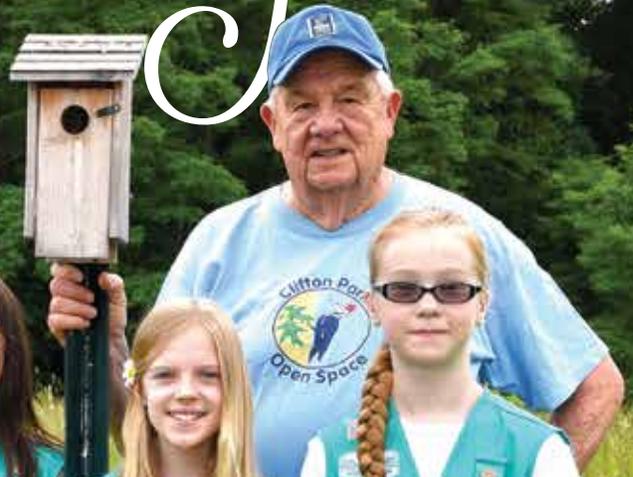


# CLIFTON PARK

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FOR RESIDENTS

# Neighbors

# Frank Berlin



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Cover photo by Mark Bolles

*Frank Berlin with Clifton Park Junior Girl Scout Troop 2158  
who helped him install bird boxes and plant wild flowers.*

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## COMMUNITY SUBMISSIONS

Have feedback? New ideas? We would be happy to hear from you! Please contact Jenna Caputo at jcaputo@bestversionmedia.com for information on how to submit ideas, articles, updates, reminders, events, high-resolution photos and more. We will do our best to include as much community information as we can within our space limitations.

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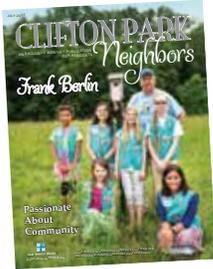
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## ON THE COVER

Frank Berlin and  
 Clifton Park Junior  
 Girl Scout Troop 2158



# Dear CLIFTON PARK RESIDENTS ★★★★★★

Happy Independence Day! We are now in the midst of summer and hopefully everyone is enjoying some outdoor fun. We are lucky to have so many wonderful resources in our area to enjoy various outdoor activities. Have you ever taken a moment to think about what would happen if these resources were gone?

The sad truth is that many of them are fading away. Luckily for us, we have people like our cover story, Frank Berlin, president of Friends of Clifton Park Open Space, to guide us in saving them! Many have already joined him in his mission and the numbers of support keep growing. Check out his story (page 6) and then give him a call to see how you can help too. There are numerous ways, both big and small, that the community can be involved and make an impact.

We have so many talented people in our community making a difference every day. This month's Student Spotlight (page 5) features Bilal Salam, a young man who has been giving back to the organization and community that sponsored him as he headed off to school. Maria Messier (page 4) created a product that has been helping women everywhere and is getting local and national attention and support. And Annie Stiles' new book (page 11) has hit the shelves just in time for those summer beach vacations.

We so love hearing your stories about your accomplishments and the things happening in the community. Please keep them coming! Send any story ideas to jcaputo@bestversionmedia.com.

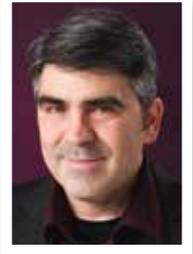
# Jenna ★★★★★★



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# Local Product Invention Advances in InnovateHer Challenge

Contributed by Maria Messier

Congratulations to Joanne Frank of Rotterdam and Maria Messier of Clifton Park for winning the Capital Region InnovateHER 2017 Women Business Challenge!

The Small Business Administration (SBA) is searching, with local sponsorship from The Community Loan Fund of the Capital District and Key Bank, for innovative products and services that impact and empower the lives of women and families.

Challenge contestants (11 businesses in total) created a presentation and pitched their ideas to a panel of judges, tasked with choosing the business that best fit the criteria. Joanne and Maria's business won first prize, \$1,700 generously donated by Key Bank. If selected by SBA as a finalist they could go to Washington, DC to pitch for one of three grand prizes: \$40,000, \$20,000 or \$10,000, to help with promoting their business.

Their business is called Extendher, LLC. The product is a patent-pending clip-on jacket extension panel that enhances coats or garments by making them larger. It is one product offering two modes of function making it ideal during pregnancy and after while babywearing.

