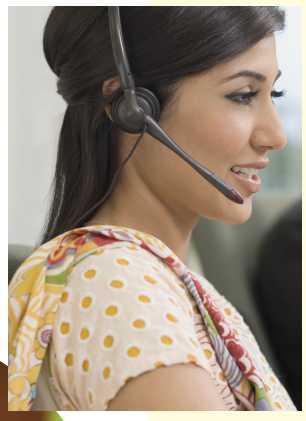
FREE

2025 PROGRESS

Looking Forward



A Free Supplement Published by Times-Journal

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4 sites for Righi's Redemption

Righi's Redemption Center offers four convenient locations to meet customers' needs for bottle and can redemption in Cobleskill, Middleburgh, Warnerville and Worcester.

"We're the only redemption center in Schoharie County with the can and bottle counter," said owner Ben Righi.

"We'll have you in and out in no time."

16 years for Righi's Refrigeration

Ben Righi offers heating, plumbing and air conditioning services at his Righi's Refrigeration.

He's been in business for more than 16 years.

"I pride myself on my heating, plumbing and A/C knowledge and service," Mr. Righi said.

Better Spaces Realty

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Tammy Silvestri-Putnam is a Licensed Real Estate Broker with Better Spaces Realty. I am also the Treasurer of the Summit Community Center in Summit.

Crystal Kennedy is a Licensed Associate Broker. Her husband Nick operates Catskill Tree Service and they have two sons Logan and Tucker. Crystal also is the owner and operator of Turning Heads Hair Studio in Richmondville.

Zachary Martin is a Licensed Real Estate Agent and a father of two boys, Zachary and Ben. Zack also Coaches Little League in Sharon Springs.

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Zachary Martin
Licensed Realtor
(518) 858-3801
martinzachary1993@gmail.com

Landis Arboretum, a Schoharie Co. gem

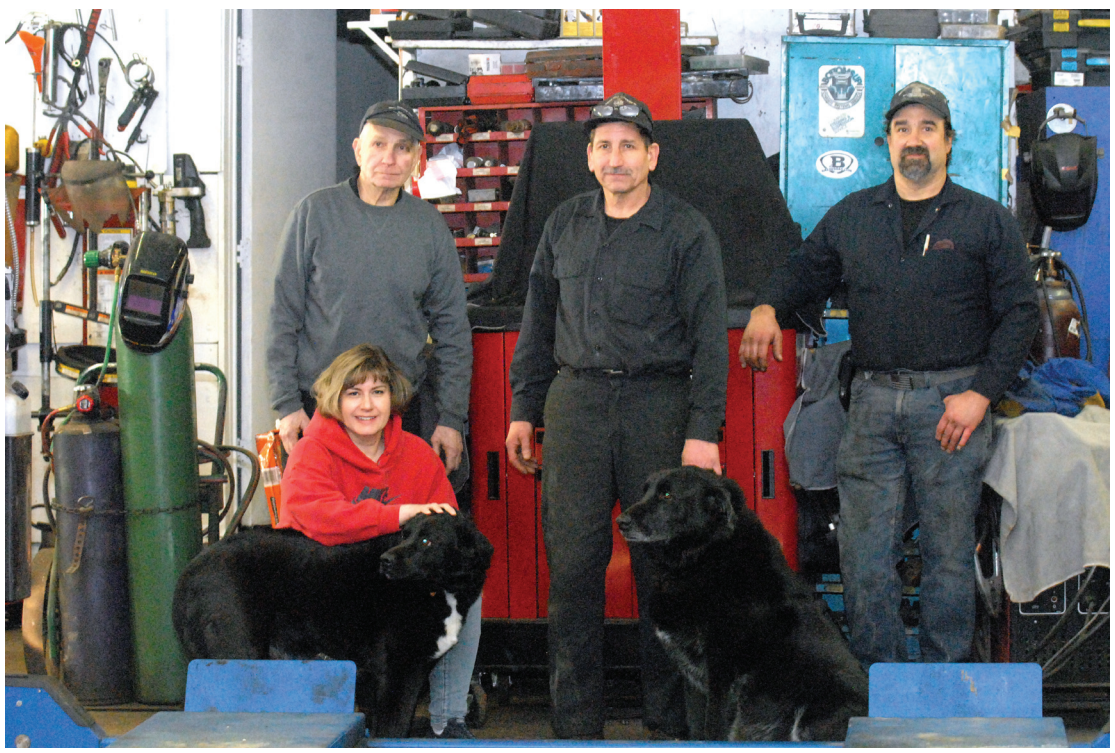
Landis Arboretum, 174 Lape Road in Esperance, is a Schoharie County gem, offering outdoor education classes and events. plant sales, concerts, and a year-fun calendar of activities, birding, and hiking opportunities through its old growth forests.

In 2024, the Arboretum built a large on-site pavilion, upgraded its facilities with heat and cooling, installed solar panels, and replaced roofs, all geared toward expanding their use for Landis events and rentals.

They also replaced its primary maintenance vehicle and purchased a tractor for greater efficiency on the grounds, replaced and expanded the main walkway to the Farmhouse Visitor Center and gave several buildings a fresh coat of paint.

According ot Executive Director Fred Breglia, plans for 2025 include ongoing tree maintenance and turning the Nick J. Juried Pavilion into the Nicholas J. Juried Park to make it a prime and affordable wedding and event destination.

"We'd like to thank the public and our fiscal sponsors for their continued support," Mr. Breglia said. "We couldn't do it without them. Our dedicated volunteers, staff, and members are the lifeblood of Landis and help keep us growing for future generations."



Trustworthy: Sharon Hill Garage

Since 1978, the Rodden family has been providing full-service auto repair at their Sharon Hill Garage, Route 20, Sharon Springs. They also sell used cars.

"We are so lucky to provide services to our customers, many of whom have turned into good friends," said John Rodden Jr. "Thank you for placing your trust in us."

Above: John Rodden Sr., John Rodden Jr., Lars Schmid. Front: Cindy Dixon with Grant and Ti. Missing, Barbara Rodden.

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2024 brought change to T-J

After 32 years, in October, Times-Journal owners Jim and Sandy Poole stepped away from the Schoharie County institution, selling the T-J and The Printers to Mark Vinciguerra, president of Capital Regional Independent Media.

Mr. Vinciguerra publishes the Ravena News-Herald, Greenville Pioneer, Granville Sentinel and The Whitehall Times among his six weeklies and many specialty magazines.

He also has two robust news websites, theupstater.com and nyvtmedia.com that partner with his papers.

Mr. Vinciguerra's experience includes stints at the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review and the Syracuse Post-Standard.

As daily papers changed and contracted their coverage, he saw opportunities in weeklies––both as essential news for readers and valuable advertising outlets for businesses.

"I'm very much looking forward to working with the members of the T-J team and to carry on Jim's work and continue to bring quality local news and information to the area," Mr. Vinciguerra said.

The T-J has strived to have a mix of news that people need to read and what they want to read, plus sports, feature stories and a lively opinion page bolstered by letters to the editor.

"Much of the Times-Journal's success stems from its staff that's dedicated to the news business," Mr. Poole said.

"Just as important are the devoted readers who interact with the paper every week."

The T-J's new publisher is Warren Dews Jr., vice president of CRIM.

Having worked with CRIM and Mr. Vinciguerra for five years, Mr. Dews is also publisher of three other company weeklies: The Columbia Paper, The Ravena News-Herald and The Pioneer in Greenville.

Those papers focus on both print and digital editions, and Mr. Dews wants to do the same in Cobleskill, especially expanding the digital presence.

Mr. Dews described the T-J's local coverage as "amazing," adding that he doesn't want to change that by reducing the amount of local news.

"If it's the football team or a girl who does something special, that's where we want to be," he said.

Mr. Dews plans to be closely tied to the community, as he said he is in other towns.

"I love what I do in whatever town I'm in," he said. "I want to bring people together for advertisers and readers. Let's find agreement."

The Times-Journal crew takes a break for a photo. Standing from left are Patsy Nicosia, editor; Bruce Tryon, sales manager; Judy Sanganetti, typesetting and circulation; Pete Lindemann, proofreader and historian; and Denise Bollettieri, composition and commercial printing. Seated in front is Karen Slater, graphic artist.

Jim Poole and new Times-Journal owner Mark Vinciguerra

Warren Dews Jr.

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Destination Marketing: It starts with a visit

It all starts with a visit.

That weekend getaway or road trip might seem small, but it's often the spark that lights a bigger fire.

For many, the glossy tourism materials or a compelling social post from Visit Schoharie County are the first steps to seeing this community not just as a place to visit, but a place to call home.

Think of them as the county's welcome mat—rolling out the charm, the scenery, and the endless possibilities.

Visit Schoharie County, under the leadership of Cassandra Harrington and her team—Ryan Geraghty, Sam Forehand, and Corinne Curpier—serves as the county's official tourism office.

As part of the Destination Marketing Corporation (DMC) for Otsego and Schoharie Counties, their mission is clear: To elevate Schoharie County's appeal as a must-visit destination, all while enriching the lives of residents through economic vitality and cultural vibrancy.

Tourism isn't just sun hats and selfie sticks.

It's the $106 million visitors spent in 2023—money that keeps the county humming and puts a $997 back into residents' wallets.

And yes, those are real numbers—straight from the latest tourism impact report commissioned by I Love New York.

Who knew hosting out-of-towners could be so lucrative?

Breaking it down: $40 million went to lodging, $33 million to second homes (weekenders, we're looking at you), $19 million to food and drinks, and $10 million to retail and service stations. Even recreation snagged $2 million.

All told, tourism has grown 161 percent since 2019.

Not bad for an industry some might shrug off.

And it's not just about dollars—it's about jobs.

In 2023, tourism fueled $25.2 million in local labor income. That's paychecks for neighbors, friends, and maybe even family.

Established in 2014, the DMC is recognized as the Tourism Promotion Agency under the New York State Tourism Matching Funds Program.

Through occupancy tax revenues, cooperative marketing investments, and annual grants, they've mastered the art of balancing economic growth with preserving the charm and quality of life Schoharie County is known for.

"Schoharie County is not just a destination; it's a thriving community rich in opportunity," said Ms. Harrington.

Visit Schoharie County's marketing toolbox is stacked: digital campaigns, social media magic, good ol' public relations, and good old-fashioned community outreach.

They're not just promoting—they're storytelling.

From historical landmarks to scenic trails, their efforts ensure that everyone sees what makes this place exceptional.

The Visit Schoharie County website, VisitSchoharieCounty.com, features event calendars, itineraries, and business listings, and more.

For more updates and inspiration, visit VisitSchoharieCounty.com and follow them on Facebook@VisitSchoharie and Instagram @VisitSchoharieCounty.

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Debbie Tilison: First rate RE service

Debbie Tilison has been a real estate agent for Gucciardo Real Estate Group since receiving her license in 2019.

Gucciardo Real Estate Group sold over $100 million of real estate in 2024.

"Most of you know me as the owner of Race Printing for over 38 years," Ms. Tilison said.

"Customer service is my specialty. I like to treat people the way I'd like to be treated, with respect and give them my full attention. One call does it all.

"My personal cell phone number is (518)937-8784. I will answer my phone every time and work hard for you. I live in Schoharie County and I serve the entire Capital District area as well as several other counties including Montgomery, Fulton and Otsego.

"I have been in the customer service business my whole life. I enjoy helping people find their dream home or sell their home when they are moving or downsizing."

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8th year for Mattresses & Then Some

Bryan and Maggie Pryor, are proud to be entering their eighth year in the mattress business.

With mattress sales on the rise, Mr. Pryor attributes their success to the high quality of the mattresses they carry.

Mattresses And Then Some carries a large selection of encased coil mattresses, which are double-sided for the ultimate in comfort and support in addition to a longer mattress life. "Our best customers are those who have shopped elsewhere for a mattress and then come to us. We aren't selling big brand knock-offs like some other mattress retailers," said Mr. Pryor. "These are first-quality mattresses made by a family-owned and operated company that has been manufacturing mattresses here in the US since 1899."

Stop in today to see their large selection of in-stock and special order mattresses and get ready to have the best night's sleep you've had in a long time.

Mattresses And Then Some showroom is open by appointment only, so call ahead at (518)234-2347 to set an appointment.

Race Printing one-stop shop

Race Printing and Package Center, located at 111 Barnerville Road in Cobleskill, has been a one-stop shop for all your printing and shipping needs since 1986 — that's over 38 years of service in the community.

Their motto is "Service is our Specialty" and they take that very seriously. Their hours are 8:30am-5pm, Monday-Friday.

You can call (518)234-4442 and a real person will answer the phone 99 percent of the time. If you are the 1 percent when the answering machine has to pick up because they are waiting on another customer, they will call you back promptly.

Owners Denny and Debbie Tilison and their staff can pack and ship your packages via UPS, FedEx, DHL, and the United States Post Office all in one location.

They have several graphic designers on staff who can turn your ideas into a professional looking printed piece, whether it be business cards, flyers, brochures, menus, forms, or mail pieces; if it can be printed they can do it.

They also have binding machines, laminators, wide format printers, and high speed copiers to fit all your copy and printing needs and can also do silk screening and embroidery for all personalized clothing needs.

"We would like to thank all our loyal customers for continuing to make Race Printing and Package Center your #1 place to print and ship," said Ms. Tilison. "Denny and I would also like to thank our dedicated employees for their hard work and dedication. We have the best employees who have worked for us for many years. We have become a family. All of us at Race Printing and Package Center would like to wish everyone good health and happiness in 2025."

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Langan Funeral Home

Langan Funeral Homes are there to serve the community.

"As we reflect on 2024, we are grateful for the families that have called upon us to help them through a very difficult time. We are serving more families each year as our reputation for caring and attention to detail resonates with those we serve.

"Both locations have seen an increase in the number of families served as we remain locally, privately, and family-owned-and-operated, just like the past 59 years.

"There is no corporate influence in our funeral homes and no outside "partnership" to dictate how we structure our business."

Karen Jezewski serves as a full-time funeral director and embalmer to assist owner, Michael Langan, with licensed responsibilities.

Ms. Jezewski lives in Canajoharie with her husband Brian and their two sons, Nicholas and Logan.

Several part-time employees make up the staff of 10 who assist from the beginning phone call of a loss of a loved one, to the final service, burial or cremation.

Their fleet of vehicles include a full-sized Cadillac Eagle Echelon Hearse, the top of the line hearse offered by the Eagle Coach Co. (The same hearse carried General Colin Powell to the Capital and to his final resting place).

They also offer an antique 1941 Packard Henney Funeral Coach to those that request it and two new service vehicles.

They continue to serve families with the utmost in care and compassion with careful consideration of costs and strive to meet the needs of grieving families during a most difficult time.

