

WORLD  
Thousands of Lebanese return home as a ceasefire deal took hold on Wednesday.



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SPORTS  
Moravia football is set to take on Trumansburg in the 8-Man Regional semis on Saturday.



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2024 daily No. 236

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2024

# Cortland

www.cortlandstandard.com

# Standard

CORTLAND, N.Y.

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## NY, JM Murray differ on pay for those with disabilities

### State to require minimum wage

By DOUG SCHNEIDER  
Staff Reporter

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New York State's decision-makers look at the JM Mur-

ray business in South Cortland and other workshops for people with developmental disabilities, and see the dozens of workers packing orders into cardboard boxes or other factory work, and conclude "what we do is a discriminatory action," says Ernie Dodge, JM Murray's president and CEO.

Dodge and other people leading JM Murray contend, on the other hand, they're offering legitimate employment, in a real-world work environment while teaching valuable skills that can help workers earn money and better their lives.

Gov. Kathy Hochul signed Executive Order 40 in September.

Under that, New York will end next October the exception that allows some people with developmental disabilities to be paid less than the federal minimum wage of \$7.25 an hour.

Dodge said JM Murray intends to be "fully compliant" once that rule goes into effect, but says the new rule will drive some people

out of the program.

Hochul, in her 2024 State of the State Address, said she would "commit to all New Yorkers with disabilities," and would make New York an "employment first" state for people with disabilities. That includes making people with

See PAY, page 4

## Contest to light holiday nights

Make your home classy, brassy or flashy with lighting contest

By LILY BYRNE  
Staff Reporter

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You can make your home elegant, colorful, historical, or flashy. It just has to be festive.

Cortland residents can now sign up for the Cortland Community Center's Christmas and Holiday Lighting Contest. Judging is 5 to 8 p.m. Dec. 16 to 20, said Linda Stock, vice president of the Cortland Community Group Inc.

"When I grew up, every Christmas night my dad would put me, my sisters and my mom in the car, and we would go all around Sidney and look at all the lights," Stock said. "I just can't tell you how much fun it was. It never stopped being fun. And even as an adult, I would still do that."

Julie Froio tied with Kelly Griffin and Doug Perine's house last year for first place.

"They were entirely differ-

### To sign up

To sign up, email cortland-communitycenter@mail.com

ent," Stock said. "Julia's was classy. Oh my god, so beautiful and elegant and classy. The other, Kelly Griffin was blow-ups and color, but beautifully arranged. It just jumps out at you and you're like, 'Oh my gosh, look at that.'"

Froio's display took a lot of time and energy, she said.

"I do really put a lot of work into it," she said. "I actually map it out on a piece of paper before I execute it. My house is also unique because I have a balcony, so I'm able to decorate that as well. It's a lot of attention to detail."

"It's exciting to see people who have never entered before jump in," Stock said.

An award party will be 6:30

See LIGHTS, page 4

### Ready for the season



Todd R. McAdam/Managing Editor

Cortland worker Jarid Poirier hangs decorations earlier this week on Main Street to usher in the holiday season. You can usher it in, too, at a 6 p.m. tree lighting today.

## Tompkins County buys land for long-term homeless shelter

### From Staff Reports

ITHACA — Tompkins County officials have announced they plan to buy a property on Cherry Street in Ithaca to develop a long-term emergency shelter.

The Tompkins County Legislature will consider a resolution to buy the property on Tuesday. The county considered more than a dozen properties before settling on one on the city's west end, near several homeless encampment areas and service providers.

"Hundreds of people experience homelessness in Tompkins County in a given year," said Legislature Chair Dan Klein (D-Caroline, Danby, Ithaca) at a news

conference Tuesday. "Nearly one-third of people experiencing homelessness reported returning to homelessness after securing a permanent destination. Outcomes are worse for young people, people of color, people with disabilities and people experiencing mental health crises."

MM Development Advisors will oversee the project, which would be able to shelter up to 100 people.

"We are adding significant capacity today to our emergency shelter system while planning for the future," said Tompkins County Administrator Lisa Holmes. "Emergency sheltering is not the

only needed solution to homelessness, but it is a core function of our system that needs to be shored up, and part of the county's responsibilities to serve people experiencing homelessness."

County officials also announced:

More beds will be available through its Temporary Housing Assistance program, up to 90 people from 26 who could be housed at the former shelter operated by St. John's Community Services.

The county's Code Blue shelter has opened at the former Key-Bank building in Ithaca, although

See SHELTER, page 4



Photo provided by Julie Froio

Julie Froio's house on Greenbush Street in Cortland tied for first place in last year's lighting contest by the Cortland Community Center. The contest returns this year.

## Cortland school board taps McGovern to fill vacancy

By DOUG SCHNEIDER  
Staff Reporter

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The school board overseeing the Cortland Enlarged School District got to do something unusual Tuesday night: appoint a new board member from a crowded field that included several education professionals.

After candidates fielded questions from Business Administrator Kris Williamson, the board voted, 5-0, with board President Brett K. Barnes absent, to select Brendan McGovern to be the seventh board member. McGovern works at Binghamton University as program coordinator for the

geography department, and is a union official with BU's United University Professions chapter.

The school board had a vacancy because Christine Gregory was unable to serve. No reason was given why she was unable to serve. Gregory, a retired Cortland teacher, was first elected in 2015.

McGovern said he believes a board member should "mirror the community," and endeavor to preserve the resources that schools provide for students. Not just educational materials, he said, but resources including food and counseling services are equally important to students who rely on schools to provide such services.

Doreen Hettich-Atkins, the executive director for the Division of Student Affairs and Campus Life at Ithaca College, was the only other candidate nominated.

Hettich-Atkins, who served as a trustee while on the faculty at Ithaca College, said school board members need to provide "the 10,000-foot view" for their constituents, while making sure schools are "spending tax money very well."

Williamson asked candidates how they believe the district has excelled, as well as where they believe the district needs to improve.

Hettich-Atkins said Cortland's schools "do an amazing job of

supporting students (who perform at) the top tier," and singled out Superintendent Robert Edwards for significantly improving the level at which the district communicates with its parents.

She said managing money is always a challenge for non-wealthy districts like Cortland, and its school board must constantly strive for "the political challenge" of balancing the many interests.

When candidates had finished answering from Williamson, they fielded praise from board members. "You guys have a wonderful perspective," board member Janet S. Griffin said. Several board members stood to shake the

candidates' hands, all but one of whom attended the meeting in person.

Other candidates for the job were two people who also work in academia: Cortland County Legislator Kris Valentine Behnke, the innovation outreach specialist at the Center for Technology Licensing at Cornell University, and Laura Gathagan, an associate professor at SUNY Cortland. John Slavick, a parent of students in the district, also applied for the seat.

McGovern was sworn in toward the end of Tuesday's board meeting, and immediately joined the board for a closed session to discuss litigation.

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### WEATHER



Partly sunny  
Tomorrow's Weather:  
High near 40  
Calm wind  
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# Former state Sen. Tarky Lombardi Jr. dies at age 95

SYRACUSE (TNS) — Tarky Lombardi Jr., a giant of Central New York politics who served 27 years in the state Senate where he helped fund major landmarks like the Carrier Dome, died Sunday at his home in Jamesville. He was 95.

Known by all simply as “Tarky,” Lombardi was a personable but hard-driving Republican who first won election to the state Senate in 1965, when Republicans held the majority. He served until 1992.

Lombardi chaired the Senate Health Committee for 18 years. Among his accomplishments was sponsoring the state’s Nursing Home without Walls program, which has been emulated by other states.

During his last three years in the Senate, Lombardi chaired the powerful Finance Committee. A champion of the arts, Lombardi also chaired the Senate Special Committee on the Arts.

Lombardi used his influence to win \$15 million in state grants for construction of the Carrier Dome. He also won state funding for the Onondaga County Convention Center and Syracuse University’s Center for Science and Technology, among others.

At a retirement party in early 1993, Nick Pirro, then the county executive, gave Lombardi a small wooden barrel with “pork” written on the side.

“Tarky Lombardi Jr. has made

his community a better place to live,” The Post-Standard editorial board declared when he retired from the Senate.

Lombardi has been out of the limelight for decades but has remained active in politics. He attended the Lincoln Republican Club clambake this summer in Liverpool, using a walker. The club honored him in April at a dinner at the Marriott Syracuse Downtown, said Jim Albanese, president. Lombardi was a regular fixture this year at the club’s monthly meetings at Vito’s Ristorante.

“Whenever you said ‘the senator,’ everyone knew who you were talking about,” Albanese said.

Lombardi graduated from Syracuse University law school in 1954. In 1966, he founded what is now the Gilberti Stinziano Heintz & Smith law firm with Sidney Devorsetz, Francis Stinziano and Lynn Smith.

Lombardi and his brothers also established Syracuse Tank and Manufacturing Co.

Lombardi was the longest season ticket holder in Syracuse University football history. New coach Fran Brown recently delivered a football to Lombardi and thanked him.

Lombardi started his political career in 1959 when he ran successfully for a seat on the Syracuse Common Council. He served six years before leaving for the state Senate.



Lombardi Jr.

## Cortland High School Honor Rolls

Here are the honor rolls at Cortland High School for the first marking period:

### 9TH GRADE HONOR ROLL

Michael J Allen, Georgy Antonov, Danica M Barron, Jack Riley Bartholomew, Krish Bogam, Natalie Marie Burns, Emma Grace Casey, Anelia Corbin, Wren Craig, Steven Charles Crotwell, Michaela Elizabeth Cullen, Chase Kyriek Christian Davis, Logan Drake, Casslyn F Elliott, Owen Kai Fowler, Brooklyn Tindari Gambitta, Cooper George, Jackson George, Landen Joel Handy, Quintin Joseph Hill, Kielin James Irvine, Emelia Marie Johnson, Lois Elizabeth Kypel, Aubree Lent, Gavin Alexander Matthews, Aman-tadine Daniela Medina, Annabel Morey, Alhana Mowry, Mathew Allen Parks, Megan Louise Parks, Alivia Parsons, Borno Paul, Emile Radford, Oliver Rafferty, Sophia Ramiza, Oliver Sebastian Rasdall, Evan Rogoff, Tyler Schultz, Camden Shimizu, Evan Niall Shirk, Isabella Marie Sisting, Harper Deal Starinsky, Emma Stout, Lacey Bri-anne Underwood, Joshua J Veinti-milla, Alienor Jean Winship, Noah T Wood, Juliana Zarcone

### 9TH GRADE MERIT ROLL

Audrina Irene Banner, Abdiel Burgos, Cooper Carmer, Claire Diana Congdon, Marcus Conklin, Di-andra Grace Cox, Farrah Branagan Dellow, Simone Claire Densmore, Anthony Curtiss Donnelly Jr., Blake Alexander Fetterly, Johna-than Stewart Garrison, MacKen-zie Taylor Gassner, Graisen James Gumaer, Emma E Honan, Taryn Marie Kinthiseng, Ava E Knick-erbocker, Avalynn Velle Langille, Tegan Skeels MacDowell, Gavin Chase Marcotte, Juliana Alyse McGraw, Zackery Ryan Miller, Cole Milligan, Brookley Nichole Mostert, JaLaya Nelson, Cara A Partigianoni, Kharter Rayne Perkins, Khloe Rodriguez, Adrien Lucas Thalheimer, Ethan Evan Westmill-er, Jayden Michael Wolf

### 10th GRADE HONOR ROLL

Calin Stephen Albright, Asher Armstrong, Kaden James Bailey, Astrid Carolina Barahona, Thom-as Joseph Barnes, Brooklyne K Brown, Jordan Eric Brown, Ryan Burns, Olyvia Cohen, Alison Com-pagni, Owen Coon, Quinn Georgia Dodds, Andrew Femino, Amelia Grace Fisher, Nora Gambitta, Di-ana Guzz, Kathryn Constance Hor-ton, Brock Michael Howe, Vadym Yuriovich Karpets, Kaylla Gi-anna Knabe, Sophia Elaine Ligas, Alex Robert Lind, Aiden James-Ray McCurdy, Emma McGovern, Cole Alexander Mead, Cole Adri-an Meeker, Ashley Merritt, Leah Mershon, Pavlo Merzhyeyevskyi, Tristan Milligan, Aiden Moffitt, Jacob Daniel Mones, Madelyn R Nightingale, Lukas Christopher Norman, Lealynn May O’Brien, Isaiah James Ogden, Riley Jay Ol-

son, Charles Cruthers Partigianoni, Arya Patel, Sai Patel, Darah Lilly Peck, Luis Daniel Perreaux, Paige Aline Randall, Colin Michael Re-eners, Alivia Reif, Myles Franklyn Ripley, Elizabeth Scanlon, Isaac Mason Schmohe, Alexander Greer Sheets, Reed Alexander Smith, Cylan David Southwick, Carter Steiner, Viktoriia Suvalko, Sophia Tang, Anthony James Temple, Ali-na Natalia Topchii, Aubrey Brynn Towle, Ava Mae Turner, Jayla White, Grayden Yunghans

