low Gross Men: Seth Montgomery (39)
Low Net Men: Filip Phillips (30)
Low Gross Women: Samantha Bernardo (44)
Low Net Women: Samantha Bernardo (34)

Standings	
Fuller/Riley	80.5
Fenton	79
Show Dough	78
Newton/Bernardo	72
DeGruff/Holl	68
Raymonds	64
Rilly/Record	59
Kabal	57
Mida/Kum	55
Phelgs/Talbot	54.5
Bertram/Ferrito	52
Kozlowski	51.5
Potter	47
Filip Phillips	46.5
Becker/Becker	45.5
Heart Fire Vet	42.5
Hayden	38
Herberts	26.5

WILLOWBROOK TUESDAY MEN'S LEAGUE
Low Gross: Eric Rossman (37)
Low Net: Tim Lang (28)

Best Ball: Alex Smith, Erik Smith, Dan Glezen and Dan Fadel (22)

Standings	
Paddy's Pub	67.5
Beattie/Wright	48.5
Wood/Kalland	47.5
Red Jug	47
Robinson/Sullivan	46.5
White/Natale	46
MacLain/Sleger	46
Willowbrook	44
Higgin's Hall	39.5
Aldrich/McCormick	39
Becker/Becker	33.5
Evener/Rolunda	33
Petrucor/Heilig	22

KNICKERBOCKER CC LADIES' LEAGUE
Low Gross: Donna Southworth (42), Kim Klevit (42)
Low Net: Rosemary Adessa (26)

Standings	
McKee's Par Teeoff Fore	47.5
Cincy Home Center	35.5
Swisher's Sweets	31.5
Cheers	30
Sautter Tree Farms	29
Above Par	28.5
Toric Farms	25.5

WALDEN OAKS TUESDAY MEN'S LEAGUE
Low Gross: Josh Wood (40), Charlie Wright (40)
Low Net: Charlie Wright (28)

Standings	
Driscoll	81.5
Buckets	57
Jeff & Dennis Rupert	57.5
Owego Street	57
JMS Plumbing	57
Dave's Total Care	55.5
Feuerherm	50.5
Gregory/Fredlow	49
A Round Pizza	46.5

National Hockey League

Panthers top Rangers 3-0 in G1

By VIN A. CHERWOOD
AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK — Sergei Bobrovsky stopped 23 shots for his first shutout of the postseason. Matthew Tkachuk had a goal and an assist and the Florida Panthers beat the New York Rangers 3-0 on Wednesday night in Game 1 of the Eastern Conference final.

Carter Verhaeghe and Sam Bennett also scored.

Bobrovsky, who had six shutouts during the regular season, had the second of his career in the playoffs.

Igor Shesterkin finished with 24 saves for Presidents' Trophy-winning Rangers. They lost for the third time in four games after opening the postseason with seven straight victories.

Game 2 is Friday night in New York.

The Panthers went 0 for 2 on the power play to fall to 9 for 43 in the postseason. The Rangers were 0 for 1.

With Florida leading 1-0, Bobrovsky slid to his left to deny a one-timer with Kaapo Kakko 6 1/2 minutes into the third.

Oliver Ekman-Larsson appeared to add to the lead when he beat Shesterkin from the left side several minutes later. However, the goal was overturned after a challenge for goalie interference because the Panthers' Ryan Lomberg bumped into Shesterkin in the crease.

The Rangers had a flurry of chances with



Panthers goaltender Sergei Bobrovsky deflects a shot by Rangers center Mika Zibanejad, center, during the second period of Game 1 of the Eastern Conference Stanley Cup playoff finals, Wednesday, in New York.

about seven minutes remaining. Alexander Wennberg was denied on two attempts in close, Jacob Trouba had a shot blocked and Wennberg missed on another shot

seconds later.

Bobrovsky made a kick save on a drive by Adam Fox during a New York power play with 5:25 remaining.

AP Photo/Julia Nikhinson

Stars in West final against Oilers after knocking out last 2 champs

By STEPHEN HAWKINS
AP Sports Writer

DALLAS — The top-seeded Dallas Stars are in the Western Conference Final after knocking out the last two Stanley Cup champions, one of those featuring a pair of 100-point scorers.

Edmonton had the NHL's only other duo of 100-point scorers in the regular season, with Connor McDavid and Leon Draisaitl now among four

Oilers who are the top scorers in these playoffs. They also had the league's best record since late November, going 45-14-5 the rest of the regular season after a 5-12-1 start.

"I think people probably would have predicted Edmonton would be in the conference final," Stars coach Pete DeBoer said. "Since November, they've been an elite team in just about every category."

Dallas has been pretty good,

too, and hosts Game 1 tonight.

This is the first playoff matchup between the Stars and Oilers since April 2003, when their sixth postseason meeting in seven years happened the month before the Stars top goal scorer Wyatt Johnston was born.

After taking seven games in the first round to beat reigning champion Vegas, the Stars got a couple of extra days of rest after a double-overtime Game 6

clinch against 2022 champion Colorado, which had league MVP finalist Nathan MacKinnon and Mikko Rantanen.

This is the second year in a row for the Stars to make it to the third round. Edmonton outlasted Vancouver in a seven-game second-round series to get back into the West final for the second time in three years, and like the Stars lost in its last trip against the eventual Cup champion.

MORAVIA

continued from page 9

a line drive that looked like it would bloop over Puryear. Trumansburg's second baseman, but he pulled in the catch on a last-second effort. Thomas Palmer was then caught running to third and doubled off at second to end the inning.

The fourth and fifth innings stung Moravia in the end. Trumansburg went on to score four runs in the bottom of the fourth and two to seal its win in the fifth.

Moravia head coach Eric Gremler has seen his guys put together a successful season despite some weaknesses. Things

just did not come together for the Blue Devils on Wednesday.

"The game plan coming in was we just wanted to do what we've been doing all season," Gremler said. "We've been getting a lot of traffic on the bases. One of our weaknesses this year, actually, is that we've been leaving guys on bases."

"I thought if we could get men on base, with it being playoff baseball, we'd be able to push guys across and make it a competitive game," Gremler added. "Unfortunately we didn't play our best baseball (Wednesday). (Trumansburg) played pretty well, got some good breaks and we didn't get any."

Noah Corbett got the start for Moravia and was quickly met by Puryear, who led off with a single.

Trumansburg put a run across in the first and three more in the second.

The top of the Blue Raiders' lineup was a tough put out all game. Puryear gave the Blue Devils fits, going 4-for-4. Nik Nelson had two hits and two RBIs in the two spot, Fulton had two hits and two RBIs batting cleanup and Wright had a hit and two RBIs batting fifth.

Nelson also tossed five innings for Trumansburg, allowing no runs on three hits and struck out seven.

Moravia's three hits came from two players. Thomas Palmer had two hits and Dillon Palmer added a hit. All three were singles.