Mr. Langan or Ms. Jezewski are available 24/7, 365 days, to meet with families for at-need or pre-need arrangements.

The funeral homes offer caskets, burial vaults, urns and other cremation products that include jewelry, keepsakes, urns and fingerprint items.

They are a 'known shipper' of several airlines and can ship remains to any destination and are knowledgeable with the laws and regulations that are required.

Call on the independently-owned and operated Langan Funeral Home on Main Street in Schoharie or the Robert A. Guffin Funeral Home on Chapel Street in Cobleskill.

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Purrfect service at Zeke's

Zeke Mansheffer took over his Main Street, Schoharie business in 2022 and renamed it Zeke's Auto Repair. He looks forward to serving Schoharie County and the surrounding areas for years to come.

Mr. Mansheffer said not to forget to say hi to Scott Mansheffer, the other owner, when you stop by.

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House of Hair Design still styling...

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Since 1978, Paul Hahn has been styling hair at his House of Hair Design.

Located on Mineral Springs Road, Cobleskill, he offers haircuts for men, women and children, also perms, highlights and colors.

Games a Plunder

Games A Plunder is 15 years old. They have video games, board games, trading card games, D&D supplies, Warhammer, and much more at their Cobleskill location on 107 Union Street.

This last year they added the One Piece Trading Card Game and Lorcana to the storefront, along with new products from all of their other categories.

"We are excited to see regular faces and new customers for the next 15 years," said owner Michael Willman.

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SCCAP to mark 60th

For nearly six decades, the Schoharie County Community Action Program has supported individuals facing economic and social challenges, empowering individuals through partnerships, education, and compassionate services.

As they approach their 60th anniversary in September, they celebrate a milestone that reflects their commitment to building stronger, healthier communities.

SCCAP believes its work is more critical than ever, as many individuals in Schoharie County continue to face economic instability, limited resources, and the pressures of daily life.

As a trusted community partner, they provide essential services to help individuals and create pathways to better futures.

Services at SCCAP include:

• **Child Care Resource Services**: Helping families find dependable, quality child care and supporting child care providers.

• **Community Services**: Providing programs to assist with food insecurity, housing stability, and managing heating costs.

• **Creative Connections for Youth**: Engaging youth in creative activities that build self-esteem, skills and lasting connections.

• **Employment Support**: Assisting individuals with job searches, computer training, and skill-building for new opportunities.

• **Energy Services**: Offering Weatherization Services to lower energy costs and improve home safety.

• **Family Support and Resource Center**: Offering guidance and resources to caregivers raising children with social, emotional, and behavioral challenges. Skill Building services and a safe and welcoming location for Supervised Visitation services.

• **Food Pantry**: Assistance for food and daily essentials for qualifying community members.

• **Healthy Families**: Administers the Women, Infants, and Children Program (WIC), which provides nutrition and breastfeeding services, along with healthy foods. In addition to WIC, we also offer breastfeeding support and education to everyone in Schoharie County.

They not only offer immediate relief but also the ongoing support that helps individuals overcome the challenges they face, empowering them to build a stronger, more resilient future.

Looking ahead to its 60th anniversary, SCCAP remains more committed than ever to supporting the individuals of Schoharie County and look forward to the next chapter of community-building.

Book your pig roast now for that special occasion, at highonthehogbbqco.com

High on the Hog BBQ, located on Route 30 in Middleburgh, has been delivering on their promise of great BBQ since 2018.

Owners Denise and Todd Nunamann serve pulled pork, brisket, ribs, steak, and seafood. They do catering, pig roasts, and also serve beer and wine.

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Ms. Lloyd can help you fully analyze your needs and recommend appropriate solutions specializing in the services and products that she has to offer.

Boreali Land Services: Part-time now fulltime

Boreali Land Services was born in May 2024 when David Boreali decided it was time to turn his years of side work into a full-fledged business.

His first year was filled with challenges and triumphs, but most importantly, many satisfied clients. His dedication to quality work has earned him great success.

He is incredibly thankful for his loyal clients, as well as the new ones who trusted him with their property.

Boreali Land Services offers a wide range of property maintenance services, including brush hogging, light land clearing, rototiling, food plot installation, and more. He is eager to meet new clients as his business grows.

Reach out today at borealiland@yahoo.com or (518)300-0640.

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- FREE and FUN family events
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2025 EVENTS	
April 5	Eggstravaganza
April 26	Earth Rocks!
June 1	Teddy Bear Picnic
June 14–15	Pathways Through History
July 13	Antique Auto Show
July 21–25	Intro to Robotics Pre–registration required
Aug. 18–22	SeaPerch Pre–registration required
Aug. 23	Touch–A–Truck
Sept. 27	Wildlife Festival
October	Energy Awareness Month
Oct. 11–13	Pathways Through History
Oct. 18	Spooktacular
Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23	STEM Sundays
December	Festival of Trees
Dec. 13	Holly Jolly Party

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Evan Lane Attorney at Law

Evan R. Lane Attorney at Law PLLC is a general practice, meaning many different types of cases are accepted.

In particular, Counselor Lane specializes in: criminal defense and appeals, (including traffic tickets and DWIs) bankruptcy, and landlord-tenant disputes.

Success is built upon comprehensive legal expertise and unwavering commitment to clients. Before establishing his firm in April 2022, Mr. Lane honed his legal skills and knowledge as an Assistant District Attorney with the Schoharie County District Attorney's Office. In this capacity, he represented the office in local, county, and supreme courts, managing a wide array of responsibilities, working in 16 local and higher courts, giving him broad perspective on the legal landscape.

Above: Sam Tarbell, paralegal, Evan R. Lane, Esq. and Nicole Anton, criminal paralegal.

Buffomatic Transmissions

Buffomatic Transmission on Route 20 in Carlisle is an auto repair shop specializing in foreign and domestic light duty and heavy duty vehicles. Buffomatic is also a certified state inspection station.

"We are a full service auto repair shop. We appreciate and value our loyal customers and we look forward to the new year," said owner Shawn Buffo.

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Value Village Wine and Liquors is located at 107 Railroad Avenue, Middleburgh. Randy and Candace Wood offer a wide selection of wines and liquors at the business, which was formed in 1990 and employs four.

Beretz Logging is family-run.

Scott joined the business in 2024, bringing with him 20 years of Marine Corps service and eight years in the private sector.

Jacob oversees the logging operation.

Together, the three cut well over 600 cords of firewood in 2021 – cut, split and seasoned.

With a four-sided planer, they can saw boards up to 25 inches in length.

Above from the left: Jacob Beretz, Scott Beretz, Joe Beretz and Bear and Yogi.

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Since 1912, Dick Vedder's Provost Bros., Inc. – "The Water People" – has been offering pump sales and service from their Route 20, Sloansville location.

2023 saw the business complete overhaul its service truck; in 2024-25, they continued to provide dedicated service to all customers – old and new.

"We've been family-owned and operated for 113 years, four generations," Mr. Vedder, who's been working full-time in the business for the last 48 of them. "I've met many, many fine people. Special thanks to our office manager Ann Hay, for keeping things straight. There's a lot to it and she's great."

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*This award program recognizes outstanding performance among the nation's critical access hospitals based on the results of the Chartis Rural Hospital Performance INDEX®.

Fox Creek Excavating

Fox Valley Excavating, owned by Dan Prsysiecki, is located in Schoharie (Town of Wright). They offer delivery of a full line of products, including gravel, shale, topsoil, bluestone, fill, etc.

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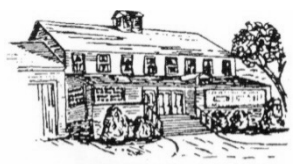

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http://www.schoharieheritage.org

Total Wave Car Wash offers state-of-the-art modern laser touchless car washing at its Route 7, Warnerville location. Opened in the fall of 2009, Everett Chichester's business is open 24/7, has an automatic bay and self-service bays and is completely green. It takes most credit cards as well as cash.

Meet Your Schoharie County Keller Williams Hudson Valley North Realty Team!

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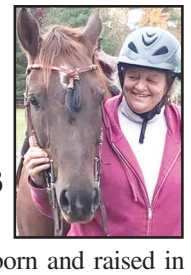
"Ruby" has more than 31 years experience in real estate and lives by the Golden Rule, to "treat people as you would want to be treated." Ruby loves helping people and is a member of four multiple listing systems throughout New York giving her real estate listings maximum exposure to agents throughout most of upstate and downstate New York. She services Schoharie County and the surrounding counties in the Catskill region and beyond.

SAMANTHA CLARK
Lic. R.E. Salesperson
C: 518-265-7996

Born and raised in Schoharie County, Samantha appreciates all that our part of the Northern Catskills has to offer! It is truly a great place to call home. If you are looking for a Real Estate agent that has over 20 years of experience in the Schoharie County area or surrounding areas, in residential, commercial, farms or vacant land, feel free to reach out to Samantha at any time! It would be a pleasure to help you make a dream come true.

DARCEY VOLANS
Lic. R.E. Salesperson
C:518-233-4903



Darcey Volans was born and raised in Schoharie County and now lives in Rensselaer County. She loves helping buyers and sellers in both counties and specializes in equine properties. Darcey has owned several horses over the years and currently has a horse named "Charlie" seen in the photo with her. Darcey is available to help you with all of your real estate needs.

MATHEW GROSS III
Lic.R.E. Salesperson
C: 518-948-1239

As a native of Long Island and now a full-time resident of Schoharie County, Matt can appreciate what buyers are looking for when relocating to the area! Also a seasoned investor, he appreciates the nuances of buying commercial Real Estate. Feel free to reach out to Matt today for any of your Real Estate needs!

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Gobbler's Knob Family Fun Park continues to provide memorable experiences at their 18-hole lighted miniature golf course, full service lighted driving range, snack bar and ice cream parlor.

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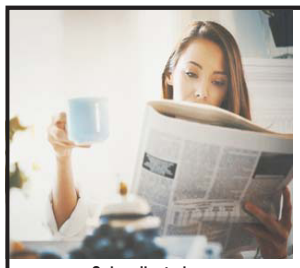

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Ice Burg ready for the season

When The Ice Burg opens in 2025, it will be in its new building; the trailer will be gone. The expansion will allow the business to add a second ice cream machine and give employees a little more room to work.

Opened in 2021, The Ice Burg, 2099 State Route 145, Middleburgh, is owned and operated by Renee Schmidt and serves ice cream, burgers, fries and more. "Customers have been so amazing," Ms. Schmidt said. "We couldn't do it without the wonderful support of our community."

Above, from the left: Jill Barnett, Ashley Moorhead, Anne Stewart, Emma Birsen, Morgan Schafroth, Renee Schmidt, and Steve Kowalski.

New Looks Landscaping

2024 was a year of resilience for New Looks Landscaping.

Despite the challenge of finding reliable help, the family-owned business persevered, thanks to the unwavering support of its loyal clients and the dedication of the hardworking team. It was a busy year filled with opportunities to beautify outdoor spaces and bring smiles to homeowners across the community.

As they step into their 24th year of business, they are proud to continue serving their neighbors with the same commitment and care that started it all. From lawn care and landscaping to creating stunning outdoor spaces, New Looks Landscaping is here to make your property shine.

"Thank you for trusting us to be a part of your homes and lives for over two decades. Here's to a bright and blooming 2025," said Les Foland, left with wife Pam and daughter Ashley Boreali.

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The Haight family would like to thank all of their loyal customers and look forward to serving you in 2025.

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For the past 36 years, Mereness-Putnam Funeral Home has been a mainstay, serving Cobleskill and the surrounding area with the approach of "serving every family as our own."

Nicole Barber remains dedicated to upholding the values and principles set forth by both Janet and Richard Putnam, that have made Mereness-Putnam Funeral Home the valued and respectable business it is today.

This past year they have taken on another funeral director, Isaiah Cechnicki.

Mr. Cechnicki has family in the local community and is both honored to be here and excited for the opportunity.

While Janet and Richard Putnam may not be seen day-to-day at the funeral home, they've left a lasting legacy that both Ms. Barber and Mr. Cechnicki are devoted to maintaining.

They will continue to provide care, respect, and support to those we serve, offering unique and personalized services options, as well as traditional services.

They look forward to the future and are sincerely grateful to the families that entrusted them with the care and service of their loved ones throughout this past year.

Mike Breen, Attorney-at-Law, has been handling everything from estates and estate planning to real estate closures, divorces, mortgage foreclosures, and litigation since July 1, 1975. He's located on Railroad Avenue, Middleburgh. Above is Mr. Breen with Lori Roney.

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"I want to thank all my loyal customers who continued to support me," said Andy Reightmyer, here with his daughter, Raina. "I look forward to serving them and meeting new ones in 2025."

Stop in at 139 Main Street in Middleburgh or call (518)827-5900. Andy's is open Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm.

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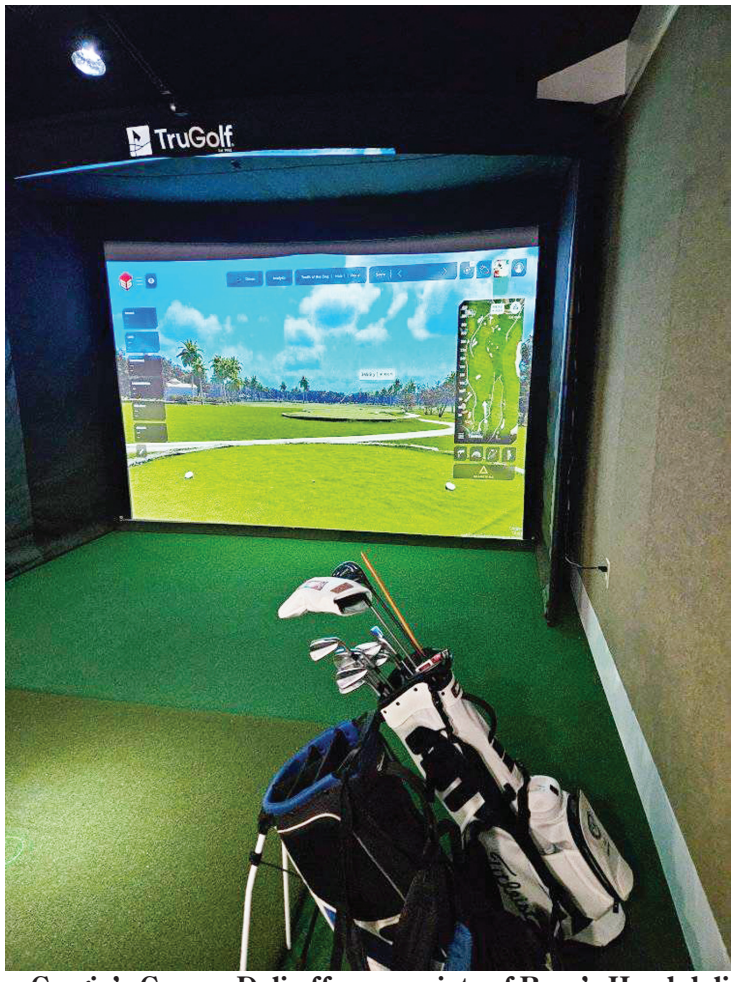

Cargie's Corner Deli offers a variety of Boar's Head deli meats, homemade salads, cheeses, fresh meat case, subs and sandwiches all on fresh baked rolls, burgers, pizza – wings and other fried foods. Friday, Saturday and Sunday they offer dinner: Friday – seafood, Saturday – BBQ, and a Sunday dinner, like mom use to make.