### 10th GRADE MERIT ROLL

Iris Sincere Apisa, Valerie Marisol Aramburu, Blayke Aus-ten-Hines, Aushia Inez Barber, Chace Caughey, Caitlyn Marie Donnelly, Katie Hope Francis, Liam F Grant, Gabrielle Madi-son-Lynn Henry, Joanna Jesabal Hernandez Hernandez, Alexander David Hoy, Cole Palmer Hudson, Nyla Bella James, Adriana Carme-la Kearney, Dorothy Elva Kilmer, Madelyn Kim, Hayden Leighann Lynch, Rogan Blake MacHenry, Garrett Anthony Major, Brett Mer-ritt, Kendall Rose Mullally, Quinn Murray, Adycen Osinskie, Felicia Deborah Phillips, Brandon Pick-ard, K’Shawn Pittman, Danaizha Sampson, Cara Scofield, Mia Jus-tine Splain, Logan James Totman, Adrianna Walton, Alexander Brian Wilson, Ellyana Wendi Wood, Ju-lia Marie Wood, Jameson Daniel Maverick Zimmerman

### 11TH GRADE HONOR ROLL

Yevhenii Aharkov, Colton Chris-topher Bishop, Akshita Babla Bog-am, Sawyer Bowman, Cooper Jack Brown, Dominick Michael Brown, Gabriella Joy Brown, Natalie Col-leen Brunson, Atiana Conklin, Tyler Cranfield, Crixton Manto Crisologo, Lauryn Darling, Daniel DeGouff, Zoey DeVito, Ethan James Dovi, Otis Matthew Farkas, Pedro Flores, Saya Jane Gingrich, Serene Gray, Ayden Harmin, Nathan Har-ington, Valerie Hines, Gabrielle Elizabeth Hooko, AnnMarie Claire Jackson, Bryce Patrick Jean-Bap-tiste, Olivia Ruth Johnson, Owen Abram Johnson, Tamsin Angela Jones, Andrew LaVancha, Katelyn LaVancha, Kirsten Lynn LaVancha, Adam Joseph Lemon, Bridget Weh-le Madden, Emma Hope Marks, Savannah Jean Maynard, Desirae Noel McKinney, Zachary Muir, Andre Myers, Serenity Cadence Natale, Allison Nguyen, Hannah Ostrander, Austin Paquin, Alayna Race, Abigail Noel Romans, Al-exander Xavier Schutt, Addison R Skinner, Francesca Smith, Sophia Smith, Sophia Souzas, Jayden Ty-ler Spiess, Aidan Stephens, Sophia Testa, Teagan Bernice Theriot, Ma-dalyn Thompson, Madison Thomp-son, Lillian Genevive Tinker, Lily Tobin, Ashton Totman, Skylar Dan-iel Travis, Haleigh Nichole VanDer-hoff, Corah May Vaughan, Matthew Wells, Ethan White, Saydee Willey, Abigail Wurst

### 11th GRADE MERIT ROLL

Dristan Adams, Ethan Aumick,

Breann Elizabeth Brooks, Con-nor Browngardt, Joel Gregory Carr, Olivia Penelope-Apple Car-ner, Delaney Madison Cox, Asa James Densmore, Bailey Dintino, Camarianna Jean Inman, Jayden Kellogg, Hyeonbi Kim, Callum McCormick, Anna Kelly McGraw, Gaelyn McPletl, Haley Montgom-ery, Jaden Robert Mudge, Garrick Miller Ott, Ryan Phetteplace, Sean Rogoff, Kannon Philip Sherman, Zee-Anna Sweat-Rice, Braxton Kenneth Towle, Christian VanPat-ten

### 12TH GRADE HONOR ROLL

Caden Isaac Albright, Aubree Austen-Hines, Jebediah Benjamin Banta, Lieann Zay Rodrigo Baran-dino, Jamir Marquies Bell, Tayton Bowman, Ashleea Nicole Brown, Connor Brown, Mackenna Bulg-er, Makenzie Caitlyn Burnham, Karter Landon Bush, Bree Anne Marie Byrnes, Ceirsten Carrethers, Haylie E Case, Matthew Eric Ca-sey, Zachary Collins, Sean Ryan Congdon, Morgann Halee Doane, Daisy Nichole Dukes, Lucas Chad Fetterly, Hailey Fiske, Tyler John Fitchette, Sophia Fragnoli, Jaxson Gambitta, Makayla Lynn Garrow, Emma Lynn Gates, Mia R Gore, Xavier Guernsey, Katherine Mae Harris, Peter Ryan LeBin Hettich, Gwyneth Horton, Morgan Howard, Luke Kesler, Alexis Rae Knick-erbocker, Mason Kurtz, Austin Lane, Aubree Brooke Larkin, Ella Maria Ligas, Austin Lind, Mallo-ry May, Bodey McGrath, Michael Meehan, Christopher Ryan Mer-edith, Owen Davison Michales, Nicholas Morsch, Lincoln Mi-chael Moshkowski, Ruby Riggs Mullally, Joshua Michael Pen-nock, Giovanna Perfetti, Xander Ezekiel Pettee, Victoria Ramiza, Devlin Giovanni Riotto, Lillian Angelena Riotto, Caleb Robinson, Melody Eileen Sabin, Evan Tyler Schmohe, Collin Seeber, Eliza-beth E Slavick, Landon M Smith, Lilly Smith, Nicholas E Smith, Rose Mary St. John, Olivia Stout, Kyle Joseph Taylor, Carter James Urtz, Ansia Villatoro, Olivia So-phia Vitello, Lucas West, Reagan L Whitney, Quinn Thomas Woodard, Lily Yang, Tristen Yaple, Gabriel Quann Zollinger, Ethyn M Barber, Raven Williams

### 12TH GRADE MERIT ROLL

Damauri Walter Bell, Zha’Nira Ausha’ Carraway, Cameron Mi-chael Chilson, Sophia Clink, Mika Nichole Eaton, Dagan Griffin, Jeremie Michael Hale Jr., Hunter L Hall, Emily Elizabeth Hendrix, Kartyr Hubbard, Stella Humphries, Braxton Lockwood, Sophie May-er, Michael Ryan Mershon, Han-na Nichols, Danika Rose Peck, Hayden James Porter, Kayden Roy, Alishka Santali-Torres, Hayden Margaret Schuhle, Julio Israel Sever-ino, Ava Smith, Zachary Snell, David Michael Strauf, Tyler Nich-olas Thomas, Corinne Delany Te-gen Zimmerman

## Weather

### Local

**Rest of today:** A chance of snow showers, mainly after 1 p.m. Partly sunny, with a high near 40. Southwest wind 3 to 8 mph. Chance of precipitation is 50%. Then a chance of snow showers before 1 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 21. Chance of precipitation is 40%.

**Saturday:** Partly sunny, with a high near 32.

**Saturday night:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 17.

### Skies Today

Friday, November 29, 2024	
Sunset today	4:33 p.m.
Sunrise tomorrow	7:14 a.m.
Normal high temperature	41
Normal low temperature	27
Average temperature	34
New moon	Dec. 1

### Extended

**Sunday:** A chance of snow showers after 1 p.m. Partly sunny, with a high near 30. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

**Sunday night:** A chance of snow showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 20. Chance of precipitation is 50%.

**Monday:** Snow showers likely. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 31. Chance of precipitation is 60%.

**Monday night:** Mostly cloudy.

### City Snowfall

Nov. 26-27	None
Season to date	2.50 inches

### Precipitation

Nov. 26-27	None
Month to date	2.06 inches

## Towns

### Guthrie collects food to help neighbors

The Guthrie Engage food drive runs through Dec. 16, where the health organization will collect non-perishable food items at its hospitals and a number of outpatient clinics.

In the greater Cortland area, food can be dropped off in the lobby of Guthrie Cortland Medical Center. A little farther afield, donations will be taken at Guthrie Ithaca City Harbor and Guthrie Ithaca Hanshaw Road.

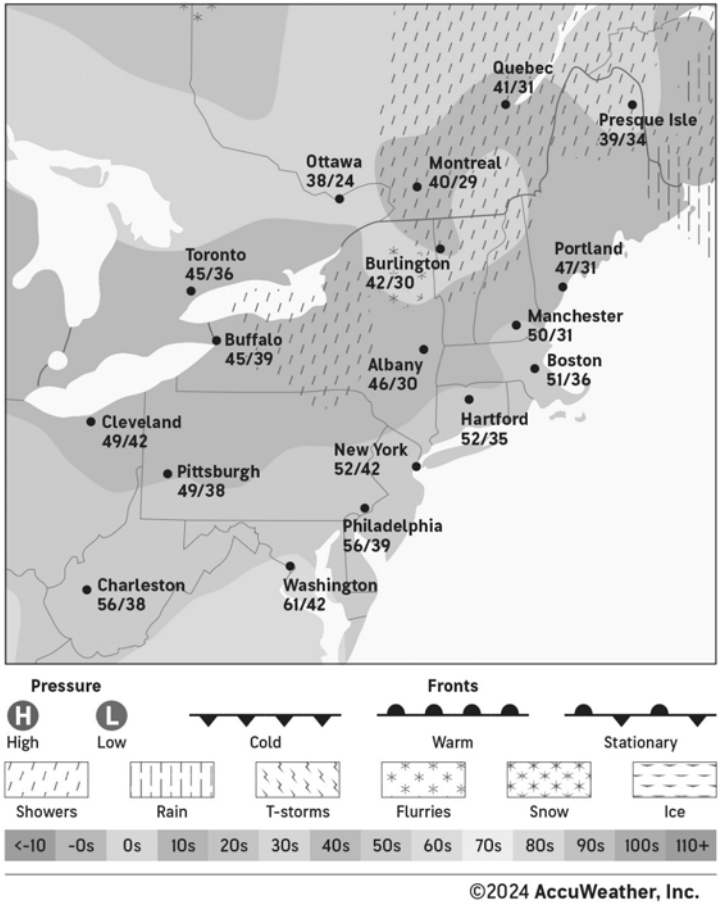
The proceeds will be distributed to a number of food-providing agencies, including Seven Valleys Health Coalition in Cortland.

“Good health begins with a good meal,” the Sayre, Pa.-based health organization said. “Guthrie caregivers invite members of the communities we serve to join us in the fight against food insecurity.”

For other locations and other beneficiaries, go to <https://tinyurl.com/5e9hbkkw>.

## Death Notices

**HAMMOND** — Carl P. Ham-mond, 61, of Groton, died on Nov. 25, 2024. Funeral ser-vices will be held at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 1, 2024, at the Shurtleff Funeral Home, 103 Lincoln Avenue, Groton. Friends may call at the funer-al home from 1 to 3 p.m. on Sunday, preceding the service. Interment will be in Groton Rural Cemetery at a later time.



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## Lottery Winners

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

**Numbers:** Midday: 3-9-7, Evening: 7-4-0; **WinFour:** Midday: 4-3-3-9, Evening: 5-7-3-3; **Pick 10:** 4-11-12-13-17-19-25-29-33-34-45-56-57-60-62-65-69-71-77-78; **Take Five:** Midday: 4-14-17-37-38, Evening: 10-14-23-26-39; **Cash4Life:** 4-11-13-30-39, Cash Ball: 2, **Mega Millions:** 5-22-24-39-42, Mega Ball: 3, Megaplier: 3

## Making It Right

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

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# 1,000 days of war in Ukraine captured in images

## AP Photos

(AP) — A thousand days of war in Ukraine have been captured in stunning images, many of them horrifying, some of them poignant, others uplifting.

Since Russia's all-out invasion of its smaller neighbor on Feb. 24, 2022, Europe's biggest armed conflict since World War II has cost tens of thousands of lives on both sides. Thousands of Ukrainian civilians have been killed in the fighting. Others have lost their family, their homes and their livelihoods.

The Russian military has repeatedly used missiles, drones and artillery to blast civilian targets across Ukraine with devastating consequences. The loss of homes and possessions, snatched away in the blink of an eye, is traumatic.

Across Ukrainian towns and cities, communities are suddenly and bewilderingly pitched into unfamiliar circumstances.

The Russian destruction of Ukraine's public infrastructure, including the national power grid, adds to the feeling of vulnerability. At night, candles may provide the only light.

Hundreds of thousands of Ukrainians have evacuated and migrated abroad.

Those who stayed often had to improvise.

That sometimes meant digging mass graves, such as in the besieged port city of Mariupol in 2022 where heavy Russian shelling prevented proper burials and brought despair.

The dreadful toll of war is illustrated in funerals held for soldiers and for civilians, including children, and the grief of those attending them.

For almost three years, Associated Press photographers have been on the ground documenting the war.

The AP photograph of a wounded pregnant woman being carried on a gurney through devastated Mariupol, only for her and her baby to die shortly afterward, is one of the war's most distressing and heartrending images.

In 2023, the AP won two Pulitzer Prizes for its coverage of the war in Ukraine, earning recognition for its breaking news photography as well as the prestigious public service award for its exclusive dispatches from Mariupol.

Earlier this year, AP video journalist Mstyslav Chernov's "20 Days in Mariupol," a harrowing first-person account of the early days of Russia's invasion, won the best documentary Oscar.



Stanislav, 40, says goodbye to his son David, 2, and his wife Anna, 35, on a train to Lviv at the Kyiv station, Ukraine, March 3, 2022.



Natali Sevriukova reacts next to her destroyed apartment building following a rocket attack in Kyiv, Ukraine, Feb. 25, 2022.



Yana Stepanenko, 11, is carried by a doctor at a public hospital in Lviv, Ukraine, May 13, 2022.



Stanislav, an injured Russian prisoner of war, lies in bed at the detention center in Ukraine's Lviv region, April 25.