Despite its season coming to an end, Moravia finished with a successful 14-5 record. Gremler is proud of the way his team competed all season, and it was an effort from everyone.

"I love these guys," Gremler said. "We could pretty much ask them to do anything and they would. They just did all the little things well. Everyone knew, especially our seniors, that you're never going to win a game on your own out here."

NBA

Duncic leads Mavs to 108-105 victory over Timberwolves

By DAVE CAMPBELL
AP Sports Writer

MINNEAPOLIS — Luka Duncic had 15 of his 33 points in the fourth quarter to lift the Dallas Mavericks to a 108-105 victory over the Minnesota Timberwolves in Game 1 of the Western Conference finals on Wednesday night.

Kyrie Irving scored 24 of his 30 in the first half for the Mavericks, who trailed 102-98 after a 3-pointer by Anthony Edwards with 3:37 left before an 8-0 run the Wolves didn't stop until a tip-in with 10.5 seconds to go.

Jaden McDaniels had his third straight 20-plus-point game with 24 points for the Wolves, but Edwards — who earned his first All-NBA selection prior to the game, on the second team — was stifled for 19 points in a team effort from the Mavericks. Karl-Anthony Towns needed a late burst to get to 16 points and finished 6 for 20 from the floor.

The star power in this series is strong, and for the first night at least the Mavericks got what they needed from their leading duo while the Wolves largely struggled to run the offense.

Dallas had a 62-38 advantage in points in the paint to offset a 6-for-25 shooting performance from deep.

Towns came to life with a

long jumper, a lob to Rudy Gobert for a slam and a 3-pointer on a 2-minute burst to give the Wolves the lead back with 4:39 to go on the way to a 10-0 run that Duncic ended with a 3-pointer. P.J. Washington, who had 13 points and seven rebounds, hit from deep to put the Mavericks back in front with 1:56 to go. Towns thought he tied the game with a putback dunk on the next possession, but that was waved off for basket interference. Edwards, who went scoreless in the third quarter, added 11 rebounds and eight assists.

Neither team led by more than nine. Minnesota hosts Game 2 on Friday night.

Duncic was relatively quiet until he scored seven straight points over 63 seconds early in the fourth quarter, and the Mavericks stretched that to a 13-0 run for a 97-89 lead that Edwards finally ended with a 3-pointer after another helter-skelter possession.

The Wolves had two days off after dethroning defending champion Denver with a Game 7 comeback from a 20-point deficit to win the second-round series, and the transition was sharp from the Nuggets and NBA MVP Nikola Jokic's deliberate and powerful style to the pick-and-roll-heavy Mavericks.



AP Photo/Matt Krohn

Timberwolves forward Jaden McDaniels, center, drives to the basket during Game 1 of the Western Conference finals, Wednesday, in Minneapolis.

SCHOOLS

continued from page 9

wanted to make its presence felt early and often against a pesky Indian River squad.

"We come into every game like that," senior defender Mason McCall said. "We want to make it a point to hit big and control the ball."

Nye knew the Warriors wouldn't back down and give it right back and was proud of how his guys kept their composure in a slugfest.

"We know that Indian River is a really tough school," Nye said. "They're a good football school and there's some history between Homer and Indian River in football. I knew that physicality would carry over."

"It's tough to prepare the team for that without overdoing it," Nye added. "When you have a group of high school kids in playoffs they're about to rip somebody's head off. It's got to be controlled violence. But our boys went out and played really hard. We were ready for a battle and those guys gave us one heck of a game."

The two teams went back and forth all game, with neither side holding a multi-goal lead. Indian River led 2-1, 3-2 and 4-3, while Homer led 1-0, 5-4, 6-5 and, most importantly, 7-6.

Gabe O'Connor scored twice for Homer behind Swartz's four goals, Daniel Stiles netted a goal and Wyatt Wilbur had an assist.

Bradshaw recorded his 600th career save Wednesday night on his 10th of the evening.

Homer now stands one game away from its goal of playing for a sectional championship. The Trojans have to go through a tough South Jefferson team that beat No. 7 Whitesboro 18-1 Wednesday. Homer will have to take it one game at a time but knows its goal is within reach.

"It's nice that the stars have aligned from our end-of-season goal to now," Nye said. "We were able to control our destiny and get a good seed and a good road to the championship. We know that the end goal is to beat J-D in the finals because they're going to be there, they're legit. But we have to take this one game at a time and (Wednesday night) is a great example of that. You can't look over anybody."

BOYS LACROSSE
No. 2 SKANEATELES 19,
No. 7 TULLY/F-P 4

Tully/F-P got down 17-3 at halftime and couldn't mount any sort of rally in the Section III Class D quarterfinals. Skaneateles will face No. 3 Westhill in the semifinals Saturday.

Daniel Garback led Tully/F-P's offense with two goals, Louis Bennett and Jake Verbanic each scored a goal and Lane Greczyn added an assist.

Payton Bliss made 10 saves for the Black Knights. Harper Shaw went 16-for-26 on face-offs and got nine ground balls, Nathan Reid scooped up four ground balls, Bennett got three, David Lyon and Kaleb Riehman each had two and John Labarge, Dan Shetler, Tristan Hendricks and Garback all picked up one ground ball.

Tully/F-P finishes its season with a 7-10 record.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE
BASEBALL

No. 5 Cortland at No. 4 Westhill, 5 p.m. today
No. 5 McGraw at No. 4 Poland, 4:30 p.m. today
No. 6 Tully vs. No. 3 Putaski or No. 14 Weedsport, today

SOFTBALL

No. 5 Oriskany at No. 4 McGraw, 5 p.m. today
at Blodgett Mills Softball Field
No. 9 Brookfield at No. 1 Cincinnati, 5 p.m. today

BOYS LACROSSE

No. 3 Homer vs. No. 2 South Jefferson or No. 7 Whitesboro, 11 a.m. Saturday
at Fayetteville-Manlius High School

TRACK & FIELD

Cincinnati, DeRuyter at Oriskany, 1 p.m. Friday

GIRLS GOLF

Moravia at Soaring Eagle Golf Course, 9 a.m. today

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 Authorized Representative
 FILING DATE: 5/8/2024

CORTLAND COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
 Notice of Formation of 179 Homer LLC.
 Articles of Organization filed with
 Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on
 05/16/2024. Office location: Cortland
 County. SSNY designated as agent of
 Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon
 whom process against it may be
 served. SSNY should mail process to
 John DelVecchio: 4446 Raphael Drive,
 Cortland, NY 13045, USA. Purpose:
 Any lawful purpose.