Every week these specials change; call and inquire and place your order.

The golf simulator is open on Tuesday-Sunday from 10am-8pm. Call ahead for a great time…and it will keep your game going strong and ready for the outdoor season.

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Maggie and Bryan Pryor take pride in providing the community with first class service and products.

"We are very thankful to our customers for their repeat business and for continuing to refer friends and family," said Mr. Pryor.

If you've never been to their huge showroom you don't know what you're missing.

Stop in and you'll be amazed with the great selection and newest styles of vinyl plank floors, carpet, vinyl and ceramic tile, hardwood, and linoleum.

And if you need your floor installed, there's no one you can trust more for excellent service than Mr. Pryor with his 35-plus years of experience in the flooring installation business.

Carpets And Then Some showroom is open by appointment only so call ahead at (518)234-2347 to set an appointment.

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The Brick House Bakery is a full-service bakery that is also features a deli, ice cream window and a hot and cold beverage center. The popular business is on West Main Street, Cobleskill.

In front from left are Natalie Austin, Victory Aulita and Kendall Roberts. In back are Amanda Lamica, Vinnie Zaba, Amanda DiBella and Rich Baumann. Mr. Zaba and Mr. Baumann are the owners.

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Country Tyme Propane continues to grow

Country Tyme Propane LLC started out in 2006, with a storage tank purchased from an out-of-business company and a used truck from Massachusetts.

The years since have seen this friendly, family-owned business succeed and grow.

This year Country Tyme plans to continue providing the community with exemplary service and competitive pricing on all their propane needs.

They have also added a new 2025 Freight Liner to their fleet of delivery trucks. LP Tanks will also continue being filled at their 946 NY-162 location in Sprakers.

The business credits its success to all the years of loyal customer support.

"I would like to thank all our customers because without you we would not be in business," said Patricia Popolizio.

Propane deliveries can be arranged at (518) 673-1011.

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BBB

Saorise Hayes Hooper, in the foreground, and Ula Hayes Hooper, right, third generation at Sap Bush Hollow Farm Store and Cafe, enjoy serving farm-fresh meals to their community on Saturdays, 9am-2pm, May 9-November 22. The Sap Bush Hollow Farm honor store is open 24/7. Learn more at Sapbush.com.

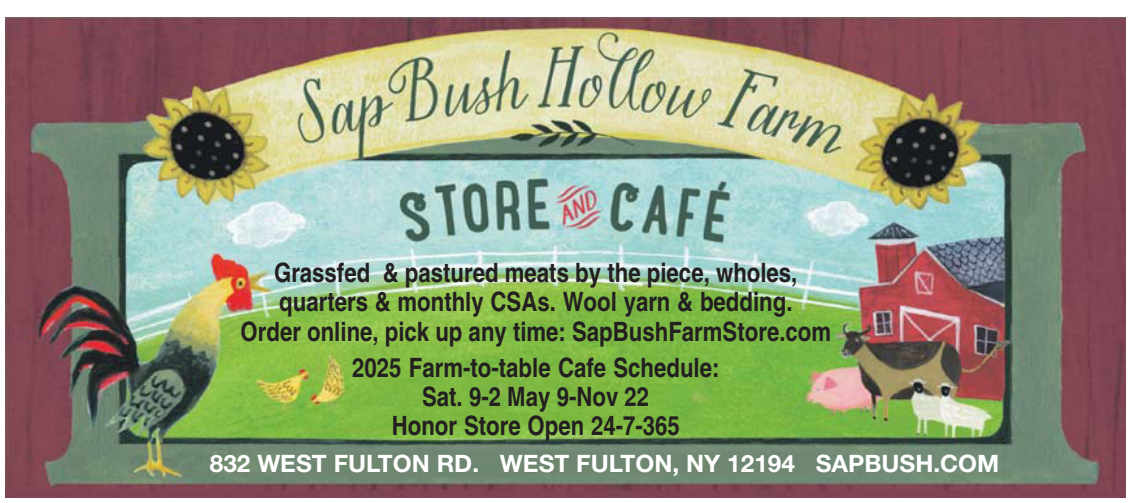
Buffo Storage takes pride in offering a simple and hassle-free self-storage experience for customers in Carlisle.

They make sure their storage units are clean, secure, and ready to rent.

They also focus on offering a wide variety of storage unit sizes and types to make sure they can handle any self-storage need customers may have.

Buffo Storage also offers online rentals and online bill pay 24/7 to make the experience quick and easy. Look at their available storage units and give them a call with questions or simply rent a unit right on the website.

They are committed to providing a clean, secure and ready-to-rent self-storage unit. Their friendly staff provides everyone with a great storage rental experience from start to finish.



Century 21 Rural Estates long history of service

Heading into its 36th year, Century 21 Real Estates has a longstanding tradition of community service stemming back to Chris Nunamann, who first opened it with his son, Dean Nunamann, in 1988.

"Century 21 offers more than experience and professionalism; we offer heart. Our team is made up of your neighbors and friends," Mr. Nunamann said.

"This is all about people and communities; with agents on our team that volunteer with fire departments, booster clubs, area events, business associations and the Chamber of Commerce; building on my dad's legacy.

"He proudly served as mayor, then town justice, and volunteered with the Rotary, and Knights of Columbus just to name a few. That's a tradition we are proud to continue."

Now, more than ever, it's important for real estate companies to keep a competitive edge for clients.

Century 21 has adapted through virtual tours, online resources, and contactless transactions.

"We have more buyers than property available which is a testament to our area and our team," Mr. Nunamann said.

Century 21 maintains two fully automated offices and full-time staff of well-trained real estate professionals.

With offices in Schoharie and Duanesburg, they draw from a diverse client base. Many residents commute to or from the Capital District for employment but prefer the relaxed lifestyle offered here.

Whether you're thinking of buying, selling or just have real estate questions, call or stop by one of the office locations or visit their website, www.century21ruralestates.com; Schoharie, (518) 295-8547; Duanesburg, (518) 895-2902.

Aaron's Electric, Inc. of Middleburgh was formed in 20 years ago and provides electrical services for residential areas, as well as businesses and new construction.

Owner Aaron Wilsey is a licensed master electrician with over 38 years of experience, in addition to holding a state fire alarm license for the sale, installation, and servicing of fire alarms.

The business also sells, installs, and services Guardian Automatic standby generators.

"This is a big year for us being it's our 20th anniversary of being in business," said Aaron Wilsey, owner. "We greatly appreciate and value our loyal customers. I also want to acknowledge our dedicated employees for all they do day in and day out."

Above from the left: Scott Elethorp, Broden Higins, Nicholas Wilsey, Aaron Wilsey, Joe Proctor.

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Phone: (518) 895-2902
323 Main St., Schoharie
Phone: (518) 295-8547
Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-3
Agents also available by appointment

www.century21ruralestates.com

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Ruth Anne Wilkinson
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Jaylene McLaughlin
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Martina Schmitt
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Elizabeth Weingarten
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Bonnie Masker
Admin. Assistant

Liz Santore
Sales Agent

Rita Weaver
Sales Agent

21
RURAL ESTATES

Sandy Thom
Admin. Assistant

Bobbi Ryan
Marketing

Adults find a friend in Literacy NY

Adults whose reading, writing and math skills are weak can get a helping hand from Literacy Volunteers.

The agency, with the full name of Literacy New York—Fulton, Montgomery and Schoharie Counties—has volunteer tutors who work with adults to sharpen their skills.

The service is free.

Students are looking to improve reading, writing and math, and many are looking to get their high school diploma, or GED.

Although some go on to higher education, many of those students are looking to land a job or get a better job.

"We'll help anyone needing those skills," said Lisa Cardilli, executive director of Literacy Volunteers.

"We're the only organization that does this, and we have a proven track record."

Literacy Volunteers also helps students learning English as a second language.

Tutors work one-on-one with students in a quiet setting, such as a library or church. Once-a-week sessions take about two hours, and students have homework.

"Our tutors are wonderful," Ms. Cardilli said. "They're dedicated to this service, and they're volunteering their time to help."

Incoming students have varied skill levels. Some are close to high school while others may be lower elementary.

Literacy tutors can help them all. Students, however, have an obligation to be committed because sessions may take a year, depending on skill level.

"Students must want to do this," Ms. Cardilli said. "They need a good attitude and a strong work ethic to reach their goals."

Supplies are available for students, including calculators and even bus tokens for students with transportation issues.

Students who complete their course work aren't left alone. Ms. Cardilli and her staff make them aware of better job opportunities that have better pay and health care.

The staff also stays in touch with students for six months to see how they're doing and whether they need help.

Literacy Volunteers has about 85 students across the three counties, and there's room for more.

The agency has about 20 tutors, and Ms. Cardilli is looking to add volunteers.

"It's a wonderful, rewarding experience to see students succeed," said Ms. Cardilli, who's been a tutor for years.

Literacy NY has offices in Cobleskill, where Ms. Cardilli is based, and also in Gloversville.

To learn more about referring a student or becoming a tutor, contact her at 518-234-2576 visit www.lvasc.org or email lnyfms1@gmail.com.

• • •

Literacy NY is not all work and no play. The play part is coming up.

The agency is hosing its popular SCRABBLE tournament March 22 at Radez School in Richmondville.

A literacy fundraiser, the tournament has two-, three- and four-member teams compete in three SCRABBLE for cash programs.

Each game has different rules––not traditional SCRABBLE rules—and the total points determine the winners.

The top team wins $200, the next three get $100 apiece, and a randomly-drawn team also wins $100.

Brian Dineen is emcee once again, and he'll pitch trivia questions for prizes. Players can also take part in a huge raffle and enjoy a buffet breakfast catered by Rooster on the Run.

For more information or to register a team, contact Ms. Cardilli at 518-234-2576 or lnyfms1@gmail.com.

Tax prep, payroll and more

Lynette SB Lawyer CPA is a certified public accountant in Cobleskill and surrounding areas.

They specialize in tax preparation, bookkeeping services and payroll services.

Lynette SB Lawyer CPA provides payroll in Cobleskill and surrounding areas. As payroll specialists, they will manage the payroll needs of your business; it doesn't matter what size your staff is, or their status; full-time, part-time, contractor.

Managing payroll can be one of the most difficult and burdensome tasks for any sized business.

Leave it to the professionals at Lynette SB Lawyer CPA and have peace of mind knowing everything will be reported accurately while ensuring you're paying the lowest tax burden necessary.

Their expert staff is qualified and skilled in this area of accounting.

2024 was a banner year for the Sandy Poole Team at Howard Hanna Real Estate Services.

"It's been another crazy year in real estate with rates up and inventory down," said Ms. Poole. "And you can never predict what is going to happen for the next year. We continue to work together to provide quality service for sellers and buyers. We all love what we do."

From left are Andy Steiner, Sue Riquier, Ms. Poole and Rebecca Cross Zarski.

Opened in August of 2021, 25 Main Collective was started in the historic village of Cherry Valley by Noelle Adamoscheck to showcase her stained glass mosaic work and also that of many of the artists and makers that live and work in the area.

25 Main Collective is open all year at 21 Main Street, Cherry Valley. Winter hours are 11am-4pm, Wednesday through Saturday, Monday and Tuesday by appointment.

Noelle Adamoscheck, shown in picture, stained glass mosaic artist and owner of 25 Main Collective.

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Gloria Youmans, broker/owner of Foothills Realty, Ecker Hollow Road, Schoharie and her two agents, Elizabeth Celmer Youmans and Elizabeth Barr, have a combined 70-plus years of real estate experience in Schoharie and surrounding counties, including: Schenectady, Albany, Saratoga, Montgomery, Fulton, Greene and part of Otsego.

The Foothills Realty office offers experience to both buyers and sellers of all types of properties as well as free market analysis and BPO servicing.

All agents are members of The Greater Capital Association of Realtors, Global MLS, Inc., and National Association of Realtors.

COD Oil delivery has been providing heating oil since 1987, and will spend 2025 continuing to serve customers in Schoharie County and neighboring communities.

"We all here at COD Oil want to take the opportunity to thank all of our loyal customers," said Elizabeth Gaylor.

Pictured here, Skip Noxon proudly stands by the COD Oil fleet of trucks.

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The Middleburgh Diner has a long standing history in the community – from its architecture to an article found right inside its walls "Throughout the years with Shelmandine's Restaurant," it is not hard to grasp the influence this diner has had.

In 1950, the building was constructed along Route 145, just a short mile outside the village's center. Only a short two years later the business was bought out by the Buzon family. The Buzons ran the diner for many years; in 1991 the current family, purchased it and have it run ever since.

The family and staff offer their sincere gratitude to all their patrons over the years who've made it possible to continue doing what they love for a community they love.

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Mike, Mickey Crewell and the rest of the crew at A&M Towing and Recovery would like to remind everyone that they have you covered from light to heavy duty tows.

With their 50-ton Rotator, 45-ton heavy Wrecker, Quickswap, and two Service trucks, they can handle any heavy towing needs. They also have their flatbeds to help when you need a lighter tow or service.

A&M continues to perform off-road recoveries with the use of their skid steer and winch box and they are currently in the process of adding an additional off-road recovery wrecker.

They are also a New York State Certified Heavy Inspection and Heavy Repair Facility.

"We have you covered whatever situations arise to get you back on the road and make it as easy as possible," Mr. Crewell said.

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CPI puts best foot far forward

By Lucas Fiedler, President CPI

"As the sun rises and sets each day, we move forward as a people and a society. This progress is how we better ourselves and those around us.

"The progress of a community group can be defined as a deliberate shift towards a desired goal, or a gradual improvement towards something. It can also be described as a society's ability to meet the needs of its citizens, improve their quality of life, and create opportunities for success.

"Through 2024, like every one of the 27 years prior, Cobleskill Partnership Incorporated put the best foot forward.

"While implementing new community activities and events, bolster and growing our historic and cherished events, aiding in the completion of some long-standing community projects, and develop plans and motivations for years to come; we never lost sight of where we started.

"The businesses and residents of Cobleskill will speak loud enough for us to hear, and their praise of our efforts fuel our tomorrow. We look forward to 2025 and the vast progress we will motivate."

