in Homer.



notched a win over Cortland Thursday in the McGraw Girls Soccer Tourney.

SPORTS



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\$1.75

newsstand

Hochul's energy team opens door to thorny option

New nukes

By TIM KNAUSS syracuse.com (TNS)

SYRACUSE — The big takeaway from Gov. Kathy Hochul's energy summit Thursday in Syracuse was this: Her administration is taking a hard look at supporting the development of new nuclear plants.

During the conference, state energy officials released a "draft blueprint" for considering how advanced nuclear technology might benefit the energy system. They encouraged the public to comment on it. Comments are due by Oct. 5.

Following a comment period, the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority will begin a "master planning process" to look at the long-term potential for advanced nuclear technology in the state's energy system, said Doreen Harris, president and CEO of NYSERDA.

Kicking off the conference, Hochul said nuclear could be part of an "all-of-the-above" strategy to beef up New York's electric grid while also complying with legislative mandates to eliminate carbon emissions.

"We will get there. And I'm so excited about all the above approaches ... from wind and solar to geothermal, hydrogen or even splitting an atom," Hochul said.

But atom-splitting got a lot more attention than wind or solar. Two of the five panel discussions focused on advanced nuclear technology and how it might fit into the energy system

The conference even attracted two street protests — one for nuclear energy, the other against.

Although the various designs for advanced nuclear reactors are still considered years away from commercial deployment, New York officials clearly intended Thursday's event to kick off a public discussion about whether and how to bring new nukes to New York.

Here are a few big reasons nuclear energy drew support at the conference Thursday, and some major obstacles against it:

RISING DEMAND

The New York Independent System Operator, which runs the electric grid, recently estimated that the state needs to triple its generating capacity over the next two decades.

The need is so great that renewable energy sources such as wind and solar are unlikely to fill it, officials said. Even if the state hits its ambitious goal of 70% renewable power by 2030, rising to 80% in later years, it's going to need other sources, Harris said.

"We need to start talking about the other 20%," she said.

New York is not alone in projecting sharply rising demand for electricity. Nationwide, increasing numbers of artificial intelligence data centers, electric vehicles and electric heating systems have experts predicting a spike in demand after decades of little growth.

ECONOMIC DEVEL.

In the past couple years, New York has recruited new energy-hungry industries. That's ratcheting up estimates of future electric demand even further.

Example No. 1 is Micron Technology. Micron alone is expected to use more electricity than Vermont and New Hampshire combined if it builds all four chip fabs planned in Central New York.

"There's a very specific reason we are here in Syracuse today," Harris said. "Micron investing \$100 billion in the town of Clay is certainly one of the largest economic development projects in U.S. history."

See NUKES, page 6



Todd R. McAdam/Managing Editor

The greater Cortland area has plenty of student housing, experts say, such as this building on Owego Street in Cortland. But it needs low-income, market-rate and other housing types.

Homes, but what kind?

Experts: County needs a more-diverse housing portfolio

By JACK LAKOWSKY **Staff Reporter**

f that adage of real estate location, location is true, then you first need to find the real estate.

The Cortland County Industrial Development Agency is trying to do just that; it wants to find and list parcels of land suited to housing developments - single-family, multifamily, luxury, work force, senior, supportive within Cortland County, said Brendan O'Bryan, agency executive director.

But there's one type O'Bryan says has reached a saturation point, especially within Cortland: student housing.

City Mayor Scott Steve said the city is awash with student housing, crowding out other kinds, from luxury to affordable to supportive dwellings. When he won re-election in November, Steve said diversifying the city's housing, and adding to its stock, was a priority of his final fouryear term.

"It's not necessarily a housing inventory," O'Bryan said. "We're trying to put together a 'site inventory,' slightly different from housing. A site inventory includes any potential developable site within the county.'

O'Bryan said the agency identified between 30 and 60 potential sites. A final, publishable list is "still a ways off." The agency is about ready to solicit proposals from a contractor. "We need to have an inventory

so as an organization, we can identify issues on the site that might make a developer scoff," he said. "We can start getting those more shovel-ready for a developer to jump in and build

PORTFOLIO DIVERSITY

Matt Whitman, executive director of the Rural Health Institute and appointed head of the Cortland County Housing and Homelessness Coalition, which seeks to increase housing in Cortland County, said a more diverse housing portfolio could be part of the solution that reduces homelessness. Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development data show 676 people were without homes in 2023, up from 318 in 2019 in a multi-county region that includes Cortland County; of that most recent figure, 77 were without shelter.

The greater Cortland area is beginning to address that need. Syracuse-based nonprofit Christopher Community wants to redevelop a commercial strip mall and long-vacant gas station at 172, 174 and 178 Homer Ave. in Cortland, building a 14,500-square-foot mixed-use building and a 14,700-squarefoot multi-family building with 61 housing units, a mix of studio, one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments.

Tenants would need to make between 30% and 60% of the area median income, said Audrey

See HOMES, page 6

Sluggish jobs report clears way for Fed rate cuts

By CHRISTOPHER RUGABER AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON — Hiring by America's employers picked up a bit in August from July's tepid pace, and the unemployment rate dipped for the first time since March in a sign that the job market may be cool-

ing but remains sturdy.

Employers added a modest 142,000 jobs, up from a scant 89,000 in July, the Labor Department said Friday. The unemployment rate ticked down to 4.2% from 4.3%, which had been the highest level in nearly three years. Hiring in June and July, though, was revised sharply down by a combined 86,000. July's job gain was the smallest since the pandemic.

"The labor market is weakening," said Eugenio Aleman, chief economist at Raymond James Financial. "It is not falling apart, but it is weakening."



AP Photo/Nam Y. Huh

Construction workers work at a residential building site in Chicago, Aug. 29.

The cooling jobs figures underscore why the Federal Reserve is set to cut its key interest rate when it next meets Sept. 17-18, with inflation falling steadily back to its target of 2%. Still, Friday's mixed jobs data raises the question of how large a rate cut the Fed will announce. It could decide to reduce its benchmark rate by a typical quarter-point or by a larger-than-usual half-point. In the coming months, the policymakers will also decide how much and how fast to cut rates at their subsequent meetings.

Christopher Waller, an influential Fed policymaker, suggested in a speech Friday that the central bank is leaning toward a quarter-point reduction this month. But he left the door open for larger rate cuts, if necessary, later this year.

"I do not expect this first cut to be the last," Waller said in a speech at the University of Notre Dame. "With inflation and employment near our longer-run goals and the labor market moderating, it is likely that a series of reductions will be appropriate."

"I am open-minded," he added, "about the size and pace of cuts, which will be based on what the data tell us about the evolution of the economy."

Waller also said the economy and job market are still growing, "and the prospects for continued growth and job creation are good," a sign that for now, he thinks a quarter-point reduction is appropriate for the Fed's first rate cut.

Collectively, Friday's figures depict a job market slowing under the pressure of high interest rates but still growing. Many businesses appear to be holding off on adding jobs, in part because of uncertainty about the outcome of the presidential election and about how fast the Fed will reduce its benchmark rate

in the coming months. Daniel Zhao, lead economist at the career website Glassdoor, said some of the details in the August jobs report indicate that businesses' demand for workers is slowing. The number of Americans who are working part time but would prefer full-time work rose, extending a year-long trend.

"When you look under the hood, you're seeing numbers that confirm that the job market is on that cooling trajectory," Zhao

America's labor market is now in an unusual place: Jobholders are mostsecure, with layoffs lv low, historically speaking.

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WEATHER

Mostly sunny **Tomorrow's Weather:** High near 62 West wind 6 to 11 mph More on page 2

ONLINE





www.cortlandstandard.com



Records

15-year-old girl killed in Syracuse was learning responsibility and how to make people laugh

By DARIAN STEVENSON syracuse.com (TNS)

SYRACUSE — Alexcia "Lexi" Lynch had little to no interest in going to church when she was growing up. That is until a summer youth program in 2022 at Bellgrove Missionary Baptist Church gave the 15-year-old girl a purpose, according to her family.

"Lexi was taught a sense of responsibility, integrity, as well as ownership," said Nitch Jones, the church's youth pastor.

She began to take on leadership roles and learned to take account-

ability for her actions, Jones said. And she was implementing that in her everyday life.

n her everyday life.

Then she was shot and killed.

Alexcia died Aug. 30, killed by a boy her same age, police said. She was hanging out with friends that night, her mother Krystal Herndon said. JyQuest Williams is accused of fatally shooting Alexcia at 901 Madison St. He turned himself in to Syracuse police last week, police said.

Herndon said she didn't know Williams or why her daughter was with him that night. She said Alexcia had planned to stay the night with her best friend. Hern-

Sunday night: Partly cloudy,

Monday: Mostly sunny, with a

Monday night: Mostly clear,

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high

Tuesday night: Mostly clear.

Wednesday: Sunny, with a

night:

Extended

with a low around 46.

with a low around 50.

with a low around 51.

high near 71.

high near 78.

Wednesday

don was getting her hair done when investigators came to her door to deliver the news.

She said her family is still looking for answers.

Herndon said her daughter had challenges in life, but that she was overcoming them. She struggled with behavior and getting into trouble at school.

When she was 14, she was suspended from school for getting into a fight. Then she joined the One MIC school-based program through the Good Life Foundation while at Henninger High School. Herndon said that's when Alexcia started to show real change.

"Her attitude was getting better and she thought about her decisions before making them," Herndon said.

And one thing about Alexcia, her mom said, she was going to make you love her, whether you wanted to or not. It was that energetic and outgoing personality and the ability to be the life of the party that made her stand out, she said.

She made others laugh and see the fun in life.

When she was on punishment for fighting in school, Alexcia and Krystal visited their family for a "ladies night" get-together. Herndon said her family, who are tight-knit, were disappointed in Alexcia, Krystal said.

At the get-together, Alexcia sat next to her aunt, who gave the girl the silent treatment.

But all it took was a few jokes, some laughs and a smile, and she was back on her family's good side, Herndon said.

"You could have a problem with her and 15 minutes later, she was making you laugh," Herndon said.

Services for Alexcia will be held today at Bellgrove Missionary Baptist Church, at 219 Dr. Martin Luther King W.

Obituaries

Clara E. 'Tyky' Case

On Thursday, September 5, 2024 Dryden lost a life long resident. Clara E. "Tyky" Case, age 92 of 3 George Street, Dryden, NY passed away just 20 days shy of her 93rd birthday.

"Ma Case" as she was known to many, was born on North Road in Dryden, NY on September 25, 1931, the daughter of the late Eugene and Bertha Jaeger Hulslander. On March 3, 1951 she was married to Richard C. "Dick" Case who passed away

March 23, 2014. Her working career included The Carey Company, Smith Corona, Allied Van Lines, CEC Trucking, and in later years she operated a small diner in the Empire Livestock building in Dryden. She enjoyed bowling, playing cards, coffee on the porch and dirt track racing.

Tyky is survived by her four children, son, Richard C. (Peggy) Case Jr. of Groton; daughters, Cheryl (Edward) Drake of Harford, Sharon (Mel) Keech of Dryden and Sherri (Randy) Crispell of Dryden; her cousin, Robert Hulslander of Freeville; 12 grandchildren, 21 great grandchildren, one great granddaughter; nieces, nephews and cousins.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, September 11, 2024 at Perkins Funeral Home, 55 W. Main St., Dryden with Pastor Sam Neno officiating. Burial will be in Green Hills Cemetery, Dryden. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Hospicare, Dryden Ambulance or American Cancer Society. Online condolences at www.perkinsfh.com.

Diane W. Nachtrieb

Diane W. Nachtrieb, 67, of Homer passed away Tuesday Sept. 3 at Upstate Medical Center in Syracuse surrounded by loved ones. Diane served as Homer Intermediate School's librarian for 33 years and enjoyed volunteering in her daughters' classrooms upon retirement. Diane cherished spending time with friends and family, especially her grandchildren. She is survived by her husband Jerry; daughters, Sarah Nachtrieb (Ryan Perry) of Apulia Station, Rachel (James Hull) of Virginia Beach, VA; grandchildren, Faye and Arlo; siblings, Stuart (Carol) Wood Jr., Daniel Wood, Mark (Lynette) Wood, and Joanne (William) Badman all of Moravia, Alan (Kim) Wood of Cottage Grove, Wisconsin and several nieces and nephews.

A Mass will be held at St. Leo's Church in Tully at 10 a.m. on Tuesday Sept. 10 with a brief reception immediately following Mass at the church hall. All are welcome. Contributions in Diane's name may be made to Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Homer Affiliate. Sign our guestbook at hartwellfuneralhome.net.

Judith A. Testa

Judith A. Testa, 79, of Cortland passed away September 4, 2024 at the Cortland Guthrie Medical Center. She was born January 1, 1945 in Oswego NY, the youngest of eleven children to the late Joseph and Martha Gambino.

Judy was raised in a large, loving family, and attended school in Oswego. She later went to beauty school in Syracuse where she met her husband and the love of her life, Theodore "Teddy" Testa. Soon after graduating, they married and opened their salon together, The Plaza, in Cortland, NY. Judy always had a big heart and a strong love for her family, friends, and church. She had a strong passion for music, dancing, and the arts, and shared this love regularly with her grandchildren and family.

Judy was a long-time member of St. Margaret's Church in Homer, where she served in many capacities that included Eucharistic Minister and volunteering to prepare meals for church functions. Judy's love for her family was felt by her friends, children, grandchildren and her husband "Teddy" who she cared for until her untimely passing.