Relatives and friends pay their last respects to Liza, a 4-year-old girl killed by a Russian attack, during a mourning ceremony in an Orthodox church in Vinnytsia, Ukraine, July 17, 2022.



Anastasia Ohrimenko, 26, is comforted by relatives as she cries next to her husband's coffin during his funeral in Bucha, Ukraine, Aug. 31, 2022.

# Thousands of Lebanese return home as ceasefire deal begins

By BASSEM MROUE,  
KAREEM CHEHAYEB  
and TIA GOLDENBERG  
Associated Press

TYRE, Lebanon — Thousands of Lebanese displaced by the war between Israel and Hezbollah militants returned home on Wednesday as a ceasefire took hold, driving cars stacked with personal belongings and defying warnings from Lebanese and Israeli troops to stay away from some areas.

If it endures, the ceasefire would end nearly 14 months of fighting between Israel and Hezbollah, which escalated in mid-September into all-out war and threatened to pull Hezbollah's patron, Iran, and Israel's closest ally, the United States, into a broader confrontation.

The deal does not address the war in Gaza, where Israeli strikes overnight on two schools-turned-shelters in Gaza City killed 11 people, including four children, according to hospital officials. Israel said one strike targeted a Hamas sniper and the other targeted militants hiding among civilians.

The truce in Lebanon could give reprieve to the 1.2 million Lebanese displaced by the fighting and the tens of thousands of Israelis who fled their homes along the border.

"They were a nasty and ugly 60 days," said Mohammed Kaafarani, 59, who was displaced from the Lebanese village of Bidias.



A man celebrates carrying a picture of slain Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah in Dahiyeh, Beirut, Lebanon, Wednesday.

"We reached a point where there was no place to hide."

The U.S.- and France-brokered deal, approved by Israel late Tuesday, calls for an initial two-month halt to fighting and requires Hezbollah to end its armed presence in southern Lebanon, while Israeli troops are to return to their side of the border.

Thousands of additional Lebanese troops and U.N. peacekeepers would deploy in the south, and an international panel headed by the United States would monitor compliance.

Israel says it reserves the right to strike Hezbollah should it violate the terms of the deal. Prime

Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office said troops arrested four Hezbollah operatives, including a local commander, who had entered what it referred to as a restricted area. It said troops have been ordered to prevent people from returning to villages near the border.

Israel is still fighting Hamas militants in Gaza in response to the group's cross-border raid into southern Israel on Oct. 7, 2023. But President Joe Biden on Tuesday said his administration would make another push in the coming days for a ceasefire there and the release of dozens of hostages held by Hamas.

# UN Resolution 1701 key to ending Israel-Hezbollah conflict

## What is it?

By KAREEM CHEHAYEB  
Associated Press

BEIRUT — In 2006, after a bruising monthlong war between Israel and Lebanon's Hezbollah militant group, the United Nations Security Council unanimously voted for a resolution to end the conflict and pave the way for lasting security along the border.

But while relative calm stood for nearly two decades, Resolution 1701's terms were never fully enforced.

## WHAT IS UNSC RESOLUTION 1701?

In 2000, Israel withdrew its forces from most of southern Lebanon along a U.N.-demarcated "Blue Line" that separated the two countries and the Israeli-annexed Golan Heights, which most of the world considers occupied Syrian territory. U.N. peacekeeping forces in Lebanon, known as UNIFIL, increased their presence along the line of withdrawal. Resolution 1701 was supposed to complete Israel's withdrawal from southern Lebanon and ensure Hezbollah would move north of the Litani River, keeping the area exclusively under the Lebanese military and U.N. peacekeepers. Up to 15,000 U.N. peacekeepers

would help to maintain calm, return displaced Lebanese and secure the area alongside the Lebanese military.

The resolution also reaffirmed previous ones that call for the disarmament of all armed groups in Lebanon — Hezbollah among them. Israel's security Cabinet approved the ceasefire agreement late Tuesday, according to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office. The ceasefire began at 4 a.m. local time Wednesday. Efforts led by the U.S. and France for the ceasefire between Israel and Hezbollah underscored that they still view the resolution as key. For almost a year, Washington has promoted various versions of a deal that would gradually lead to its full implementation.

International mediators hope that by boosting financial support for the Lebanese army — which was not a party in the Israel-Hezbollah war — Lebanon can deploy some 6,000 additional troops south of the Litani River to help enforce the resolution. Under the deal, an international monitoring committee headed by the United States would oversee implementation to ensure that Hezbollah and Israel's withdrawals take place.

It is not entirely clear how the committee would work or how potential violations would be reported and dealt with.

# Black Friday kicks off post-Thanksgiving rush

By WYATTE GRANTHAM-PHILIPS  
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — The holiday shopping season is about to reach full speed with Black Friday, which kicks off the post-Thanksgiving retail rush today.

The annual sales event no longer creates the midnight mall crowds or doorbuster mayhem of recent decades, in large part due to the ease of online shopping. Hoping to entice equivocating consumers, retailers already have spent weeks bombarding customers with ads and early offers. Still, whether visiting stores or clicking on countless emails promising huge savings, tens of millions of U.S. shoppers are expected to spend money on Black Friday itself this year.

Industry forecasts estimate that 183.4 million people will shop in U.S. stores and online between Thanksgiving and Cyber Monday, according to the National Retail Federation and consumer research firm Prosper Insights & Analytics. Of that number, 131.7 million are expected to shop on Black Friday. At the same time, earlier and earlier Black Friday-like promotions, as well as the growing strength of other shopping events (hello Cyber Monday), continue to change the holiday spending landscape. Here's what you need to know about Black Friday's history and where things stand in 2024.

**HOW OLD IS BLACK FRIDAY?**  
The term "Black Friday" is several generations old, but it wasn't



People walk past stores on Fifth Ave. on Sunday, in New York.

always associated with the holiday retail frenzy that we know today. The gold market crash of September 1869, for example, was notably dubbed Black Friday. The phrase's use in relation to shopping the day after Thanksgiving, however, is most often traced to Philadelphia in the mid-20th century — when police and other city workers had to deal with large crowds that congregated before the annual Army-Navy football game and to take advantage of seasonal sales. "That's why the bus drivers and cab drivers call today 'Black Friday.' They think in terms of headaches it gives them," a Gimbels department store sales man-

ager told The Associated Press in 1975, while watching a police officer try to control jaywalkers the day after Thanksgiving. Earlier references date back to the 1950s and 1960s. Jie Zhang, a professor of marketing at the University of Maryland's Robert H. Smith School of Business, points to a 1951 mention of "Black Friday" in a New-York based trade publication — which noted that many workers simply called in sick the day after Thanksgiving in hopes of having a long holiday weekend. Starting in the 1980s, national retailers began claiming that Black Friday represented when they went from operating in the

red to in the black thanks to holiday demand. But since many retail companies now operate in the black at various times of the year, this interpretation should be taken with a grain of salt, experts say.

## HOW HAS BLACK FRIDAY EVOLVED?

In recent decades, Black Friday became infamous for floods of people in jam-packed stores. Endless lines of shoppers camped out at midnight in hopes of scoring deep discounts. But online shopping has made it possible to make most, if not all, holiday purchases without ever stepping foot inside a store. And while foot traffic at malls and

other shopping areas has bounced back since the start of the pandemic, e-commerce isn't going away.

November sales at brick and mortar stores peaked more than 20 years ago. In 2003, for example, e-commerce accounted for just 1.7% of total retail sales in the fourth quarter, according to Commerce Department data. Unsurprisingly, online sales make up for a much bigger slice of the pie today. For last year's holiday season, e-commerce accounted for about 17.1% of all nonadjusted retail sales in the fourth quarter, Commerce Department data shows. That's up from 12.7% seen at the end of 2019.

Beyond the rise of online shopping, some big ticket items that used to get shoppers in the door on the Black Friday — like a new TV — are significantly cheaper than they were decades ago, notes Jay Zagorsky, a clinical associate professor at Boston University's Questrom School of Business.

"There is less need to stand in line at midnight when the items typically associated with doorbuster sales are now much cheaper," Zagorsky told The Associated Press via email. He pointed to Bureau of Labor Statistics data that shows the average price for a TV has fallen 75% since 2014. While plenty of people will do most of their Black Friday shopping online, projections from the National Retail Federation and Prosper Insights indicated that a majority of Black Friday shoppers (65%) still planned to shop in stores this year.

# Ohio gov. signs transgender bathroom ban bill into law

By JULIE CARR SMYTH and GEOFF MULVIHILL  
Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Transgender students from kindergarten through college at Ohio public and private schools will be banned from using multiperson bathrooms that fit their gender identities under a measure that Republican Gov. Mike DeWine said Wednesday that he has signed.

DeWine signed the law out of public view Tuesday over the objections of Democrats, teachers' unions and civil rights groups, which had hoped that his objections to a ban on gender-affirming care for minors last year would carry through and prompt another veto. It takes effect in 90 days. The governor issued no statement regarding the signing. The Republican-backed measure — labeled the "Protect All Students Act" — requires public and private schools, colleges and universities to designate separate bathrooms, locker rooms and overnight accommodations "for the exclusive use" of either males and females, based on one's gender assigned at or near birth, in school buildings and other facilities used for school-sponsored events. It contains no enforcement mechanism. "It revolves around safety, security, and, I think, common sense. It protects our children

and grandchildren in private spaces where they are most vulnerable," said Republican Ohio state Sen. Jerry Cirino, the bill's sponsor. School employees, emergency situations and people assisting young children or someone with a disability are exempted from the restrictions and schools can still offer single-use or family bathrooms.

Aaron Baer, president of the Center for Christian Virtue, which backed the bill, said in a statement, "Common sense is on a winning streak in America today. No student should be forced to go into the bathroom or locker room with a student of the opposite sex, and Ohio's kids are better protected now because of Governor DeWine's decision to sign this bill."

The ACLU of Ohio was among the groups that had lobbied for a veto, condemning the measure as a violation of the right of privacy of LGBTQ+ Ohioans that will make them less safe. Equality Ohio, the state's LGBTQ+ advocacy and legal aid organization, said the law poses risks to transgender youth "or anyone perceived as transgender by authorities." "We are deeply disappointed that Governor DeWine has allowed this dangerous bill to be-

come law that puts vulnerable trans youth at risk for abuse and harassment," Executive Director Dwayne Steward said in a statement. The group said it will continue to fight "for a state that embraces and respects all its residents."

With DeWine's signature, Ohio adds to the pushback that's cropped up nationally among many Republican politicians, including President-elect Donald Trump, as transgender people have gained more visibility and acceptance on some fronts in recent years. Twenty-six states have now adopted laws restarting or banning gender-affirming care for transgender minors. The U.S. Supreme Court is scheduled to hear arguments Dec. 4 on whether Tennessee's ban on such treatments can continue to be enforced; any ruling is likely to impact policies in other states, too.

At least 11 states have adopted laws, like Ohio's, barring transgender girls and women from girls and women's bathrooms at public schools — and in some cases, in other government facilities. And at least 24 states have laws dictating which sports competitions transgender girls and women can join.



DeWine

## PAY

continued from page 1

disabilities eligible for full wages — though some could not do the work to earn such pay. Elimination of the federal exception to minimum-wage law, Section 14(c) of the Federal Labor Act, "will force some people into group homes or the day-habilitation community, meaning they'll lose the pride and dignity of earning a paycheck," Dodge said. "Some are only making \$3, \$4, \$5 an hour. (Sponsors of this legislation have a good intent, but) are picking on people with disabilities." About 65 people work under JM Murray's 14(c) Special Wage Certificate, which legally enables them to be paid based on their productivity, with the understanding that they can't meet productivity levels that would merit minimum wage, Dodge said. "These individuals are not forced to work," Dodge said. "They voluntarily chose this option as their option for paid employment." JM Murray employs about 550 people across the state, he said, from the dozens of people who on Monday packaged private-label toothpaste into tubes in the 110,000-square-foot facility off state Route 13 just south of Cortland, to the handful who work up to 37.5 hours per week under contract for the state Department of Transportation cleaning and maintaining the rest areas along

Interstate 81 in Preble and in Lisle, just south of Marathon. Not every JM Murray employee earns the \$22.40 an hour that current full-timers staffing the rest areas earn. Janitors who work full time for DOT, after 90 days, can be paid \$22.07 an hour if they work a 37.5-hour week. Part-time janitors start at \$15 an hour and top out at \$16.22 an hour. Some workers from JM Murray, Dodge acknowledges, earn considerably less based on their productivity. He says a few workers are paid \$3 to \$5 per hour. But he fears some of the people packaging private-label toothbrushes for shipment to sellers, or small tubes of toothpaste for sale by private companies, or processing containers of alcohol-free mouthwashes to be sent to jails and prisons in New York, may be forced out of the jobs that boost their dignity — even if they had chosen to accept lower pay for that work. As of July 1, New York was one of the states that began phasing out section 14(c) of the Federal Labor Act, which has been around since Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed it into law in 1938. California and Maine have passed laws barring people with disabilities from being paid sub-minimum wages, and New York and Ohio are moving that way. "The state is taking choice away from individuals who have disabilities," Dodge said.

## LIGHTS

continued from page 1

p.m. Jan. 9 at the Cortland Community Center. The winner gets \$100, and runners-up will get \$75 or \$50. All participants will get a gift card. "It's so fun, and so festive for the holiday season," Froio said.