Howard Hanna Real Estate Services is among the most trusted and respected real estate firms in the country. The family-owned business provides high quality technology with a personal experience to make the process of buying and selling your home stress-free. Howard Hanna agents have been serving Schoharie County and surrounding areas since 1984.

"Home happens here at Howard Hanna," said Manager Jessica Becker. "We look forward to showing you what we can do."

Seated from left are Sandy Poole, Michelle Curran and Debra Stanton. Standing from left are Rebecca Cross Zarski, Andy Steiner, Susan Requier and Rebecca Stanton-Terk. Absent: Ms. Becker, Jonathan DiCesare and Gianna Bynum.

Fairgrounds features NY Canine Expo

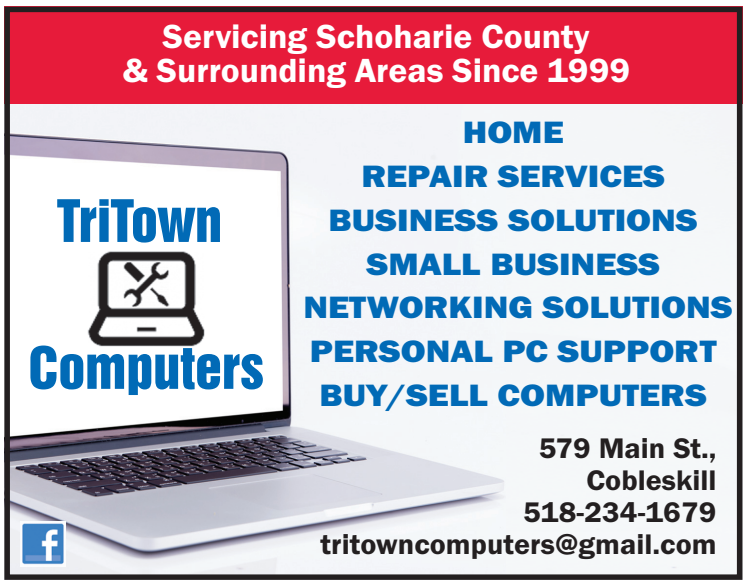
The New York State Canine Expo, September 27-28, Schoharie County Sunshine Fairgrounds.

The Expo will feature two full days of dog demos, competitions and workshops in agility, dock diving, fast cat, barn hunt, detections, tracking and meet the breeds.

There will also be lectures and presentations on selecting the right breed for you, veterinary care and more with canine-related vendors, food vendors, entertainment and a children's area.

Follow up on Facebook and our website (going live in May 2025).

To become a vendor for more information, contact the Fairgrounds at (518)234-2123.



Great seafood, pasta, pizza, steaks, chicken and family style meals can be found at Middle Village Pasta & Grill on 336 Main Street, Middleburgh.

The restaurant, owned by Ralph and Angela Mordocco, will be celebrating its 19th year in 2025. Pictured left to right: Christian Packard, Keaton Bender, Ralph Mordocco, and Joseph Pack.

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Through their independence, they strive to educate and service the community on the best options for their insurance needs, and can provide an assessment of your insurance needs with a choice of which package fits you best.

"We want you to have a positive overall experience with Firemark Insurance Agency Inc. Our one-on-one service approach is our number one goal for all our insurance clients," said Ray Gillis, left, with Ladain Milliron, right.

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Access Physical Therapy continues to serve the community with efficient, quality treatments to assist healing and recovery. Working alongside clients, staff will provide new and innovative treatments that assist and accelerate recovery.

Ashley Martin PT, DPT has completed a Comprehensive Treatment of the Hip: From the Spine to The Foot which has added many tools to her tool box to assist in your recovery.

Randy Pacatte MSPT, ATC has advanced his learning with Mulligan Manual Therapy with Upper Quarter Spinal and Peripheral Manual Therapy Techniques.

The partnering with Access has allowed the staff to focus on recovery while others within the organization focus on insurance coverage, authorization and more.

"As we continue to grow, we take pride in learning new things to help you with your care and recovery," Mr. Pacatte said.

Above from the left: Randy Pacatte, Ashley Martin, Iriyah Haley, Teya Fuhlbrigge Moss, Amy Sisson.

Maureen LaRose Barber offers a variety of State Farm Insurance services from her location in the Price Chopper Plaza.

"We want to thank our local customers and look forward to working with new customers as well," Ms. Barber said.

"My staff and I pride ourselves on exceptional service and we enjoy what we can do for our customers."

Above, from the left: Ms. Barber, Jessie Williams and Shanna Reightmyer.

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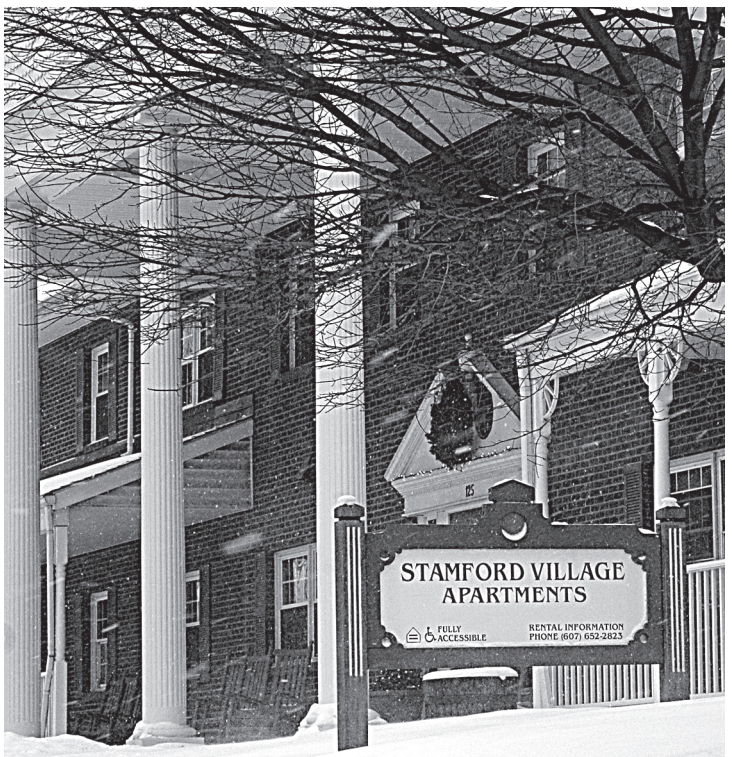
The law offices of Michael J. Shultes, PLLC on West Main Street, Cobleskill, offers expert service in general practice, estates and wills, real estate, criminal law, DWIs, vehicle and traffic violations and much more.

From left are, Tonya Van Valkenburg, Michael Shultes and Christine Useriello.



Stamford Village Apartments on Main Street, Stamford, offer superior senior housing. The business is working with the Delaware County Office for the Aging and Public Health to obtain the services needed for residents.

They are helping the local economy by supplying seniors with affordable housing in a clean, safe environment.

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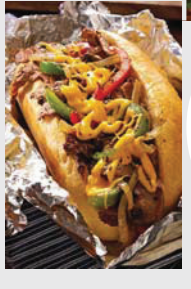

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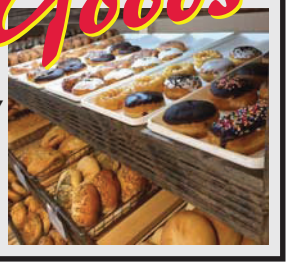
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Spring is on the way for Cobbler and Co.

Opened in May 1997, Cobbler and Company, 189 Main Street, Sharon Springs, features 12 rooms filled with gifts for all seasons. Like many of us, owner Maureen Lodes is looking forward to spring and scenes like the one pictured here.

Ms. Lodes and her store manager Melissa are always assessing the store's inventory in order to update and add many new and very unique products.

Melissa, who joined the store's staff in 1999, easily transitioned into store manger with her talents of ordering, general operations, and more importantly her friendly and helpful customer service.

If you haven't already stopped by Cobbler and Company, stop by for a tour of the unique shop.

"Many thanks to our wonderful customers for their continued support making 2024 a very good year," said Ms. Lodes. "We look forward to seeing everyone this year when Cobbler and company reopens on April 3."

Cellar 77, located in the Price Chopper Plaza, continues to add to its selections and honors special requests, with an eye to great service and exceptional customer service. Above, from the left: Empire truck driver Ron Norton, Carol Orth, Nathaniel Shuart, and owner Lyn Lawyer.

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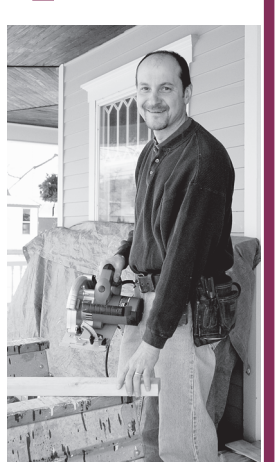

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MIDTEL a leader in fiber

MIDTEL has been busy with its fiber upgrades and Main Street WiFi projects to bring high-speed Internet access to all of their customers.

Currently, 98 percent of their current service territory has fiber coverage and the company plans to have 100 percent coverage by the end of 2025.

In addition, MIDTEL will be working with Schoharie County on the $33.6M county wide fiber broadband grant project, completion slated for year-end 2026.

MIDTEL welcomed new employee, Karen Borovich, director of Regulatory Affairs, to its team in 2024.

For more information on high-speed Internet, digital voice, cable TV, or wifi services, visit www.MIDTEL.com or call (518)827-5211.

Key Bank NA is a full-service Cobleskill banking institution with a full range of services. "We thank all our loyal customers over the many years," said Denise Fissell, VP and branch manager. "We have many new faces in the branch this year. Stop in and say hello."

Above, from the left: Francine Mattiace, Denise Fissell, Victoria Van Wormer, Bonnie Squadero, and Rory McKiernan. Not pictured: Key Private Banker Chris Hunt and Business Banker Jennifer Regelski.

Brimstone Bakery, located at 922 Chestnut Street in Sharon Springs, offers an assortment of delectable homemade cakes, breakfast pastries, cookies, quiche, scones and small batch jams and jellies.

Lunch is served 11am-3pm Tuesday–Saturday, featuring handmade daily specials including the Brimstone BLT on house-made brioche rolls, soups and fresh salads.

For more than 30 years, Mike and Nancy Spenello, here with pal Bud, have been serving the needs of local hunting, fishing, trapping, and shooting customers at their 116 France Lane, Cobleskill store. "Nancy and I are grateful for all of our loyal customers and look forward to making new friends in 2025," Mr. Spenello said.

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Debra Stanton, right, and Rebecca Stanton-Terk are your local hometown realtors, The Debra Stanton Team at Howard Hanna Real Estate Services. They are eager to sit down with you and review your real estate needs as a buyer or seller and give you an update on the local real estate market. Let them put their knowledge of real estate, their love of Schoharie County and their years of experience to work for you.

Give one of them a call today: Ms. Stanton at 518-573-2693 or Ms. Stanton-Terk at 518-231-0978.

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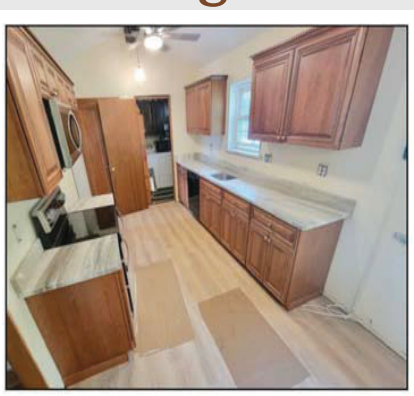

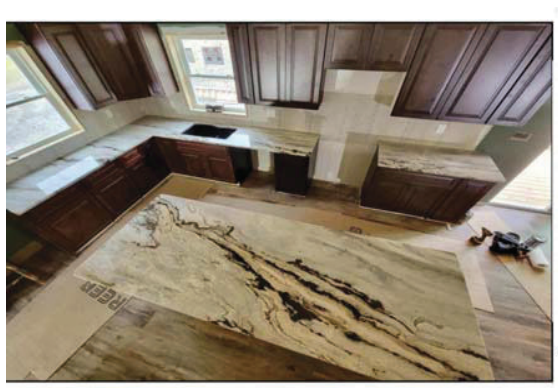

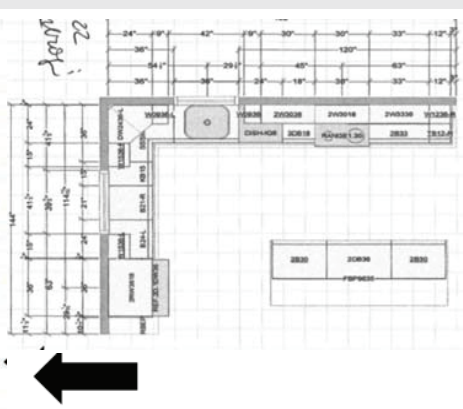

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Grand Gorge Apartments on Route 30 in Grand Gorge specialize in affordable housing for seniors. The complex is working with the Delaware County Office for the Aging and Public Health to obtain services needed for residents. The apartments are one-or-two-bedroom units designed for residents over the age of 62 or the disabled in a well-maintained converted school.

Grand Gorge Apartments are for seniors who are looking for an affordable alternative to financially managing their own home or looking for the convenience of an easier lifestyle offered in a secure environment.

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Generations, a vintage consignment shop.