She is survived by her husband of 61 years, Theodore "Teddy" Testa, her daughters Shelly LeClair, Mary Lynn (Nick) Fabrizio, her grandchildren Brittany Fabrizio, Andrew LeClair, Alexis LeClair, Daniel Fabrizio, her brother Pete Gambino, and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Calling hours will be Tuesday, September 10, 2024 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Wright-Beard Funeral Home inc., 9 Lincoln Ave., Cortland NY, 13045.

A Mass of Christian Burial to celebrate Judy's life will be held Wednesday, September 11, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. at the St. Margaret's Church, Homer, NY. Burial will follow at the St. Mary's Cemetery, Cortland, N.Y.

To offer online condolences visit www.wright-beard.com. Contributions may be made to The Alzheimer's Association.

Open 10:30 AM • 7 DAYS A WEEK!



Weather

<u>Local</u>

Rest of today: Showers and thunderstorms before 5 p.m., then a chance of showers. High near 60.

South wind 7 to 9 mph becoming west in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 90%. A low around 41.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 62. West wind 6 to 11 mph.

Skies Today Saturday, September 7, 2024

Sunset today 7:29 p.m.
Sunrise tomorrow 6:37 a.m.
Normal high temperature 74
Normal low temperature 52
Average temperature 63

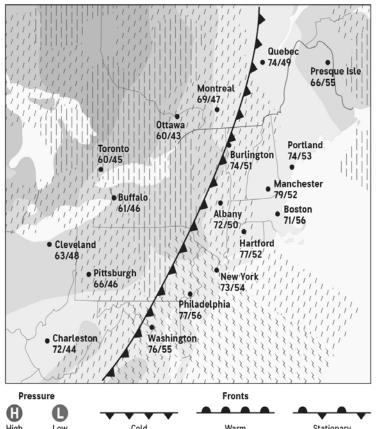
Average temperature 63 Sept First quarter moon Sept. 11 Mon

Sept. 5-6 None
Month to date 0.01 inches

cloudy, with a low around 54.

Precipitation

Forecast for Saturday, September 7, 2024



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Lottery Winners

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

Numbers: Midday: 0-0-4, Evening: 4-9-9; **WinFour**: Midday: 5-1-2-7, Evening: 5-6-8-0; **Pick 10:** 4-5-10-14-18-20-25-27-29-30-42-53-54-58-59-62-67-68-73-77; **Take Five**: Midday: 10-14-18-19-31, Evening: 3-5-7-20-28; **Cash4Life:** 2-22-31-48-56, Cash Ball: 1

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 $607-756-5665 \times 166$.

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Trump's NY case sentencing is delayed

Postponed until after election

By MICHAEL R. SISAK and JENNIFER PELTZ Associated Press

NEW YORK — A judge agreed Friday to postpone Donald Trump's sentencing in his hush money case until after the November election, granting him a hard-won reprieve as he navigates the aftermath of his criminal conviction and the homestretch of his presidential campaign.

Manhattan Judge Juan M. Merchan, who is also weighing a defense request to overturn the verdict on immunity grounds, delayed Trump's sentencing until Nov. 26, three weeks after the final votes are cast in the presidential election.

It had been scheduled for Sept. 18, about seven weeks before Election Day. The new date is the Tuesday before Thanksgiving.

The delay, the latest bit of good legal fortune for Trump, means the presidential election will be decided without voters knowing if the Republican nominee is going to jail.

Merchan explained in a fourpage decision that he was postponing the sentencing "to avoid any appearance — however unwarranted — that the proceeding has been affected by or seeks to affect the approaching presidential election in which the Defendant is a candidate."

"The Court is a fair, impartial, and apolitical institution," he added, writing that his decision "should dispel any suggestion" otherwise.

Trump's lawyers pushed for the delay on multiple fronts, petitioning the judge and asking a federal court to intervene. They argued that punishing the former president in the thick of his campaign to retake the White House would amount to election interference.

Trump's lawyers argued that delaying his sentencing until after the election would also allow him time to weigh next steps after Merchan rules on the defense's request to reverse his conviction and dismiss the case because of the U.S. Supreme Court's July presidential immunity ruling.

In his order Friday, Merchan

delayed a decision on that until Nov. 12.

A federal judge on Tuesday

A federal judge on Tuesday rejected Trump's request to have the U.S. District Court in Manhattan seize the case from Merchan's state court. Had they been successful, Trump's lawyers said they would have then sought to have the verdict overturned and the case dismissed on immunity grounds. Trump is appealing the federal court decision and asked the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to halt postconviction proceedings. That court has not yet ruled.

Trump, in New York for argu-

ments in another case, lauded the delay in a post on his Truth Social platform.

"The Manhattan D.A. Witch

Hunt has been postponed because everyone realizes that there was NO CASE, I DID NOTHING WRONG!" he wrote. He assailed the case as "a political attack" and argued that it "should be rightfully terminated."

Page 3

Artist opens business to leave you in knots

By LILY BYRNE **Staff Reporter**

lbyrne@cortlandstandard.com An artist has turned her rope-weaving into a business in her hometown.

Homer native Julia Maslin specializes in macrame, an art form that involves knotting rope to make items such as plant holders, dreamcatchers, wall hangings and

"It's just the creation of it," Maslin said. "I love coming up with different things and looking at macrame in new functional or silly ways. I'm always looking for something different to do that'll serve a new audience, because a lot of people aren't into plants, so I try to come up with things that a non-plant person would like."

She has sold her macrame at many events, and at Cinch Art Space, the Truxton Outpost, Dedrick's and Willow Floral Studios. Now, she's selling them at M. Guardens on James in Homer.

The former hair salon, located at 5 James St., is a small space, but is filled with macrame, plants, home decor, and plant-lover essentials like seeds and sprayers. Displays of art and fresh flowers for sale spill out onto the sidewalk.

Tammie Whitson, co-owner of Cinch Art Space, is happy Maslin took the leap of having a storefront, she said.

"I grew up in the '70s, so to me, macrame was like this really cool, boho thing that went out of fashion, but I still really loved it, so I absolutely adore that its come back



At M. Guardens on James Street, Julia Maslin sells her handmade wall hangings, plant hangers and shelves made of books.

into fashion again, and that young people are buying it," Whitson

If you don't want to hang your plants with rope, you could hang them in a disco ball, or put them in a planter shaped like a butt or skull.

Maslin has hosted workshops all over Cortland County, and will continue them at her storefront. Her first event, "Murder, She Root," will be 6 p.m. Oct. 18.

Attendees will take a look at murdered plants and their chalk drawings on the floor, and use their detective kit to guess what killed the plant. Afterward, attendees will make a plant spray, consume refreshments and receive a plant lover's gift bag. Tickets can be purchased at bit.ly/47jmLGj and

A grand opening will be 3 to 6 p.m. Friday, with giveaways, raffles, specials and light refreshments. Anyone who makes a purchase will get a free seed packet.

"It's functional, and it's beautiful," Whitson said. "She also teaches, so people can learn the skill themselves, which I think is

"I'm so happy," Maslin said. "I just love having stuff that's mine. I love having everything in one space that's my own, and that other people enjoy too, because I'm getting decent feedback so far. It's fun to see what people like and what draws their attention."



After years of working on her macrame and teaching others the skill via workshops, Julia Maslin has opened M. Guardens on James Street, in her hometown of Homer.

Dryden internet service marks record growth in Aug.

By DOUG SCHNEIDER **Staff Reporter**

dschneider@cortlandstandard.com DRYDEN — The town of Dryden's efforts to expand the reach of affordable, high-speed in-

ternet service report a record-set-

ting month in August.

Dryden Fiber, still in its infancy, expanded its customer base to 91 customers, and anticipates reaching the 100-residential-customer mark within two weeks, Executive Director David Makar told Dryden's Broadband Committee Friday morning. Dryden Fiber continues to expand its reach to 648 parcels of land covering 831

households. Makar said the service expects to reach the 250-paying customer mark by year's end and then double that before July 2025. Deputy Town Supervisor Dan Lamb said the growth of the state's first municipally owned broadband service is, he stressed, "a big deal." The state, which awarded Dryden Fiber this summer a grant of almost \$9 million, is among Dryden Fiber's biggest funders. Contractors continue to increase the area Dryden Fiber can serve on a daily basis. Makar said they had been adding lines to residential addresses at the rate of one per day, but recently doubled

that, and expects to re-double the number shortly.

The area of the town where Dryden Fiber service is shown on the web at DrydenFiber.com/map, which measures the growth of the project. Installation is slated to expand into the town of Caroline in the coming years.

Ryan Garrison, technology director for Hunt EAS, the architecture and engineering firm working on the project, discussed which areas of the town had seen the installation of cable lines completed. He said preparation of the Caswell Road area was 95% complete, while North Road and state Route 13 are 90% complete.

Installation of cable in the area of Etna is 70% complete, Garrison

Service to business and commercial customers has been extended to 91 addresses, said Amanda Anderson, Dryden's bookkeeper and human resources director. She said the town collects an average of \$5,000 per month from its commercial customers.

Commercial service will be the focus for the committee in the next several weeks. Commercial service ranges in speed from 400 megabytes per second for uploads and downloads to one gigabyte

per second. Commercial charges range from \$75 a month to \$250 per month, Residential speeds range from \$45 per month for up to 4 mbps to \$90 per month for a gigabyte per second.

Both types of services use "platinum," "gold" and "silver" from fastest to slowest; Broadband Committee members have been asked to come up with tentative naming plans for the commercial services, so the committee can choose their favorite approach.

The town of Dryden has said it will reduce customers' monthly charges when it achieves a greater number of subscribers.

Planning commission will review Homer Ave. housing plan Monday

The city of Cortland Planning Commission will review a Syracuse-based nonprofit's \$24 million plan to turn three north side addresses on 4.5 acres into a mixed-use development that would house dozens of people in 61 income-restricted apartments.

Christopher Community's plans include a residential plaza to be known as Bridgeview Commons. It would consist of two multi-residential buildings and a community center, at 172, 174 and 178 Homer Ave. The plans include revitalizing 31,000 square feet of commercial building space to support tenants that include discount retailer Dollar General, Seven Valleys Food Coalition and the Cortland ReUse business.

The site now houses a strip mall and a former gas station. The nonprofit plans renovations that include the apartment buildings, and parking for 191 vehicles slightly fewer than the 201 spaces that city regulations require for a project of this size. It would also include a 3,000-square-foot community center.

Housing would consist of 20 one-bedroom, 23 two-bedroom and 18 three-bedroom units. In their application, the developers say the apartments would help the



Todd R. McAdam/Managing Editor

Cortland's Zoning Board of Appeals has approved a number of variances to re-develop the Homer Avenue Plaza for 61 units of income-restricted housing, while still allowing commercial and non-profit entities at the plaza to do business there. The city's planning commission reviews the plan Monday.

city's need for more affordable

The meeting is at 5:15 p.m. at City Hall. Cortland's Zoning Board of Appeals approved variance applications for the property on Aug. 26.

- Doug Schneider

Around the towns

YWCA plans **Dream Big raffle**

The YWCA of Cortland is offering a chance — 250 of them, actually — to dream big and win big through its 2024 Dream Big

The agency will sell 250 tickets for a chance to win prizes up to \$5,000, \$1,000 and \$500. YWCA will draw winning tickets at noon Oct. 3 at the YWCA and notify winners by phone or email. Proceeds will benefit YWCA Cortland's four core programs: Aid to Victims of Violence, Child Care, Health and Fitness and Mentor-

In its sixth year, the organization's development committee created the Dream Big Cash Raffle Ticket Fundraiser in 2018 to augment other fundraising efforts throughout the year; the organization canceled the raffle in 2020 during the pandemic.

Tickets cost \$100 each, and people must be at least 18 to buy one. If YWCA Cortland does not sell all 250 tickets, it will award a percentage of the prize money based on the number of tickets sold. Tickets are available at the YWCA front desk and at the fifth annual Chefs Take a Stand Against Domestic Violence event Oct. 2 at The Lookout at Hope Lake. For more information or questions about the raffle fundraiser, people can contact Director of Development Robyn Hayes at 607-753-9651 or robyn@cortlandywca.org.

Sen. Mannion to visit Homer

State Sen. John Mannion, the Democratic nominee for the 22nd Congressional District, which includes Cortland and much of northern Cortland County, will conduct a town hall today at the

Center for the Arts of Homer. Mannion will take questions and discuss his candidacy at 3

Mannion, of Syracuse, was elected to the state Senate in 2020. He faces incumbent Rep. Brandon Williams, a Republican from Sennett first elected to Con-

gress in 2022. Pickleball tourney for American Cancer Society

The Cortland Youth Bureau will have a pickleball tournament at 9 a.m. Sept. 21 at Randall Park in the memory of Paul Dittman of Groton, who died Aug. 31.

American Cancer Society. Admission is \$30 per player. The one-day ladder-style event will feature three divisions: nov-

Proceeds will benefit the

ice, intermediate and advanced, with rally scoring. Register at cortlandyb.recdesk. com and the entry fee is due the

day of the tournament. Dittman, 56, was a vice president at Pall Corp. for 35 years. He wintered in Florida, where he spent his mornings learning pickleball. In the summers, he

continued to play pickleball at

the Grace Christian Fellowship

in Cortland. Lansingville Road work planned

LANSING — The Tompkins County Highway Department will mill Lansingville Road from Jerry Smith Road to the Tompkins County line in Lansing Monday and Tuesday. The work will be from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., depending on weather. Traffic will be reduced to one lane.