## SHELTER

continued from page 1

the first evening didn't drop below 32 degrees. The facility was repurposed after the county received no viable proposals to operate the state-mandated spaces. The new facility can sleep up to 50 individuals a night. "Tompkins County is in a position to significantly strengthen our shelter system, giving as many people as we can a safe place to go and a reasonable path out of negative situations. We agree with the vision of making homelessness rare, brief, and one time," said Klein. "This requires big thinking and strong partnerships. It also requires investment. Millions of dollars have been put forth by Tompkins County, including over \$1 million to pur-

chase this land on Cherry Street. We're proud to have secured long-term contracts for THA beds, and dozens of County staff to operate Code Blue this winter." "Emergency shelter is one component of the homeless response system, but it alone will not solve homelessness," said Liddy Bargar, director of housing initiatives at the Tompkins County Human Services Coalition. "It will take additional permanent supportive housing, targeted outreach and case management and continued collaboration to reach our goals. A proven strategy to ending homelessness for someone is having a place to live — and that is made stronger when community supports are made available and accessible."

# Happy Thanksgiving!



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How Trump’s win managed to dampen legal woes

By ALANNA DURKIN RICHER  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — One year after the Jan. 6, 2021, U.S. Capitol attack, Attorney General Merrick Garland said the Justice Department was committed to holding accountable all perpetrators “at any level” for “the assault on our democracy.” That bold declaration won’t apply to at least one person: Donald Trump.

Special counsel Jack Smith’s move on Monday to abandon the federal election interference case against Trump means jurors will likely never decide whether the president-elect is criminally responsible for his attempts to cling to power after losing the 2020 campaign. The decision to walk away from the election charges and the separate classified documents case against Trump marks an abrupt end of the Justice Department’s unprecedented legal effort that once threatened his liberty but appears only to have galvanized his supporters.

The abandonment of the cases accusing Trump of endangering American democracy and national security does away with the most serious legal threats he was facing as he returns to the White House. It was the culmination of a monthslong defense effort to delay the proceedings at every step and use the criminal allegations to Trump’s political advantage, putting the final word in the hands of voters instead of jurors.

“We always knew that the rich and powerful had an advantage, but I don’t think we would have



President-elect Donald Trump speaks at a meeting of the House GOP conference, Nov. 13, in Washington.

AP Photo/Alex Brandon, File

ever believed that somebody could walk away from everything,” said Stephen Saltzburg, a George Washington University law professor and former Justice Department official. “If there ever was a Teflon defendant, that’s Donald Trump.”

While prosecutors left the door open to the possibility that federal charges could be re-filed against Trump after he leaves office, that seems unlikely. Meanwhile, Trump’s presidential victory has thrown into question the future of the two state criminal cases against him in New York and Georgia. Trump was supposed to

be sentenced on Tuesday after his conviction on 34 felony counts in his New York hush money case, but it’s possible the sentencing could be delayed until after Trump leaves office, and the defense is pushing to dismiss the case altogether.

Smith’s team stressed that their decision to abandon the federal cases was not a reflection of the merit of the charges, but an acknowledgement that they could not move forward under long-standing Justice Department policy that says sitting presidents cannot face criminal prosecution.

Trump’s presidential victory

set “at odds two fundamental and compelling national interests: On the one hand, the Constitution’s requirement that the President must not be unduly encumbered in fulfilling his weighty responsibilities . . . and on the other hand, the Nation’s commitment to the rule of law,” prosecutors wrote in court papers.

The move just weeks after Trump’s victory over Vice President Kamala Harris underscores the immense personal stake Trump had in the campaign in which he turned his legal woes into a political rallying cry. Trump accused prosecutors of bringing the

charges in a bid to keep him out of the White House, and he promised revenge on his perceived enemies if he won a second term.

“If Donald J. Trump had lost an election, he may very well have spent the rest of his life in prison,” Vice President-elect JD Vance, wrote in a social media post on Monday. “These prosecutions were always political. Now it’s time to ensure what happened to President Trump never happens in this country again.”

After the Jan. 6 attack by Trump supporters that left more than 100 police officers injured, Republican leader Mitch McConnell and several other Republicans who voted to acquit Trump during his Senate impeachment trial said it was up to the justice system to hold Trump accountable.

The Jan. 6 case brought last year in Washington alleged an increasingly desperate criminal conspiracy to subvert the will of voters after Trump’s 2020 loss, accusing Trump of using the angry mob of supporters that attacked the Capitol as “a tool” in his campaign to pressure then-Vice President Mike Pence and obstruct the certification of Democrat Joe Biden’s victory.

Hundreds of Jan. 6 rioters have pleaded guilty or been convicted by juries of federal charges at the same courthouse where Trump was supposed to stand trial last year. As the trial date neared, officials at the courthouse that sits within view of the Capitol were busy making plans for the crush of reporters expected to cover the historic case.

After delay, Trump signs pres. transition agreement

By ZEKE MILLER  
AP White House Correspondent

WASHINGTON — President-elect Donald Trump on Tuesday reached a required agreement with President Joe Biden’s White House to allow his transition staff to coordinate with the existing federal workforce before taking office on Jan. 20.

The congressionally mandated agreement allows transition aides to work with federal agencies and access non-public information and gives a green light to government workers to talk to the transition team.

But Trump has declined to sign a separate agreement with the General Services Administration that would have given his team access to secure government offices and email accounts, in part because it would require that the president-elect limit contributions to \$5,000 and reveal who is donating to his transition effort.

The White House agreement was supposed to have been signed by Oct. 1, according to the Presidential Transition Act, and the Biden White House had issued both public and private appeals for Trump’s team to sign on.

The agreement is a critical step in ensuring an orderly transfer of power at noon on Inauguration Day, and lays the groundwork for the White House and government agencies to begin to share details on ongoing programs, operations and threats. It limits the risk that the Trump team could find itself taking control of the massive federal government without briefings and documents from the outgoing administration.

As part of the agreement with the White House, Trump’s team will have to publicly disclose its ethics plan for the transition operation and make a commitment

to uphold it, the White House said. Transition aides must sign statements that they have no financial positions that could pose a conflict of interest before they receive access to non-public federal information.

Biden himself raised the agreement with Trump when they met in the Oval Office on Nov. 13, according to the White House, and Trump indicated that his team was working to get it signed.

Trump chief of staff-designate Susie Wiles met with Biden’s chief of staff Jeff Zients at the White House on Nov. 19 and other senior officials in part to

discuss remaining holdups, while lawyers for the two sides have spoken more than a half-dozen times in recent days to finalize the agreement.

“Like President Biden said to the American people from the Rose Garden and directly to President-elect Trump, he is committed to an orderly transition,” said White House spokesperson Saloni Sharma. “President-elect Trump and his team will be in seat on January 20 at 12 p.m. — and they will immediately be responsible for a range of domestic and global challenges, foreseen and unforeseen.”

Opinion

opinion@cortlandstandard.com  
Cortland Standard

Our Opinion

Shop local all holiday season

The Thanksgiving shopping season keeps evolving. “Black Friday” used to be a big deal, but those deals started appearing right after Halloween — it seems the big box stores either can’t contain their excitement, or are tired of the bad press when workers have to give up their holidays or crowds trample shoppers. “Cyber Monday” was the next innovation, but again, the holiday shopping season seems to have moved up in time, and the Monday after Thanksgiving is just too late a start.

Well, good riddance to both. However, we’d like to keep “Small Business Saturday,” thank you. Initially founded to return attention to smaller, locally owned stores, it remains an excellent

reminder that the best gifts and the best holiday shopping experience come from someplace more special than a cavernous store or e-commerce warehouse.

For some time, “Small Business Saturday” has been part of the pushback against the ugly consumerism of the national chain retailers. Small businesses offer much, much more than any big box store or chain restaurant can. The personal attention and assistance given by the proprietor or a trusted salesperson; the detailed knowledge of inventory; the willingness to bend over backward to serve a customer’s needs — this is why we shop local.

It feels great to buy a gift for someone else from a small store. We know the money we spend

will stay in the community, and that we were able to do business with a neighbor and friend. Each purchase at a locally owned store allows that business to survive and thrive, with every cent trickling back into the hometown.

If you buy gifts from a big-box chain store, the profits go somewhere else. If you actually have to travel to another community to buy it, you’re not even supporting the local economy.

The selection at local shops doesn’t include the same merchandise as the big box stores in the strip malls — which is the exact same as the selection in the big box stores in the next state over — and is often slightly quirkier, perhaps reflecting the tastes of the proprietor. When a

good find presents itself, and you wrap it and give it to your Mom or wife or daughter, you have a good story about where you found this particular unique item, and it’s a heck of a lot more interesting than “I ordered it online,” or “I saw it in the catalog.”

With a little creativity, you can find thoughtful, beautiful gifts for the people you care for without sending your money out of town. That in turn, helps build a better Cortland.

Looking for some ideas? Check out the *Cortland Standard’s* 2024 Holiday Gift Guide special section, which we published in Wednesday’s edition.

Also, consider patronizing a store or restaurant along Cortland’s Main Street, which have

struggled through the construction season this year. The next month could make or break some of these businesses, and holiday spending is a great way to support a locally owned shop.

Between the hordes at the big box stores and the faceless, transactional nature of online shopping, it’s no wonder many people have become discouraged by what Christmas has become in popular culture.

But we have an altogether different experience when we do our gift shopping for our loved ones at local stores, and also find the time to give charitably. The holiday season shouldn’t be about just buying junk to give each other — it is about giving gifts from the heart.

Cortland Standard

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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.

Your Opinion

Long-running light show takes a break

To the Editor:

Due to technical difficulties, our annual holiday light and music show on Cosmos Hill Road will not take place this year. We appreciate everyone who has enjoyed the show over the years

and thank you for your support and enthusiasm. We hope to see you back next year to celebrate the season.

Happy Holidays!  
Chet and Karen Seibert  
Cortlandville

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Nov. 29, the 334th day of 2024. There are 32 days left in the year.  
Today in history:  
On Nov. 29, 1864, a Colorado militia launched an unprovoked attack on an encampment of Cheyenne and Arapahoe tribal members, killing an estimated 230 people.





Photo provided by Cloey Tierno

Cloey Tierno's sophomore album, "Inward," will be available in a few days. She'll mark the event with an album release party Dec. 6 at Rose Hall in Cortland.

# Tierno releases 2nd album

**If you go**  
**WHAT:** Album Release Party  
**WHEN:** 7 to 9 p.m. Dec. 6  
**WHERE:** Rose Hall, 19 Church St. in Cortland  
**TICKETS:** \$12.80, bit.ly/3Z6KzJN

**By LILY BYRNE**  
**Staff Reporter**  
lbyrne@cortlandstandard.com

Two years after graduating from Cortland High School, an award-winning musician has released her second album, which she wrote and co-produced. And this time, she didn't have to do it remotely.

Cloey Tierno, who won a Syracuse Area Music Award for Best Pop Album of the Year at age 16, has released her sophomore album at 19.

The 15-song album, "Inward," was recorded at Rose Hall, mixed by Mark Bengtson, and co-produced by Tierno and Chris Merkley. Her first album, "I Fell in Love with the Rain," was pro-

duced mostly remotely during the COVID-19 pandemic. With "Inward," she got to take a more hands-on approach during the production, Merkley said.

"She's a very talented artist in general, and a lot of the production ideas she brought to the table," Merkley said.

"I told myself when I went into it that I wanted to be very intentional," Tierno said. "A lot of that involved speaking up about what my ideas were to other musicians, and I had to force myself to do that, because I've never been put in a position where I led the way."

"Inward" features the members of Driftwood: Claire Byrne, Joey Arcuri and Sam Fishman. Phil Grajko of Root Shock and Nashville-based multi-instrumentalist Thomas Bryan Eaton also played on the album.

"I hadn't even had to think about it; when I'm writing a song, it's just a song," Tierno said. "It took me to a place where I had to think 'How do I tell this with

other instruments, and really tell a story with it?'"

"It has to be a well-written song, and Cloey is a consistently great songwriter," Merkley said. "The songwriting is really great with Cloey, and I think that everything else after that is kind of like gravy."

"Inward" features a new level of raw honesty, she said.

"I just really hope that it resonates with people on a deeper level," Tierno said. "I tried to be very intentional with how I was writing, and I hope that people can connect with that."

Tierno will play the full album in a listening-room setting Dec. 6 at Rose Hall.

"She's matured as a songwriter," Merkley said. "She was incredibly ahead of her time for her first album. It was insane to me that she had written some of those songs when she was 15 or 16. Her life experience that she has had since then has deepened her songwriting."

## Notebook

### 'Christmas Carol' radio play at 1890 House Dec. 21

Close your eyes and listen to Ebenezer Scrooge, Jacob Marley, Old Fezziwig and Belle as Center Stages and The 1890 House Museum present the radio play version of "A Christmas Carol."

The show, by Jim Coon, will be 7 p.m. Dec. 21 at the 1890 House, in partnership with the Center for the Arts of Homer. The audience, as well as the show, will be broadcast on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day at WXHC, Fingerlakes Radio and Cayuga Radio stations.

### Light of My Life will be in Homer

Light of My Life will light up the Village Green in Homer at 6 p.m. Dec. 6.

The event will have memory boards to honor and remember loved ones. The Homer Recreation Department will provide hot chocolate and cookies.

### Dryden gets festive on Dec. 7

DRYDEN — The Village of Dryden will welcome a certain heavysset person in red on Dec. 7 with a variety of activities starting at 9 a.m. and culminating sometime after 5:30 p.m. with caroling, a tree lighting, a live nativity and the guest of honor arriving by fire truck.