CORTLAND COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
 Notice of Formation of Mountainview
 Wellness Coaching, LLC. Articles of
 Organization filed with Secretary of
 State of NY (SSNY) on 04/13/2024.
 Office location: Cortland County. SSNY
 designated as agent of Limited Liability
 Company (LLC) upon whom process
 against it may be served. SSNY should
 mail process to Tricia Wilder: 2011
 Amalia Dr. Cortland, NY 13045.
 Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

CORTLAND COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
 Notice of Formation of Cortland
 Chiropractic P.L.L.C.. Articles of
 Organization filed with Secretary of
 State of NY (SSNY) on 05/09/2024.
 Office location: Cortland County. SSNY
 designated as agent of Professional
 Limited Liability Company (PLLC) upon
 whom process against it may be
 served. SSNY should mail process to
 Cortland Chiropractic P.L.L.C.: 165
 Central Ave, Fl1, Cortland NY 13045.
 Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

CORTLAND COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
 Notice of Formation of 4295 North
 Homer LLC. Articles of Organization
 filed with Secretary of State of NY
 (SSNY) on 05/16/2024. Office location:
 Cortland County. SSNY designated as
 agent of Limited Liability Company
 (LLC) upon whom process against it
 may be served. SSNY should mail
 process to John DelVecchio: 4446
 Raphael Drive, Cortland, NY 13045,
 USA. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

CORTLAND COUNTY RFQ
Request for Qualifications Construction Manager
 The County of Cortland wishes to
 replace the failing steam heating
 system with Ground Source Heat Pump
 heating and cooling system at the
 Cortland County Courthouse, located at
 46 Greenbush Street, Cortland, NY.
 Cortland County invites firms with the
 experience in the planning, managing
 and inspection of Ground Source Heat
 Pump System projects to submit a
 Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) with
 supporting documentation to the
 Cortland County Highway Department
 no later than 3:00pm, Wednesday, June
 5th 2024. For those firms interested,
 please submit qualification statements
 (via email) to Charles Sudbrink at
 csudbrink@cortland-co.org or Alan
 Riccottilli at ariccottilli@cortland-co.org.

CORTLAND COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
 Notice of Formation of GP Cannabis
 NY, LLC. Articles of Organization filed
 with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY)
 on 11/15/2023. Office location:
 Cortland. SSNY designated as agent of
 Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon
 whom process against it may be
 served. SSNY should mail process to
 Danielle J. Shatraw: P.O. Box 961,
 Cortland New York 13045. Purpose:
 Any lawful purpose.

CAYUGA COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE
 NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF
 TENTATIVE ASSESSMENT ROLL
 (Pursuant to Real Property Tax Law
 Section 506 & 526)
HEARING OF COMPLAINTS Notice is
 hereby given that the Assessor(s) of the
 Town of SEMPRONIUS Cayuga
 County, has completed the TENTATIVE
 ASSESSMENT ROLL for the current
 year, and that a copy has been left with
 the Town Clerk at the Town Offices
 where it may be seen and examined by
 any interested person until the fourth
 Tuesday in May. The Assessors will be
 in attendance with the TENTATIVE
 ASSESSMENT ROLL BY
 APPOINTMENT ONLY 315-596-1986:
 May 14th 12-4 & 5-8, May 18th 1-3,
 May 30th 2-5 The Board of
 Assessment Review will meet on: May
 30th 6-10pm at the SEMPRONIUS
 Town Offices located at 2481 STATE
 ROUTE 41A, in said Town, to hear and
 examine all complaints in relation to
 assessments, on the application of any
 person believing himself to be
 aggrieved. DATED this 1st day of May
 2024
 Heather Garner Assessor, Town of
 SEMPRONIUS

CORTLAND COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
 Notice of Qualification of Huber Soda,
 LLC. Authority filed with NY Secy of
 State (SSNY) on 3/21/24. Office
 location: Cortland County. LLC formed
 in Delaware (DE) on 10/31/23. SSNY is
 designated as agent of LLC upon whom
 process against it may be served.
 SSNY shall mail process to: 28 Liberty
 St, NY, NY 10005. DE address of LLC:
 1209 Orange St, Wilmington, DE
 19801. Cert. of Formation filed with DE
 Secy of State, 401 Federal St. Ste 4,
 Dover, DE 19901. The name and
 address of the Reg. Agent is C T
 Corporation System, 28 Liberty St, NY,
 NY 10005. Purpose: For any and all
 lawful purposes.

CORTLAND COUNTY RFQ
Request for Qualifications Consultant
 The County of Cortland wishes to
 replace the failing steam heating
 system with Ground Source Heat
 Pump heating and cooling system at
 the Cortland County Courthouse,
 located at 46 Greenbush Street,
 Cortland, NY. Cortland County
 invites firms with the experience in
 the feasibility and design of Ground
 Source Heat Pump systems to
 submit a Statement of Qualifications
 (SOQ) with supporting
 documentation to the Cortland
 County Highway Department no later
 than 3:00pm, Wednesday, June
 5, 2024. For those firms interested,
 please submit Statement of
 Qualifications (SOQ) (via email) to
 Charles Sudbrink
 at csudbrink@cortland-co.org or
 Alan Riccottilli at ariccottilli@cortland-
 co.org.

CORTLAND COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF CUYLER PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the
 Annual Financial Report for the fiscal
 year ending 2023 for the Town of
 Cuyler has been filed with the Office of
 the State Comptroller on March 9, 2024.
 A copy of said report is on file in the
 Cuyler Town Clerk's Office and may be
 seen during regular business hours.

 Wendy Custer,
 Cuyler Town Clerk

CORTLAND COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF TENTATIVE ASSESSMENT ROLL
 (Pursuant to section 506 and 526 of
 the Real Property Tax Law)
HEARING OF COMPLAINTS

 Notice is hereby given that the
 Assessor for the Town of Cuyler,
 Cortland County, New York has
 completed the Tentative Assessment
 Roll for the current calendar year and
 that after May 1, 2024, a copy will be on
 file with the Town Clerk at 4763 Pardee
 Rd, Cuyler, N.Y. where it may be
 examined by any interested person until
 the fourth Tuesday in May.
 The Assessor will have the Tentative
 Assessment Roll and can be seen by
 appointment only please call 607-842-
 6289.

 The Cuyler Board of Assessment
 Review will meet on Wednesday, May
 29, 2024, between the hours of 4:00
 and 8:00 pm at the Fire Station of said
 town, to hear and examine all
 complaints in relation to assessments
 on application of any person believing
 himself/herself to be aggrieved.

 Dated May 1, 2024.

 William Bearup
 Assessor
 Town of Cuyler

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 Dated May 1, 2024.

 William Bearup
 Assessor
 Town of Cuyler

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 Dated May 1, 2024.