Cincy school board meets Thursday

The Board of Education of the Cincinnatus Central School District will meet at 6:30 p.m. Thursday in the school library.

Police/fire

Police seek arrest of man who damaged camera

Cortland police are seeking an arrest warrant for a man who attacked a Ring camera on Reynolds Avenue, even though they initially considered the incident a mental health incident.

Steven C. Knight was seen on video walking about 1:36 a.m. Wednesday on Reynolds Avenue holding a knife, police said. He approached a residence and damaged a camera on the side of the house by stabbing it with the knife.

Knight did not threaten anyone, and he was alone, police said. Knight did not know the home's residents and police could find no connection.

Police said they confiscated the knife and sought a mental-health evaluation.

However, police announced Thursday they are now seeking an arrest warrant alleging criminal mischief in relation to damaging the camera. They are also seeking an order of protection for the occupants of the home.

Cortland Standard



Ana Claudia, a salesperson at a cell phone case store, shows the last X post she received before the social media platform was blocked nationwide in Brasilia, Brazil, Monday.

Social media broke slang. Now we all speak phone

Column

Bv DAN BROOKS The Atlantic Online

It was on the social-media platform some call X that I first encountered the slang term tea, an expression that originated in Black drag culture to mean "gossip" or "secret biographical information"— as in, "She said she didn't get fillers, but her boyfriend spilled the tea." Tea was common parlance on Twitter by at least the Trump administration. At some point in the past year, however, people started saying body tea, a noun phrase meaning "physical hotness." This usage was apparently derived from a misreading of the influencer Queen Opp's remark: "Her body tea, she's super thick, she's super pretty." Queen Opp elided the verb to be from a declarative clause, which viewers seem to have misinterpreted, taking "her body [is] tea" to mean "[she has] body tea." Body tea as a noun has since become so popular that it threatens to eclipse the original usage. An expression that once had a narrow meaning within a specific subculture has drifted toward meaning "good" — a flattening that is the final destination of all slang terms that spread too

Because social media gives me access to conversations among people of all ages, from every place and subculture, I am exposed to a virtual fire hose of slang. The situation has created a language crisis, in which Americans of all types and backgrounds use expressions of every provenance, destroying the power of slang to perform its basic function: to signal membership in a group. The incentives imposed by social media to develop and use slang are, of course, not new. But these milieus differ from so-

cial media in one crucial way: The wrong people cannot get in. In real life, I do not learn how teenagers talk, because whenever I drift by, they fall silent and glare at me. On social media, there is no such exclusion. Thirty-five-yearolds hear the slang of teenagers, college students are privy to the language of the urban underclass, and advertising consultants learn how to talk like self-diagnosed anxiety shut-ins. As a result, how someone talks is no longer a reliable indicator of where they're coming from. The irony is that social media — the disembodied online spaces where what we post becomes the entirety of who we are — is where we most need the identity cues that slang used to

The valence of any given expression is constantly changing — for instance, the dramatic shift since 2008 in what kind of person says "folks." Folks was a word used almost exclusively by older rural people until the Obama administration, when the president used it relentlessly. Folks subsequently became so popular with politicians, HR supervisors, and others who professionally reassure the hoi polloi that it is now, perversely, one of the strongest signs of membership in the professional managerial class. When Obama said "folks," he sent the message that, although he was a graduate of Harvard Law School, a senator, and the kind of hyper-ambitious professional who becomes a candidate for president, he was also a saltof-the-earth type who spoke the language of farmers and Dolly

Parton. He was folksy. One term for this kind of implied message is exformation. The word has different definitions in different fields, but we will define it for our purposes as David Foster Wallace did in a July 1998

essay for Harper's Magazine: as information conveved about the speaker that is not explicit in the content of the speech.

Exformation communicated by slang is a way for strangers to efficiently understand whom they are talking with and where they're from, based on whether they use double negatives or say "man" versus "bro," "that rules" versus "that owns," "pot" versus "weed," "cool" versus "lit." Exformation is also a way to announce your identification with other people. The basic premise of exformation is that there's what you say and there's how you say it, and they are in scope and function as the ground is to the sky.

Social media, however, has standardized our language to the point that exformation has become endangered. For the past 10 years, the English language's wealth of previously exformative, subcultural slang has dispersed into a single, universal argot that is simply Phone. Hence the destruction of tea as a useful expression. It used to be a fun word that implied knowledge of a whole social realm to which most of us are not privy, and then it became a built-in Twitter GIF that told you only that the person using it knew what the GIF button did. Now anyone who uses tea in conversation might give you information - but exformatively, all they're telling you about themselves is that they've been racking up a lot of screen time.

This mass outbreak of exformation-free slang is a problem because it deprives people of a previously reliable way to know whom they're talking with and how to treat them. When everyone talks like me, I make the mistake of believing that everyone is like me — and therefore falls into the category of people whom I cut the least slack.

Dog time: Nothing is more important than lying in the sun

Raised

by Wolves

Priscilla

Berggren-

Thomas

By PRISCILLA **BERGGREN-THOMAS Contributing Writer**

After a few months of temporary part-time jobs and then a week or so of company, I sat

down the other day and decided to get myself 'organized.'

In retirement, I'm not actually interested in keeping a schedule, but I figured it wouldn't hurt to have something loose — a loosey-goosey pseudo-plan for the day. I spent a morning sketching it out — the things I wanted to accomplish. Walk the dog. Exercise. Write, read, maybe in a pinch do a little cleaning. Occasionally getting together with friends. Maybe do-

ing something constructive. After a few hours I had a plan that I might possibly commit to.

The next day, I walked Ben by 7:30 a.m. Took myself for a walk by 8:30 a.m. Planned on sitting down to write by 9 a.m. But I ran into a neighbor while walking and it was closer to 9:30 a.m. before I actually sat down to do anything. Still, for a loosey-goosey schedule that seemed OK.

Day two was a little less successful. I wasted about 20 minutes falling down rabbit holes on the internet and then put my shoes on to take a walk. Except Ben felt like that was a signal he needed to go out, despite having taken a walk only an hour earlier. I let him out the side door, into the part of the yard that isn't fenced because he has trouble navigating the back door steps.

He rolled in the dewy grass and then gave me that ol' Golden-Retriever-side-eyed grin. The one that says, "I'm not getting up and you have to sit here and wait with

So, I went to get a book to read while Ben took a nap in the wet grass. The sheep were already hollering to go back into the barn, but we were all on Ben time. The sun worked its way high enough to burn off the wet dew, while the sheep and I waited. Dogs wreak havoc on schedules.

I read a story somewhere about a man who was always taking his dog with him to visit friends, or go camping. When the man

knew the dog wouldn't live much longer, he quit his job and took the dog to revisit all their favorite people and places. The story might not be true, I read it on the internet after all, but I want to

believe we could live in a world where prioritizing spending time with an aging dog was

Ben is a total homebody. So we don't have any places to revisit. Still, the best thing about retiring last year was all the time I've had to spend with Ben in the past 12 months. I've watched the pleasure he takes in simply lying in the sun, or rolling in the wet grass, taking naps in the yard, and chasing bunnies he has no hope

of ever catching. I see how delighted he is when he manages to roll all the way over. I've watched him enjoy just watching the sheep graze in the evening.

He has also developed an uncanny ability to sense when I'm getting ready to leave the house and decide that is the moment a trip outside to lie in the sunshine is required. If I was still working, I'd have been late to work every day this past year, but luckily I have the ability to throw the plan or schedule out the window. Ben is right — there is nothing more important to do right now then sit in the sunshine with him.

Matt Haig in "The Comfort Book" wrote, "Get a routine baggy enough to live in" and Ben is working hard to teach me how. I've spent a lot of my life wanting to complete things, be done with tasks, to cross things off the to-do list. Wanting to have something done though, is not the same as enjoying doing it. Only now am I seeing that keeping a schedule, meeting a deadline, or crossing things off to-do lists might not ac-

tually be the same as living a life. It may be easier for writers, retirees and dogs to have a "baggy" life. If there is anything that an old dog who has no to-do list can teach me though, it's that a welllived life comes from enjoying the moments along the way and

Priscilla Berggren-Thomas is a writer who lives in Homer.

not in hurrying to the finish line.

Notebook

Dryden Seniors meet Sept. 23

DRYDEN — The Dryden Senior Citizens will meet at 11:45 a.m. Sept. 23 at the Dryden Veterans Memorial Home on Route 13. Announcements are 11:45 a.m.; lunch is served at 12:15 p.m. The menu includes meatloaf, baked potato with sour cream, coleslaw, spinach and

Mike Competillo of Groton will sing songs from the 1940s to the

The meal costs \$8 for members and \$9 for non-members. An annual membership is \$10 and the group meets the second and fourth Monday

1 man has cared for 2 Columbia, S.C. clocks for 50 years

By MORGAN HUGHES The State (Columbia, S.C.) (TNS)

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Columbia's Main Street bustles with state employees walking to lunch, students shuffling in and out of their apartments, visiting relatives, prospective hires, panhandlers, landscapers and more. Tim Sease makes sure whatever is happening, it's happening on Almost every week for the

last 50 years, Sease has been at the corner of Main and Hampton streets, winding the century-old Sylvan Clock that has steadfastly marked the passing of time in Columbia since 1906.

"It's main thing is to just deliver time," which it does well, Sease

The clock, and another one like it down the road on Washington Street, have been fixtures downtown through development booms and economic slumps, busy years and lean ones.

Sease has been winding the clocks since 1974 or 1975, he can't quite remember. He said he's seen Main Street undergo dramatic changes in that time, and the rest of the city with it.

HOW COLUMBIA'S **CLOCKS CAME TO BE**

The Sylvan Brothers, Gustaf and Johannes, opened their Hampton Street jewelry store in 1905, when the city was still developing. They purchased the large clock from the famous Seth Thomas Clock Company the next year and situated it outside their front door. The store is still standing, and has been an anchor amid the upheaval and revival of Main Street over the years.

There are Seth Thomas clocks all over the country. The company even helped build the famous clock in Manhattan's Grand Central Station. But they only made about 70 four-faced street clocks, two of which are in downtown Columbia. But the Columbia clocks are more rare than that. The Seth Thomas company made just five clocks like it, the other three are in Boston, New Orleans and San Francisco, according to

the Library of Congress. Local developer Richard Burts, who has stewarded several histor-



Tracy Glantz/The State/TNS

Pictured is an antique clock at Sylvan Jewelers on Columbia's Main Street that Tim Sease has maintained for 50 years.

ic properties in Columbia, purchased the Sylvan's building in February and is in the process of having the clock recognized as a historic landmark.

GETTING INTO WINDING THE CLOCKS

Sease got the job winding the clock after another longtime clock-winder passed him the torch. He started working at Sylvan's Jewelers in the late 1960s as a watch repairman after getting the chance to study the trade in high school and he bemoaned the quality of modern time-keeping.

"The quality that's in the timepieces being made today is very poor in most cases," he said. But the Sylvan clock is resolute, and Sease expects it to keep ticking for another 50 years. He credits his own handiwork as one factor in the clock's longevity.

He left Sylvan's in the 1990s to start his own watch repair business, but he kept winding the clocks.

THE CLOCK-CRANKING **INDUSTRY**

The clock is almost entirely cast iron, other than some brass fixtures inside. The mechanisms are all original, meaning they're the same gears and pulleys that have been counting the seconds in Columbia for the past century.

The face of the clock is adorned with Roman numerals, the Sylvan name painted in gold and lions' heads protrude in a string around the clock. The lions' heads are hinged and can be pushed into the clock's interior for Sease to service the gears, which he does once a year.

Sease expects to continue winding the historic clocks for as long as his health allows. But when it is time for him to pass the torch, he doesn't know who will pick it up.

GOP lawsuits set stage for challenges if Trump loses

By NICHOLAS RICCARDI **Associated Press**

voters even begin casting ballots, Democrats and Republicans are engaged in a sprawling legal fight over the 2024 election through a series of court disputes that could even run

Republicans filed more than 100 lawsuits challenging various aspects of vote-casting after being chastised repeatedly by judges in 2020 for bringing complaints about how the election was run only after votes were

past Nov. 5 if results are close.

After Donald Trump made "election integrity" a key part of his party's platform following his false claims of widespread voter fraud in 2020, the Republican National Committee says it has more than 165,000 volunteers ready to watch the polls.

Democrats are countering with what they are calling "voter protection," rushing to court to fight back against the GOP cases and building their own team with over 100 staffers, several hundred lawyers and what they say are thousands of volunteers.

Despite the flurry of litigation, the cases have tended to be fairly small-bore, with few likely impacts for most voters.

"When you have all this money to spend on litigation, you end up litigating less and less important stuff," said Derek Muller, a law professor at Notre Dame Univer-

The stakes would increase dramatically should Trump lose and try to overturn the results. That's what he attempted in 2020, but the court system rejected him across the board. Trump and his allies lost more than 60 lawsuits trying to reverse President Joe Biden's win.

Whether they could be successful this year depends on the results, experts said. A gap of about 10,000 votes — roughly the number that separated Biden and Trump in Arizona and Georgia in 2020 — is almost impossible to reverse through litigation. A closer one of a few hundred votes, like the 547-vote margin that separated George W. Bush and Al Gore in Florida in 2000, is much more likely to hinge on court rulings about which ballots are legitimate.