Hay rides from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. will help navigate the events across the village, including:

A Snowman Scavenger hunt among 30 businesses and organizations. Find the snowmen and answer the riddles to win prizes.

Breakfast with Santa from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Corner Brew.

A holiday craft fair from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Dryden Agway with face painting, pony rides and vendors.

Crafts, storytime, live music, snacks, activities and a visit from Santa and Bluey, starting 10 a.m. at the Southworth Library.

A variety of events, including games, food, make-and-take gingerbread houses, ax-throwing for children and crafts across downtown Dryden.

A tree-lighting, live nativity and music from 5 to 5:30 p.m., followed by caroling with the Dryden middle school and high school bands and choruses.

### Dryden historians plan Holly Tour

DRYDEN — Tours of three Dryden homes and the Southworth House decorated for the holidays will take place from 1 to 4 p.m. Dec. 8, organized by the Dryden Town Historical Society.

Tickets are \$10 per person (no children please) and are available from 10 a.m. to noon Tuesdays and Saturdays at the Southworth Homestead, or at each location on the day of the tour. (One ticket covers all the homes.)

This is a self-driving tour. Look for the "Holly Tour" sign in front of:

26 E. Main St., Dryden — a three-story Victorian built in 1890.

Union Street, Dryden — an Italianate built in the 1800s.

65 Beam Hill Road, Dryden — a bungalow built in 1949.

The final destination on the tour will be a stop for a reception from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Southworth House.

For details, call Mary Hornbuckle at 607-898-3461.

### Society continues study of 'Women's Concerns'

Christine Buck presented "Signs of the Times," a study of the par-

ent-teacher association in Smithville Flats, Chenango County, at the Nov. 20 meeting of the Ladies Literary Club.

It was one of many chapters of the national organization founded in 1897 as the National Congress of Mothers to improve the health and welfare of students. The group's meeting minutes allowed Buck to travel back in time to some of America's most difficult years, including the Great Depression and World War II.

Among other projects, the Smithville Flats PTA raised money and spearheaded electrification of the school in 1927, paid for the school's first hot water heater, provided milk and hot meals to students, sponsored vaccination and tonsil-removal clinics, bought books and playground equipment, and funded dental care and glasses for students. After the school closed in 1959, students were bused to a central school district.

Diane Ames wrote about three women who lived in the early 1900s. Molly, Carrie and Harriet worked to improve the lives of poor women. In 1910, Molly, Diane's grandmother, worked in a clinic in New York City serving indigent women and children. She then went on to graduate with the first class of nurses from Lester-shire Hospital, now Wilson Memorial Hospital in Johnson City. Molly continued helping others by supporting the Methodist mission of the Rev. Carrie Oval in the Appalachian Mountains. Carrie successfully marketed hand-crafted goods made by women at Henderson Settlement in Frakes, Kentucky.

Harriet found her calling as an Episcopal deaconess serving the isolated Seminoles in Florida's Everglades. Like Carrie, Harriet found ways to market hand-crafted items to help the indigenous women be financially independent.

## Calendar

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

**HOLIDAY EVENTS**

**Nov. 29:** Black Friday Craft Extravaganza, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Virgil Community Living Center, Virgil.

**Nov. 29:** Cortland Christmas Tree Lighting, 6 p.m. Court-house Park, Cortland.

**Nov. 29-Dec. 1:** Holidays on the Farm, Daisy Hollow Farm, Daisy Hollow Road, Dryden.

**Dec. 5:** Cocktails with Santa, 7 to 9 p.m., Cortland Repertory Theatre, Cortland.

**Dec. 6:** Virgil Tree Lighting, 5:30 p.m. Virgil Community Living Center, 1208 Church St., Virgil.

**Dec. 6:** Light of My Life, 6 p.m., Homer Village Green.

**Dec. 6:** Tinsel and Canvas: An Artful Winter Display, 4 to 6 p.m. Cortland County Historical Society, 25 Homer Ave., Cortland.

**Dec. 6:** Friday Pipe Organ Adventures, noon to 1 p.m., United Presbyterian Church, 25 Church St., Cortland.

**Dec. 6-8:** Whitechapel Ringers handbell concert, 7 p.m., United Presbyterian Church, 25 Church St., Cortland.

**Dec. 6:** Who Let the Dogs Out? Portraits of Our Best Friends, exhibit and sale, 5 to 7 p.m., Cortland Free Library, 32 Church St., Cortland.

**Dec. 6-8:** Photos with Santa, 6 to 8:30 p.m., Dec. 6, 10 a.m. to noon and 2 to 4 p.m. Dec. 7, 1 to 3 p.m. Dec. 8, Cortland Repertory Theatre, Cortland.

**MUSIC**

**Nov. 30:** Salt City Waltz, 7 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

**Dec. 3:** College-Community Orchestra Concert, 8 p.m. Rose Hall, Cortland.

**Dec. 5:** Wishbone Ash, 8 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

**Dec. 6:** Cloey Tierno, album release party, 6 p.m. Rose Hall, Cortland.

**Dec. 6:** Friday Pipe Organ Adventures, noon to 1 p.m., United Presbyterian Church, 25 Church St., Cortland.

**Dec. 6:** Whitechapel Ringers handbell concert, 7 p.m., United Presbyterian Church, 25 Church St., Cortland.

**Dec. 10:** Cherish the Ladies — Celtic Christmas, 8 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

**THEATER**

**Dec. 14:** Smackdown Battle of the Christmas Presents, 7:30 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer. Adults only.

**Dec. 21:** "A Christmas Carol" radio play, by Center for the Arts of Homer and 1890 House Museum, 7 p.m., 1890 House, 37 Tompkins St., Cortland.

**FOR KIDS AND FAMILIES**

**Nov. 29:** Cortland Christmas Tree Lighting, 6 p.m. Court-house Park, Cortland.

**Dec. 6-8:** Photos with Santa, 6 to 8:30 p.m., Dec. 6, 10 a.m. to noon and 2 to 4 p.m. Dec. 7, 1 to 3 p.m. Dec. 8, Cortland Repertory Theatre, Cortland.

**OTHER STUFF**

**Dec. 1:** Writers Workshop, 1 p.m., Cortland Reuse, 186 Homer Ave., Cortland.

**Dec. 7:** Local Authors Table, 1 to 4 p.m., Cortland Reuse, 186 Homer Ave., Cortland.

**Dec. 14:** Harnessing Fire Workshop, 9 a.m., Lime Hollow Nature Center, Cortlandville.

**Dec. 19:** Science and Suds featuring Lara Estroff on biomineralization and bio-inspiration, by Lime Hollow Nature Center, 7 p.m., Hopshire Farms and Brewery, Dryden.

# Chopin waltz may have been found in a NYC museum

**By PHILIP MARCELO and JOHN MINCHILLO**  
**Associated Press**

NEW YORK — The brooding waltz was carefully composed on a sheet of music roughly the size of an index card. The brief, moody number also bore an intriguing name, written at the top in cursive: "Chopin."

A previously unknown work of music penned by the European master Frédéric Chopin appears to have been found at the Morgan Library & Museum in Manhattan.

The untitled and unsigned piece is on display this month at the opulently appointed institution, which had once been the private library of financier J. P. Morgan.

Robinson McClellan, the museum curator who uncovered the manuscript, said it's the first new work associated with the Romantic era composer to be discovered in nearly a century.

But McClellan concedes that it may never be known whether it is an original Chopin work or merely one written in his hand.

The piece, set in the key of A minor, stands out for its "very stormy, brooding opening section" before transitioning to a melancholy melody more characteristic of Chopin, McClellan explained.

"This is his style. This is his essence," he said during a recent visit to the museum. "It really feels like him."

McClellan said he came across the work in May as he was going through a collection from the late Arthur Satz, a former president of the New York School of Interior Design. Satz had acquired it from A. Sherrill Whiton Jr., an avid autograph collector who had been director of the school.

McClellan then worked with experts to verify its authenticity.

The paper was found to be consistent with what Chopin favored for manuscripts, and the ink matched a kind typical in the early 19th century when Chopin lived, according to the museum. But a handwriting analysis determined the name "Chopin" written at the top of the sheet was penned by someone else.

Born in Poland, Chopin was considered a musical genius from an early age. He lived in Warsaw and Vienna before settling in Paris, where he died in 1849 at the age of 39, likely of tuberculosis.



AP Photo/John Minchillo

A previously unknown musical manuscript, possibly by Frédéric Chopin, rests in a display case after it was discovered at The Morgan Library & Museum, Nov. 13, in New York.

When can you expect to get your 2024 Spotify Wrapped?

By BRIDGET BROWN  
Associated Press  
NEW YORK — It's almost that time of year: Spotify is gearing up to release its annual Wrapped, personalized recaps of users' listening habits and year in audio.

Spotify has been giving its listeners breakdowns of their data since 2016. And each year, it's become a bigger production — and internet sensation. Spotify said its 2023 Wrapped was the "biggest ever created," in terms of audience reach and the kind of data it provided.

So, what will 2024 have in

store? Here's a look at what to know ahead of this year's Spotify Wrapped.

**WHAT IS WRAPPED?**

It's the streaming service's annual overview of individual listening trends, as well as trends around the world. Users learn their top artists, songs, genres, albums and podcasts, all wrapped into one interactive presentation.

The campaign has become a social media sensation, as people share and compare their Wrapped data with their friends and followers online.

Past iterations have provided

users with all kinds of breakdowns and facts, including whether they're among an artist's top listeners, as well as a personalized playlist of their top 100 songs of that year to save, share and listen to whenever they're feeling nostalgic.

Spotify also creates a series of playlists that reflect national and global listening trends, featuring the top streamed artists and songs. In 2023, Taylor Swift was Spotify's most streamed artist, unseating Bad Bunny who had held the title for three years in a row.

Each year has something new

in store. In 2019, Wrapped included a summary of users' streaming trends for the entire decade. Last year, Spotify matched listeners to a Sound Town based on their artist affinities and how it lined up with those in other parts of the world.

**WHEN IS THE EXPECTED RELEASE DATE?**

So far, the streaming platform has kept the highly anticipated release date of Wrapped under ... er, wraps.

In past years, it's been released after Thanksgiving, between Nov. 30 and Dec. 6.

Each year, rumors tend to swell on social media around when Spotify stops collecting data in order to prepare their Wrapped results, and this year was no exception. Spotify quickly squashed those presumptions, assuring on social media that "Spotify Wrapped doesn't stop counting on October 31st."

A representative for Spotify did not respond to a request for comment on when the company stops tracking data for Wrapped.

When Wrapped is released, each user's Spotify account will prompt them to view their interactive data roundup.

Contract Bridge

Bidding quiz

You are South, both sides vulnerable. The bidding has been:

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
?			

What would you now bid with each of the following four hands?

1. ♠ 84 ♥ J7 ♦ A52 ♣ AQJ943
2. ♠ Q10 ♥ AQ10 ♦ K7 ♣ KJ9652
3. ♠ 106 ♥ KJ5 ♦ 94 ♣ AKJ763
4. ♠ Q102 ♥ 84 ♦ AK ♣ KQ8654

\*\*\*

1. **Three clubs.** Each new suit bid by the responder is forcing for one round. Since you are therefore obligated to bid over two diamonds, the only question is what to bid.

Three clubs is the most descriptive rebid. By bidding one, two and three clubs, you make it clear that your opening bid is in the minimum range, that you cannot support either of partner's suits, and that you cannot bid notrump. If partner chooses to go on in the face of your signoff bids, he does so on his own responsibility.

2. **Three notrump.** An important principle of bidding is that if you have underbid at one point, you should try to correct it later by making a strength-showing bid. In the same way, if you make an early overbid, you should bid weakly from then on to try to correct the previous impression.

In this case, the rebid of two

clubs slightly understated your actual values. Consequently, when partner says two diamonds, you should avoid making any bid that would sound as though you were responding only because partner is forcing you to bid.

Both two notrump and three clubs in this sequence would sound weak. The jump to three notrump compensates for the previous underbid.

3. **Two notrump.** Partner may be angling for game in notrump, and the reason for his failure to bid it himself might be that he lacks a heart stopper. In any case, regardless of what partner's purpose is in forcing you to bid again, there is no real choice but to say two notrump.

4. **Three spades.** Having previously denied spade support, you are now obligated to show three cards in that suit in case your partner has five spades. And since you bid only two clubs on the preceding round, you should jump to three spades to show that your hand is a maximum for your two previous bids. If you were simply to bid two spades, it would sound as though you had started with a minimum opening that included marginal spade support, such as three small spades instead of the Q-10-2. These extra values can be shown by making a jump-preference to three spades.

Tomorrow: A grand slam.  
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Movie Review

Angelina Jolie is graceful, sharp as opera star Callas in 'Maria'

By LINDSEY BAHR  
AP Film Writer

Angelina Jolie glides through the final days of Maria Callas' short life in Pablo Larraín's "Maria," a dramatic, evocative elegy to the famed soprano. It's an affair that's at turns melancholy, biting and grandly theatrical, an aria for a once in a generation star.

Reality is of little consequence on the stage and in "Maria." It's all about the raw feeling, which serves the movie well, more dream than history lesson about La Callas. Early on, she pops some Mandrax and tells her devoted butler Ferruccio (a simply wonderful Pierfrancesco Favino) that a television crew is on the way. Are they real, he wonders.