This idea came from Maria when she was pregnant with her second child in the cold winter months; she was freezing and couldn't close her coat. She used her husband's coat, but felt like a box. This sparked an idea; why not create a panel that would provide more room for an expanding belly? The complexity of her new life took over, and her idea was filed away. The following fall, she became pregnant again, but this time with twins. She quickly found herself in the same situation; unable to



zip her coat. While at a family party, she casually mentioned her idea to her Aunt Joanne. With over 40 years of fashion design

experience in the industry, Joanne immediately saw the potential. During the design process, Joanne realized that the extendher™ could also function as a babywearing cover when it was inverted. Prototypes were made and tested by expecting moms. She also designed a unique clip-on attachment, which was more versatile than matching zippers. These clips enable the extendher™ to attach to any coat, jacket or vest of any length, and for any season. It can be shared with any family members, babysitters or anyone wanting to wear the new baby. This versatility makes the extendher™ a great gift for new or expecting moms, dads and even grandparents. Their product slogan is "Ready to wear, easy to share."

Joanne was looking for her next design venture just as Maria was looking for a solution to a problem. Together they formed a company in March 2015 and are growing each year. They are happy to say that the extendher™ is made in the USA with production locally in Troy and Little Falls!

For more info, visit their website: [www.theextendher.com](http://www.theextendher.com) ■

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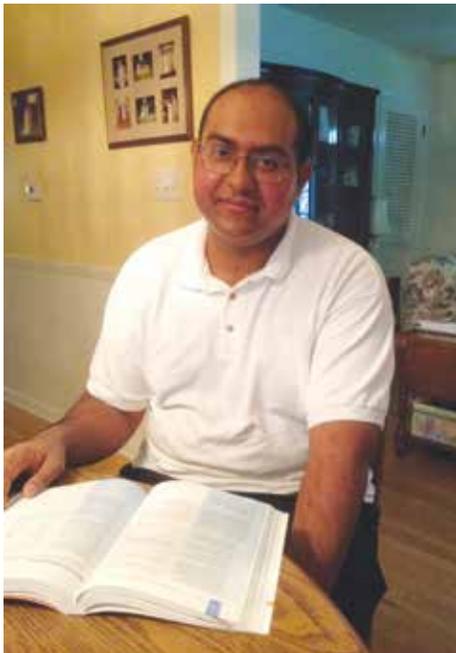
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# Bilal Salam, Dollars for Scholars Recipient, Gives Back to Show His Gratitude



By Bilal Salam and Ann White

Five years ago, Bilal Salam graduated from Shenendehowa High School and was accepted into the Computer Science program at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He applied for a Shenendehowa Dollars for Scholars (DFS) Scholarship and was awarded a \$500 award based on his academic achievement (95.7 GPA), community



and school service, personal essay and letters of reference. The evening he received the award he asked how he "could give back." As it happened, DFS chapters had just received word from Scholarship America, our parent organization, that a brand new online application had been developed and must be

implemented by every chapter in the United States. So Bilal's request was not only timely but critical to the future success – in fact to the very existence of Shenendehowa Dollars for Scholars! He has faithfully served as our volunteer Super Administrator ever since, and deserves credit for the fact that a total of \$233,200 has now been awarded to 370 students.

Bilal's volunteer duties have included four years of mentoring high school students at Shenendehowa and Hudson High School in Robotics. He enjoys gardening with his father, weather permitting. A great role model for his peers, Bilal is grateful to his parents for their support of education and proud of his Muslim heritage.

This May, Bilal, a Dean's List student, earned a Master's degree along with his Bachelor of Science at RPI. His junior year internship in software engineering at a local corporation has led to a full-time position with that firm. He continues his volunteer work with Shenendehowa Dollars for Scholars, making improvements to the online application process.

Thank you, Bilal, for all that you do to support Dollars for Scholars, and congratulations on your accomplishment!

To learn more about Shenendehowa Dollars for Scholars, or to donate, go to [www.shenendehowa.dollarsforscholars.org](http://www.shenendehowa.dollarsforscholars.org). ■

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# Frank Berlin

## Passionate About Community

Frank and Nancy Berlin

### COVER STORY

By Jenna Caputo

Photos by MarkBolles.com

Meeting with Frank Berlin is a story-lover's dream. Full of energy, Frank is always ready to make a difference – whether by saving a piece of nature, educating a new student or just by brightening your day a little by making you smile. He has a lifetime full of interesting stories, filled with characters that instantly spark a writer's creativity. As with any good teacher, he naturally educates as he speaks and his fun personality is conveyed in everything he does. He also knows how to get things done. By the time we met at 9:30 in the morning, he had been out and managed to accomplish more in those early couple of hours than most people do in an entire day.