"If he loses, he's going to claim that he won. That goes without saying," Rick Hasen, a law professor at the University of California, Los Angeles, said of Trump. "If it looks like what we had last time ... I expect we'll see the same kind of thing."

Trump has done nothing to discourage that expectation, saying he would accept the results of the election only if it's "free and fair," raising the possibility it



Arvin Temkar/Atlanta Journal-Constitution via AP, File

State Election Board member Rick Jeffares asks the crowd to settle down during a hastily planned State Election Board meeting at the Capitol in Atlanta, July 12.

would not be, something he continues to falsely contend was the case in 2020.

He also continues to insist that he could only lose due to

"The only way they can beat us is to cheat," Trump said at a Las Vegas rally in June.

To be clear, there was no widespread fraud in 2020 or any election since then. Reviews, recounts and audits in the battleground states where Trump disputed his loss reaffirmed that Biden won. And Trump's attorney general said there was no evidence that fraud tipped the election.

Trump installed his daughterin-law, Lara Trump, as co-chair of the Republican National Committee, which then named attorney Christina Bobb as the head of its election integrity division. Bobb is a former reporter for the conservative One America News Network who has been indicted by Arizona's attorney general for

purse. I looked un-

der airport chairs,

between stray piec-

es of popcorn and

candy wrappers. I

looked in every hall-

way I had walked

down, and up. I went

to lost and found, a

kind of creepy place.

Reminded me of the

Christmas cartoon

about lost and un-

being part of an effort to promote a slate of Trump electors in the state, even though Biden won it.

Echoing Trump, the RNC said it's trying to counter Democratic

"President Trump's election integrity effort is dedicated to protecting every legal vote, mitigating threats to the voting process and securing the election," RNC spokeswoman Claire Zunk said in a statement. "While Democrats continue their election interference against President Trump and the American people, our operation is confronting their schemes and preparing for November."

This time around, Democrats say they're prepared for whatever Republicans might do.

"For four years, Donald Trump and his MAGA allies have been scheming to sow distrust in our elections and undermine our democracy so they can cry foul when they lose," Jen O'Malley Dillon, Vice President Kamala Harris' campaign manager, said in a statement. "But also for four years, Democrats have been preparing for this moment, and we are ready for anything."

The highest-profile litigation so far has been in Georgia, over new rules from a Republican-appointed majority on the State Board of Elections, which has echoed Trump's election fraud theories.

Opinion

opinion@cortlandstandard.com

Cortland Standard

Guest Column

Shakespeare's villainous character Iago famously said that anyone who steals his purse "steals trash." A recent ill-fated trip to Louisville, Kentucky proved the opposite to be true to me.

I planned to attend my high school reunion, not only to see who was still alive from high school, but also to enjoy a return to the city in which I grew up. It was, in fact, going to be the first reunion I had missed, and, as age sometimes proves, it may have been the last one to occur.

Everything appeared to be going well at the Syracuse airport. I got there early for a 6:30 a.m. flight, thanks to my daughter who awoke early enough to drive me. At first I went to the wrong gate, but then the correct one. My seat next to the window was waiting for me. I even saw it, momentarily. I boarded the plane, Seat 13A, which turned out to be as portentous as the number 13 is fabled to be. New Yorker magazine in hand for intellectual briefing before the fun of remembering and misremembering high

school days would

My bookbag that I carried as a professor because it was for, well, books, from my shoulder during my time at the airport. It also held a small purse that contained cash, credit cards, license, and, what I

later discovered should never be carried in a purse, my Social Security card.

While seated, before the plane took off, I reached into the bookbag to retrieve my purse. It was not there. Because I had already gone through customs, with no proof of identity I could get to Louisville but could not get back without it. I like Louisville, but not enough to spend more than three days there. I got off the plane.

I went to every place I had been. No

You must go home again Karla

Alwes



wanted tovs.

It felt like hours that I had been at the airport, but I had actually been there for about 20 minutes. Then I realized there was nothing else to do; I had to call my daughter to take me home. She had just gotten home from driving me to the airport and must now drive me back. On the way home Delta at La Guardia, which was my connection flight, called to tell me they had my purse. It had made my connection without me, ap-

parently by falling out of my bookbag while on the plane from Syracuse. Three days later my purse and I were reunited. Having my purse back was almost as exciting as I had hoped the weekend in Louisville would be, even though I had lost my cash and my Social Security card. And a piece of my sanity.

Post Script:

While in another city recently, which I didn't get to by plane, the following scene was observed in a local grocery store: a woman, pushing a small dog in a stroller and a man walking behind her, pushing their shopping cart, carried on a brief conversation in the aisle. Man: "Oh look! They have COVID kits." Woman, with a voice that reeked of irritation: "What?! You planning on having that again?" (Emphasis hers). Probably wife and husband. The wife has her dog in a stroller but the husband can't have his COVID test. Who says life is fair?

Karla Alwes is a Distinguished Professor of English, Emeritus, at SUNY Cortland.

Our Opinion -

Community as canvas

e've always been inspired by the community of artists working in the greater Cortland area. Alone or in groups, via exhibitions in public spaces, institutional galleries or parks, our friends and neighbors who create art are visible, vocal and proud. Their work and their works brighten our buildings, streets and our lives, and make our community a more interesting place to live.

The third annual Crown City Mural Fest began at noon today and runs until 5 p.m. at the Cortland Corset Building on East Court Street in Cortland. The event allows attendees to create murals using donated materials. Funded in part this year by a grant for Regional Art and Culture Engagement, awarded by Central New York Arts, the event began as an educational component of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative. Cortland was awarded \$10 million for a Downtown Revitalization Initiative in 2017, \$200,000 of which funds the Crown City Artworks Project to install public art, including sculptures and murals.

Those murals have been appearing across the city of Cortland for several years, with the final batch appearing over the summer in downtown windows. At a time when the scenic views tended to be obscured by the dust, debris and dirt movers of the downtown reconstruction, the murals provided much-needed pops of color and life. They also

tell residents and visitors alike

that, despite the short-term turmoil, we still care.

Homer is also getting into the mural game. A project to create four new murals in Homer also began at today's Mural Fest. Interested attendees could pick up the application and materials to apply for the Homer Community Gardens Mural Competition, hosted by Center for the Arts of Homer. Four winners will decorate the abandoned Agway grain bins in the Homer Community Garden on North Fulton Street. The winning entrants will paint a scene of one of the four seasons on nautical boards which will be

wrapped around the silos. In addition to making art that's displayed publicly, our local creators also make the art itself in public. In July, the first annual plein air competition Portrait of a Place took place in Homer. Artists sat somewhere outdoors in Homer and painted the scenes in front of them, competing for a grand prize of \$500 with smaller prizes in each category. Artists could use oils, acrylic, watercolor, gouache, ink, mixed media or pastels for their works, which would capture a "moment in time," never to exist again the people, the weather, even the passing traffic, all coming togeth-

er for a creative snapshot. While such competitions provide exposure to individual artists, show off the local talent pool and provide cultural enrichment to those of us who can barely draw stick figures, they also

provide financial support for the

entrants. The cost of replenishing art supplies adds up when you create every day, and the art market isn't exactly a "get rich quick" scheme.

Artists create because they are driven to do so — some may decline to expend the additional effort to exhibit their works publicly, much less market them. After all, just making art requires putting in the work. Such is the example of Richard Mitchell, a former art teacher at McGraw High School and winner of the Cortland Arts Connect Lifetime Achievement Award in visual arts in 2013. In the wake of a fall, he isn't able to paint much, or get up and down the stairs to his studio, so he's stopping after 60 years of painting daily.

Rather than send the whole lot into storage, hundreds of Mitchell's paintings will be for sale through Sept. 28 at a pop-up gallery next to the Exchange Restaurant in Homer — the only time his work has been for sale. It's a sad feeling to sell one's paintings, Mitchell said, but if someone can enjoy them, it's worth it.

There are as many ways to create art as there are pieces of art, and the best artists say something that nobody else can say. It's easy to see how working artists could find themselves isolated in their endeavors. We're proud our artists continue to inspire other artists, and the rest of us, by displaying their works and making them available for the public to enjoy. They make our communi-

ty a more beautiful place.

Your Opinion

Supreme Court oblivious to danger

To the Editor:

I watched with horror and disbelief as the Supreme Court handed down their ruling on presidential immunity.

Rather than address the actual facts presented by special counsel regarding the actual attempts by former President Donald Trump and his allies to overturn a vigorously litigated and settled election, they went down the rabbit hole of hypotheticals to opine "maybes" instead of the very real and immediate threat posed by a rogue individual who has no respect for the law or their

precious Constitution.

I would guess that the framers of the Constitution would not espouse their fanciful interpretation of the platform originally set forth and the infrastructure of

our democracy. Did these justices not hear and see what we the great unwashed heard and saw on Jan. 6? Are they acting in a vacuum with no awareness of the danger this country faces?

In the words of Justice Sonia Sotomayor, "I dissent."

John Carroll Virgil

Good Old Days

September 7, 1974

Marty Branshaw, Bill Christopher and Bud Harter were the winners of the first place feature trophies in the Cortland Day races at the New York State Fair Aug. 30.

September 7, 1999

It's 8:30 a.m. and the first kindergarten student has arrived for one Homer Central School teacher, who is also seeing his first day teaching kindergarten to 16 students.

Tim Robideau graduated from SUNY Cortland in 1998, and although he taught at Homer last year in an alternative classroom program, today was his first day of teaching a kindergarten class.

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.

Nation

Court: Penn. voters can cast prov. if mail ballot nixed

By MARC LEVY Associated Press

HARRISBURG, Pa. — A court decided Thursday that voters in the presidential battleground of Pennsylvania can cast provisional ballots in place of mail-in ballots that are rejected for a garden-variety mistake they made when they returned it.

Democrats typically outvote

Republicans by mail by about 3-to-1 in Pennsylvania, and the decision by a state Commonwealth Court panel could mean that hundreds or thousands more votes are counted in November's election, when the state is expected to play an outsized role in picking the next president.

The three-member panel ruled that nothing in state law prevent-

ed Republican-controlled Butler County from counting two voters' provisional ballots in the April 23 primary election, even if state law is ambiguous.

A provisional ballot is typically cast at a polling place on Election Day and is separated from regular ballots in cases when elections workers need more time to determine a voter's eligibility

to vote. The case stems from a lawsuit filed by two Butler County voters who received an automatic email before the primary election telling them that their mail-in ballots had been rejected because they hadn't put them in a blank "secrecy" envelope that is supposed to go inside the ballot return envelope.

They attempted to cast pro-

visional ballots in place of the rejected mail-in ballots, but the county rejected those, too.

In the court decision, Judge Matt Wolf ordered Butler County to count the voters' two provisional ballots

Contesting the lawsuit was Butler County as well as the state and national Republican parties.

HOMES

continued from page 1

Farwagi, development manager for Christopher Community.

But that's only one form of housing. An inventory, and the population studies it would entail, would guide development too, O'Bryan said. Should the survey find more seniors than senior housing units, then decision makers and developers know the area needs this style of development.

NO MORE, PLEASE

Steve said like himself, many people like to maintain a status quo in their neighborhoods. However, maintaining established norms can't supersede sustainability, and for Cortland, that means pulling back on student housing, he said.

The city's continued viability depends on diversifying its housing, and making that housing denser, he said — more apartments, more multifamily.

"We are in need," Steve said.
"Density makes people uncomfortable, but the only way we'll survive is to increase density; by doing so, you bring in more market-rate jobs and expand what we already have, creating a jobs source."

Pick an industry, any industry in Cortland County, and it's hurting for workers, he said. But the excess student housing in Cortland pushes out young, middle-income professionals looking for smallto medium-sized homes.

The city needs more control over the makeup of its neighborhoods, Steve said.

"It ran away for a while," Steve said. "It was kind of the Wild West for a while." However, the city can't dis-

riminate against types of people living in its houses — constitutionally, Steve said. It can more strictly enforce its zoning, making sure cars and garbage don't pile up in residential areas.

And it can put up more places to live to give the student housing market competition, Steve said.

O'Bryan said students enliven the Cortland community, but agreed their housing takes up too much of the city's stock.

"I don't think you can go backwards from here," he said. "Landlords get properties, and it's their right to do student rentals. There's nothing really stopping current landlords from buying up more properties."

A student house is often a converted single-family style, occupied about six months at a time.

"If there are more houses brought up, the city should maybe pause a little on the student housing," O'Bryan said. "The city is a good place for clustered housing, and across the board, it's needed, low-moderate income, senior and higher income are all needed. Focus on lower income to work force so current employers have people."

U.S. Census Bureau data from 2022 says of Cortland County's 20,814 housing units, 2,436 are

An inventory aims to find how much it can add to those figures.

BENEFITS TO DEVELOPERS

The middle and working classes are the most stung by housing availability, or lack thereof, said Rich Cunningham, president of Cortland-based Thoma Development Consultants.

"The city in recent years has made inroads dealing with market rate housing," Cunningham said Tuesday, noting projects of the last decade like Crescent Commons on south Main Street, and naming a few affordable housing developments.

The type of housing stock in Cortland and surrounding towns has become increasingly hourglass-shaped — more luxury and higher-end single family, less moderate-income, then more lower-income, subsidized housing, Cunningham said.

"We're finding that middle-class housing is a tough nut to crack," Cunningham said.