"As of this morning, what is real and what is not real is my business," she says calmly and definitively, making a feast out of Steven Knight's sharp script. It's



Pablo Larraín/Netflix via AP

This image released by Netflix shows Angelina Jolie as Maria Callas in a scene from "Maria."

one of many great lines and moments for Jolie, whose intensity and resolve belie her fragile appearance. This is a biopic as opera — an emotional journey fitting of the great diva, full of flair, beauty,

betrayal, revelations and sorrow.

—

"Maria," a Netflix release in select theaters now and streaming Dec. 11, is rated R. Three stars out of four.

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High School Football

# Moravia, Trumansburg to settle season series in NYS 8-Man semifinals

By MIKE ROSE  
Sports Reporter  
mrose@cortlandstandard.com

For the third time this season, Moravia football is set to square off with Trumansburg. This time the stakes are at their highest, as the two teams play in the NYS 8-Man Football Regional semifinals at 9 a.m. Saturday at Vestal High School.

Moravia entered last week off a loss to Trumansburg in the Section IV finals, but bounced back with a 50-6 win against Section IX champion Sullivan West. Moravia head coach Fred Ott believes the loss served as a reset mentally for his team.

"I really felt that loss in the sectional final showed the kids we can't just show up and play football — we have to play Moravia football," Ott said. "We had to get back to that physicality, getting hats to the ball and I really felt like we did that."

Moravia played without leading receiver Joe Baylor in the win, but Ott expects Baylor to suit up against Trumansburg. In his absence, Eli Landis emerged with his best game of the season. He racked up 299 total yards and scored three touchdowns for the



Mike Rose/sports reporter

Moravia's Riley Jones runs after the catch Saturday at James I. O'Neill High School.

Blue Devils, presenting another weapon the Blue Raiders defense will have to account for this week.

While Trumansburg won the most recent meeting, it was the Blue Devils who were 32-27 winners when the teams met in the regular season. Moravia scored 18 unanswered to win the

first meeting, but faltered in its comeback effort the second time due to five turnovers.

"When the weather gets a little colder it's a little harder to hold on to the football and Trumansburg does a really good job of trying to punch the ball out," Ott said. "We're definitely working on some ball security to try and

avoid those mistakes and those turnovers as we go forward. I think we all know that's a pretty different game if we don't turn the ball over five times like we did. When you're in the playoffs, whoever wins the turnover battle usually wins the game, so we have to really minimize that as much as possible."

The Blue Devils have had their sights set on making it back to the state finals after falling 36-0 in last season's final. Despite being the lone team left in the field to not win a sectional championship, Moravia has no doubt it belongs on this stage.

"In the 8-Man football world, pretty much everyone knew who the top four teams were," Ott said. "I don't think it's a surprise we're there probably for anybody. There are probably some teams out there that don't think we really deserve to be here because we got in with the wild card, but I think most people realize we are one of those top four teams. We think that. The wild card was a great second chance and we're going to try and use that to our advantage as much as possible. It would have been nice to win back-to-back sectional titles, but if we can win this game and get to that final and go for all the glory, that would be a great thing."

The winner of the Section IV showdown will advance to face the winner of Pembroke (V) and Frankfort-Schuyler (III) in the 8-Man Regional Finals at 3 p.m. Dec. 7 at Moravia High School.

College Football

# For Miami, finale at 'Cuse basically is ACC semifinal

By TIM REYNOLDS  
AP Sports Writer

CORAL GABLES, Fla. — It's very simple for Miami. Win this weekend in Syracuse and the Hurricanes are going to next weekend's Atlantic Coast Conference title game. Lose to Syracuse, the title hopes are gone and so may be any realistic shot at the College Football Playoff.

Evidently, Miami fully understands the stakes.

"There is no next week," Miami quarterback Cam Ward said, "without this week."

No. 8 Miami (10-1, 6-1 ACC, No. 6 CFP) goes to Syracuse (8-3, 4-3) on Saturday in the regular season finale for both clubs. The Hurricanes are playing for championships, the Orange — with a victory Saturday and then in a bowl game — could get to 10 wins in Fran Brown's first season as coach.

"Anytime you get late in the season and you have a meaningful game, it means you've done a lot of things right," said Syracuse's Kyle McCord, who will face Ward in a matchup of star quarterbacks. "You look around the country, there's a lot of teams who thought at this time of year they'd be playing for something big and something important that aren't. For us to be in this situation, this game and have a great opponent coming ... it

means a lot."

Playing in a domed stadium like Syracuse's will be a first for many Miami players.

And there's a chance that the Hurricanes see a few snowflakes in the air or on the ground when they get to Central New York, another rarity especially for the South Florida natives.

But at game time, everybody knows what the conditions will be.

The dome will be loud, just as it was in 1992 when Miami coach Mario Cristobal was a starting offensive lineman for a 'Canes team that was ranked No. 1 in the nation and went to what was then called the Carrier Dome looking to keep title hopes alive.

"I remember not being able to hear," Cristobal said. Miami won 16-10 that day, Syracuse's final drive stalling at the 3-yard line as time expired.

Brown's first season at Syracuse has to be considered a smashing success; the Orange were picked 12th out of 17 teams in the ACC's preseason poll and may finish as high as tied for fourth.

His team won't be going to Charlotte, North Carolina, for the ACC title game — but it gets to have a say in whether Miami goes or not.

"I'm just excited that The U is back because it's better for college football," Brown said.

# Ward, McCord headline a QB showdown Saturday in Syracuse

By TIM REYNOLDS  
AP Sports Writer

CORAL GABLES, Fla. — It is Miami vs. Syracuse this weekend. It is not Cam Ward vs. Kyle McCord.

That said, there's no quarterback showdown in the country this week better than this one.

McCord — in his first year at Syracuse — leads the nation in passing yards, 300-yard games, attempts and completions. Ward — in his first year at Miami — leads the nation in touchdown passes, is second in passing yards and is third all-time in passing yards at the NCAA level.

They'll face off on Saturday, the eighth-ranked Hurricanes (10-1, 6-1 Atlantic Coast Conference) looking for a berth in the ACC title game and the Orange (8-3, 4-3) looking for a signature win in what'll be their home finale this season.

"I'm excited about it. I think two of the best quarterbacks in the country are about to go out and compete," Syracuse coach Fran Brown said. "So, us having an opportunity to go against Miami when Syracuse has a really good quarterback, Miami has a really good quarterback, it's a lot of things that match up the same. It's pretty cool when you're watching this game."

Their numbers this season are eerily similar. McCord has 10 games with 300 yards or more, Ward has nine. Ward has three games with 400 yards or more, McCord has one. Ward has 10 games with two or more touchdown passes, McCord has nine. Ward has thrown



Jose Carlos Fajardo/Bay Area News Group via AP

Syracuse quarterback Kyle McCord throws a pass against California, Nov. 16, at Memorial Stadium in Berkeley, California.

for four or more touchdowns in a game four times, McCord three.

Against the three common opponents Miami and Syracuse have — Virginia Tech, Cal and Georgia Tech — McCord is 85 for 127 passing for 984 yards and seven touchdowns, Ward 84 for 130 for 1,128 yards and nine touchdowns.

Add it all up, and McCord has 3,946 yards to Ward's 3,774. Ward has 34 touchdown passes, McCord 26. Oh, and both are now their school's single-season leader in passing yards — one of many entries they'll have in the Syracuse and Miami record books when this

season is over.

"I don't have time to watch other quarterbacks," Ward, Miami's Heisman Trophy hopeful, said Tuesday. "I watched a couple of his (games) because we've played similar teams, but I'm not taking time out of my day to watch him right now. He's doing good, though. He's top five in the country. He's balling right now, for sure."

They were both the star gets out of the transfer portal for their schools as well. McCord was

See 'CUSE, page 10

National Football League

# Ulbrich: Rodgers will start for Jets if he's healthy

By DENNIS WASZAK Jr.  
AP Pro Football Writer

Aaron Rodgers is feeling healthy and will be the New York Jets' starting quarterback as long as that remains the case.

Interim coach Jeff Ulbrich said Wednesday the quarterback returned from the team's bye-week break appearing physically refreshed and ready to go.

"Definitely, as long as he's healthy, my plan is to play him," Ulbrich said. "And I know talking to him, that's the way he wants to

do it, too."

Rodgers, who turns 41 on Monday, has dealt with various injuries to his left leg, including a sore knee, sprained ankle and balky hamstring. And that's after coming off a torn Achilles tendon in the same leg that limited him to just four snaps last season.

"He's doing better today than he has for quite a while now," Ulbrich said. "After my conversations with him the last five or six weeks, he has felt healthier today than he's felt in that time span."

That echoes what Rodgers said during his weekly appearance on "The Pat McAfee Show" on Tuesday, when he said he "feels good."

Rodgers said he's still contemplating whether he wants to play football next season, but would prefer it be with the Jets if he does return.

"I came here to win here, so I'm not jumping off ship," Rodgers said while denying a recent report that said he wanted to play in 2025, but not for the Jets. "I don't even know if I want to play

yet, but New York would be my first option."

Rodgers, who is having a sub-par season statistically, has been noticeably affected by his leg ailments — and that's something that could be much improved starting Sunday against Seattle.

"I'm super excited about getting him going, whether it's the keepers, the boots, a little bit more quarterback movement," Ulbrich said. "Taking advantage of the stuff that he's done at a Hall of Fame level his entire ca-

reer. So, excited to see a healthier version of Aaron out there."

There was some speculation that the Jets, who are 3-8 and close to falling mathematically out of the playoff hunt, could opt to sit Rodgers in favor of Tyrod Taylor with his playing future uncertain.

"He is a very prideful person," Ulbrich said. "He wants to finish this thing off right. He wants to celebrate this team that we have and have a good taste in our mouths as we leave this season."

Major League Baseball

Soto could decide next team before winter meetings

**By RONALD BLUM**  
**AP Baseball Writer**  
NEW YORK — Juan Soto appears on a timetable to decide on where to sign either before or during baseball’s winter meetings in Dallas, which run from Dec. 8-12.

Soto met with the New York Yankees, New York Mets, Los Angeles Dodgers, Boston Red Sox and Toronto Blue Jays, a person familiar with the negotiations said last week, speaking to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because details were not announced.

Soto’s agent, Scott Boras, asked teams to submit initial offers by Thanksgiving, a second

person familiar with the talks said, also on condition of anonymity because it was not announced.

Soto is the top player available among this year’s free agents. A four-time All-Star, Soto finished third in AL MVP voting after hitting .288 with 41 homers, 109 RBIs and 129 walks.

He has a .285 career average with 201 homers, 592 RBIs and 769 walks over seven major league seasons.

Soto turned down a \$440 million, 15-year offer from Washington in 2022, prompting the Nationals to trade him to San Diego, which then dealt him to the Yankees last December. Soto

then combined with Aaron Judge to lead New York to the World Series, where the Yankees lost to the Dodgers.

In his pitch to teams, Boras highlighted that Soto joined Mickey Mantle as the only players with seven RBIs in a World Series at age 21 or younger when he was with Washington, and at 20 became the youngest player with five postseason homers. Soto’s .906 postseason OPS through age 25 topped Mantle (.900) and Derek Jeter (.852).

Soto is likely to seek a record contract, topping Shohei Ohtani’s \$700 million, 10-year agreement with the Los Angeles Dodgers last December. That might

not mean Soto gets more than \$700 million, though. Because Ohtani’s deal included \$680 million in deferred money payable through 2043, it can be valued by different methods.

For instance, Ohtani’s contract is valued at \$46.1 million per season (\$461 million total) under MLB’s luxury tax system, which used a 4.43% discount rate. The players’ association uses a 5% rate, which puts Ohtani’s contract at \$43.8 million per year. For MLB’s regular payroll calculations, a 10% discount rates values Ohtani’s deal at just \$28.2 million.

Which means if Soto gets even \$462 million without deferred

payments, there’s an argument that his deal is the most valuable in MLB history.

By average annual value, pitchers Max Scherzer and Justin Verlander are tied for second in baseball history at \$43.33 million as part of contracts they signed with the New York Mets, deals that expired at the end of the 2024 season.

In terms of total value, Ohtani surpassed outfielder Mike Trout’s \$426.5 million, 12-year contract with the Los Angeles Angels through 2030.

MLB’s longest contract is outfielder Fernando Tatis Jr.’s 14-year deal with the San Diego Padres through 2034.