 William Bearup
 Assessor
 Town of Cuyler

CORTLAND COUNTY BID NOTICE
 The Cortland Housing Authority, 42 Church St. Cortland, NY 13045 is accepting bids
 for the following project:
BATHROOM VANITY & SINK REPLACEMENTS
 Specifications may be obtained from the office of the Housing Authority or by calling
 (607)753-1771, ext. 236.
 Bids are due no later than 2:00 p.m. local time Thursday June 13, 2024.
 Questions about the project may be directed to Ella M. Dilorio at
 (607)753-1771, ext. 223or Lyn Boyce at (607)753-1771, ext. 236.
 The owner accepts the right to reject any and all bids and to waive informalities in the
 bidding process.

CORTLAND COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF CUYLER
NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF TAX ROLL AND WARRANT

TAKE NOTICE that I, Wendy Custer, the undersigned, have duly received the
 Tax Roll and Warrant for the collection of Taxes within the Town of Cuyler, New York
 for the year 2024 and that I will be in attendance at 4763 Pardee Road, Cuyler, New
 York, in the said Town of Cuyler, Monday and Tuesday evenings from 5 pm until 7 pm
 and Saturday's from 9-12, for the purpose of receiving taxes listed on said roll.
TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that taxes may be paid on or before January 31,
 2024 without interest, beginning February 1, to February 29, one percent (1%)
 interest fee will be charged and from March 1, to April 1, two percent (2%) interest fee
 will be charged and from April 2, to April 30, three percent (3%) interest fee will be
 charged until such taxes are paid or until the return of unpaid taxes to the County
 Treasurer on May 31, 2024, pursuant to law.
TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that if taxes are unpaid as of May 31, 2024, a
 second notice of taxes due is processed, an additional charge of \$2.00 (two dollar)
 will be levied and four (4%) interest fee will be charged and will become a part of the
 amount due.

 Wendy Custer
 Town Clerk/Collector
 Town of Cuyler
 607-842-6051

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 Wendy Custer,
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 complaints in relation to assessments
 on application of any person believing
 himself/herself to be aggrieved.

 Dated May 1, 2024.

 William Bearup
 Assessor
 Town of Cuyler

Norway, Ireland and Spain say they will recognize a Palestinian state

Deepening Israel's isolation

By **JOSEPH WILSON, MELANIE LIDMAN and JOSEPH KRAUSS**
 Associated Press

TEL AVIV, Israel — Norway, Ireland and Spain said Wednesday they would recognize a Palestinian state, a historic but largely symbolic move that further deepens Israel's isolation more than seven months into its grinding war against Hamas in Gaza. Israel denounced the decisions and recalled its ambassadors to the three countries.

Palestinian officials welcomed the announcements as an affirmation of their decades-long quest for statehood in east Jerusalem, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip — territories Israel seized in the 1967 Mideast war and still controls.

While some 140 countries — more than two-thirds of the United Nations — recognize a Palestinian state, Wednesday's cascade of announcements could build momentum at a time when even close allies of Israel have piled on criticism for its conduct in Gaza.

The timing of the move was a surprise, but discussions have been underway for weeks in some European Union countries about possibly recognizing a Palestinian state. Proponents have argued that the war has shown the need for a new push toward a two-state solu-



Erik Flaaris Johansen/NTB Scanpix via AP
Norway's Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Store, right, with Foreign Minister Espen Barth Eide, speaks during a news conference in Oslo, Norway, Wednesday.

tion, 15 years after negotiations collapsed between Israel and the Palestinians. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government opposes Palestinian statehood.

It was the second blow to Israel's international reputation this week after the chief prosecutor of the International Criminal Court said he would seek arrest warrants for Netanyahu and his defense minister. The International Court of Justice is also considering allegations of genocide that Israel has strenuously denied.

In addition to recalling the ambassadors to the three coun-

tries, Israel summoned their envoys, accusing the Europeans of rewarding the militant Hamas group for its Oct. 7 attack that triggered the war. Foreign Minister Israel Katz said the European ambassadors would watch grisly video footage of the attack.

In that assault, Hamas-led militants stormed across the border, killing 1,200 people and taking some 250 hostage. The ICC prosecutor is also seeking arrest warrants for three Hamas leaders. Israel's ensuing offensive has killed more than 35,000 Palestinians, according to Gaza's Health Ministry, and has caused

a humanitarian crisis and a near-famine. The ICC prosecutor has accused Israeli leaders of using starvation as a weapon.

"History will remember that Spain, Norway, and Ireland decided to award a gold medal to Hamas murderers and rapists," Katz said.

In response to the announcements in Europe, Israel's far-right National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir paid a provocative visit Wednesday to the Al-Aqsa mosque compound — a flashpoint in Jerusalem that is sacred to Muslims and Jews, who refer to it as the Temple Mount.

Russian attacks on Ukraine grid touch Kyiv with blackouts before peak demand

By **SAMYA KULLAB**
 Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine — Sustained Russian attacks on Ukraine's power grid in recent weeks have forced leaders of the war-ravaged country to institute nationwide rolling blackouts. Without adequate air defenses to counter assaults and allow for repairs, though, the shortages could still worsen as short spikes in late summer and the bitter-cold winter.

The Russian airstrikes targeting the grid since March have meant blackouts have even returned to the capital, Kyiv, which hadn't experienced them since the first year of the war. Among the strikes were an April barrage that damaged Kyiv's largest thermal power plant and a massive attack on May 8 that targeted power generation and transmission facilities in several regions.

In all, half of Ukraine's energy system was damaged, Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba said.

Entire apartment blocks in the capital went dark. The city's military administration said at least 10% of consumers were disconnected.

For many, it is a taste of what might be in store if Ukraine doesn't find other electricity sources before winter.

Before dawn Wednesday, a Russian drone attack on Sumy plunged the northern Ukraine city into darkness. Some power was restored to the city of around a quarter-million people



AP Photo/Evgeniy Maloletka
German's Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock speaks to Ukrainian Energy Minister Herman Halushchenko during an official visit to a thermal power plant which was destroyed by a Russian rocket attack in Ukraine, Tuesday.

in the morning as crews rushed to repair the damage, local authorities said.

With no end in sight to the attacks on the power grid and without a way to adequately defend against them, there are no quick fixes to the electricity shortages, Energy Minister Herman Halushchenko explained. Ukraine is appealing to Western allies for more air defense systems and spare parts to fix its Soviet-era plants.

"With each attack we lose additional power generation, so it just goes minus, minus, minus," Halushchenko said Tuesday while standing outside a coal-fired plant in central Ukraine that was destroyed in an April 11 attack. Any efforts to repair

the plant would be futile until the military can defend it from another attack.

"Should we repair (power stations) just for them (Russians) to renew strikes while we are unable to defend ourselves?" the minister asked.

German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock's joined him on the plant visit, underscoring Ukraine's desperation to close the power gap as quickly as possible.

The first major test of the grid will come in July and August, when consumption due to summer heat can mirror levels in the sub-freezing winter months, the minister said.