High-end homes are more profitable, he said, and there's more government support for lower-income housing.

"That's when that 'missing middle' ends up being a problem," Cunningham said. "An inventory could help and try to promote that. In any effort to deal with housing, you must figure out what you have and what you can do."

He said, "When developers come to us, having an inventory to share with them would be good; it's also good to go through the process of learning where's open for new housing, what's better suited for residential development. That allows future city planning efforts, and plans county-wide, from there zoning changes, comprehensive plans can be in tandem with that."

"Something like that would be really good," he said.

"It would give us a sense of what our needs are," Whitman said. "Developers could come in and fill the gaps of our housing supply."

WHAT MIGHT GO WHERE

O'Bryan has a rough mental map of what kinds of housing can go where.

The city is more suited to denser housing developments, he said.

"Once you're outside the downtown area, you have to look at more senior housing and smaller single-family homes," O'Bryan said.

An inventory would help Cortland County meet demand coming from neighboring Tompkins County where, O'Bryan said, rising prices are sending residents north, particularly from Ithaca.

"Most of the time, higher earners want more space, so they're sprawling this way," O'Bryan said.

"We want to identify prime sites and then start getting them closer to shovel-ready, but if we don't know what there is or what barriers there are, we can't do that. If we have a list and all of that's been identified, a site's that much closer to ready," he added.

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NUKES

continued from page 1

Micron and many major technology companies are eager to buy "clean firm power," which is produced without greenhouse gas emissions and can be relied on 24/7 regardless of the weather or other variables. It's difficult to supply that level of reliability with renewable energy sources alone, said Varum Sivaram, a climate and energy fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations.

"If you try and make 24/7, 100% clean electricity, you're going to run into challenges, before we have next generation nuclear on the grid," Sivaram said. "You're going to run into very expensive, prohibitive costs for that 95th percentile power."

Micron has pledged to use renewable energy for its operations in New York. Amber Bieg, the company's global sustainability manager, said that commitment is not inconsistent with support for nuclear power.

"I think we often in the world of clean energy get hung up on semantics, and we have false comparisons or false tradeoffs," Bieg said. "And I'd say one of those false tradeoffs is the tradeoff between nuclear and renewables. ... The future toward a zero-carbon economy has to include every single available energy resource that is commercially viable, safe and affordable. That includes nuclear."

Increasingly, the ability to supply clean, affordable and reliable power will be a critical factor in the competition among states — and between nations —

for economic development, Sivaram said.

"There could not be a more important topic," he said.

THERE IS FEDERAL MONEY AVAILABLE

Thanks to the Inflation Reduction Act and other recent legislation, the federal government offers significant financial support, regulatory help and tax credits for new nuclear plants.

If New York is going to jump on the advanced nuclear bandwagon, it might as well do so while the help is available, Harris said.

"There is a very real reason

that we're talking about nuclear power today," she said during a break in the panel discussions. "And I would say the primary reason is because, Number One, we have extraordinary bipartisan support for the technology coming from the federal government.

We need to leverage every

... We need to leverage every dollar we can, and if there's federal leverage to be had, we need to think about what that could provide for New York state."

DOWNSIZING

The nation's two newest nuclear reactors, comparable in size to Nine Mile Point Unit 2 in Oswego County, started up during the past year. They have scared away anyone hoping to build a similar plant in the U.S.

Construction of the two new reactors at Plant Vogtle started in 2009 and ended up costing about \$35 billion. Construction took seven years longer and cost twice as much as expected.

But most advanced nuclear reactors are designed to be smaller — one-quarter the size of the Vogtle units, or less — and therefore cheaper to build, conference participants said. If the costs of early adoption exceed projections, at least the overruns will be much smaller than at Vogtle.

The only such plant currently under development in North America is a 300-megawatt small modular reactor in southern Ontario, Canada. The government-owned Ontario Power Generation plans to have the new plant online by 2029, said Nicolle Butcher, chief operations officer.

What stands in nuclear's way?

FINANCIAL RISKS

Despite all the interest in advanced nuclear power plants, the financial risk of leading the way to build one is holding the industry in check. The Vogtle plants were the first U.S. nukes built in more than three decades, and their development exposed the loss of experienced workers, reliable supply chains and engineering knowledge since then.

Bringing back a nuclear industry will not be easy at first, said Armond Cohen, chair of the Clean Energy Task Force, an environmental advocacy group.

"I think we should not underestimate how huge this lift is," Cohen said.

Cohen suggested that New York and the federal government might have to jointly support a project financially to get the first new nuke built.

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High School Soccer

Cincy boys drop season opener to Fabius-Pompey

By MATT CZEITNER **Sports Reporter**

mczeitner@cortlandstandard.comFABIUS — The Cincinnatus boys soccer team hung right with defending Section III Class C champion Fabius-Pompey in a scoreless tie for 50 minutes

Thursday, but the Lions gave up four goals in the second half and fell 4-0 in the first round of the Fabius-Pompey Sports Boosters Kick Off Tournament at Fabius-Pompey Jr./Sr. High School.

Cincinnatus played strong defensively in the first half Thursday, but the opportunities on

offense weren't coming as much would've liked.

fense was cold too though, and the score re-

the Lions

The Falcons' of-

mained tied 0-0 heading into the break.

At halftime, Cincinnatus head coach Jherrett Maroney looked to switch things up in hopes of giving his team a better chance of scoring. The Lions moved players around and ended up in a 4-4-2

formation to begin the half.

Fabius-Pompey was held off the scoreboard for the first 13 minutes of the second half, but finally put one in the back of the net with 27:05 left. The Falcons

See CINCY, page 8



Paul Cifonelli/sports editor

Tully's Aislyn Patrick takes a touch before letting a shot fly Thursday at Bennett St. Field. Patrick scored Tully's first goal in a 2-1 win over Cortland.

Tully girls soccer holds off pesky Cortland

By PAUL CIFONELLI **Sports Editor**

pcifonelli@cortlandstandard.com

Wren Lawton scored a goal with exactly 20 minutes left in the game to give Tully what proved to be the game-winning goal Thursday in a 2-1 win over Cortland in the first round of the McGraw Girls Soccer Tournament at Bennett St. Field.

Lawton received a cross in the middle of the field from Maddy Lund, took a few touches and punched it in the net. It put Tully up 2-0 and provided some relief for the ensuing Cor-

tland push. The Purple Tigers made it a 2-1 game after Kartyr Hubbard scored off a feed from Aubree Larkin with 17:40 to play. Cortland continued to press and got a few more decent chances, but

Tully goalkeeper Emily Hall stood up to the task the rest of the way.

"I think Emily really came up big with saves in the goal when we needed them," Tully head coach Ashley Brunelle said. "There were a couple of breakaways and some shots that could've gone either way and she was able to hammer those home. Having Mari (Woodcock) in the back, she just picks

it up another level for us." Tully got off to a hot start with Aislyn Patrick scoring her first varsity goal 5:51 into the game. The ball was deflected in front of the Cortland goal and Patrick was in the right place at the right time to put her team up

early. "The message to the team was that we needed a fast start and we needed to put their backs against the wall," Brunelle said. "They went out there and put the pressure on right away and did it through possession under control, and it was awesome.

For them to be able to see that and pay off was good." Cortland was able to somewhat settle in after, but Tully still controlled a lot of the pos-

session until halftime. "Formation-wise, we haven't had a lot of time to practice with lines on the field," Cortland head coach Brandon Prosser said. "We did set up pretty defensively and kind of made a mistake. I'd say they bounced back mentally quite well."

Cortland was able to lure Tully into a bit of a kickball match at points and got decent scoring opportunities off of that.

Tully Cortland

Brunelle wanted her girls to possess the ball, remain composed and keep it on the ground. The Black Knights did well at points with that and Brunelle can point to that as examples of what to do.

"I think it's the trust in the process and trust in your teammates," Brunelle said. "In practice, we're doing our best to find our target and to communicate more, especially on the counterattack as we transition out of our defensive third. Those are things we're still working and improving on, but when they focused on that they were able to find their success with it."

Both teams had a few players in the middle of the field trying to control play all game. Tully used juniors Gloria Flatt and Kaylynne Bennett and Cortland deployed seniors Mackenna Bulger and Danika Peck.

Darah Peck made 13 saves in goal for Cortland.

Prosser is dealing with lots of turnover in his first season at the helm and was pleased with some

of the things he saw Thursday. "I would say I'm fairly happy," Prosser said. "There were things that could go better. With losing so many seniors, there was some concern with some of our players how good we would be, but today showed that we can compete with pretty much anyone on our schedule."

"A lot of people, even if they played last year on varsity, played in different positions or a much smaller role, so I was pretty happy with the way that people competed," Prosser added. "Toward the end it seemed like we had pretty solid energy. Having a bigger squad is helpful for that because I was able to rotate people, which was nice."

Cortland played again at 5:15 p.m. yesterday at Homer, then at noon today at Elm St. Field against McGraw in the tournament's consolation game. Tully will take on Bishop Grimes in the championship game at noon today at Bennett St. Field.

GIRLS SOCCER DeRUYTER 10, **OTSELIC VALLEY 1**

DeRuyter took a 7-0 lead at halftime and forced Otselic Valley goalkeepers to make 34

BOYS SOCCER McGRAW 7, **BROOKFIELD 0**

Logan Moffitt and Brennan Wilson each scored twice as McGraw moved to 1-1 on the season with a road win. Moffitt added an assist to his effort.

Landon Garrow notched a goal and an assist, Blair Mulcahy and Alex Burns each scored once and Thomas Bonyak recorded two assists. Zach Kahle stopped all eight shots that went his way in goal.

DRYDEN 4, WHITNEY POINT 0

Luke Eshelman scored two goals as Dryden peppered Whitney Point with 33 shots and four corner kicks to start the season 2-0. The Lions opened up a 3-0 lead at halftime.

Paul Busby went for a goal and an assist and Omar Traore scored once. Suansian Songput assisted on two goals and Tyler Franzese had an assist as well. Braden Allen wasn't forced to make a save, as Whitney Point took three off-target shots.

DeRUYTER 8, LaFAYETTE/ONONDAGA 0

Aden Daley went off for four goals as DeRuyter put away five goals in the second half to put the game away.

Devens Whalen contributed two goals and an assist for the Rockets, Tyrone Glisson and Jackson Millett each scored once, Cooper Millett notched two assists and Cody Nellenback, Brayden Metcalf and Dan Holl all dished out an assist. Dylan Foster made one save in

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL CORTLAND 3, SOLVAY 2 Nellie Lucas went for six

kills, three aces, four blocks and a dig as Cortland won its season opener 25-27, 25-17, 24-26, 25-21, 15-13.

Morgan Howard and Natalee Kressler each had 14 digs, with Howard adding three kills, four aces and an assist and Kressler contributing two kills. Katie Harris had 18 assists, 10 digs, a kill and an assist, Sophia Testa notched four kills, two aces and four digs and Sophie Mayer had three kills, two aces and three digs. Annie Jackson (three kills), Zoey DeVito (one kill,

See SCHOOLS, page 8

Cortland boys fall to Bishop Ludden in McGraw tourney

By RORY MASTINE **Sports Intern** sports@cortlandstandard.com

The Cortland boys soccer team fell 2-0 to Bishop Ludden in the first round of the McGraw Boys Soccer Tournament at Elm St.

The Purple Tigers opened the game with a strong defensive showing as the Gaelic Knights controlled possession early. Cortland's defense bent but didn't break, largely thanks to senior goalkeeper Liam Burns. Burns made consecutive saves off of a corner kick to keep it scoreless.

Bishop Ludden finally broke through on a beautiful shot on the edge of the box from Max Boyea to close the first half.

The second half opened with a great opportunity for the Purple Tigers off a set piece, but the shot rang off the pipe. The Gaelic Knights responded by scoring again, this goal on a header from Colden Sheen.

Cortland battled the rest of the way but ultimately fell to 0-2.

The game was a physical one, with both teams scrapping for every possession. Bishop Ludden looked both stronger and faster than Cortland, but the Purple Tigers didn't back down from the challenge.

"Some of our guys understood that they need to show up and be physical as well," Cortland head coach Luke Schweider said. He also said he wanted to see more mental toughness to accompany

Bishop Ludden 2 Cortland

motivation after goals as one of the reasons for the defeat.

The Purple Tigers came into the game with a plan to shut down Bishop Ludden stars Sheen and Jimmy Westers. While Sheen scored the second goal of the game, they managed to contain Westers for the entire match. Offensively, Cortland just couldn't keep possession long enough to get anything going.

"If we execute the small things that we're looking for, like the cleaner passes, I think our plan works a little better," Schweider said. "We ended up sitting a little deeper and possessing the ball in the middle third. They were able to control the middle a little bit better and they saw a lot more opportunities from that."

Cortland will have a day to reset before facing McGraw in the consolation game at noon Saturday at Elm St. Field. Cortland has competed in both games so far this season and will have a chance to right the ship soon.

"We have pieces to have a good season," Schweider said. "We just need to do the small things better and put the right pieces in the right spot and get the right mindset moving forward for everybody. I think there were three players that played at the level that I expect, I think we just have the physicality, citing lapses in to get everyone else to that level."

Marathon girls net first win of season

Jennison's first as head coach

By MATT CZEITNER **Sports Reporter**

mczeitner@cortlandstandard.com

FABIUS — The Marathon girls soccer team used a strong second half to power it to a 2-0 win over Jordan-Elbridge in the first round of the Fabius-Pompey Sports Boosters Kick Off Tournament Thursday at Fabius-Pompey Jr./ Sr. High School.