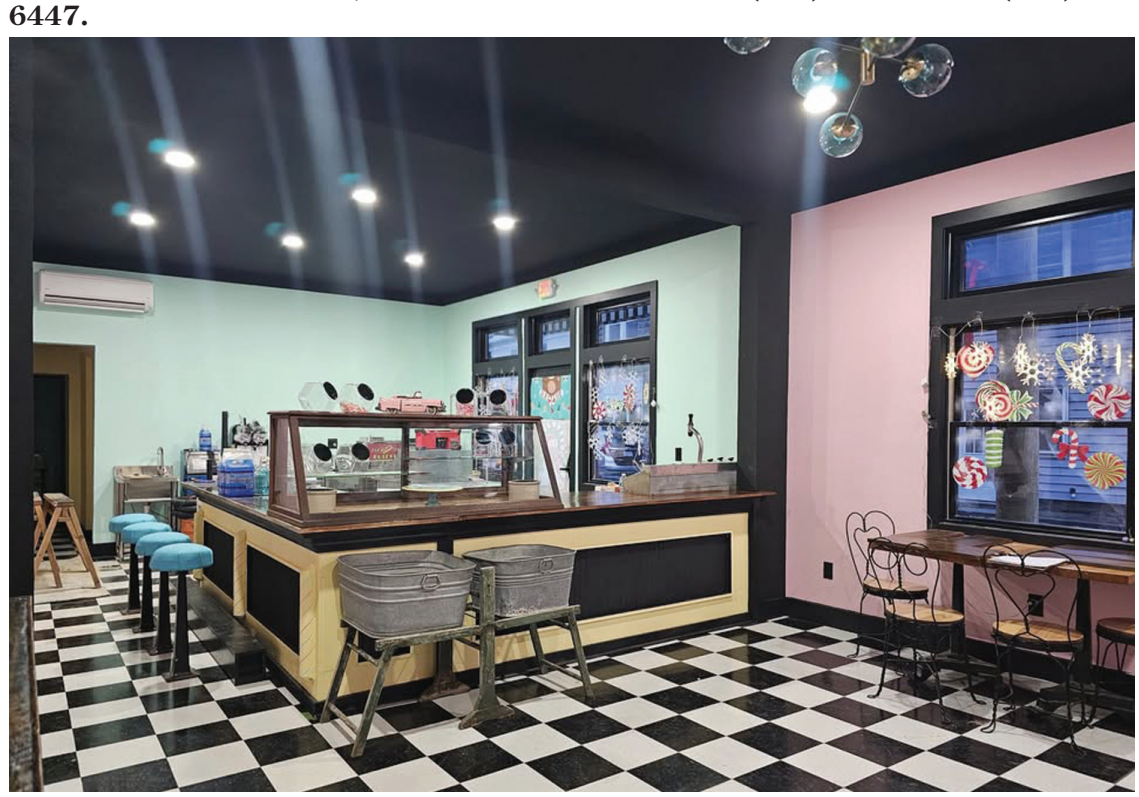
Above, top to bottom: Peter Ferguson, Ann Kabei, Linda Dooley, Jen Patterson, Ruth Anne and John Wilkinson.

Now entering its 16th year in business, Generations, a vintage consignment shop, is chocked full of vintage items from 1950 and earlier.

If you have treasures from the past that you would like to sell but don't want to put in your yard sale, bring them in or send a picture. They'll find a good home for them.

The shop is open seven days a week from 11am-5pm. You'll find estate jewelry, carpets, furniture, glass, china, stoneware, linens and laces, quilts and blankets, toys, paintings and prints.

Items come in daily—a constantly changing inventory makes it a fun place to visit. They're located at 397 Main Street, Schoharie. Call for details at (518)231-7241 or (518)295-6447.



Forget Me Not Soda Shoppe is Lisa Tenneson's 1950s-inspired soda shoppe, bringing back the charm and nostalgia of days gone by.

Step into a world of retro fun, where classic ice cream sodas, malts, milkshakes, hot dogs, and sandwiches take center stage.

It's more than just a meal; it's an experience. Relive the golden era with vintage games, toe-tapping 50s tunes, and a vibrant atmosphere perfect for hanging out with friends, dancing, and savoring the simple joys of yesterday.

Come make memories, enjoy timeless treats, and celebrate the best of the past with them.

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They offer nothing less than an outstanding customer experience, which is reflected by their long-standing relationships with clients.

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"The satisfaction of our valued customers has been our priority since day one and we continue down that path today by helping individuals, families, and businesses with risk management and of course, insurance. New York is our home and we believe we can strengthen our community with the services we offer.

"We have worked hard to build a solid, knowledgeable community of insurance specialists. We welcome you to join our community and learn about our extensive insurance options."

The mission at The Bob Putnam Agency is to match clients with the most comprehensive insurance package that caters to their lifestyle. They offer various lines of personal and commercial insurance that can be customized to fit all needs.

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Tretter CPA is a small business specialist, working with clients year-round to meet their bookkeeping and tax strategy needs. Mr. Tretter, a CPA, added his Cobleskill office in 2017 and moved from a general practice to his focus on small businesses on 2020. "Let us handle your bookkeeping and accounting work so you can focus on running your business," he said.

Kenyon Insurance Agency is an independent agency in business for over 50 years specializing in "personal service" and long term relationships.

Being independent means they represent a number of companies which allows them to choose an insurance program that best fits individual needs with competitive pricing.

They have grown largely due to referral business from their current insureds, lawyers and realtors.

Their goal is to protect customers and their families from unexpected events by finding the right coverage at an affordable rate.

They strive to provide excellent customer service and to ensure your needs are handled correctly and efficiently.

They offer insurance for personal auto, commercial auto, home, farm, renters, landlord's, student housing, vacant properties, secondary homes, umbrella, recreational vehicles as well as small contractors and small businesses.

The Kenyon Insurance Agency welcomes the opportunity to offer quotes to new prospective clients and want to thank all current customers for their continued business.

Visit them at kenyoninsurance.com for more information about the agency and the companies they represent. You can make payments, ask for a quote, request an ID card or Certificate of Insurance, file a claim or even refer a friend.

Left to right: Linda Karker, Pamela Kenyon, Chris Trask and Amanda Owen.

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Meghan Ostrander opened her Ostrander Insurance Agency in 2019 and continues to offer more companies with auto, home, business, Workers Comp, flood and recreational coverage so she can insure everyone.
Above is Ms. Ostrander, standing, with Emma Hunt.

Lookin' good

Kristy's Kreations is Kristy Reynolds' full-service hair and nail salon, located at 125 Granite Drive, Cobleskill, near the Cobleskill Diner.
Above left to right, Lorraine DiPace, Kaitlyn Webb, Kristy Reynolds, Tamara Lune, Adrienne Cullen, Taylor Ulrich and Larissa Beretz. Missing: Stephanie Jock and Kyrstin Burgess.

Kyle's Waste Management is celebrating its fourth year in business.

This local, family-owned and operated trash removal company serves Cobleskill and surrounding towns.

Along with residential trash pick up, Kyle's offers residential and commercial dumpsters and roll-off containers.

The company strives to provide timely courteous service at competitive prices.

The Kyle's Waste Management team thanks all for their support and looks forward to serving you in 2025.

Above Kyle Cacciola and Danielle with Hunter and Mia.

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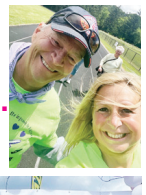
Kenna Cote of Mineral Springs Soap celebrated her second year at her Main Street, Cobleskill storefront in 2024. She's been handcrafting soap and skin care products since 2014 and employs five.

Already in 2025, she's continuing to expand her contract manufacturing orders; in December 2024, they manufactured more than 5,000 items to end the year. Also in 2024 they: served 1,236 customers, made 21,987 products, and taught 317 students how to make soap, candles, and perfume.

"Thanks to everyone for their support," Ms. Cote said. "We've had so much fun sharing our love of craft with you and we couldn't do it without you."

when hearts take over, the impossible happens
MARATHON FOR A BETTER LIFE
"Supporting Cancer Patients in Schoharie County"
All of us at the Marathon For A Better Life wish to take this opportunity to thank everyone who made our 2024 event at SUNY Cobleskill a
HUGE SUCCESS.
Because of your generosity, we had our best year ever.
WE RAISED OVER
$210,000
to help those Schoharie County residents who have been afflicted with cancer. Without you, we can't do what we do.


Mark your calendar for this year's event which will be Saturday, June 14th.

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Owners Denise Frith and Bobbi Elliot opened their Bells & Whistles shop in October 2021 in the original fire house at 529 West Main Street, Cobleskill, across from Veterans' Park.

Ms. Frith strives to provide quality products and services to help everyone live a healthier, happier life.

She features quality and American made, non-GMO supplements, therapeutic herbs, homeopathy, essential oils and more.

"We stand behind our products, offering a satisfaction guarantee on all supplements," she said. "Our selection of food features non-GMO, organic, gluten-free and vegan choices.

"We also carry local artisans, Chatty Wren Coffee, Wildwood Farms Syrup, Mickle Hollow Maple & Honey, Aromathera Chi, Rockerbox spices, Earthy Remedies and Middle Brook Mill Grains.

"I would like to thank all of our customers for being so supportive and welcoming us to the community. We are excited to continue to grow and provide healthier options for the people of beautiful Schoharie County."

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Hometown Hauling & Recycling offers residential, commercial, waste and recycling removal, along with roll-off dumpster rentals from its home base, Route 7, Worcester. Formed in 2013, they are looking at continued growth in Schoharie County in 2025 and are working on bringing recycling pick-up to all of their residential customers.

"We would like to thank everyone in Schoharie County for their support," said Hometown's Jennifer Larrabee.

"All of our employees live in the Cobleskill area and it means a lot for us to be able to continue our relationship with the community."

For the second year in a row, Lamont Engineers, PC has been recognized as one of the Best Places to Work in 2024 (Small Companies) by the Albany Business Review.

This honor is a testament to the dedication, hard work, and collaborative spirit of its talented team.

Founded in 1980, Lamont Engineers is a leading civil engineering firm headquartered in Cobleskill, with additional offices in Gloversville and Saugerties.

The firm's continued growth and success reflect its unwavering commitment to providing exceptional engineering services to municipalities and communities across the region.

2024 was a year of significant milestones for Lamont Engineers.

In February, they expanded their capabilities with the acquisition of Steve Smith Architecture and Engineering, enhancing its multidisciplinary expertise and further strengthening its service offerings.

They are also proud to announce the successful completion of four major highway garages: one for the Town of Canajoharie, one for the Town of Montgomery, and two for Albany County.

These projects exemplify Lamont Engineers' dedication to delivering quality infrastructure that supports the essential needs of municipalities and improves local communities.

Their ongoing work with the Catskill Watershed Corporation in the NYC Watershed continues to make strides on several long-term projects aimed at preserving and enhancing the region's wastewater systems.

A few current projects include the Village of Sidney WWTP, Gloversville DPW Garage, Richmondville Sewer District 1, UV Disinfection Project in Speculator, Klinkhart Art Center, work in Afton, Guilford, Tannersville, and support for Sunny Crest Farms and Back Yard Outfitters.

Lamont Engineers remains deeply committed to fostering strong relationships and delivering impactful solutions for its clients.

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Generosity delivers for Marathon

Schoharie County has a huge heart and a strong pulse.

The generosity and support given to Marathon for a Better Life provided a record-breaking event in 2024.

An astounding total of $216,000 was raised to help those battling cancer and who are in need.

Unfortunately, the need for those with cancer does not go away, and we are so happy to be able to say to those people, "We got you, we're here for you."

In 2024 MFBL disbursed $162,000 to those in need.

Another record-breaking total for our organization.

We wish we didn't have to, that there was not a need, but together with the hearts of many joining and supporting our organization we made a difference. Gratitude is an attitude and we are beyond grateful.

The mission of MFABL is to provide financial assistance to those who live in Schoharie County and are under treatment for this horrid disease, cancer. It's an easy process and together we are able to provide assistance so that those effected can better focus on their treatment and recovery.

That is our hope, recovery.

The Board of Directors for MFABL, extends a warm invitation to you, mark your calendars for Saturday, June 14, 2025 when our 29th annual event will be held at SUNY Cobleskill; opening ceremonies are at 10am.

Now is the time to gather your teams, your families, your tribe, your energies and join us as we are in full swing of planning a full day event of activities, live music, and a full day of compassion as we gather to support and ensure that no cancer patient fights alone.

We welcome you, we need you, and we need each other. Please call (518)291-9238 with questions, if you're wondering how you can be involved, or if you are in need.

The board members of MFABL: Kathy Diamond, Steve Chaisson, Dawn Bialkowski, Kim Law, Dawn Schell, Posie Shaw, Sandy Kerns, Jerry Law, Carly Diamond, Bruce Tryon, Carole Tryon, Lisa Bartholomew, Vicky Chamberlain, Larkin Nikolaus and Jackie Gaige. These folks are dedicated and endlessly devoted to this organization.

A round of applause is so deserving to each of these individuals who show up, are present and give unselfishly of their

New England Calendar is celebrating 115 years in supplying customers with custom branded promotional products.

This year also marks the 12-year anniversary for their Cobleskill location. They would like to thank their customers for their support.

Personalized business products that they offer include pens and styluses, drinkware, banners, apparel and much more.

They have a graphics team available to help with layout and design.

To promote your company, organization or event, view a sampling of products online at www.newenglandcalendar.com.

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The **GREENSIDE CLUBHOUSE RESTAURANT**, under the management of the Jon Briggs family, welcomes members, guests, daily fee players and the general public for delicious food and beverages in our historic clubhouse.

J-EMZ is Joe Marsh's auto body collision repair and custom painting shop in East Worcester open since 2013.

"I want to thank all of my customers for their business this past year and I look forward to working with all of you in the new year," Mr. Marsh said.

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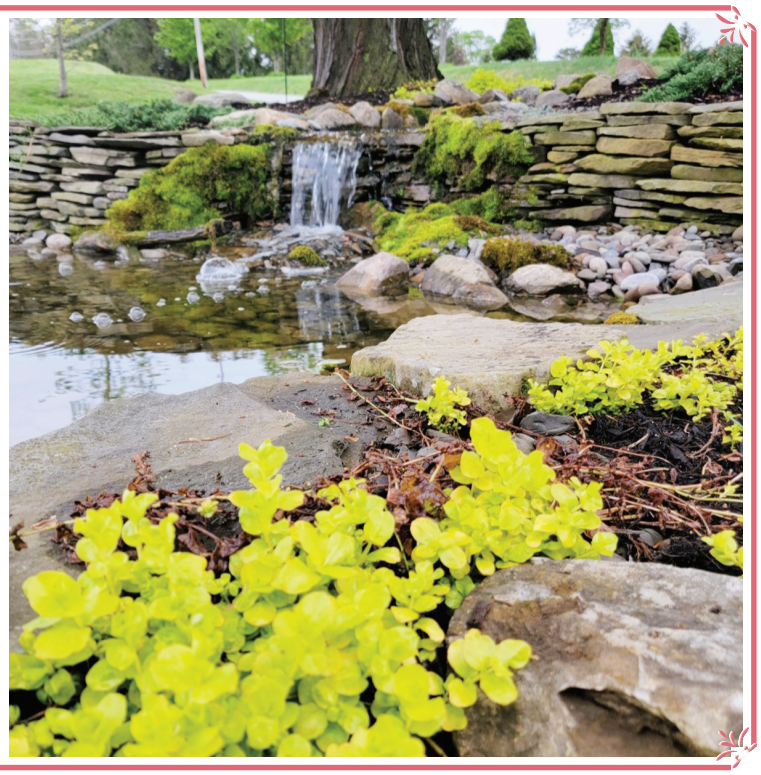

Four Star service

Four Star Realty is Lisa Tenneson's real estate business on Main Street, Middleburgh.

Four Star's building renovations have been a great success; stop by 308 Main Street and check things out.

The Railroad Avenue side of the building is where the new Forget Me Not Soda Shoppe is opening this winter.

Four Star Realty Group has four licensed sales agents and they are keeping busy in the current market.

"I will forever be grateful for the love and support that all of Schoharie County has given Four Star Realty," Ms. Tenneson said.