By mid-May, Kyiv's residents began to feel the consequences

of Russia's attacks. A cold snap drove up consumption, forcing Ukrenergo, the main transmission system operator, to introduce controlled blackouts throughout the country. Ukraine can't generate enough power to cover evening peaks, and the shortage is greater than the country's ability to import electricity from Poland, Slovakia and Romania.

The April 11 attack on the plant destroyed generators, transformers and turbines — every necessary part to generate electricity, said Yevhen Harkavyi, the technical director of Centereenergo, which operates the plant.

Five missiles hit the facility that day, and workers were still clearing away rubble on Tuesday as snow-like tufts of poplar cotton fell through a hole in the roof.

The plan for winter is to restore power generation as much as possible, said Harkavyi. How that will happen isn't clear, he conceded: "The situation is already too difficult."

Ukraine is hoping to acquire parts from long-decommissioned German plants. Harkavyi said Ukrainian teams recently went to Germany to evaluate the equipment, which was taken offline because it doesn't meet European Union environmental standards. It remains to be seen how willing European allies will be to invest in Ukraine's coal-fueled energy sector given their own greener goals.

Passengers describe turbulent Singapore Airlines flight that put 20 in intensive care

By **NAPAT KONGSAWAD**
 Associated Press

BANGKOK — Passengers on the Singapore Airlines flight that descended sharply after hitting severe turbulence described the "sheer terror" of the aircraft shuddering, loose items flying and people wrenched so badly that 20 remained Wednesday in intensive care.

"I arrived back in the airport and I couldn't stop vomiting. I couldn't walk, it was pretty bad," said Josh Silverstone, 24, who was discharged from a hospital with a cut in his eye and a chipped tooth. He said it could have been "way worse."

The British man said he was so scared that he bought in-flight

internet access to message his mother: "I wasn't trying to scare her, but I said 'I love you.'"

It was still not clear what exactly caused the turbulence that sent the Boeing 777 carrying 211 passengers and 18 crew members on a 6,000-foot descent in about three minutes on Tuesday. The flight from London to Singapore was diverted to Thailand. A British man died, possibly of a heart attack.

Aviation investigators arrived in Bangkok on Wednesday. Singapore Transport Minister Chee Hong Tat said the U.S. National Transportation Safety Board was sending technical advisors because the incident involved a Boeing plane.

Singapore Airlines said 131 passengers and 12 crew members from Flight SQ321 who were well enough to travel were picked up on a special flight and arrived early Wednesday at Singapore's Changi Airport.

Six crew members and 79 passengers stayed in Bangkok, where the majority remained in the hospital, said Singapore Airlines CEO Goh Choon Phong.

Samitvej Srinakaran Hospital, where most of the injured were taken, said the 20 people in intensive care include six Britons, six Malaysians, three Australians, two Singaporeans and one person each from Hong Kong, New Zealand, and the Philippines.

Passenger Beverley Mayers, who was not injured, described the situation inside the plane as "sheer terror."

"The whole plane was shuddering ... great pieces were falling off and dropping on the floor, people getting hit in the head," she told Australia's TV Channel 9 on arrival at Sydney airport.

Thai officials withheld the name of the dead man, but British media identified him as Geoffrey Kitchen, 73, who was going on a six-week holiday with his wife.

A Thai airport official said Kitchen might have had a heart attack, though that hadn't been confirmed.

Cortland Standard
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They shared a name — but not a future. How two kids fought to escape poverty in Baltimore

By LEA SKENE
Associated Press

BALTIMORE — Growing up in the streets of east Baltimore surrounded by poverty and gun violence, two kids named Antonio became fast friends. Both called “Tone,” they were similarly charismatic and ambitious, dreaming of the day they would finally leave behind the struggles that defined their childhoods.

One has. The other never will. Antonio Lee was shot and killed last summer. In the weeks that followed, his friend Antonio Moore warned their peers about the consequences of retaliation, trying to prevent more needless bloodshed and stolen futures in a city that consistently ranks among the nation’s most violent.

“This s--- will keep going for the next 20 years, or it’ll stop,” Moore said at Lee’s funeral service in August. “Y’all gotta make a choice.”

Moore, 24, is a successful real estate investor and entrepreneur. He founded a consulting company that helps brands and nonprofits connect with urban youth. His accomplishments serve as a reminder of what’s possible.

Moore said Lee was committed to forging a similar path; he just didn’t have enough time to see it through.

How was Moore able to break the negative cycles of his youth while Lee fell victim to them?

It’s a question with no simple answers, but their disparate fates highlight the sometimes insurmountable challenges facing young Black men from Baltimore’s poorest neighborhoods and similar communities across the country. They live in a world where rampant gun violence often draws an arbitrary line between life and death, where the fight for survival is constant and trauma is passed down through generations.

And the hurdles don’t stop there: underperforming schools, limited job opportunities, inadequate public transportation, inaccessible health care, housing insecurity and an embattled criminal justice system that disproportionately locks up people of color. Guns and drugs are readily available. Hope is hard to come by.

Beating the odds is possible, but it requires an extraordinary combination of hard work and good luck.

Above all, it requires time.

On the afternoon of his death, Lee was washing windshields at a busy northeast Baltimore intersection when gunfire broke out. His loved ones believe he was killed over a dispute between rival groups from different sections of east Baltimore. No arrests have been made in the case.

Lee died about four months before his 20th birthday. A second victim survived his injuries.

Stories like this are painfully common in Baltimore even as the city’s homicide rate overall trends downward.

Lee’s life unfolded in forgotten communities suffering from decades of population loss and unchecked drug activity. He attended Baltimore’s underfunded public schools. Money was tight at home.

He came from a loving family, but his childhood was punctuated by tragedy. A brother was shot to death in North Carolina and a sister died from brain cancer. As the youngest child, Lee clung to his mother and surviving sister for support.

Several of his close friends were killed as teenagers, including a Baltimore high school football player whose death rocked the city two years ago when he was gunned down in his school’s parking lot less than an hour before a scheduled home game.

Lee mourned them all, and he was acutely aware of the danger he faced simply operating in his environment, according to friends and family. That’s one reason he was fighting to get out.

Statistically, he was fighting a losing battle. Black children grow up in some of the country’s poorest households. Compared to their white coun-



AP Photo/Julio Cortez

A photograph of Antonio Lee is seen on a program as mourners gather for photographs following a funeral service for Lee, Aug. 31, 2023, in Baltimore.



AP Photo/Julia Nikhinson

People look on as police officers question a boy during a vigil for Antonio Lee, Aug. 18, 2023, in Baltimore.



AP Photo/Steve Ruark

Antonio Moore, 24, of Baltimore, stands in his childhood neighborhood in east Baltimore, Feb. 26.

terparts, research shows they’re significantly less likely to achieve upward economic mobility: About three-quarters of Black children born in the lowest income bracket will remain there for the rest of their lives. They’re also about five times more likely to die in gunfire.

Lee talked about moving to Atlanta or maybe Florida, somewhere he would feel safer. He just needed to save up enough money to make it happen.