Marathon's win was the first of new head coach Sydney Jennison's career. It also sends the Olympians to the championship game, where they took on Fabius-Pompey Friday at Fabi-

Marathon Jordan-Elbridge 0

us-Pompey High School. The Falcons defeated Manlius-Pebble Hill 11-2 on Thursday.

Jennison was happy after her first win, but was more happy to see Marathon's hard work pay off early in the season.

"It means a lot to me and the girls to win this game," Jennison said. "They're putting in the work in practice and it is really nice to recover from (Wednesday)."

Neither Marathon or Jordan-Elbridge could find the back of the net in the first half, but the

See WIN, page 8



Matt Czeitner/sports reporter

Marathon's Megan Stewart, left, goes to high five Zoey Gleason following a goal against Jordan-Elbridge Thursday at Fabius-Pompey Jr./Sr. High School. Stewart had a goal and Gleason had an assist in the Olympians' 2-0 win.

National Football League

Jackson desperately rallies Ravens, falls 27-20 to Chiefs

By DAVE SKRETTA **AP Sports Writer**

KANSAS CITY, Mo. - Lamar Jackson insisted the Baltimore Ravens were not seeking revenge after the Kansas City Chiefs beat them in the AFC title game seven months ago, denying him the opportunity to play for his first Super Bowl championship.

It sure looked as if he

was trying to get some anyway Thursday night. Jackson threw for

273 yards and a touchdown and ran for 122 yards, gamely rallying Baltimore from a late 10-point deficit against the two-time and defending NFL champions. And it looked for a moment as if Jackson had at least forced overtime when he hit Isaiah Likely in the back of the end zone with no time left in raucous Arrowhead Stadium to complete the comeback.



Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson, left, scrambles as Chiefs linebacker Leo Chenal defends, Thursday, in Kansas City, Missouri. game was over. And the

The final play immediately went to a video

tight end's toe landed on the endline, putting him review, though, and the out of bounds. The pass evidence was clear: The was incomplete. The

disappointment quickly

It was a 27-20 loss, the

"I believe everyone in our program — coaches, trainers, equipment guys, cafeteria women and men, and definitely the players," Jackson said. "For us to lose to those guys in the way we lost, even though I don't want to do it, I can't be mad at my guys.'

Jackson has long been one of the NFL's premier quarterbacks, winning his second MVP award after last season. And he has not only proven his worth in big games but against some of the league's best quarterbacks, going 2-0 against Tom Brady.

tries against Patrick Mahomes and the Chiefs, and one that could only have been upstaged by the 17-10 loss that the Ravens endured on a cold January night with the Super Bowl in their

> the host school of the tournament. "We have nothing to lose," Jennison said. "All we can do is try our best and give play a full 80 minutes."

continued from page 7

Olympians went into halftime look-

Paityn Contri got Marathon on the board early in the second half

with a goal off an assist from Kayla Wood. The Olympians then added to their lead late with a goal from Megan Stewart off an assist from Zoey

Marathon controlled the pace and

"I think we struggled a bit in the

possession the remaining 10 minutes

first half communication-wise, and

maybe a little positivity," Jennison

said. "We did some changes in the

second half with positions and it re-

ally helped us and our offense. We

tried some new people on the outside

and it opened up a lot of different op-

Marathon had a tough task ahead in

Fabius-Pompey, but the Olympians

looked to come out strong and give

it their all as they hoped to knock off

of play and held on for the win.

ing to make adjustments.

Gleason.

tions for us."

CINCY-

continued from page 7

then made it 2-0 just 39 seconds lat-

Maroney knew switching things up was risky, but it was a gamble the team had to make if it wanted to get some offense going.

"At halftime we discussed how we weren't getting a lot on the attacking end and we thought, 'Hey, we have to get something more moving forward," Maroney said. "We took a bit of a gamble and ended up pushing Jack Stafford up higher, so we knew they were going to have a numbers advantage."

Fabius-Pompey went up 3-0 with 13:12 left and added its fourth and final goal with 5:51 left. Quinlan Yard did most the damage for the Falcons, scoring three goals, and Will Skeval added a goal.

Cincinnatus began to see some offense in the final 10 minutes of play as it got plenty of looks in front of the net, but the Lions failed to convert on chances.

Maroney believes fatigue and numbers from his guys caught up to them eventually, but he was impressed with his team for about 60 minutes of play.

"We talked about how for about 60 minutes we gave them a good run," Maroney said. "We knew early in the season fitness could be an issue and we were without two key players in Koda Temple and Trevor Shevalier, so we had some holes to

fill with guys in different spots." "You could tell the energy levels after that first goal started to drop and it deflated us a bit," Maroney added. "It's hard when they put in all

that energy and give one up." Cincinnatus isn't going to dwell too much on Thursday's loss as it hopes to bounce right back against Faith Heritage and get back on the winning track.

"I think from a confidence standpoint after this game they're doing alright," Maroney said. "I think we just need to recognize what we did well (Thursday), and touch on it."

Golf Log

WALDEN OAKS WEDNESDAY MEN'S LEAGUE
Low Gross Front: Gary Brandel (35)
Low Net Front: Kevin Fitch (29)
Low Gross Back: Marcus Bernardo (34)
Low Net Back: Avery Fenton (27)
Standings
Cortland Used Cars 175.5 Spafford Electric
Dark Horse 161.5 Mail Box
Horsemen 158 Paddy's Pub
Ruff Maintenance 157.5 Cort-Lanes
LeChase 145.5 Carpet House
Buckets 145.5 Maj

Walden Oaks

145 Legacy Construction 143.5

MLB

AL East Division

W L Pct GB

81 60 .574 —

80 60 .571 ½

70 70 .500 10½

69 71 .493 11½

67 74 .475 14

AL Central Division Baltimore New York Boston Tampa Bay Cleveland Minnesota Kansas City Detroit Chicago AL West Division

W L Pct GB

75 65 .536 —

71 70 .504 4½ Seattle .482 7½ .433 14½ .414 17 Oakland Los Angeles NL East Division
W L Pct GB .600 — .543 8 .543 8 Philadelphia New York Washingtor Miami NL Central Division
W L Pct GB Milwaukee .514 9 Chicago St. Louis Cincinnati Pittsburgh NL West Division
W L Pct GB
84 56 .600 — Los Angeles San Diego Arizona San Francisco .600 — .563 5 .560 5½ .489 15½

*standings last updated before play on Sept. 6

Major League Baseball

Lindor is leading the Mets' charge and challenging Ohtani for NL MVP By MIKE FITZPATRICK

AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK — Most of this summer, the NL MVP race looked like a one-man Sho.

Francisco Lindor has turned it into a hot topic. With his laudable leadership and

everyday brilliance on both sides of the ball, the New York Mets' streaking shortstop is giving Los Angeles Dodgers designated hitter Shohei Ohtani a real run for his money.

"I'm glad that I don't have to vote," Boston Red Sox manager Alex Cora said this week at Citi Field. "It'll be interesting. The kid is doing every-

A proud Cora still calls the 30-year-

old star "kid" because he's known Lindor and his family since Lindor was a Little Leaguer in Puerto Rico. And certainly, Mr. Smile plays ball with a refreshingly boyish joy even 10 seasons into his marvelous major league career.

But there's nothing callow about the way he's carrying the Mets during a pressurized National League playoff chase. "Every time he's at the plate, we

feel good about our chances," manager Carlos Mendoza said. "He's locked in right now."

"He's got a hard job. Playing shortstop for the New York Mets is not an easy job," Mendoza added. "We're talking about a special guy here."



AP Photo/Noah K. Murray

Mets' Francisco Lindor reacts after hitting a two run home run against the Red Sox, Tuesday, in New

Tennis

US Open: Pegula reaches 1st Grand Slam final at 30, will play Sabalenka

By HOWARD FENDRICH AP Tennis Writer

NEW YORK — Jessica Pegula could do no right at the outset of her first Grand Slam

Her opponent at the U.S. Open on Thursday night, Karolina Muchova, could do no

"I came out flat, but she was playing unbelievable. She made me look like a beginner," Pegula said. "I was about to burst into tears, because it was embarrassing. She was destroying me."

Pegula managed to shrug off that sluggish start and come back from a set and a break down to defeat Muchova 1-6, 6-4, 6-2 for a berth in the final at Flushing Meadows.

The No. 6-seeded Pegula, a 30-year-old from New York,

has won 15 of her past 16 matches and will meet No. 2 Aryna Sabalenka for the title today.

Sabalenka, last year's runner-up to Coco Gauff at the U.S. Open, returned to the championship match by holding off No. 13 Emma Navarro of the United States 6-3, 7-6 (2).

This final will be a rematch of the one last month at the hardcourt Cincinnati Open, which Sabalenka won — the only blemish on Pegula's post-Olympics record.

"Hopefully," Pegula said, "I can get some revenge out here." Pegula's parents own the NFL's Buffalo Bills and NHL's Buffalo Sabres; her father was in the Arthur Ashe Stadium stands Thursday, as were her sister, brother and husband.

continued from page 7

one block, one dig) and Reagan Whitney (one dig) all aided the Purple Tigers as well.

HOMER 3, ONONDAGA 0 Homer earned its second straight dominant win, this time 25-14, 25-12, 25-13, thanks to five kills, three aces, three blocks and a dig from Mickenlee Harris.

Samantha Sovocool had three kills, five aces and five

Dannica Smith added 11 assists, a kill, an ace, a block and two digs, Viviana Fox went for 11 digs, three assists and an ace and Maria Partis notched eight digs, three aces and an assist. Lauren Oustad (eight assists, two aces, two digs), Eila Spanbauer (four kills, six digs), Izzy Tutino (four kills, five digs), Cheyenne Coolidge (two kills, two aces, four digs), Camryn Wethje (two digs), Madison Singleton (two digs), Bailey Karpensky (one kill, one dig) and Bailey Dady (one kill) also contributed for the

Trojans.

FIELD HOCKEY HOMER 2,

EAST SYRACUSE-MINOA 1 Homer scored the game-win-

ning goal in the fourth quarter to earn a season-opening victory over East Syracuse-Minoa.

Mallory Kline and Brylee Darnell each scored for Homer. The Trojans took just six shots in the game, but earned nine penalty corners. Emery Jensen stopped three shots in the win.

BOYS GOLF CORTLAND 210, MEXICO 230 Garrick Ott shot a two-over

37 at Willowbrook Golf Club to lead Cortland to the win. Koda Hubbard had the second-best score of the day with a 41, Finn Thomas carded a 43, Cooper Coheno shot a 44, Josh Pennock carded a 45 and CJ Urtz's 46 was cancelled out.

WESTHILL 217, **HOMER 242**

Westhill at Cortland Coun-

try Club. Dan Stiles was right

Cooper Layaw and Ryder Armstrong each went for 44s, but it wasn't enough to beat behind them with a 45, Brody Darnell shot a 51, Ben Wilbur carded a 58 and Mason Potter's 61 was cancelled out.

JORDAN-ELBRIDGE 241, McGRAW 269

Ricky Osborne had the best round of the day for McGraw with a 46, but it wasn't enough to overcome Jordan-Elbridge at Knickerbocker Country Club. Lucas Friedman followed up Osborne with a 53, Riley Van Liew shot a 54, Lucas Johnson had a 57, Evan Stupke added a 59 and Thomas Lea's 63 wasn't needed.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Homer vs. Windsor, noon today at Chenango Valley
High School
Dryden vs. V-V-S, 6:15 p.m. today at SUNY Cortland
Cortland vs. Norwich, 6 p.m. Sunday
at Colgate University **BOYS SOCCER**

BOYS SOCCER

Cortland at McGraw, 10 a.m. today at Elm St. Field Dryden at Greene, 11 a.m. today
Cazenovia or Otselic Valley at DeRuyter,
4 p.m. today

Marathon at Afton/Harpursville, 4:30 p.m. Monday
McGraw at Stockbridge Valley/Morrisville-Eaton,
4:30 p.m. Monday
Cincinnatus at Otselic Valley, 4:30 p.m. Monday
Manilus Pebble Hill at Tully, 4:30 p.m. Monday
DeRuyter at Brookfield, 4:30 p.m. Monday
Cortland at Mexico, 5:30 p.m. Tuesday
Solvay at Homer, 5:30 p.m. Tuesday
Marathon at Moravia, 4:30 p.m. Tuesday
at Ross Field
Dryden at Trumansburg, 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday
Tuesday

Tuesday

GIRLS SOCCER Cortland at McGraw, noon today at Elm St. Field Tully vs. Bishop Grimes, noon today at Bennett St. Field

Dryden at Greene, 1 p.m. today Onondaga/LaFayette or Sackets Harbor at DeRuyter, 2 p.m. today Homer at Lansing, 7 p.m. Monday McGraw at Cincinnatus, 4:30 p.m. Monday Tully at Onondaga/LaFayette, 6 p.m. Monday Cortland at Jordan-Elbridge, 6:30 p.m. Tuesday Stockbridge Valley at McGraw, 4:30 p.m. Tuesday

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL Solvay at Homer, 6 p.m. Monday Mexico at Cortland, 6 p.m. Tuesday Odessa-Montour at Groton, 6:30 p.m. Tuesday Dryden at Trumansburg, 6:30 p.m. Tuesday

FIELD HOCKEY Cortland at Auburn, 12:30 p.m. today Moravia at Weedsport, 5 p.m. today

8 a.m. today Marathon, Groton at Trumansburg, 5 p.m. Tuesday

at Willowbrook Golf Club Homer at CBA, 3:30 p.m. Monday at Drumlins Country Club

GIRLS TENNIS

Port Byron/Union Springs at Homer, 7 p.m. Monday Marathon at Vestal, 7:15 p.m. Monday Moravia at Maine-Endwell, 7 p.m. Monday CROSS COUNTRY Cortland, Homer, Tully, DeRuyter at Mount Markham,

> Dryden at Moravia, 5 p.m. Tuesday **BOYS GOLF** Cazenovia at Cortland, 3:30 p.m. Monday

Skaneateles at Tully, 3:30 p.m. Monday at Vesper Hills Golf Course Cortland at McGraw, 3:30 p.m. Tuesday at Knickerbocker Country Club Homer at Cazenovia, 3:30 p.m. Tuesday at Cazenovia Country Club

Cortland at Skaneateles, 5 p.m. Monday at Austin Park Manlius Pebble Hill at Homer, 4:30 p.m. Monday



Students from Food and Finance High School make taco dough during a summer block party outside the Barclays Center, July 11, in New York.