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**CORTLAND COUNTY**  
**LEGAL NOTICE**  
Sealed bids will be received as set forth in instructions to bidders until 10:30 A.M. on Thursday, December 19, 2024 at the NYSDOT, Office of Contract Management, 50 Wolf Rd, 1st Floor, Suite 1CM, Albany, NY 12232 and will be publicly opened and read. Bids may also be submitted via the internet using www.bidx.com. A certified cashier's check payable to the NYSDOT for the sum specified in the proposal or a bid bond, form CONR 391, representing 5% of the bid total, must accompany each bid. NYSDOT reserves the right to reject any or all bids.  
Electronic documents and Amendments are posted to www.dot.ny.gov/doing-business/opportunities/const-notice. The Contractor is responsible for ensuring that all Amendments are incorporated into its bid. To receive notification of Amendments via e-mail you must submit a request to be placed on the Planholders List at www.dot.ny.gov/doing-business/opportunities/const-planholder. Amendments may have been issued prior to your placement on the Planholders list. NYS Finance Law restricts communication with NYSDOT on procurements and contact can only be made with designated persons. Contact with non-designated persons or other involved Agencies will be considered a serious matter and may result in disqualification. Contact Robert Kitchen (518)457-2124.  
Contracts with 0% Goals are generally single operation contracts, where subcontracting is not expected, and may present direct bidding opportunities for Small Business Firms, including, but not limited to D/M/WBE's and SDVOBs. The New York State Department of Transportation, in accordance with the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. 2000d-4 and Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office the Secretary, Part 21, Nondiscrimination in Federally-assisted programs of the Department of Transportation and Title 23 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 200, Title IV Program and Related Statutes, as amended, issued pursuant to such Act, hereby notifies all who respond to a written Department solicitation, request for proposal or invitation for bid that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability/handicap and income status in consideration for an award.  
BIDDERS SHOULD BE ADVISED THAT AWARD OF THESE CONTRACTS MAY BE CONTINGENT UPON THE PASSAGE OF A BUDGET APPROPRIATION BILL BY THE LEGISLATURE AND GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.  
Please call (518)457-2124 if a reasonable accommodation is needed to participate in the letting.  
Region 03: New York State Department of Transportation  
333 E. Washington St., State Office Bldg., Syracuse, NY, 13202  
**D265363, PIN 380531, FA Proj , Cayuga, Cortland Cos., REGIONAL RETAINING WALLS REPAIR - Routes 11 & 20, Towns of Cortlandville & Senett., Bid Deposit: 5% of Bid (~ \$75,000.00), Goals: DBE: 6.00% D265372, PIN 380433, Cayuga, Cortland, Onondaga, Oswego, Seneca, Tompkins Cos., BRIDGE REPAIR - Where & When - Various Locations., Bid Deposit: 5% of Bid (~ \$125,000.00), Goals: MBE: 5.00%, WBE: 10.00%, SDVOB: 0.00%**

**CORTLAND COUNTY**  
**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY**  
CVD REALTY ASSOCIATES, LLC Art. Of Org. Filed Sec. of State of NY 11/12/2024. Off. Loc. : Cortland Co. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY to mail copy of process to The LLC, 2267 Currie Road, Tully, NY 13159, USA. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

**CORTLAND COUNTY**  
**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY**  
Notice of Formation of Skylight Intermediaries, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/08/2021. Office location: Cortland County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Mark A. Travis: 5404 Route 41, Homer, NY 13077. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

**TOWN OF VIRGIL**  
**NOTICE TO BIDDERS**  
**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**  
**RFP#24-118 FIXED NETWORK WATER METER READING AUTOMATION SYSTEM**  
  
The Town of Virgil is soliciting proposals from qualified firms for Fixed Network Mesh Automated Meter Reading (AMR) System vendor (Proposer) to design and supply a fully functional Mesh fixed network system for the Utility Billing Department. The Town of Virgil will receive sealed proposals from qualified firms to provide an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) System for the Town of Virgil's Water District. The Town's intent is to find the best design and operating mesh fixed network AMR system which will utilize the latest technology to provide a state-of-art environment that will serve the Town's present needs as well as provide a foundation for the future that allows easy expansion, upgrade, integration, and maintenance. The entire service area, covering approximately 20,800 feet of water mains in the district limits. Complete requirements and specifications can be obtained from the Town Clerk by calling 607-835-6174 ext#2 or on the Town's website at www.VirgilNY.org . Interested parties are encouraged to submit proposals by mail or they can be dropped off to the Town Clerk at 1176 Church Street, Cortland, NY 13045 or faxed to 607-835-6668 by 12:00 p.m. on December 12, 2024. Sealed proposals will be opened at the Town Board meeting to be held on December 12, 2024 at 6:30 PM at the Virgil Town Hall, 1176 Church Street, Cortland NY 13045.  
Alane Van Donsel  
Virgil Town Clerk

**CORTLAND COUNTY**  
**NOTICE OF SUMMONS**  
SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK: COUNTY OF CORTLAND INDEX # EF24-322 FILED: 05/31/2024  
SUMMONS Thomas Ottenschot ("Plaintiff") designates Cortland County as the place of trial based on the location of the subject premises in this action, THOMAS OTTENSCHOT against MARTIN OTTENSCHOT whose last known address is 12193 Hendy Hollow Road, Corning, New York 14830. Between September 30, 1968, and December 12, 1974, Defendant and Richard J. Ottenschot took title of three real properties ("Subject Property"). The Subject Property is located at 12 Prospect Street and Hudson Street, Homer, New York 13077, Cortland County Tax Map ID # 66.65-01-23.000 and 66.65-01-07.000. On or about May 7, 2020, Richard J. Ottenschot died ("Decedent") with a will. Pursuant to Decedent's will, Plaintiff inherited Decedent's entire estate, including Decedent's interests in the Subject Property. On or about November 16, 2020, November 3, 2021, and November 17, 2022, Cortland County identified the Subject Property on the List of Delinquent Taxes. Plaintiff structured a tax repayment plan with the taxing municipality, and, upon information and belief, Defendant has not contributed to the preservation of the Subject Property. Plaintiff seeks a Court Order declaring the transfer of the Subject Property on December 10, 1975, to a fictional entity entitled "Ottenschot Bros., Inc.," a nillity with ownership reverting to Defendant and Decedent, each as 50% owner. Plaintiff seeks the Court to Order the sale of the Subject Property with the proceeds being split, after the reversion, 1/2 to Plaintiff and 1/2 to Defendant. WHEREFORE Plaintiff demands judgment against the Defendant on each and every cause of action above including but not limited to an ordering the Subject Property be partitioned after an accounting and setoff for costs previously expended by Plaintiff, together with interest, costs, disbursements and attorneys' fees, and such other and further relief that the Court deems just and proper. In case of default by Defendant, judgment may be entered ordering an auction of the Subject Property located at 12 Prospect Street and Hudson Street, Homer, New York 13077, Cortland County Tax Map ID # 66.65-01-23.000 and 66.65-01-07.000, which is currently assessed at \$199,200.00. Hancock Estabrook, LLP, James J. O'Shea, Esq., Attorneys for Plaintiff, 100 Madison Street, 1800 AXA Tower I, Syracuse, NY 13202, Tel: (315) 565-4500.



AP Photo/Jeff Chiu, File

Giants pitcher Blake Snell works against the Braves in San Francisco, Aug. 12.

AP source: Snell, Dodgers agree to \$182M deal

**By RONALD BLUM**  
**AP Baseball Writer**  
Less than a month after winning the World Series, the Los Angeles Dodgers are spending big again to add one of baseball’s best pitchers to their star-studded roster.

Blake Snell and the Dodgers agreed to a \$182 million, five-year contract, according to a person with direct knowledge of the negotiations. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity Tuesday night because the deal is subject to a successful physical.

The two-time Cy Young Award winner broke the news personally by posting a photo of himself on social media in a Dodgers uniform — No. 7.

Snell would join two-way star Shohei Ohtani and fellow Japanese right-hander Yoshinobu Yamamoto atop Los Angeles’ rotation, giving the Dodgers the first megadeal this offseason following Ohtani’s \$700 million, 10-year contract and Yamamoto’s \$325 million, 12-year agreement last offseason.

Ohtani didn’t pitch this year while recovering from right elbow surgery but is expected back on the mound in 2025. He won his third MVP award — first in the National League — following a huge season at the plate exclusively as a designated hitter.

Yamamoto went 7-2 with a 3.00 ERA in 18 starts as a rookie, then won twice in four October outings.

Down to three healthy starting pitchers during the postseason, Los Angeles overcame a string of injuries to its projected rotation in winning the franchise’s second World Series title in five years.

Right-handers Jack Flaherty and Walker Buehler then became free agents this fall, creating more voids on the staff. But the addition of Snell would fill a large one at the top with a legitimate ace.

Snell’s \$36.4 million average salary would rank as the fifth-highest among active deals next year behind Ohtani (\$70 million), Philadelphia pitcher Zack Wheeler (\$42 million),

New York Yankees outfielder Aaron Judge (\$40 million) and Texas pitcher Jacob deGrom (\$37 million). Among expired contracts, it also was exceeded by pitchers Max Scherzer and Justin Verlander (both \$43.33 million) under deals they agreed to with the New York Mets.

ESPN first reported the details of Snell’s contract.

Earlier this month, Snell opted out of his deal with San Francisco to become a free agent for the second consecutive offseason after he was slowed by injuries during his lone year with the Giants.

The left-hander agreed in March to a \$62 million, two-year contract that included a \$17 million signing bonus payable on Jan. 15, 2026, a \$15 million salary for 2024 and a \$30 million salary for 2025, of which \$15 million would have been deferred and payable on July 1, 2027.

Snell, who turns 32 next week, went 5-3 with a 3.12 ERA in 20 starts this year, throwing a no-hitter at Cincinnati on Aug. 2 for one of only 16 individual shutouts in the major leagues this season. He struck out 145 and walked 44 in 104 innings.

He was sidelined between April 19 and May 22 by a strained left adductor and between June 2 and July 9 by a strained left groin.

Snell won Cy Young Awards in 2018 with Tampa Bay and 2023 with San Diego. He is 76-58 with a 3.19 ERA in nine seasons with the Rays (2016-20), Padres (2021-23) and Giants.

Because he turned down a qualifying offer from San Diego last November, the Giants were not eligible to give Snell another one and won’t receive draft-pick compensation.

Los Angeles expects All-Star right-hander Tyler Glasnow and three-time Cy Young Award winner Clayton Kershaw back in the rotation next year. Other starting candidates if healthy include right-handers Dustin May, Tony Gonsolin and Bobby Miller.

Ohtani is coming off right elbow surgery in September 2023 and left shoulder surgery on Nov. 5.

‘CUSE — continued from page 9

at Ohio State last season — “I should send Ryan Day a bottle of champagne for allowing us to get him,” Brown infamously said earlier this season, referring to the Buckeyes coach — and Ward was at Washington State a year ago.

“To have a good opponent coming in, I know there’s going to be a good crowd, the Dome’s going to be rocking. To play on that stage, on national TV, that’s exactly what you work for all season long,” McCord said in an interview posted on Syracuse’s athletic department website.

They are the leaders of some seriously high-powered offenses. Miami leads the country in yards per game (541.5), points per game (44.7) and yards per play (7.61). Syracuse is averaging 31.7 points per game, its second-best rate in the last 26 seasons.

“I think this is a game that everyone wants to see,” Brown said. “Credit to both teams. Both quarterbacks have led their teams and had them just being able to play ball and put ‘em in this situation. So, it’s a good deal to be a part of this.”

Miami hasn’t been to Syracuse’s domed stadium since 2002. The Hurricanes first played in what was then-called the Carrier Dome in 1992, when Mario Cristobal — now the coach at his alma mater — was a starting lineman for a Miami team that was ranked No. 1 in the country.

The Hurricanes won that game over then-No. 8 Syracuse to keep title hopes alive. These Hurricanes have to do the same on Saturday to keep their hopes alive, and that’s far bigger than a quarterback matchup.

“This is Miami against Syracuse,” Cristobal said. “The biggest game of the year.”

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE							
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
New Jersey	24	15	7	2	32	84	62
Carolina	21	15	5	1	31	84	55
Washington	21	14	6	1	29	85	56
Toronto	21	13	6	2	28	64	52
N.Y. Rangers	20	12	7	1	25	67	55
Florida	22	12	9	1	25	75	76
Tampa Bay	20	11	7	2	24	76	61
Buffalo	21	11	9	1	23	69	65
Boston	23	10	10	3	23	51	72
N.Y. Islanders	22	8	9	5	21	56	64
Philadelphia	22	9	10	3	21	64	78
Columbus	20	9	9	2	20	70	72
Detroit	21	9	10	2	20	53	65
Ottawa	21	9	11	1	19	66	68
Pittsburgh	23	7	12	4	18	59	93
Montreal	21	7	11	3	17	58	80
WESTERN CONFERENCE							
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Winnipeg	22	18	4	0	36	89	52
Minnesota	21	13	4	4	30	70	54
Vegas	22	14	6	2	30	86	68
Calgary	22	12	7	3	27	61	61
Dallas	20	13	7	0	26	70	50
Vancouver	20	11	6	3	25	63	62
Los Angeles	22	11	8	3	25	65	64
Colorado	22	12	10	0	24	75	83
Edmonton	22	11	9	2	24	64	69
Seattle	22	11	10	1	23	62	59
Utah	22	10	10	3	21	60	69
St. Louis	23	9	12	1	21	58	76
Anaheim	20	8	9	3	19	50	60
San Jose	24	7	12	5	19	63	85
Nashville	22	7	12	3	17	52	70
Chicago	21	7	12	2	16	50	63

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	17	1	.944	—
Boston	15	3	.833	2
Orlando	12	7	.632	5½
New York	10	7	.588	6½
Milwaukee	9	9	.500	8
Miami	7	8	.467	8½
Indiana	8	10	.444	9
Brooklyn	8	10	.444	9
Chicago	8	11	.421	9½
Detroit	8	11	.421	9½
Atlanta	7	11	.389	10
Charlotte	6	11	.353	10½
Toronto	4	14	.222	13
Philadelphia	3	13	.188	13
Washington	2	14	.125	14
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Oklahoma City	13	4	.765	—
Golden State	12	5	.706	1
Houston	13	6	.684	1
Memphis	11	7	.611	2½
Phoenix	10	7	.588	3
L.A. Lakers	10	7	.588	3
L.A. Clippers	11	8	.579	3
Denver	9	7	.563	3½
Dallas	10	8	.556	3½
San Antonio	10	8	.556	3½
Minnesota	8	9	.471	5
Sacramento	8	10	.444	5½
Portland	7	11	.389	6½
Utah	4	13	.235	9
New Orleans	4	14	.222	9½

Bible Baptist Church

Services are 10 a.m. Sunday at Bible Baptist Church, 15 West Road, Cortlandville. The Rev. Dan Crane’s topic will be Philippians. Sunday school is at 11:15 a.m. and prayer and devotions are 6 p.m. Wednesday. For questions call 607-756-7716 or email of-fice@bbc-cortland.org.