"Without that, we wouldn't be able to do what we do."

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Real Estate Associates is Dave Jones' real estate broker and appraisal businesses, located at 571 Main Street, Cobleskill. Mr. Jones' 30-plus years of experience and expertise in the real estate field, along with his commercial

Alex's Enterprises is a Sharon Springs business offering interior and exterior painting, residential and commercial painting, kitchen, bathroom, and basement remodeling, vinyl siding, small carpentry and repairs for the last 30 years. "Thank you to all my customers who have supported me through these difficult times," Mr. Rohac said.

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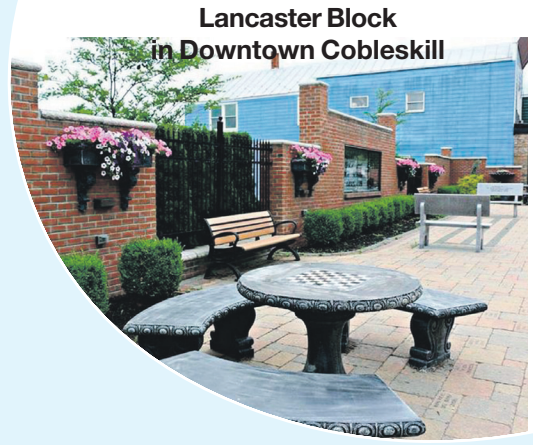

2025 Annual Events

MARCH
- ***Soup Stroll*** **-** 2nd Saturday

APRIL
- **Maple Festival -** Dairy Cattle Sale (fashion show) April 26
- **SUNY Fisheries & Wildlife Festival**
- **Yards for Yardley**

MAY
- **Cinco de Mayo - May 5**
- **Memorial Day**

JUNE
- **Marathon for a Better Life event -** 2nd Saturday
- **Flag Day**

JULY
- ***Arts in the Park*** - July 10, 17, 24 & 31
- **4th of July parade and fireworks**

AUGUST
- ***Arts in the Park*** - August 7, 14
- **Schoharie County Sunshine Fair -** August 5-10

SEPTEMBER
- FAM 5k run - September 27

OCTOBER
- ***Poker Walk*** - 3rd Saturday
- ***Cobleskill Days/Village & Town-wide garage sales*** - 1st Saturday
- ***Downtown Trick or Treat*** - October 31

NOVEMBER
Small Business Saturday - Day after Black Friday

DECEMBER
- **Holiday parade** - 1st Saturday
- **December to Remember** events throughout the month

SEEC an engine for county growth

Schoharie Economic Enterprise Corporation continues to empower and expand Schoharie County's economic future.

In 2024, SEEC and its alliance took bold steps to cultivate growth, providing resources and lessons learned that will enrich the local business landscape, foster community collaboration, and celebrate the county's distinctive culture for years to come.

A snapshot of SEEC's impactful 2024 initiatives and projects:

Digital Revolution SEEC's digital efforts were one of the year's key highlights, supporting local businesses to thrive in the online space.

SEEC Digital Power Hours, an interactive four-part workshop, equipped business owners with essential skills to excel at digital marketing.

The series included Online Business Essentials, Online Community Management, Converting Followers to Buyers and AI for Small Business.

In collaboration with Schoharie County, the Digital Strategies Initiative also reached new heights with $500K additional funding ($1.2M in total), allowing SEEC to support 40 local businesses in total that created more than a dozen new jobs, hired digital strategists, content creators, and purchased new equipment to power-up digital community engagement leading to increased sales.

The Digital Revolution continued to unfold with the Village of Schoharie and now Middleburgh offering free public Wi-Fi to businesses, residents, and visitors.

The SEEC ongoing mission to connect the county to high-speed internet, positioning our communities in the top three-percent nationwide, was embraced by county government in 2024.

Leveraging county ARPA dollars, SEEC initiated a broadband feasibility study and impact report that led to Schoharie County securing a $30M Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP) grant to build-out the "last mile."

Schoharie County is now on track to achieve 100 percent high-speed internet access by December 2026, unlocking unparalleled opportunities for education, business and healthcare.

In 2025, SEEC will be working with the Mohawk Valley on its Digital Equity planning and development of a local tech ecosystem.

Community & Cultural Enrichment SEEC's commitment to fostering community spirit and celebrating local art was evident through the 287 Main Coworking space, which also served as the venue for multiple events throughout the year.

From a sweet 16 birthday celebration, yoga classes, artist's receptions to MWBE (Minority Women Business Enterprise) luncheon where 35 attendees learned about certification and seven-plus businesses pursued certification following, the annual year-end Toast to The Town, where SEEC lights up Main Street Schoharie and its vibrant space, once again brought community together.

Congratulations to SEEC ASPIRE awardee, Matthew Sloane, principal at Middleburgh CSD and ENLIGHTEN awardee, Stephanie Shultes, director of the Iroquois Museum.

Celebrating Middleburgh Central School as a recognized Top 10 school of the Capital Region was a true point of light in 2024.

The ROOTED storytelling series, highlighting local businesses and entrepreneurs launched in 2024 and will continue in 2025 sharing a powerful narrative of local entrepreneurial spirit and inspiration for aspiring business owners.

Placemaking and Main Street Vitality SEEC continues to invest in Schoharie County's streetscapes and Main Street vitality.

In 2024, SEEC organized direct investment into The Parrott House and launched the Placemaking: Curb Appeal Program, offering free design consultations and grant opportunities for local businesses and property owners.

Rick Hauser, expert architect, mayor of the Town of Perry, and owner of in.site:architecture, joined SEEC last March to lead an interactive public charrette discussing how placemaking transforms spaces into vibrant community hubs.

SEEC co-invested with 11 different owners and is already transforming downtown areas by enhancing the appearance of historic buildings and improving the overall aesthetics of communities.

SEEC also supported the Town of Schoharie in applying for a $90,000 Smart Growth grant that was awarded in December to shape development at I-88 exit 23, perhaps, into a Town Center concept.

SEEC led the Village of Schoharie submission for a $10M Downtown Revitalization

Initiative (DRI) grant—stay tuned for announcements in March 2025.

A year of industry diversity dialogue. In 2024, SEEC hosted regional experts to Root Through Opportunities at its Annual Meeting.

Exploring the regional priorities, SEEC welcomed local experts in offshore wind, battery storage and supply chain development.

An envoy in November, funded by the Appalachian Regional Commission and Southern Tier 8, enabled SEEC executive director to learn insights and build rapport with the emerging Pittsburgh Robotics industry meant to bring practical industry development approaches to Schoharie County.

SEEC is pleased to acknowledge the HARVA Company in its 75th year, a testament that evolution and succession may still warrant navigation support to modernize equipment and foster job creation.

Looking Ahead: 21st Century possibilities. As they move forward into 2025, SEEC remains dedicated to fostering collaboration in an environment of innovation and rural prosperity.

The extraordinary success is attributed to the guidance and generosity of Fenimore Asset Management Family Foundation, Sterling Insurance Company Foundation, The Marge & Randy Becker Foundation and other generous individual and corporate donors. Invest in rural prosperity by visiting www.seecny.org.

Peggi's Measure for Measure is a full-service hair salon that has served the community for 40 years, offering perms, colors, highlights, lowlights, cuts and more for men, women and children.

"Please note that at this time I am no longer taking on new customers. I thank and will continue to take care of my existing customers," said owner Peggy Fleming.

At Tri-Town Computers, Michael Consalvo offers computer sales and service for every need, both at his 579 Main Street, Cobleskill location and on-site. "We thank all our customers for their confidence in us," Mr. Consalvo said.

Come camp with us...

Swarty's Campground in Cherry Valley has been family-owned and –operated by the Swartout family since 2020. Above from the left: Trever, Isabella, Christopher, Renee, and Trent. Recent improvements include a basketball court, WiFi, a black-topped pavilion, arcade, and improved pool area. Swarty's also hosts many cornhole tournaments.

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Excitement builds for Klinkhart Hall Arts

After a remarkable year in 2024, Klinkhart Hall Arts Center is excited to embrace another year of growth, progress, and creativity.

Last year marked pivotal advancements in the restoration project, exciting cultural programs, and deeper community connections.

These accomplishments were made possible through the incredible support of our community, whose dedication and enthusiasm continue to inspire everything they do.

The 2025 Season: A Milestone Year

The 2025 season promises to be an exciting year for Klinkhart Hall. Construction on the historic arts center is set to begin, marking a pivotal milestone in the organization's mission to create a dynamic hub for arts and culture.

Exciting Cultural Offerings in 2025

Klinkhart Hall remains committed to bringing diverse and enriching cultural experiences to the Sharon Springs community.

Thanks to support from the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA), the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), and private donors, we are thrilled to present the following lineup:

- **Klinkhart in the Park Summer Music Series.**

Running from Wednesday, July 2-August 13, this free weekly concert series will feature live performances at Chalybeate Park in Sharon Springs from 6-8pm.

The series showcases a range of genres, including Big Band, folk, rock, country, blues, jazz, and Dixieland.

Enjoy a beer from Eisenadler Brewery and food from local vendors.

Stay tuned for a complete band lineup.

- **Sharon Springs Dance Festival.**

May 2-3 will highlight the **Zorkie Nelson Gballoi West African Drummers and Dancers**, with two student assemblies on May 2 and workshops and a free public performance on May 3 at Sharon Springs School.

- **Sharon Springs Poetry Festival.**

October 17-18 will celebrate the power of poetry with free readings, workshops, and engaging discussions featuring acclaimed poets.

- **Theater and additional events.**

Theater and other programming will return in 2025 with new performances and opportunities to engage with the arts.

Details will be announced soon, follow KHAC on social media for updates.

Stay connected

Stay up-to-date with all the exciting developments at Klinkhart Hall Arts Center throughout the year.

Follow them on social media and visit www.klinkharthall.org for event announcements, construction updates, and more.

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Community Library: Books, yes, but so much more

The Community Library—like libraries everywhere—is more than books.

Though there are plenty of books.

As well as free programs, museum passes, fishing poles to borrow, kits, and more.

The Community Library was formed in 1921.

2024 brought a new website, logo, and hours.

2025 looks to bring even more.

The library is working on expanding into the back of its building—like any home improvement project, a work in progress; asbestos removal, facade repair, brick cleaning, new windows and framing have already been completed and a fire suppression system installed.

Director Kim Zimmer offers some 2024 statistics: 555 individual organizations used the library's meeting rooms; more than 2,100 people came through the library doors; 11,000 used the Wi-Fi, 26,529 items were circulated, there were 3,866 library cardholders, and 342 free programs were attended by 2,965 patrons of all ages.

"We'd like to thank the residents of the Cobleskill-Richmondville School District for their continued support," Ms. Zimmer said.

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Big plans in works for Cobleskill Golf

As we look back on a successful 2024 season, full of good golf and great friends, the Cobleskill Golf & Country Club Board of Directors would like to thank Jon (Bear) Briggs for stepping up when we needed him most.

Thanks to Bear, our members and guests were once again able to enjoy quality food and drink and a friendly atmosphere in our clubhouse.

Bear has now decided to focus his energies on the maintenance and improvement of our wonderful golf course.

We are also in the process of hiring a well qualified individual as an assistant superintendent.

Starting in 2025, the board will be partnering with Steven Meyers (owner of Steve Meyers Construction and Locomotion's) to operate our clubhouse restaurant.

As part of our arrangement, we will be working with Steve to redecorate, renovate and expand the Clubhouse.

"Some of the improvements you will see in 2025 include:

- Replacement of the windows on the wall adjacent to the deck.
- Building winterization, allowing year-round use by the restaurant and for member activities.
- Deck repair and expansion to provide more outside dining and the addition of a walkup service window for the bar.
- Interior facelift including new paint and a bar renovation providing for faster service and an L-shaped bar which will be 50 percent larger.

"We are also planning to relocate the Golf Shop inside our clubhouse and to demolish the existing shop building to provide additional parking.

"We believe that our partnership with Steve offers us the opportunity to improve our Clubhouse facilities, expand the restaurant and provide for the club to share in the income derived from those improvements.

"Members and daily fee players will also see some of the benefits of our new point of service business system called Club Caddie including: an improved online tee sheet, improvements in the purchase of gift cards, the ability to check Golf Shop credits and a new and improved website, Golfcobleskill.com.

"We at Cobleskill Golf & Country Club are looking forward to these changes while we maintain our beautiful golf course as an important recreational asset in Schoharie County."

SCHA a real hero for our local history

SCHA looks to the future while preserving Schoharie's past.

Schoharie Colonial Heritage Association has been working to preserve Schoharie's history for more than 60 years.

As conservators of the 1743 Palatine House (the oldest building in Schoharie County) at 102 Warner Hill Road, as well as the Depot Lane Theatre and the Schoharie Valley Railroad Museum Complex on Depot Lane, SCHA volunteers hold fundraisers throughout the year to support the nonprofit's mission of acquiring and preserving historical sites in and around the Village of Schoharie.

In an effort to make this history available to the public for educational and cultural enrichment, SCHA has an ambitious schedule of events planned for 2025, including: the Spring Antique Show, May 31 and June 1, Depot Lane, Schoharie; opening of museums, May 26 (closing October 13); Children's Theatre camp, July and August, dates to be announced, Creamery Building, 143 Depot Lane; Model Train Show, September 20, Schoharie Valley Railroad Museum Complex; Fall Antique Show, September 27-28, Depot Lane; Holiday Craft Bazaar, November 21-23, Creamery Building; and Christmas at the Palatine House, December 6.

The Creamery Building on Depot Lane is also available to rent for private parties.

"It's a lot of work for a small group of volunteers, but preserving Schoharie's history is something we're all passionate about," said Ruth Anne Wilkinson, SCHA president and Antique Show chair.

"Our events allow us to share these remarkable historical treasures, which are so important to maintain for generations to come."

For information about Schoharie Colonial Heritage Association, call (518)295-7505 or email scha@midtel.net, and for an updated list of events, go to https://www.schoharieheritage.org.

#1 in dental care

Schoharie Dental, 229 Main Street, Schoharie, offers the best in dental care.

In front, from left to right are Carl Fusco, DDS, Solomia Zhownirovych, DDS, Hazem Elbialy, DMD and Eric Davis, DMD with the staff of their Schoharie Dental office. Schoharie Dental is at the corner of Main and Bridge Streets in Schoharie. The practice moved into the historic Marshall D. Bice house in 2019 and received a state Historic Preservation award for its adaptation of the building.

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R. Sherwood Veith, Certified Public Accountant, provides tax preparation, accounting, and bookkeeping services for individuals and small businesses.

"I have been serving clients in and around Schoharie County since 1991. It has been my pleasure in doing so and I look forward to doing so for years to come," he said.

WaDaYaNeed?