He was constantly brainstorming potential business opportunities — everything from music production and real estate investment to trash collection.

He started working at McDonald’s and considered taking culinary classes. He loved to cook and bake. His funeral program listed some of his favorite dishes: pasta, chicken wings, banana pudding.

Lee was enrolled in one of Baltimore’s flagship anti-violence programs through the nonprofit Roca, which provides mentoring, job training, GED classes and other services. He was meeting with his mentor regularly; they last spoke just hours before the shooting while Lee was brushing his teeth.

Despite having a mouthful of toothpaste, he answered the phone with his signature greeting, an enthusiastic “Hey baby!”

Wherever he went, Lee would show up well-dressed and smiling, usually sporting a spotless pair of Air Jordan 5s, his favorite sneaker. As an aspiring rapper, he kept his finger on the pulse of music and fashion trends.

“A lot of these kids, their souls are like vacant buildings,” said Terry “Uncle T” Williams, who founded a youth mentorship program in east Baltimore after his son was killed. “Antonio was really ambitious. He had a big heart. He stood out like a sore thumb for this reason.”

Lee’s optimism was contagious. He was curious and open-minded. He wanted to make his community proud.

“He was just so young,” said Brandon Taylor, a Baltimore attorney who represented Lee. “I feel like Mr. Lee was a damn baby.”

At the same time, he was forced to grow up fast, especially after his older brother was killed in 2019. Lee was grappling with a question facing



AP Photo/Julia Nikhinson

A boy rides his bike during a vigil for Antonio Lee, Aug. 18, 2023, in Baltimore.

many of Taylor’s clients: Was it worth carrying a gun for protection despite the risk of getting stopped by police?

“But fighting and violence, that’s not what Mr. Lee was all about,” Taylor said. “So when I heard about him dying, that kind of crushed this whole firm.”

Just weeks before his death, Lee met with Taylor about a recent arrest for fleeing police and traffic violations. Taylor shook his head, recalling how Lee sped home and climbed through a window instead of complying with the traffic stop.

After the shooting, loved ones were similarly left wondering what was going through Lee’s mind when he decided to wash windshields in northeast Baltimore, an area he normally avoided because of ongoing neighborhood beef. He was squeegeeing with a friend that afternoon.

Baltimore’s squeegee workers have long been a fixture at some of the city’s busiest intersections. Mostly young Black men from east and west Baltimore, they’re typically desperate for cash. But their numbers have been dwindling since a 2022 initiative from the mayor’s office sought to discourage the practice and banned panhandling in certain locations.

Lee must have needed supplemental income and decided to take a chance, loved ones said. It was a mistake he couldn’t afford to make.

While Lee’s death added to

or college degree. Moore said his most important asset was his knowledge of Baltimore’s neighborhoods, crime trends, local politics and other factors that could inform investment decisions. The city’s glut of vacant rowhouses provided ample opportunities.

Meanwhile, Moore also began developing relationships with advocates and business leaders focused on improving conditions for teens and young adults living in poverty.

Moore said those interactions made him realize the value of his perspective — not in spite of where he came from, but because of it. He launched a consulting firm in 2021.

As a marketing consultant, he advises businesses and nonprofits on how to connect with a Gen Z audience. His current client list includes YouTube and the national anti-violence organization Everytown for Gun Safety.

Last year, Moore organized a collaboration between Everytown and three local Baltimore streetwear designers. During a recent visit to his childhood neighborhood, he caught up with old friends and handed out shirts emblazoned with the organization’s message: “STOP GUN VIOLENCE”

Moore was able to make it out of the streets, but he can’t escape the social media posts perpetuating Baltimore’s intractable cycles of youth violence. Some nights, he lies awake wondering how to stop them, grappling with complex questions that criminologists, public health experts and politicians have repeatedly failed to answer.

“It’s so easy to self-sabotage yourself in the city. It’s easy to stunt your own growth because that’s what the environment breeds,” he said. “You have to see a future and want it more — really want it.”

It was an uphill battle as Moore pushed himself to embrace the unknown. Aside from a few lucky breaks, he attributes his success to an inquisitive mind, strong social skills, discipline and drive. Those qualities may have served him well, but they’re not particularly unique.

“The thing is, there are so many more kids like me,” he said. One of them was Lee, who considered Moore a role model

of sorts. The pair developed a close friendship based on shared experiences and similar goals. In between watching sports, listening to music and going shopping, they talked about Lee’s future: how he dreamed of finding a lucrative career and buying his mom a house. Moore offered advice and support. He thought Lee was next in line for success.

Moore was visiting Chicago when he heard about the shooting. He rushed back to Baltimore, unable to shake the feeling that somehow he’d failed his little brother.

“I’m so mad he got killed because kids younger than him would have been influenced and inspired by him, too,” Moore said. “It possibly could have helped change a whole generation.”

A week after Lee’s death, family members organized an evening vigil in the heart of east Baltimore. Against a backdrop of abandoned brick rowhouses, they constructed a makeshift memorial with photographs from his childhood. They decorated nearby stoops with bunches of blue balloons and spelled “TONE” with cardboard letters fastened to a boarded-up window.

The crowd grew to around 100 people, filling the sidewalks and spilling into the street as Baltimore police officers watched from a distance. Mourners sipped from liquor bottles and lit candles while hip-hop music blasted in the background. They laughed and cried together, carrying out a series of rituals that have become all too familiar in Baltimore’s most underserved communities.

Moore walked to a corner store and bought candy for some of the younger kids. He visited with a friend who had recently come home from jail. He hugged Lee’s mom while she sobbed for several minutes.

Instead of inspiring others, Lee’s story had become a cautionary tale.

“Right now, this city is known for its pain,” said John Young, a local pastor who mentored Lee and officiated his funeral service. “The future leaders of this world are being eliminated.”

During the funeral, Young asked how many people in attendance had experienced similar tragedies before. Dozens raised their hands.

He used the moment to send a clear message to Lee’s peers, other young men on the brink of adulthood, caught somewhere between forgiveness and revenge, ambition and resignation.

“I want y’all to make a decision. Think about Tone and how you’re gonna remember him,” Young said. “How many of y’all don’t want to look in a casket and see yourself in it? Aren’t you tired of watching other people’s mothers cry?”

“Tone wanted to change and he had the courage to admit it. ... Now it’s your turn to do something for him — live.”

Moore, for his part, tries to live by example.

He remains immersed in the community that raised him, even when it feels like he’s straddling two worlds. He understands both sides of the equation, the challenges and the possibilities.

“Where we come from, we’re so lost, we’re not thinking our life matters,” he said. “But there’s a place for us out there. We don’t have to stay outcasts just because we were born into this.”

His insight comes from personal experience, but to many other young people growing up under similar circumstances, his accomplishments seem like an impossible pipe dream. Moore searches desperately for the words that will finally make them realize their untapped potential.