The Church at Freetown

Services are at 10:30 a.m. Sunday at The Church at Freetown, a nondenominational church at 2405 Church Lane, Freetown. Fellowship will be 10 a.m., before the service. Contact the church at thechurchatfreetown@gmail.com.

First Church of Christ, Scientist

Services are 10:30 a.m. Sunday at the First Church of Christ, Scientist, 9 Clinton Ave., Cortland. This week’s sermon will be “Ancient and Modern Necromancy, alias Mesmerism and Hypnotism, Denounced,” based on Christ’s statement in Luke: “There is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; neither hid, that shall not be known.” It will be followed by the citation in I John: “Be-loved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God.” A testimony meeting will be 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays. For details, go to www.christiansciencenor-tland.com.

First Presbyterian Church of Marathon

This first Sunday of Advent, while the Rev. Doug Hatch is on vacation, the First Presbyterian Church of Marathon will worship at 9 a.m. with the congregation at St. John’s Episcopal Church on West Main Street in Marathon.

Homer Avenue and Virgil United Methodist Churches

Cortland Homer Avenue and Virgil United Methodist churches will each gather in-person on Sunday. Virgil will gather at 9:30 a.m. and Homer Avenue will gather at 11 a.m. The scripture reading will be Psalm 25:1-10 and 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13. The gospel reading will be Luke 21:25-36. Pastor Steph’s message will be “Maybe Today?” The hymns for the day will be “Come Thou Long Expected Jesus,” “My Hope Is Built,” “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel,” and “Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus.” Sunday is the first Sunday of Advent. The Virgil service will be live at https://tinyurl.com/3ydyrx3z and the Homer Avenue Service will be live at https://tinyurl.com/yjc8nfpb.

Homer Congregational United Church of Christ

Services are 10:30 a.m. Sunday, the first Sunday of Advent, at Homer Congregational United Church of Christ. Pianist Joseph Ford will offer special music and the event is Community Sunday. A coffee hour will follow the service, but no nursery care will be available. The service will be livestreamed via Facebook, YouTube or at www.homercc.com.

Homer First United Methodist Church

Services are 9:30 a.m. Sunday at Homer First United Methodist Church, livestreamed on YouTube or at the church website, www.homerfirst.org. The Rev. Sung Jun Park’s message will be “Sim-eon-HOPE” based on Luke 2:25-35; Isaiah 9:2; Peter 1:13. Bible study is 10 a.m. Tuesday in the narthex. Sunday School is 10 a.m. during the church service. The food pantry is open 10 a.m. to noon Tuesday.

McGrawville Baptist Church

Services are 9:45 a.m. Sunday, the first Sunday of Advent, at McGrawville Baptist Church. Cindy and Gerry Craig will light the Prophet’s Candle. The Rev. George Mekeel’s sermon will be “A Green Christmas,” part of the series “The Colors of Christmas.” Scripture readings include Galatians 4:4-7. The anthem will be “An Advent Prayer — Pote” with hymns “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus,” “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” and “Thou Didst Leave thy Throne.”

The Bible study will be 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, focusing on 1 Corinthians. Choir practice is 5:30 p.m. Wednesday and the Kingdom Adventures at 6 p.m. Thursday will decorate a tree.

O’Heron Newman Hall Catholic Chapel

O’Heron Newman Hall Catholic Chapel at SUNY Cortland will not celebrate Mass Sunday because of the Thanksgiving break. Its last Mass of the season will be Dec. 8 at 8 Calvert St., Cortland.

St. Anthony of Padua, Cortland

Mass will be celebrated at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, the first Sunday of Advent, at St. Anthony of Padua Church in Cortland, livestreamed at www.face-book.com/stanthonysocortland. The Rosary will be prayed at 8:50 a.m. Weekday Masses will be 5:30 p.m. Monday and 10 a.m. Tuesday. The Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be recited following the Tuesday Mass and a coffee hour will follow in the church hall. The St. Anthony’s Altar Society Christmas party will be 5 p.m. Thursday in the church hall. An “Advent Prayer Experience” will be offered at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday during Advent in the church hall. The evening begins with fellowship, where attendees are asked to bring a treat to share. The prayer experience begins at 6:45 p.m. The theme for Wednesday is “The Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary.” The annual Giving Tree is set up and full of gift ideas. Return the wrapped gift by Dec. 15.

St. Margaret’s, Homer

Masses will be celebrated at 4 p.m. Saturday and 10:30 a.m. Sunday at St. Margaret’s Church in Homer. It is the first Sunday of Advent. Recon-ciliation will be 3 to 3:45 p.m. Saturday. No faith formation class is planned.

St. Mary’s, Cortland

Mass will be 4 p.m. Saturday and 8 and 11:30 a.m. Sunday at St. Mary’s Church in Cortland. Weekday Masses are 7 a.m. Wednesday and Friday. The 8 a.m. Sunday Mass will be livestreamed via Facebook. Masses for the Feast of The Immaculate Con-ception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a Holy Day of Obligation, will be 7 a.m. and 12:10 p.m. Dec. 9. The Rosary will be prayed at 6:30 p.m. Wednes-day in the church’s chapel. The Diocesan Hope Appeal Campaign is under way. Pledges may be mailed to the parish or placed in the collection basket. The church is also collect-ing non-perishable food items for local food pantries; place items in the blue barrels. Safe Environment recertification is 5 to 7:30 p.m. Dec. 3 at the parish center. Register on the Diocese of Syracuse website. Pre-Baptism Class is 7 p.m. Dec. 10 at the parish center. Register with Deacon Steve Smith at 607-756-7659 or stephen.smith@cortland.edu. The Giving Tree is up, collecting gifts until Dec. 15 for CAPCO, Catholic Charities, Cortland Rural Services and three local nursing homes.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Cortland

Services are online 10:30 a.m. Sunday at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Cortland. Con-gregants will watch Maryanne Bell, executive director of the Bradford County, Pennsylvania Humane Society, who will be at the pulpit of part-ner church The Unitarian Universalist Church of Athens and Sheshequin, in Pennsylvania. Her multi-platform worship service is titled: “Helping Animals Helps Everyone.”

United Presbyterian Church, Cortland

Advent worship at United Presbyterian Church on Church Street in Cortland includes a 9 a.m. Sunday informal service in the chapel, followed by the Sanctuary service at 10:30 a.m. The Rev. David H. Johnson’s sermon is entitled “Words for the Beginning — You Are A Blessing.” The Whitechapel Bell Concert will be 7 p.m. Dec. 6. The church office is open 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mon-day to Thursday and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday. Call 607-756-5689 during office hours for details or to receive a copy of the monthly “UPC Newsletter.” The church’s website is www.unitedpresbyteri-an.net; it can be emailed at officeadmin@ united-presbyterian.net.

Hindu leader who led rallies for minority protection denied bail

By magistrate court in Bangladesh

By JULHAS ALAM Associated Press

DHAKA, Bangladesh — A prominent Bangladeshi Hindu leader who has been leading ral-lies demanding security for Hin-dus in the overwhelmingly Mus-lim nation was ordered detained on charges of sedition Tuesday. The magistrate court of Kazi Shariful Islam denied bail to Krishna Das Prabhu and ordered him detained pending further proceedings. One lawyer was killed and scores were injured after clashes broke out following Tuesday’s court order.

As police attempted to trans-port the Hindu leader to jail, hun-dreds of his supporters surround-ed the van carrying him, forcing it to stop for over an hour before security officials fired teargas to disperse the crowd. Protesters threw stones at police during a brief confrontation, before the way was cleared and Prabhu was taken to jail.

As the tension grew, live TV showed dozens of Muslims join-ing the security officials, chasing Hindu protesters and throwing stones at them.

The United News of Bangla-desh news agency quoted a po-lice official as saying that lawyer Saiful Islam Alif was hacked to death during the melee. Some reports blamed the Hindu pro- testers for the killing, but details were sketchy.

Hindus and members of other minority groups say they have faced more attacks than ever since former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina fled the country amid a mass uprising in August and an interim government took over. The government says the threat to Hindus has been exag-gerated.

Around 91% of Bangladesh’s population is Muslim, with Hin-dus making up almost all of the rest.

Prabhu, also known as Chin-moy Krishna Das Brahmachari, faces charges of sedition filed in October after he led a huge rally in Chattogram in which he was

accused of disrespecting Bangla-desh’s national flag.

He was arrested in Dhaka’s main airport on Monday while traveling to Chattogram in south-eastern Bangladesh.

Kushal Baran Chakrabarty, who was accompanying Prabhu at the time of his arrest, said that several detectives took the Hin-du leader to a police car at the airport.

“Chinmoy Prabhu gave his phone to me as he was forcefully taken to the police car. The po-lice detectives jostled with us to forcefully take his phone and they took it away. We then fol-lowed the police car that headed for the headquarters of the De-tective Branch at Minto Road in Dhaka,” he said. “We stayed outside the Detective Branch’s office.”

The Bangladesh Hindu Bud-dhist Christian Unity Council, an umbrella organization of the country’s minority groups, de-nounced the arrest of Prabhu in a statement and demanded his release.

India’s Ministry of External Affairs expressed “deep con-cern” in a statement on Tuesday.

“This incident follows the mul-tiple attacks on Hindus and other minorities by extremist elements in Bangladesh. There are several documented cases of arson and looting of minorities’ homes and business establishments, as well as theft and vandalism and des-ecration of deities and temples,” the statement said.

It also condemned attacks on peaceful protests by Hindus.

“We urge Bangladesh author-ities to ensure the safety and security of Hindus and all mi-norities, including their right of freedom of peaceful assembly and expression,” the ministry wrote.

Bangladesh’s Ministry of For-eign Affairs on Tuesday night criticized the reaction by India, saying that the issue was the “in-ternal affairs” of Bangladesh.

“It is with utter dismay and deep sense of hurt that the gov-ernment of Bangladesh notes that the arrest of Chinmoy Krish-na Das has been misconstrued by certain quarters since Chinmoy Krishna Das has been arrested on specific charges,” its state-ment said.



AP Photo/Mahmud Hossain Opu

Bangladesh Hindus protest to demand that an interim government withdraw all cases against their leaders and protect them from attacks and harassment in Dhaka, Bangladesh, Nov. 2.

Vatican is set to install a webcam at St. Peter’s tomb

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Ro-man Catholic faithful will be able to view St. Peter’s tomb remotely as part of the Vatican’s techno-logical outreach with its far-flung

flock during the upcoming Holy Year. Pope Francis will inaugurate a webcam on Dec. 2 to be installed beneath the main altar of St. Pe-

ter’s Basilica. Another webcam will be placed on the basilica’s Holy Door for the 2025 Jubilee, during which indulgences for the forgiveness

of sins are granted to pilgrims who travel to Rome and enter through it. The link will provide “symbol-ic access” to those who cannot

make the journey, the Vatican said on Monday. The 2025 Jub-ilee is a once-every-quarter-centu-ry event that is expected to attract 32 million pilgrims to Rome.

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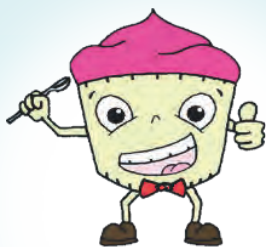
# Cortland Standard



## Holiday Coloring Contest



Sponsored By:



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One winner will be selected in each age group. Both winners will receive a stocking filled with holiday goodies and the following:

- Hyde's Diner - \$15 gift certificate
- Hair Studio 90 - \$15 gift certificate
- Area 51 - \$15 gift certificate
- Up Boxed- An EXTRA-LARGE holiday coloring page
- Frosted Bakery - \$15 gift certificate
- Center for the Arts - \$15 gift certificate
- Tilden Liquidation - \$15 gift certificate
- A&W - \$15 gift certificate
- The Cat's Pajamas - \$15 gift certificate

### Holiday Coloring Contest Entry Form:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

AGE GROUP (Check One) ☐ 3-7 Yrs. ☐ 8-12 Yrs.

START COLORING!

Deadline is Wednesday, December 11th

#### CONTEST RULES:

- Contest is open to children 3-12 (except immediate family members of Cortland Standard employees). The picture must be colored by the child.
- Entries will be judged on overall appearance, creativity, and neatness. You may use crayons, paint, markers, glitter, fabric, etc.
- Completed entry must be received on or before December 11, 2024. Winners will be announced on December 13, 2024 on cortlandstandard.com and on Facebook.

Mail Entries to: Cortland Standard,  
Coloring Contest, P.O. Box 5548, Cortland,  
NY 13045 Drop off to: 110 Main St., Cortland  
Email: contest@cortlandstandard.com