WaDaYaNeed? is a promotional marketing company with a showroom and offices on Route 7 in Warnerville, offering no-minimum, in-house t-shirts, hats and other apparel printing.

Shown are Judy Moore with Sadie, Joanne Mayott with Jake, Cheri Brandow with Blade and Snickers and TR Moore with Layla.

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The Town of Cobleskill Historical Society is back!

After a hiatus from COVID, we have regrouped, resumed our monthly meetings, and are stronger than ever.

Check out our Facebook page at 'The Official Town of Cobleskill Historical Society' for updates and information about upcoming programs. Programs are currently being planned for March 3, April 7, and May 5. Meetings are free and open to the public, and are scheduled to be held at the Cornell Cooperative Extension Building, 173 South Grand St. on the first Monday of the month.

Please consider joining the Society by mailing a check to the Town of Cobleskill Historical Society, P.O. Box 423, Cobleskill, NY 12043. Annual dues are only $10 for a Family membership and $25 for a Corporate/Institutional membership.

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Joanne Crum—Surveyor...

Joanne Darcy Crum, land surveyor has been in business, in Cobleskill, since 1987.

"My staff and I wish to thank our customers for trusting us with their surveying needs," Ms. Crum said. In addition to land surveying, services include providing expert testimony, the sale of construction-related products, and services for state development and private development projects.

"We service clients throughout New York State and continue to diversify our services to meet their needs," Ms. Crum said.

From the left: Joanne Darcy Crum, Jim Sweeney, Jill Thompson and Ken Hellijas.

JOANNE DARCY CRUM, ESQ.
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Attorney at Law

Joanne Darcy Crum, LS, Esq, attorney at law offers full-service law at 479 West Main Street in Cobleskill.

Ms. Crum provides services to clients throughout New York State.

While specializing in property disputes, real estate, title, municipal, land use, wills and power of attorney and probate, Ms. Crum also offers general counsel legal services.

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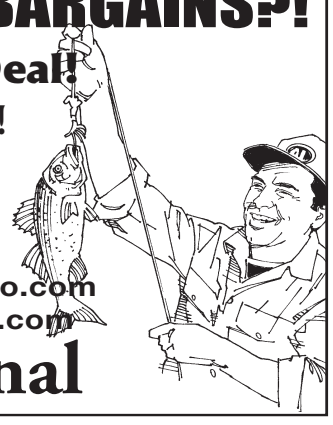

Kelley Farm & Garden, from pets to projects

Since 2000, Kelley Farm & Garden—Cobleskill Agway—has provided Schoharie County and beyond with everything they need for their homes, gardens, back yard livestock, and farms. They're also the go-to place for product information on everything from pet food to building projects.

In 2024, Kelley Farm & Garden improved its online presence and now offers online ordering for pick-up in store as well as online bill pay, all intended to make things more convenient for their shoppers.

"We're always looking for ways to serve our community better," said Operations Manager Katie Lacey. "One way is to improve our online and digital presence. We want our customers to be able to access our store from the comfort of their own home and that includes showing our vast selection of items via the internet."

BBQ & beyond

Rubbin Butts is a BBQ restaurant located on Route 7, Cobleskill in the East Side Village Mall. "I'd like to thank all of my customers and friends asking how to help my wife, Heather, through these tough times," Mr. Ward said. "My response is to come to Rubbin Butts and enjoy a good meal."

They are using Doordash delivery.

In 2024 they rolled out a new catering website.

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Coming soon...

And so another season…A view across the potato fields at Schoharie Valley Farms. It won't be long until it looks like this again. Meanwhile, their farm market, bakery and café is open several days a week.

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Jeanette Edwards (production manager) and Dennis Dedek (owner) are always looking for more qualified distributors.

To become a distributor contact dennis@hometown provisions.com; Ironskillet seasonings.com or call (607)435-7171.

In 2015, Ray and Mary Parsons purchased Sharon Springs Self-Storage from Peter and Jeanne Irwin. A former lumberyard converted into self-storage units, the business offers 72 units in various sizes. It's self-service, but assistance is available by calling (518)234-2315.

Looking forward to 2025

Accurate Touch Landscaping is Elijah Jacobsen's landscaping business.

"I would like to give a big thanks to all my loyal customers that have supported me the past couple years. Without you guys and gals my business would not be possible. I'm looking forward to another successful year for 2025," Mr. Jacobsen said.

Accurate Touch focuses on landscape restoration/ repair, mulching, maintenance, and stonewalls.

Remarkable year for Country Boy

At Country Boy Realty, 2024 has been another year of remarkable achievements, built on over 55 years of real estate expertise. Our team is experienced—an average of 20 years per agent, and ensures the knowledge and skills to achieve exceptional results.

2024 facts and figures:

• **30 percent faster sales:** properties listed with us spent 30 percent fewer days on the market than the Schoharie County average, helping sellers move forward more quickly.

• **Higher returns**: on average, our sellers closed at a sale price 7 percent higher than competitors, maxi- mizing their returns.

• **Strong negotiations:** 99 percent of our listings sold at or near asking price, showing our ability to market and negotiate effectively.

While these numbers are impressive, it's the personal stories that truly inspire us. Each salemarks a signifcant milestone—a family discovering their dream home or a seller moving on totheir next adventure.

As one client shared, "Matt and his staff were professional, courteous, and most caring in looking out for my best interests. The sale of my house was much easier than I thought it would be. I would recommend them without reservation."

As Schoharie County's leading real estate team, we're proud to combine personalized, small-town service with proven results. Our dedication to the community and commitment to innovation continue to set us apart.

Looking ahead to 2025, we're focused on building on this year's success by investing in our community and strengthening the connections that help buyers and sellers thrive.

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Iroquois Museum

The Iroquois Museum is looking forward to an exciting 2025. They will feature two new exhibits: "Once A Tree: Continuity, Creativity, and Connection" and "Separated but Unbroken: The Haudenosaunee Boarding School Experience."

Help them celebrate their opening of their new Museum Shop.

Dress up your space...

Counterfitters LLC has been owned and operated by Scott and Denise Warren for the last nine years. They have two hard working employees, Jim Giroux and Pat Dyer.

They fabricate stone countertops and sell cabinets from Fieldstone and Mantra. Added to their offerings in 2025 are cabinet hardware, sinks, faucets, and LVT flooring. They do kitchen layouts as well.

Stop by at 2319 Highway Route 20 in Carlisle, view pictures on Facebook@ WarrenCounterfitters, give them a call at (518)833-2740.

"We appreciate the community's support of our small business," said Mr. Warren.

The power to grow every year

Pangman Outdoor Power in Cobleskill opened nine years ago. and has continued to grow ever since, offering sales and service for Gravely, Ariens, Cub Cadet, and Husqvarna. In 2024, they added CF Moto, which owner Shaun Pangman said complements its other power sports lines well. Above, from the left: Jessica Lawton, Mark Soura, Butch Pickett, Fred Mabey, Jacob Sanders, Ryan Whittaker, and Shaun Pangman.

The Todd Cipperly Agency offers auto, home, business, and "toy" insurance from its home base at 123 Industrial Park Lane in Central Bridge. Above: Doreen Zinssar, Mr. Cipperly, and Heidi Lawton. "We thank all of our loyal customers," Mr. Cipperly said. "We are always here to provide a free quote and we are confident that we will exceed your expectations."

For over 35 years, Quality has kept you cool, and warm.

Quality Heating and Cooling Mechanical Services has been serving Schoharie County for 35 years and offers sales and installation of all heating and cooling equipment as well as top-notch service on all brands of equipment – no matter who installed it or where it's from.

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R.L. Parsons Inc., Chestnut Street, Sharon Springs, offers a full line of fuel service including fuel oil, propane and diesel.

Ray Parsons and his team also install, service, and repair heating and A/C systems. They are open and provide fuel delivery service 24/7. All staff are professionally trained oil and gas service technicians.

One-of-a-kind gifts

The Plaide Palette at 45 Main Street in Cherry Valley has been a one-of-a-kind shop featuring Irish, British, Scottish and Welsh, gifts, teas and foods for more than 40 years with a huge selection of Irish sweaters, capes, ponchos, scarves and mittens plus spirit balls, friendship hearts, British and Irish candy, including Flake, Crunchie and Maltesers. Fair trade and metaphysical items too.

They specialize in pendulums and dowsing supplies and carry one of the largest selections of crystals and rocks in the area as well as lots of jewelry plus Herkimer Diamonds, local honey and maple syrup, chaga teas and tinctures plus hand-made local pottery and more. So much to see. Stop by and say hello to Sue Murray-Miller and the family.

Ryan's: Family since '72

Ryan's Auto and Ryan's Self-Storage is owned and operated by Nick and Joe Ryan, whose full-service auto repair center is conveniently located on Route 145 in Middleburgh.

They offer computer diagnostics, transmission flushes, quality exhaust systems, A/C service including the service of Y1234 air conditioning systems, tires and alignment. They also provide 24-hour towing services, and sell diesel and kerosene.

The business, family-owned and operated since 1972, added the self-storage units with 24-hour access and online bill pay in 2017.

It was April 1, 1974 that Bob Vedder started Vedder Excavating – yep, April Fool's Day. With experience in the construction field, Mr. Vedder believed he could succeed, even though the economy wasn't especially strong and even though he and his wife, Linda, had two small children at the time: Marcie and Allan. With a backhoe, dump truck and later, a bulldozer, they were off and running.

There were several lean years, Mr. Vedder said, but with hard work and an emphasis on quality and timely work, the business became very successful and one of the most respected excavating and trucking contractors in Schoharie County – something Mr. Vedder is very proud of. He's also proud of the fact that their customer base spans the generations.

Today, Allan, who's worked for the business since his high school graduation is a big part of the company, and also a part-time employee during the busy season. Sadly, Linda Vedder died in 2022, leaving a big void.

Currently the company has two tandem dump trucks, a single-axle dump, a bulldozer, payloader, two rubber tire backhoes, and three track excavators, enough equipment to handle most jobs – though they specialize in septic system installation and repairs. Mr. Vedder said he always appreciates customers telling him the job came out even better than expected because of his pride of workmanship. Bob and Allan are looking forward to a very busy 51st year ahead.

Excited to help

Products and services of Jack Miller's include New Holland tractors and hay tools, Ferris lawn mowers, Pequea hay tools, Woods equipment, and more.

In 2022 Jack Miller's added a new warehouse to make picking up twine and large parts easier on their customers.

Their staff is excited to help customers with all their 2025 needs in parts, sales, or service on all new or used equipment.

Left to right: Jack Miller, Michael Diamond, Justin Hartten, Missy Slater, Josh Miller, Alex Marbot, Kyle Miller with Paisley, Dave Dixon, Kayla Stanton, Jorge Zuniga.

Helios makes the difference

Helios Care, the non-profit hospice and palliative care organization that has been providing care to residents of Schoharie, Delaware, and Otsego counties for 42 years, is continuing in 2025 its collaborations with community-based organizations to build stronger relationships, and therefore better services for all residents.

To help all healthcare organizations and community-based non-profits achieve their best results with their constituents, Helios Care has been working with others to improve services for elderly residents through transparency and better communication processes.

This has been a focus since 2023 and has provided clarity for the healthcare providers and residents in the region, helping people understand and access services available.

In 2024, Helios Care was a founding member of a HRSA (Health Resources & Services Administration) planning grant that allowed Helios Care to work with seven other organizations to identify areas where resources can be shared, best practices can be determined, and our combined strengths can create initiatives that benefit our communities.

From this planning grant it was determined that collaborative efforts among Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) should focus on enhancing transparency for residents, and stronger communication between the organizations providing services.

This involves sharing information, resources, and best practices through joint initiatives and regular communication.

Additionally, leveraging technology helping to ensure that residents have clear access to comprehensive information about available services and programs, and the organizations can have better continuity for all, to reduce gaps in the continuum of care.

A grant to implement the identified priorities is being submitted to HRSA for 2025, which if approved, will provide the funds to move these plans forward, but the network building has already begun as all sectors see the advantages of pooling resources and information to better serve all.

One such collaboration has been with The Gathering Place in Schoharie County that expanded in 2024 to Oneonta in Otsego County.

Helios Care has been providing programming at both locations, and now, in 2025 Helios Care has an office space in the Oneonta facility to hold meetings and one-on-one appointments with caregivers and residents.

Being where the over-50 population gathers regularly helps to expand residents' awareness of Helios Care services and learn what choices they have to prepare for life's end journey.

Helios Care partners with the Offices for the Aging in the region to assist in helping the community have a stronger understanding of the services others provide and determine how its programs and services can be utilized more effectively by all.

In this process, gaps can be identified to allow for better outcomes for the residents.

Helios Care is also working closely with the Alzheimer's Association to help bring more awareness to the public about ways to identify and support patients and their caregivers.

"We believe that collaboration is key to fostering innovation and achieving impactful outcomes for each organization and their constituents" said Kelly McGraw, senior director of Community Engagement and Growth at Helios Care.

"By working alongside these organizations we are committed to delivering solutions that not only advance our missions but also empower our communities."

These efforts will benefit all: Wider and better range of care for the elderly population and their caregivers in the region; providing opportunities for young people to work locally within these organizations and remain in this region doing meaningful work; and improving the quality of life for all residents of the region.

For more information about these collaborations and ongoing updates of programs, events, and services, visit helioscare.org.

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On The Level Construction is Dick Buffo's residential and commercial construction firm in business since 1978. "At On The Level we do all work from new homes, replacement windows, to pole barns, to additions to foundations. Give us a call," said Mr. Buffo.

A+ care for your lawn

James Spaulding's Water Gardens and Lawn Care continues to expand and explore new ways to provide first-notch service for all of their customers. Owner James Spaulding started the landscaping business in 2022. "I grew up in Schoharie and I thank my loyal customers for the faith they've placed in me and for allowing me to do what I love to do every day," Mr. Spaulding said.

Eva Haessler, 551 County Highway 50, Cherry Valley has made a career out of offering bookkeeping, payroll and tax preparation services.

"I would like to thank my many clients who have entrusted me as their financing professional," Ms. Haessler said.

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As the Schoharie County Keller Williams Real Estate Team, Pearl "Ruby" Torres and her staff specialize in residential, commercial, farms and vacant land, multi-units and second homes both locally and in surrounding counties. Together, they have more than 50 years of combined experience. Above, from the left: Matthew Gross III, Pearl "Ruby" Torres, Samantha Clark, and Darcy Volans.

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Brimstone Bakery is owned and operated by Chef Anthony Leberto, who arrived in Sharon Springs in 2017, captivated by the creative and entrepreneurial spirit of this upstate New York community. Taking inspiration from the many influences that come together in traditional American and European baking, Brimstone Bakery's baked goods are a hand-made celebration of local bounty.

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ASSV has your new best friend

The Animal Shelter of Schoharie Valley would like to thank the community for its continued support.