Inside the nonprofit helping a new generation of culinary professionals

By JAMES POLLARD **Associated Press**

NEW YORK — A side of beef bigger than a classroom desktop sat before high school students huddled around a kitchen on New York's Lower East Side. "Anyone wanna jump in?" asked the butcher teaching the Tuesday afternoon class. One student dared, grabbing a sawblade about as long as his arm and sweating to successfully separate the short rib from the rib

These demos are regularly hosted by the Food Education Fund. The local nonprofit seeks to make culinary careers more accessible through hands-on experiences and mentorship for low-income students of color at ten high schools. More than half of participants are Hispanic, over one third are Black and the vast majority live below the poverty line.

The hope is that stronger support for young cooks in one of the world's top food destinations will bring much-needed diversity to the industry's highest rungs. Chefs of color lead just a fraction of the North American restaurants awarded a coveted Michelin star and research shows non-white fine dining employees are less likely to be promoted, according to the tire company behind the guidebook that has become a gastronomical bible of sorts.

As restaurants rebound from

burnt-out staff looking for new careers and upended customer behavior around in-person dining, the nonprofit wants to instill a new generation with the love of feed-

Hospitality magnate Sean Feeney said he's found that New York's youth still want to rebuild

"They never had tasted an ingredient that made their mouth move," said Feeney, a board member whose company owns Lilia and Misi, two highly praised Italian restaurants in Brooklyn. "They never had witnessed an experience of dining that changed their lives. And many of the students hadn't been supported in a way that it made sense for them to want to make days better for others."

The Food Education Fund's workforce development programs reached more than 800 public high school students during the 2023-24 school calendar. Leadership plans to increase the number of seniors and schools participating in its internship course in this upcoming school year.

Lessons by "visiting chefs" ranging from chocolatiers to farmers exposed participants to the wide range of culinary arts careers. Participants can get up to 150 hours of experience at internships — including School Grounds, a Barclays Center food stand where students run marketpandemic stressors that sent many ing and are developing a signa- be part of that ecosystem.

ture hot sauce. The nonprofit also doled out over \$82,000 in scholarships to graduates over the past two years, according to publicly available tax filings.

Observers note that Food Education Fund has really formalized its operations in recent years. Tax forms show that annual contributions more than quadrupled from 2018 to 2022.

And in New York City, where bankers, entertainers and chefs alike have cut their teeth in their respective dog-eat-dog fields, the organization's mission has recently attracted attention from the deep-pocketed financial services giants and stars in its backyard.

Big backers include investment firm Goldman Sachs and Steve Cohen, the billionaire hedge fund manager who owns the New York Mets. The board includes hip-hop icon Questlove and comedian Desus Nice has hosted a fundraiser.

The broad interest reflects the diversity of New York and the community building power of food, according to board member Jehan Ilahi, the global head of investor relations at Goldman Sachs.

"Food binds us all. Culturally, as people, you sit with somebody, you have a good meal and it exposes your mind to different cultures and experiences," he said. "That's what I think is really special about the city. A lot of the kids that live here, study here, want to

School choice ruling thwarted by Maine legislation, suit says

Associated Press

PORTLAND, Maine — A Christian school at the center of a Supreme Court decision that required Maine to include religious schools in a state tuition program is appealing a ruling upholding a requirement that all participating facilities abide by a state antidiscrimination law.

An attorney for Crosspoint Church in Bangor accused Maine lawmakers of applying the antidiscrimination law to create a barrier for religious schools after the hard-fought Supreme Court victory.

'The Maine Legislature largely deprived the client of the fruits of their victory by amending the law," said David Hacker from First Liberty Institute, which filed the appeal this week to the 1st U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Boston. "It's engineered to target a specific religious group. That's unconstitutional."

The lawsuit is one of two in Maine that focus on the collision between the 2022 U.S. Supreme Court ruling and the state law requiring that schools participating in the tuition program abide by the Maine Human Rights Act, which includes protections for LGBTQ students and faculty. Another lawsuit raising the same issues was brought on behalf of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Portland: Roman Catholic-affiliated school, St. Dominic's Academy in Auburn, Maine; and parents who want to use state tuition funds to send their children to St. Dominic's. That case is also being appealed to the 1st Circuit. Both cases involved the same federal judge in Maine, who acknowledged that his opinions served as a prelude to a "more authoritative ruling" by the appeals court.

The lawsuits were filed after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that states cannot discriminate between secular and religious schools when providing tuition assistance to students in rural communities that don't have a public high school. Before that ruling — in a case brought on behalf of three families seeking tuition for students to attend a Crosspoint-affiliated school religious schools were excluded from the program.

The high court's decision was hailed as a victory for school choice proponents but the impact in Maine has been small. Since the ruling, only one religious school, Cheverus High School, a Jesuit college preparatory school in Portland, has participated in the state's tuition reimbursement plan, a state spokesperson said.



Gabor Degre/The Bangor Daily News via AP, File

Olivia Carson, then a 15-year-old sophomore, of Glenburn, Maine, left, stands with her mother Amy outside the Crosspoint Church-affiliated Bangor Christian Schools on August 28, 2018, in Bangor, Maine.

LEGALS

CORTLAND COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE

The Cortland Housing Authority is accepting bids from qualified contractors for PEST EXTERMINATION in our housing units for a 3-year contract. If interested, stop in at the Cortland Housing Authority at 42 Church St. for a bid packet. Or email lboyce@cortlandha.com to request a packet. Bids must be received by 3:30 pm on 9/20/24

MCGRAW CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTICE OF TAX COLLECTION

Having received the tax warrant from the Board of Education of the McGraw Central School District, collection of taxes will be received at the McGraw Village Office on Cemetery Street beginning September 1, 2024 from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday except holidays. Taxes will be collected without penalty through September 30, 2024. Two percent will be added October 1. 2024. No taxes will be received after October 31, 2024.

Joan Coombs & Lori Aiken Tax Collectors

BUYING? SELLING?

Check the Classifieds!

CORTLAND COUNTY **LEGAL NOTICE**

HOMER CENTRAL SCHOOL

HOMER, NEW YORK 13077

NOTICE OF COLLECTION OF TAXES FOR THE HOMER SCHOOL DISTRICT

This is to give notice that I have received the tax roll with the warrant attached for the collection of school taxes of 2024 for the Homer Central School District of the Towns of Homer, Cortlandville, Scott, Preble, Truxton, Cuyler, and Solon, Cortland County; Summerhill and Sempronius, Cayuga County; Spafford, Onondaga County; and Groton, Tompkins County.

Taxes are payable to the Tax Collector Homer Central School P.O. Box 488 Albany, New York 12201-0488, online at www.homercentral.org click on Tax Link or KeyBank outside Drop Box by the ATM: 25 S Main St Homer, NY 13077. Taxes will be collected from September 2, 2024 - October 1, 2024 with no penalty. From October 2, 2024 through November 1, 2024, taxes will be collected with a 2 percent interest penalty.

The school cannot collect any taxes after November 1, 2024, All unpaid taxes will be returned to the County for collection

after that date Melissa Meriwether Tax Collector

Homer Central School District

Homer, New York 13077

607-749-7241

CORTLAND COUNTY BID NOTICE

The Board of Trustees of Tompkins Cortland Community College, Counties of Tompkins and Cortland (in accordance with section 103 of Article 5A of the General Municipal Law) hereby invite the

Sealed Bids on: (3) Instructional Vacuum Demonstration Systems Sealed Bids will be received until 2:00 pm local time on September 18, 2024 in the Purchasing Office at Tompkins Cortland Community College in Dryden, New York at which time they will be publicly opened. Specifications and bid forms may be obtained from the Purchasing Office at Tompkins Cortland Community College in Dryden, New York kpc@tompkinscortland.edu The Board of Trustees hereby reserves the right to waive irregularities and accept or reject any bid or any part of any bid.

Submit Sealed Bids according to the General Instructions to: Tompkins Cortland Community College Purchasing 170 North Street P.O. Box 139

Dryden, New York 13053

MARATHON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT **LEGAL NOTICE** Legal Notice Marathon Central School Board of Education September 10, 2024 Noon - 9 PM, High School CSE Office

NOTICE IS GIVEN that petitions nominating candidates for the office of the Member of the Board of Education must be filed with the Clerk of the District not later than MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 2024. The following vacancies are to be filled on the Board of Education:

TRUSTEE FOR A TERM EXPIRING TIFFANY HUBBARD, Name of Last Incumbent

Each petition, a copy of which may be obtained at the District Clerk's office, must be directed to the Clerk of the District, must be signed by at least twenty-five (25) qualified voters, must state the name and residence of the

Date: July 2024 HEATHER FRINK - District Clerk Marathon Board of Education

Freshman classes provide glimpse of college sans affirmative action

By ANNIE MA and MAKIYA SEMINERA **Associated Press**

Some selective colleges are reporting drops in the number of Black students in their incoming classes, the first admitted since a Supreme Court ruling struck down affirmative action in higher education. At many other colleges, including Princeton University and Yale University, the share of Black students changed little.

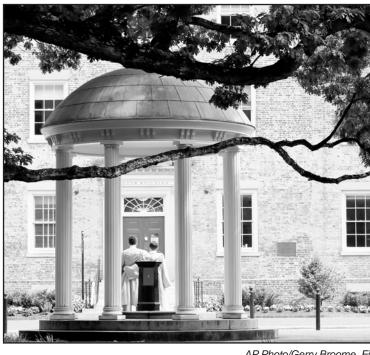
Several schools have seen swings also in their numbers of Asian, Hispanic and Native American students, but trends are still murky. Experts and colleges say it will take years to measure the full impact of last year's ruling that barred consideration of race in ad-

Also affecting the makeup of first-year classes are other factors including changes in standardized test requirements and the botched rollout of a new financial aid form, which complicated decisions of students nationwide on where and whether to attend college.

"It's really hard to pull out what one policy shift is affecting all of these enrollment shifts," said Katharine Meyer, a fellow at the Brookings Institution think tank. "The unsatisfying answer is that it's hard to to know which one is having the bigger impact."

On Thursday, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill reported drops in enrollment among Black, Hispanic and Native American students in its incoming class. Its approach to admissions has been closely watched because it was one of two colleges, along with Harvard University, that were at the center of the Supreme Court

The population of Black stu-



AP Photo/Gerry Broome, File

Graduates of the University of North Carolina take pictures at the Old Well on campus in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, June 30, 2020. dents dropped nearly 3 percentage the new law. We are also com-

points, to 7.8%, compared to the UNC class before it. Hispanic student enrollment fell

from 10.8% to 10.1%, while the incoming Native American population dwindled half a percentage point to 1.1%, according to the university. The incoming Asian student population rose a percentage point to 25.8%. The amount of white students, at 63.8%, barely changed. It is "too soon to see trends"

from the affirmative action decision, said Rachelle Feldman, UNC's vice provost for enrollment. She cited the delays in the Free Application for Federal Student Aid application process as another possible influence on the makeup of the incoming class.

"We are committed to following

mitted to making sure students in all 100 counties from every population in our growing state feel encouraged to apply, have confidence in our affordability and know this is a place they feel welcome and can succeed," Feldman Some colleges reported sharp

declines in the percentages of Black students in their incoming class, including drops from 15% to 5% at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and 11% to 3% at Amherst College. At Tufts University, the drop in the share of Black students was more moderate, from 7.3% to 4.7%. At Yale, the University of Virginia and Princeton, the change from yearto-year was less than a percentage

Comics/Puzzles













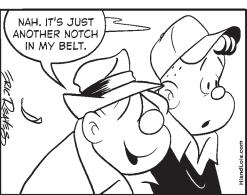














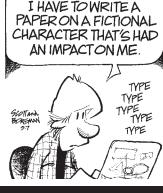














CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 1 Hack

7 Sweeping storv 11 Crumbly

Italian cheese 12 Milky

gem 13 Surrounded

14 Trend determiner 1 Insertion

15 Borders 16 "What a pity" **17** New driver.

usually 18 George Washington's wife 19 Stretched

tight 21 Put down 22 Horse.

hyena, or inducer 26 Travel

legume 29 Golfer's ness 33 Isolated

away 35 Arrived 36 Much of

37 "Got it"

38 Leader who brings

together, say 39 June honorees

40 School break

DOWN

sign 2 Digression 3 Watch the whole season.

sav

4 Ink color 5 Historic times 6 Approval

7 Deep

hedgehog 25 Groan

aids 27 Soup nervous-

34 Throw

Niger

parties

Yesterdav's answer

24 Medium 8 John or Paul **25** Calm 9 Grail 28 Grove seeker

18 Wall art

20 Let in

23 Anony-

makeup 10 Dawn-to-30 Steaming dusk 31 Trims 16 Took 32 Prepares notice

fight 34 Rational 22 Mexican greeting

for a

36 California's Big

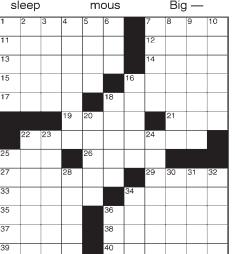
Fun By The Numbers Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending

puzzle will have you hooked from

the moment you

square off, so

sharpen your pencil and put savvy to the test!