In a world where the future is anything but guaranteed, how do you inspire hope?

It’s a piece of advice he gave Lee countless times: “You are valuable,” he tells anyone who will listen. “You really gotta stay alive long enough to catch on.”

ANIMAL CRACKERS



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



BABY BLUES



HI AND LOIS



BEEBLE BAILEY



MUTTS



DUSTIN



TIGER



GARFIELD



ZITS



Astrological Forecast

By Magi Helena
Friday, May 24, 2024

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Put your trust in someone and you may find it to be rewarding. Organizing an impromptu gathering of your inner circle could be one way to spend the evening, but you might prefer solitude to reflect on your recent experiences.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You may have brief, but unexpected urges to reassess certain relationships or change your plans, consider asking a trusted friend for guidance. Focus on your goal and keep your loved ones close by your side for support.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Your intentions might not be obvious to everyone. You could appear a bit self-centered when you are merely focusing on your own best interest and well-being. Those who love you could give you the benefit of their support.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Consider cashing in on an exciting opportunity or just enjoy the unanticipated abundance that may have come your way. You could be better off spending quality time with a close friend rather than going out in a crowd this evening.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Your professional skills could flourish as you connect with others who are experts in their fields. Friends may be great to have and fun to spend time with, but a well-developed relationship with yourself could feel like a perfect fit.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Tap into your reservoir of imagination and envision powerful and pleasant results. Your subconscious mind may work on your behalf to help you align with your goal. Allow yourself to be guided by the love you may feel in the air tonight.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Some people might offer flattering compliments but may not be available when you need their support. If you are looking for love and connection, give love and connection. From one source or another, you receive back what you give to the world.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Someone may be charmed by your thoughtful advice or genuine interest in their life. Take the opportunity to connect with someone on a deeper level through meaningful conversation. Quality time at home could be what you're craving.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): This could be a good time to make long term plans with a close friend. You both may be operating on the same wavelength. Express your love and affection and the results could lead to possibilities that exceed your expectations.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Your passion to be your best self could bring on an interest in healthier habits or investments. Read about your interests and you could be inspired to eat more balanced meals, prioritize physical exercise, or invest wisely.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Remain alert for opportunities or help from influential individuals. Your creativity may be enhanced, leaving you with room for excitement and self-expression. Tonight could be filled with loving moments that you'll cherish forever.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Follow the lead of someone near and dear to your heart who has imaginative fantasies and unbridled ambition. You may need to work to keep up, but you won't be disappointed. There is no reason to insist on following traditions.

IF MAY 24 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Your grandest plans may unfold successfully if you put them in motion during the next weeks. Your ambitions to take on a leadership role could become supersized so you must remember to be grateful and appreciative for the help and support you may receive from others. This may potentially be a fortunate time to accept offers and to make major decisions because you may feel wiser and luckier than usual. Enjoy outdoor activities and group gatherings in July when your social calendar could fill up quickly and you might have extra energy to burn.

Sudoku

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

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

Cryptoquote

A XYDLBAAXR
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.

5-23 CRYPTOQUOTE
OG XYT FJOYJOEOMD XYTJWDBG,
XYT UJD ZYOSZ EY WUAD
XYTJWDBG. — ZUVJODBB D

TSOYS

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: USE WHAT TALENTS YOU POSSESS; THE WOODS WOULD BE VERY SILENT IF NO BIRDS SANG THERE EXCEPT THOSE THAT SANG BEST. — HENRY VAN DYKE

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 45 Sports figure
 - 1 Bakery buy
 - 5 Hire
 - 11 Soprano instrument
 - 12 Good hit
 - 13 Nuisance
 - 14 Tailored sleeve detail
 - 15 Canines
 - 17 Doctor's charge
 - 18 Peeved states
 - 22 Flint product
 - 24 Veep Agnew
 - 25 Honolulu souvenir
 - 26 — de plume
 - 27 Extreme
 - 30 Pigeon's perch
 - 32 One of the Barry-mores
 - 33 Clumsy one
 - 34 Lazy person
 - 38 Duplicates
 - 41 Honolulu do
 - 42 Grove growth
 - 43 Avenue liners
 - 44 Prepares for a blow
- DOWN**
- 1 Tug-of-war need
 - 2 Follow the rules
 - 3 Give up
 - 4 Pi, phi, or psi
 - 5 Keeness
 - 6 River parts
 - 7 Workout exercise
 - 8 Wt. units
 - 9 Flamenco cry
 - 10 To date
 - 16 Mouse-spotting cry
 - 19 Nitpick
 - 20 Lily pad
 - 21 One or more
 - 22 Turn
 - 23 Hide
 - 28 Pine products
 - 29 State without proof
 - 30 Piece of lumber
 - 31 Philadelphia team
 - 35 Calls on
 - 36 Hindu hero
 - 37 Do some house-work
 - 38 Barracks bed
 - 39 Bauxite, for one
 - 40 Piper of myth

VOTE	SALAAM
ABUT	UGANDA
SORE	MENTOR
TEN	FUNK
ERUPT	BRA
CEDAR	SQUAB
ATOZ	URGE
TRUER	JANET
SET	EXUDE
FLAG	DEB
THORAX	YOYO
HAWAII	EURO
EMENDS	STEM

Yesterday's answer

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11				12					
13				14					
15				16					
17				18			19	20	21
22	23			24					
25				26					
27			28	29		30	31		
32						33			
34				35				36	37
38	39	40						41	
42								43	
44								45	

Word of the Day

neophyte (NEE-uh-fyte)

Definition: (noun) A neophyte is a person who has just started learning or doing something.

Example: As an acting neophyte, Femi took a while to adjust to his newfound Hollywood fame.

— Courtesy Merriam-Webster Online

Atlantic City casino profits declined by nearly 10% in Q1 of '24

By WAYNE PARRY
Associated Press

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. — Atlantic City's casinos saw their collective profits decline by nearly 10% in the first quarter of this year, and only two of the nine casinos were more profitable than they were a year ago, figures released Wednesday by state gambling regulators show.

The nine casinos posted a collective gross operating profit of \$140.4 million in the first three months of 2024, a decline of 9.6% from the same period in 2023.

When internet-only entities are included, the collective profit is \$155.4 million, down 8.7% from a year earlier.

Gross operating profit reflects earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and other charges, and is a widely accepted measure of profitability in the Atlantic City gambling industry.

Jane Bokunewicz, director of the Lloyd Levenson Institute at Stockton University, which studies the Atlantic City gambling market, cited several factors for the sluggish profits. They include "an increase in the cost of doing business, inflation, and a potential shift in revenue mix to operations like lodging and food and beverage that traditionally have narrower profit margins."