They had a lot of ups and downs in 2024 but through it all, with the help and generosity of the community, they have persevered.

In fact, not only have they persevered, but they have thrived. In 2023 they were able to care for and adopt out 421 cats and dogs and in 2024 that number jumped to 494, nearly a 20 percent increase.

The ASSV is a not-for-profit and is the only animal shelter in Schoharie County.

Helping the most vulnerable animals that are in need is its mission and they strive to provide care and compassion to as many animals as capacity at the shelter allows.

"We couldn't do it without the support we get from our community" said Executive Director Maggie Jackman Pryor.

"This support is what allows us to help the hundreds of animals that pass through our doors each year."

ASSV also strives to educate the public to spay or neuter their pets to eliminate the problem of animal overpopulation.

Follow us them on Facebook at the Animal Shelter of Schoharie Valley or on their website at www.schoharieanimalshelter.org to see all the animals they have up for adoption.

You can also follow their Facebook page to stay up-to-date on the many fun and creative fundraisers they hold each year or call (518)296-8390 for more information.

Staff in front of the Animal Shelter of Schoharie Valley Building located at 304 Howes Cave Road in Howes Cave, from left to right: Jamie Brown (assistant manager), Maggie Jackman Pryor (executive director), Deziray Foland, Aprille Hadsell, DVM (shelter veterinarian), Camay Layaou and Aleah Schmid. Missing from photo: Mya Thompson and Lee Wood.

Fine food prepared by a family

Pizza Shack on Main Street in downtown Cobleskill is a family business that serves only the best. The longstanding, popular Italian restaurant serves lunch and dinner and offers many specialties. From left, flashing smiles are young Sal, Kim and Sal Liardo.

"We would like to thank our loyal customers and dedicated staff," said Mr. Liardo.

Grand Gorge Apartments

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11 years for WHB

WHB Automotive Collision LLC is celebrating 11 years in business and would like to thank all their customers throughout the years. They look forward to serving them for many more years.

WHB opened its doors on February 1, 2014, at 1182 State Route 7 in Richmondville.

The shop has acquired state-of-the-art equipment for all minor to major collision repairs, from a down-draft spray booth imported from Italy to a camera that can custom match a customer's specific color.

Each employee/technician has their own D.A. sanding system that vacuums up paint/filler dust instantly, which means a cleaner shop and a cleaner customer's vehicle.

"WHB strives to give customers the best repair with certified and experienced technicians who know how to bring vehicles back to pre-loss condition," said owner William Butzke, Jr.

"Returning your vehicle back to customers as soon as possible in a timely manner is always our goal."

WHB Automotive Collision has repaired well over 5,000 cars over the last 11 years and has seen it all; no job is too small or too big. At WHB they fight for the customer by dealing with the insurance, aiming for original and new parts and making sure their vehicle repaired correctly.

Remember…after an accident you have the right to choose the shop of your choice for repairs; keep WHB Automotive Collision in mind. If you need a tow they can set that up for you as well or have the vehicle towed directly to them.

Once they receive your claim information, they can contact your insurance company and start your repair; saving you time and getting your vehicle back to you.

"This year we added a 65 foot by 100 foot addition as well as a 4-wheel Hunter Alignment Rack," said Mr. Butzke. "We significantly added capacity allowing us to work on more cars. We also are a direct repair shop for Geico, but will work with all insurance carriers," Mr. Butzke said.

Pleased to see you

Andy Lawyer, left, and Tyler Lawyer are always ready with smiles at Woodbeck's Liquor Store on East Main Street, Cobleskill. Opened in 1947, Woodbeck's offers a full line of liquor and wine, and if the store doesn't have what customers want, the staff can order it. Also at Woodbeck's are Angel LaBadia, Xyophen LaBadia and Jaime Jones.

"Every customer becomes a friend," Andy Lawyer said.

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Fancher's Lawns & Landscaping

Fancher's Lawns & Landscaping LLC is Zachary Fancher's lawn care and snow maintenance business, located in Warnerville. "As we enter our 6th year in business, we are looking to add more employees this year as we continue to grow," said Mr. Fancher.

"We'd like to thank all of our loyal customers for all their support over the last few years. Without them, none of our success would be possible."

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PJ's new in 2024 and ready to serve you

PJ's Auto and Tire Center LLC opened on 942 East Main Street, Cobleskill, in the fall of 2024. Donna Bartholomew is the owner; John Keenan is the manager. They employ nine and offer auto repairs, NYS inspections, brakes, AC and muffler work, oil changes, tire studding and installation of commercial tires.

In 2024, they updated, repaired, and cleaned the existing facility, adding new sidewalks and a concrete apron and began offering national fleet repair service Plans for 2025 include adding roadside service, tire storage and another mechanic.

"I would like to thank everyone in the community for the support they've shown us," Mr. Keenan said. "Know that it's greatly appreciated."

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SCHOOL offers a full range of topics, classes

SCHOOL—the Schoharie County Home of Ongoing Learning—offers classes and experiences on hundreds of topics through continuing, lifelong learning, all taught by expert instructors who are passionate about their subject matter at "classrooms" throughout the county and beyond.

SCHOOL was formed in 2012; it's all volunteer-run with a 12-member Board of Directors.

Instructors—there are more than 60 of them each semester—are volunteers too.

In 2024, in both semesters, SCHOOL ran more than 150 classes or courses, each of them unique.

Popular topics included ethnic cooking, local and world history, science and nature, hikes and performances, arts and crafts, health and nutrition, technology, writing, and theater.

In 2025, SCHOOL will continue to add to the variety of courses and grow its membership as it works to enhance its mission: To offer a choice of activities that encourage members to "create, think, exercise, and socialize: and to nurture their whole being through life-long learning experiences for mind, body, and soul."

Class locations are expanding to include more local libraries throughout the county, church halls, gyms, parks, some SUNY Cobleskill classrooms, and some online offerings as well.

Hikes and performances expand the reach into neighboring counties and towns for specific learning opportunities.

Because many of the classes are held during the day, the target membership tends to be in the 55-plus range, but are all welcome to join. Some classes are held in the evenings and on weekends as well.

There is a basic $55/year membership fee.

Spring semester runs March through June and the fall semester is late August through November.

Sign-up starts about a month before each semester with course catalogs available online at CobySchool.com. with hard copies at local libraries.

Chair Kathy Livingston encourages residents to "Join and take advantage of these opportunities to explore topics that you actually want to learn about. There are no grades and no homework—unless you are in the writing class. These are live classes, not prerecorded lessons, and you can directly interact with the instructors."

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Quarter century for Aidone

For a quarter century, Aidone Eye Care has offered eye exams, eye glasses and frames, contact lenses, same-day service and more. Above, from the left: Ben Richards, Dr. Tanya Devlin, owner David Aidone, Crystal M. Rhodes, and Nicki Hampel. "We'd like to thank our many loyal customers," Mr. Aidone said.

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20 local artisans...

Located in the old Throop Drug Store at 303 Main Street in the Village of Schoharie, the Schoharie Mercantile is starting its second year in business.

The store is home to more than 20 local artisans offering an array of handmade crafts and goods, including quilts, soaps and lotions, jewelry, hats, stained glass, honey, to name just a few of the many offerings.

If you are looking for a special gift or shopping for yourself and you appreciate handcrafted unique items, stop in and check out this co-op artisan shop. We hope customers will embrace shopping local as they visit historic Schoharie.

Currently open winter hours Thursday through Sunday, 11am-5pm, January through March. Regular hours of seven days a week, 11am-5pm resume on April 1.

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Originally started in the 1980s as "Evelyn's Posy Place" by Evelyn Gallup, then opened as "The Little Posy Place" in 2006 and again in 2012 by Diane McDermott, "Mimi's Little Posy Place" is a third-generation-owned florist in Schoharie.

Renamed Mimi's in 2022 to honor Diane's loving relationship with her grandchildren, sisters Amber Dickson and Dawn Failing have kept the tradition alive and going after their mother's tragic and unexpected passing.

Mimi's is a full service florist, offering fresh floral arrangements for funerals, weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, holidays, proms and everything in between.

The shop, conveniently located on Main Street in Schoharie also offers, candles, cards, plush, gifts, decor and more so be sure to stop in.

Besides monthly flower subscriptions, the girls are implementing an "Adopt a Grammie" program in honor of Evelyn, who recently passed away. They will donate arrangements of "slightly imperfect" flowers to some of the older town residents who may not get out much. If you know someone or have a suggestion, be sure to let them know so we can brighten their day with flowers.

Find and follow them on Facebook for specials and updates.

'Farming with Dynamite' was the subject of Dana Cudmore's presentation to the Town of Cobleskill Historical Society meeting in January.

This colorized photo shows two unidentified men at a steam-powered rock drill in one of Cobleskill's large quarries around 1900.

Between about 1890-1905 there was a huge demand for cut stone, and as many as 30 limestone quarries in Schoharie County helped meet that need.

The largest quarries - all now abandoned - were in the Town of Cobleskill; four had contracts that supplied stone used in the East River bridges in New York City, and in the expansion of the state's barge canal system.

Mr. Cudmore wrote about the quarries in his October 2023 book, 'Farming With Dynamite.'

Check out the Facebook page 'The Official Town of Cobleskill Historical Society' for updates and information about upcoming programs.

Hessian Hill Canine Center best for dogs

Since 2017, the team at Hessian Hill Canine Center and Care have been working to keep your dog happy, healthy, active and looking their best.

Dirk Schubert, Liz Goblet-Schubert and Lois Goblet have expanded their services.

They offer bathing/grooming: Bring your pup to the farm for basic grooming and bathing. Prices and services will vary depending on the pup.

Overnight boarding: Let your dog play on the farm while you are away. Travel with peace of mind that your pup is happy and well cared for. They adapt to each dog and their needs, while they enjoy many adventures around the farm.

Daycare services: Going out for the day, or just going to work? Bring your dog to play on the farm for the day.

They will get to play outside, enjoy a little pampering and enjoy the company of friends of all shapes and sizes.

For more information on boarding and/or grooming contact Ms. Goblet-Schubert at (518)491-8267.

On the training side, Lois Goblet, owner of the Canine Center at Hessian Hill offers private and group lessons.

The center training philosophy focuses on relationship and reward based training.

Classes include puppy, foundations, agility, nose work, detection, tracking, and herding. The Canine Center at Hessian Hill helps you identify what motivates your dog.

If you are looking for a companion that is well behaved for family outings or you are working toward canine sports, we have a visiting instructor that can individualize your experience.

Visiting instructors include:

Jessica Dinowitz, nose work and title evaluations; Master Trainer Kyle McCraith, teaches tracking and detection; Sonja Galley teaches herding; Jared Slingerland teaches agility and offers workshops; Bob Spetla teaches agility and offers workshops, and Carol Frey is an evaluator for AKC Canine Good Citizine, AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy program, AKC Community Canine (the advanced level of CGC), Urban CGC and Trick Dog Test.

The Canine Center at Hessian Hill offers workshop and fun runs in a variety of sports including FAST CAT.

Watch their Facebook page or contact Ms. Goblet at (518)365-4085 for more information.

Scott Sherman Trucking & Excavating

Scott Sherman Trucking & Excavating, Schoharie, was formed in 2017 and offers delivery of all types of materials, including stone and gravel, as well as excavation services.

"Thank you to our customers for supporting our local company," Mr. Sherman said. "It's our pleasure to serve your delivery and excavation needs."

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Bank of Richmondville is an independent community bank with offices located in Richmondville, Cobleskill, and Schoharie.

Offices are open Monday-Thursday, 8:15am-4pm, and Friday, 8:15am-6pm, with additional drive-thru services on Saturdays at the Cobleskill and Schoharie offices, from 8:30-11:30am.

The bank currently employs 34 full-time and four part-time employees and has a seven-member Board of Directors committed to the principles and operation of the bank as an independent community bank.

The Bank of Richmondville continues to offer a successful blend of modern products and services for its customers, such as mobile banking, e-statements, a student E-Z Access Account, and a variety of loan and mortgage products.

The Bank of Richmondville has always taken pride in the fact that it is an independent community bank involved with its customers, residents, and businesses of Schoharie County on a continuing basis through support of a large variety of community and civic projects.

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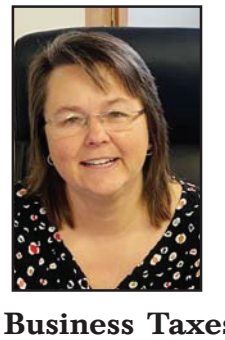

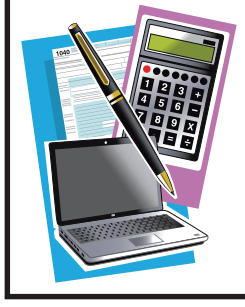

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Times-Journal: All the news you need

At Locomotion's Bar & Grill, Steve Myers offers food, beverages, and entertainment. 2024 marked substantial renovations to the business. Above, Mr. Myers, Bill Farley, and Larry Schaffer, the past three owners, celebrate its reopening. "I'm blessed to know both Bill and Larry and am happy and excited to carry on the traditions and good times that take place here," Mr. Myers said.

Dedicated to Schoharie

The Schoharie Promotional Association is a community group that is dedicated to promoting the Village and Town of Schoharie by cultivating community involvement; sponsoring activities that will bring people to the area; encouraging alliances with business and community groups; creating educational and fun activities for community youth; and beautifying the area.

For over 40 years, the association has sponsored many community events including the Schoharie 300 celebration.

Additions to the village include the village clock, lights and decorations, town hall map kiosk, Fox Creek Park BBQ/firepit, millennium tree, sign replacements, and many other projects.

In 2015, the Schoharie Lily Park was created by SPA with the help of many volunteers.

Featuring a walking path lined with tiger lilies, the park is frequently visited.

A Lily Festival is scheduled each year on the second Saturday in July to show the lilies in full bloom.

The festival grows each year featuring food, entertainment, children's activities, vendors and crafters, and lots more.

The Schoharie Promotional Association is tax exempt and is funded by donations and fundraising.

Meetings are at 6:30pm on the second Monday of the month in town hall, 300 Main Street.

All are invited to join and help them better their community.

Their scheduled events are available on their website: https://schoharieprom o.org and on Facebook.

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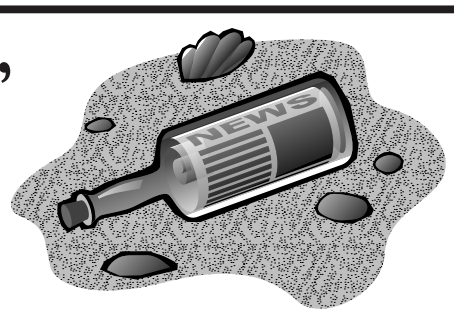

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