Sudoku

SINDOKIN

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

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!

L	6	8	9	mah	ω	Z	Þ	9	2
I	que	ω	2	6	Þ	9	ω	O	L
I	<i>L</i> .	Þ	9	8	9	S	ε	6	L
I	8	9	۷	Þ	2	esek.	9	3	6
I	Þ	S	ε	9	G	6	Z	ques	8
I	9	6	h	ω	Z	8	9	S	†
I	ε	S	6	7	٢	Þ	2	8	9
	S	2	8	9	6	9	1	Þ	ε
	9		Þ	S	8	8	6	2	9
-	ANSWER:								

Cryptoquote

AXYDLBAAXR

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.

9-7 **CRYPTOQUOTE**

MOLN OW ZGAPIOLOMNJ,

JGU'M TYWMN O_M IOBOUK

WGLNGUN NIWN'W IORN.

WMNBN XGFW

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: NEVER GIVE UP, FOR THAT IS JUST THE PLACE AND TIME THAT THE TIDE WILL TURN. — HARRIET BEECHER STOWE

Astrological Forecast

By Magi Helena Sunday, September 8, 2024

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Use all the cards in your deck, but don't rely on wild cards to win the hand. Consider finding joy and pleasure in people or things within walking distance of your local neighborhood. A minor admiration could ignite your passions.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Flirtations pass the time but may not endure. You might get more accomplished if you have a partner. Later this week you could have the energy and endurance to work on an important project. Keep some things near and dear to your heart.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Smiles and warmth can help social events flow more smoothly. You may come off charming without even needing to put forth much effort. You might also feel pressured to follow mundane conventions to fit in with the crowd.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Every problem has a solution. The easy and seemingly obvious answer might not lead to the best possible outcome. You may have the strength and ability required to face whatever comes if you are willing to be patient and take your time.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You shouldn't need to make grand promises or go to extreme lengths to please someone special. Just be yourself; true partners and friends accept you for who you are. You may feel called to spend

your free time at home with loved ones. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): A call or text could give you a new lease on life. Be prepared to embrace unusual circumstances in the week ahead and embrace the available possibilities. Old acquaintances could grow into something

more with your care and attention. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): New opportunities coming your way may be a good fit and could result in your most outrageous wishes coming true. You may feel sure that you have found a sure thing and could be willing to put it all on the line for this lucky individual.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Ignite your imagination. Your dreams have power so fuel

them with effort and they could come to life. And remember, a little admiration may just be life's way of keeping things interesting, so don't take it too seriously.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Look beyond the world you know to find the balance you seek. Whatever traditions you follow could guide you on your path and illuminate your inner world. Don't let daily duties interfere with your quest for the extraordinary.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Sometimes, simplicity is the key to getting along with others. Following your deepest impulses might bring you admiration or even a warm embrace, but making significant changes could set off a series of unpredictable events.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Financial issues may be causing stress now. Careful consideration of your true priorities and goals could guide you to take more appropriate and intentional action. Your patience may be re-

warded with growing stability and security. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Change your focus and look for all the positives in your life, rather than dwelling on the negative. The more you concentrate on the wonderful aspects of the world, the more life and understanding you will find waiting for you.

IF SEPTEMBER 8 IS YOUR BIRTH-**DAY:** During the coming three to four weeks remember it may be helpful to revisit and learn more from past mistakes. This might be a time to exercise self-discipline or handle extra obligations with good grace and efficiency. Consider avoiding taking on long term debt or starting anything new unless it is inevitable. Your focus may shift to building your social network and participating in community events as October arrives and could give your social life a boost. Late October may be a nice time to put sensible business strategies into action or to make an intelligent reassessment of your finances while you might feel more astute about the ways of the world. You may receive help, assistance, and opportunities in late November and early December, when it could feel easier to be carefree, extravagant, and frivolous without guilt.

'Beetlejuice' sequel a soul train ride to comedy joy

Movie review

By JOCELYN NOVECK **AP National Writer** "I have global entry!"

Now, does that sound like a funny line? Of course it doesn't. Whatever in the history of mankind and airport lines could be funny about global entry?

But put it in the mouth of comedy goddess Catherine O'Hara, and place it in the singularly inventive world of Tim Burton and that wacky afterlife waiting room from "Beetlejuice," and it may become the one blessed time in your life you'll ever guffaw about global entry.

It likely won't be the only thing you'll guffaw about. Burton is back — and, more significantly, he is BACK — with "Beetlejuice Beetlejuice," 36 years after the original. And for once, the question "Why a sequel?" is moot.

Not because we know the answer. (Do we?) But, who cares? It's funny. It may even make you feel better about, well, death, though not "death death." And Michael Keaton somehow looks exactly the same as he did in 1988 (to be fair, it helps that his character was already dead.)

Returning to his tale of Keaton's ghostly, fiendish "bio-exorcist," director Burton brings back much of the team behind the original, including, alongside O'Hara and Keaton, the still-lovely Winona Ryder as Lydia the Goth Girl (also, Bob the shrunken-head

And we've gained Justin Theroux, Monica Bellucci, Willem



Warner Bros. Pictures via AP

This image released by Warner Bros. Pictures shows Michael Keaton in a scene from "Beetlejuice Beetlejuice."

Dafoe, and for the younger generation, Jenna Ortega, who, as a relatively normal figure, serves as an appealing anchor, her story moving the plot along.

Speaking of plot: if you didn't see the original, not to worry. It all gets explained (as much as it should be) in time. We begin in Winter River, Connecticut, still home to Lydia Deetz (Ryder), who came as a teenager with batty stepmom Delia and dad Charles, only to learn her new house was haunted by the recently deceased Adam and Barbara.

Lydia looks much the same but is now a widowed mother, a psychic mediator, and host of a cheesy reality show, "Ghost House," in which she sees ghosts and asks, "Can the living and the dead co-exist?"

But one day she sees some-

thing in the audience that scares her: visions of Beetleiuice, who wrought havoc when she was a teen and who, when we last left him, was wasting away in the afterlife waiting room (apparently, HE did not have global entry.)

Among the ridiculous delights along the way: A "soul train" in the afterlife, which is not only literally a train of souls, but a replica of the variety show "Soul Train." In the Burtonian spirit, let's just say the sequel took a long time to reach theaters, yes, but the director has recovered the recipe — at least enough to make us smile, chortle, even guffaw, for 104 minutes. And we can be happy with that.

"Beetlejuice Beetlejuice," has been rated PG-13. Running time: 104 minutes. Three stars out of

Contract Bridge

Safeguarding a slam

South dealer. Both sides vulnerable. **♠** 10 3 2 **♥**75 ♦ Q 6 2 WEST **EAST ♠** 7 6 5 4 ♥QJ9864 ♦ J 10 8 3 ♦ K 9754 **♣**10 7 **♣**Q942 **SOUTH ♠** A K Q J 9 8 **♥** A K 10 3 ♣A K The bidding: South West North East

3 🌲 Pass Pass *strong, artificial ** negative Opening lead — jack of diamonds. This deal from a knockout team

2 ♦**

Pass

Pass

event illustrates the benefits of adopting a guarded approach when a high-level contract is at stake.

When the deal was played at the first table, South reached six spades as shown. He won the opening diamond lead, cashed the ace of spades and then played the A-K of hearts, planning to ruff both of his losing hearts in dummy.

Unfortunately, West trumped the king of hearts, after which South could not avoid going down one. When he later tried to ruff the three of hearts in dummy, West trumped with the spade six, forcing dummy's ten. This left West with the seven of spades and dummy with the three, so declarer had no way to dispose of the losing ten of hearts.

At the second table, South also arrived at six spades, and again the opening lead was a diamond. But here declarer took a more cautious approach and made the slam as a

After winning the diamond and playing the ace of trump, he also cashed the ace of hearts. But instead of playing the king next, he led a low heart! His circumspection was rewarded when West showed out, and East won the trick with the eight. Whatever East returned, declarer could not be prevented from ruffing his remaining heart loser with dummy's ten of spades, after which he could draw trump and claim the rest of the tricks.

It is true that the line of play adopted by the second South might have cost him an overtrick on many deals. But when a vulnerable slam is at stake, the question of an overtrick has no place in declarer's deliberations.

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\$57,528-76,569/YR **Examination Date:** 10-26-2024

Last Filing Date: 09-26-24 by 4:30 p.m.

Send CIVIL SERVICE applications to Cortland County Personnel Civil Service, 60 Central Ave., Cortland, NY 13045. Applications must be received by 4:30 p.m. on the last filing date.

EOE

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Guthrie Medical Group, PC seeks General & Trauma/Acute Care Surgeon in Corning, NY and Sayre, PA. Rqmts: MD or DO or for deg equiv, General surgery residency, Surgical Critical Care Fellowship and valid NY & PA medical licenses. Salary: \$400,000/yr. Resume to Shannon Anderson, Shannon.Anderson @guthrie.org.

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56 Hamlin St, Cortland 9-3, September 6 & 7, Lots of furniture, rugs, artwork, antique convertible highchair, complete set of Johnson Bros. Coaching Scenes, bicycle and parts, several ladders, microwave, kitchen items, hammock,

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DLH



Andrii Nesterewnko/Ukrainian Parliament Press Office via AP In this photo provided by the Ukrainian Parliament Press Office, Ukraine's newly appointed Foreign Minister Andrii Sybiha speaks in parliament in Kyiv, Ukraine, Thursday.

Ukraine appoints new chief diplomat

As war with Russia enters a new phase

By ILLIA NOVIKOV **Associated Press**

KYIV, Ukraine — Ukraine's parliament approved the appointment of a new foreign minister Thursday, two lawmakers said, as President Volodymyr Zelenskyy sought to breathe fresh life into his administration with the war against Russia poised for what could be a pivotal phase.

Andrii Sybiha, a former ambassador to Turkey, is the country's new chief diplomat. He replaced Dmytro Kuleba, who became one of Ukraine's most recognizable faces on the international stage as he petitioned and pleaded with Western countries to support Ukraine's war

Sybiha, 49, has been working as Kuleba's deputy since April.

Zelenskyy wants to replace almost a dozen top officials in his biggest government shake-up since Russia's full-scale invasion started on Feb. 24, 2022.

Other changes included the heads of strategic industries, justice, natural resources and farm-

Parliament's approval is required for the changes. Ukrainian lawmakers Yaroslav Zhelezniak and Oleksii Honcharenko confirmed the vote to The Associated Press.

Zelenskyy said Wednesday of the reshuffle that Ukraine needs "new energy."

The war, more than 900 days long, is on the cusp of what could be a key period.

A likely hard winter lies ahead, testing the country's resolve. Ukraine's power grid is under severe strain after Russian missiles and drones knocked out around 70% of the country's generation capacity. That could mean going without heat and water.

On the battlefield, Ukraine is waiting to see whether the military's gamble with its surprise thrust into Russia's Kursk border region a month ago pays divi-

Meanwhile, outgunned Ukrainian soldiers are gradually being pushed backward by Russia's monthslong drive deeper into eastern Ukraine, and Ukrainian civilians are at the mercy of Russia's deadly longrange aerial strikes.

UN hails limited pauses in Gaza fighting for polio vaccinations

By MICHAEL WEISSENSTEIN **Associated Press**

UNITED NATIONS — United Nations officials on Wednesday hailed limited pauses in the fighting between Israel and Hamas to allow children's polio vaccinations as rare moments of hope in the nearly yearlong war

Top U.N. officials on peacebuilding and humanitarian affairs spoke at a meeting requested by Israel, which was backed by its allies, veto-holding permanent council members France, Great Britain and the United States. Israel's ambassador on Wednesday focused on the hostages taken during Hamas' Oct. 7 attacks on Israel that launched the war and the recent killing of six captives.

Algeria, which sits on the 15-member council until next year, also requested that the U.N. body meet to discuss the broader situation in the Palestinian territories.

Both Rosemary DiCarlo, U.N. undersecretary-general for po-



Flags fly outside the United Nations headquarters during the 74th session of the United Nations General Assembly, Sept.

litical and peacebuilding affairs, and Edem Wosornu, director of the Operations and Advocacy Division at the U.N.'s Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, spoke about the polio-inspired pauses in fighting as rare rays of hope, as did the

representatives of France, Britain, the U.S. and other nations.

"It does not have to be this way. Indeed, over the past few days, there have been signs that humanitarian objectives can inspire positive steps," Wosornu told the council.



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