James Plousis, chairman of the New Jersey Casino Control Commission, raised many of the same points, cit-

ing labor contracts signed a few years ago that provided significantly higher wages to casino workers along with the increased cost of goods casinos must purchase. Two of the casinos posted operating losses in the first quarter: Bally's lost \$2.5 million compared to an \$88,000 profit a year ago, and Resorts posted a \$1.2 million loss, compared to a \$284,000 loss a year ago.

Two casinos saw their gross operating profit increase in the first quarter: Hard Rock was up 18.3% to \$26.2 million, and Ocean was up 1.2% to \$24 million.

Golden Nugget's gross operating profit was down 51.7% to \$2.3 million and Tropicana was down 25.4% to \$12.5 million.



AP Photo/Wayne Parry
Gamblers play cards at the Ocean Casino Resort in Atlantic City, New Jersey, on Tuesday.

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BUILDING MAINTENANCE FOREPERSON

The Cortland Housing Authority has an opening for a full-time Building Maintenance Foreperson. Must possess 3 years of full-time or its part-time equivalent experience in general building maintenance or skilled trades. Position requires a high school diploma or GED and a valid drivers license. The hourly rate will be \$28.00 per hour plus overtime and on call pay plus an excellent benefits package. Applicants must complete a Cortland County Civil Service Application, which can be obtained from the Cortland County Personnel Department, 60 Central Avenue, Cortland, NY 13045 or by calling 753-5076. Applications are available online at <https://www.cortlandcountyny.gov/266/JobExam-Application>

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Please submit cover letter, resume, certification, transcripts along with application.
DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS June 14, 2024 or until position is filled
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

HELP WANTED

The Research Foundation at SUNY Cortland Child Care Center Teacher

The Research Foundation at SUNY Cortland has an immediate opening for a teacher at the SUNY Cortland Child Care Center. The teacher at the SUNY Cortland Childcare Center will plan and conduct an effective child development program in a safety conscious manner to meet the physical, social, emotional and cognitive needs of each child at their development level in accordance with the goals, philosophy, and curriculum plan set forth by the Child Care Center as outlined in the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).
Required Qualifications: Child Development Associate (CDA) credential; Certification in medication administration training, infant and child CPR child abuse or first aid; Associates Degree in Early Childhood Education or related field or at least 9 college credits in Early Childhood and two years related experience caring for children.
Preferred Qualifications: Bachelors degree in early childhood education or related field; demonstrated experience as an assistant teacher or teacher in a childcare/daycare center or related organization.

As a Research Foundation employee at SUNY Cortland, this position includes the ability to professional develop in childcare or other areas of interest, for example, leadership, etc. The Research Foundations at SUNY Cortland also provides yearly cost of living increases, retirement benefits, attractive Health Care options, including dental and vision insurances, and paid parental and family leaves. This position also offers paid time off and support of work/life balance. The starting annual salary for this position is \$32,595.

For a full job description, application instructions and to apply, please visit <https://jobs.cortland.edu/postings/8569>

As an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer, The Research Foundation for SUNY will not discriminate in its employment practices due to an applicants race, color, creed, religion, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions), sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, transgender status, age, national origin, marital status, citizenship, physical and mental disability, criminal record, genetic information, predisposition or carrier status, status with respect to receiving public assistance, domestic violence victim status, a disabled, special, recently separated, active-duty wartime, campaign badge, Armed Forces service medal veteran, or any other characteristics protected under applicable law.

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Maintenance Mechanic Position The Cortland Housing Authority has an opening for 2 full-time Maintenance Mechanic positions. Must possess two years of full-time or its part-time equivalent experience of maintenance work in one or more of the standard trades such as carpentry, plumbing, heating, or electrical. This position requires a valid NYS Drivers License. This position pays \$21.00 per hour plus weekly on-call compensation and overtime. We have an excellent Benefit Package which includes 80 % of Health and Dental paid by employer; clothing allowance; vision allowance; paid time off includes vacation, sick, personal, and floating holidays, along with major holidays. This position is in the New York State Retirement System. Applicants must complete a Cortland County Civil Service Application, which can be obtained from the Cortland County Personnel Department, 60 Central Avenue, Cortland, NY 13045 Applications can also be downloaded from the Cortland County website at www.cortland-co.org/personnel

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Household items, antiques and misc. items.

GARAGE SALES

GARAGE SALES
3702/3710
Hedgemoor Drive
May 24/25 8-4
Kids bikes, tools, furniture, perennials, cat goebels, collectibles, lots more.

Hopkins Estate Sale

2 Sunset Drive, Homer
May 24, 25, 9-3 Fri, Sat.
Extensive collection of items for: **crafters, bakers/cooks- Pyrex, pans, recipe books, woodworkers-drills, saws, routers, wrenches, screw drivers, DIY items, vintage tools, home entertaining-barware, gardeners-tools & plants, benches, home starters-dressers, kitchen table, dining room set, beds, bookcases, books/CDs, vacuum cleaners, patio furniture, crocks, wall art, all holidays décor-wreaths, mini lights, (room full).**

SALE

Friday & Saturday May 24 & 25, 8AM-2PM
91 Evergreen St. Cortland
Baby furniture & girl's clothes (newborn to 18 months), table & chairs, desk, antique sewing machine & table and more. Some adult clothes (women's small, men's large), lots more.

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Greg 836-9988

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Contract Bridge

Eternal vigilance

North dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ K Q 5
♥ Q 5
♦ J 9 8 6 4
♣ A J 2
WEST
♠ J 10 9 7
♥ A 9 8 2
♦ K 5
♣ 9 5 3
EAST
♠ 6 4 3
♥ J 7 6 4
♦ A Q 10 7
♣ 8 6
SOUTH
♠ A 8 2
♥ K 10 3
♦ 3 2
♣ K Q 10 7 4
The bidding:
North East South West
1♦ Pass 2♣ Pass
3♣ Pass 3NT
Opening lead — jack of spades.

the king and another diamond.
If you are not inclined to be self-critical, you could promptly dismiss the hand and go on to the next deal. You might also argue that the winning defense is much easier to find when you can see all four hands rather than just two.
But if you analyze the situation more closely, you discover that going up with the ace of hearts and shifting to the K-5 of diamonds is not as crazy as it seems. In fact, it's the only sensible thing to do!
It is obvious from the bidding and from declarer's play at trick two that he can cash five club tricks at will. He cannot be missing the king or queen of clubs or he would be tackling clubs at once instead of hearts. In addition, declarer has three spade winners whenever he chooses to take them.
South is therefore known to have eight cashable tricks and is trying to steal a ninth at trick two. Your only chance to stop him is to go up with the ace of hearts and shift to diamonds, hoping to hit partner with four or five diamonds headed by the A-Q-10.
The odds are certainly against finding East with this precise holding, but that's just about the only real chance you have to defeat the contract.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.
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And in special tribute to the memories of...

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Fred Bullard, Sr.
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Leonard J. Bushaw
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