Born in Bound Brook, New Jersey, he lived with his family above a Pep Boys auto store in Plainfield for the first few years of his life. Then they moved to Watchung, NJ, where he lived until he was 20. Watchung was a small town. His school had four rooms for eight grades and there were only 12 kids in his class up until high school, when they were sent to North Plainfield to finish their schooling.

They also had a lake that provided hours of entertainment. In the summer, the kids lived outside, picking up soda bottles to earn 10 cents a case. They played basketball, softball, fished and hunted rabbits and squirrels. In the winter, they played hockey on the lake. Having so much nature only 27 miles from New York City was a special treasure growing up. It provided a great foundation for Frank's love of nature and his passion for protecting it. Sadly, Frank says the town is now wall-to-wall houses and the stream is all dried up.

Frank is in constant amazement at his success in life. Coming from simple beginnings, he still marvels at where he is now and the experiences he had getting here. Perhaps it is because of this early foundation that he was able to make a difference in the lives of others. An immigrant child, Frank's mother was originally from Germany. She worked as a nanny for an opera singer when she came to the U.S. His father was from Sweden. He became an apprentice on a ship training to be a Danish baker. They met at night school, where they were both learning English. Frank grew up with a "get a job and work hard" mentality. They didn't have

a vacation for 16 years, but he never once felt like he was suffering or missing out on anything. Their life was filled with laughter and friends and all the comforts a person really needs.

Frank worked odd jobs here and there but after graduation a friend of his informed him about an opening on a Garden State Parkway Survey team. It was great pay and he always liked being outdoors so he took the job. He bought a 1949 Ford Convertible to cruise around in, meeting the group at the bar at the end of the day. It was a good life for a young man. He enjoyed the work and it sparked an interest in engineering. But then he had to join the Army and was sent to Fort Dix, NJ for his basic training.

He ended up at the base longer than usual because he contracted pneumonia and wound up in the hospital for 34 days. His friends had moved on to their stations or over to the Korean War by the time he was out. One of his friends came back from the war and warned him about how awful it was. He told Frank to say he knew how to type if anyone asked. When he got out of training, Frank was stationed at the South Park Military Reservation in Pittsburg, PA. When the question did come up, he remembered this advice, and because of his high school typing class he was able to become the clerk typist while stationed at an anti-aircraft battery in Blawnox, PA.

The Army had a provision to allow the boys out a couple of months early for college acceptance. He didn't know if he was cut out for college, but wanted to give it a shot. Not knowing anything about any of the colleges, he decided to apply to schools in good ski locations since he liked to ski. But by then, he was too late with the applications and missed many of the deadlines. He then applied to midwestern schools and received acceptance letters from Purdue and The Ohio State University. He picked OSU, but didn't do well on the entrance exams, so he found himself once again faced with a decision – either take remedial classes first, or go home, take some classes there, then reapply. He was ready to go home but his Captain told him if he went home and back to his buddies, he'll never go back to college. Frank realized the Captain was right and went off to school.

Remembering his earlier job on the Parkway, Frank enrolled in a 5-year civil engineering program. They had to take well-rounded courses, including English, where they learned to write by writing every day. Many of the boys in class were fresh out of the service so they all wrote stories from their military experiences. It made things interesting. Never being much for school in the past, Frank was surprised. "I found out I loved learning," said Frank.



*Frank helped place 41 bee boxes in conjunction with Southern Adirondack Honey Bee Association.*

"I couldn't believe it! I loved going to school! I was really a student."

Despite loving what he was doing, Frank realized he was not cut out for engineering but he wasn't sure what else to do. During a visit home, he talked to his 8th grade teacher who suggested Frank become a math teacher. "I cried when I dropped engineering," said Frank, but he knew it was something he needed to do. He enrolled in the education college and soon excelled in his new field.

His parents had retired to Florida, so in between his schooling, he lived with his wife's uncle and fished with a man who would eventually become his father-in-law. One day the man's daughter came out with them. "I helped her out of the boat," remembers Frank with a twinkle in his eye. "I became smitten." They planned on marrying when he graduated college. Two days before the wedding, he had a job interview for a position at Shaker High School in North Colonie. The school was beautiful – brand new with wall-to-wall carpeting. They offered him a job on the spot, but he surprised them by saying he wanted to think about it. He had an interview in Goshen, NY the next day

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and he wanted to check it out. He went to his second interview, this time at more of a city school. He took one look around, walked across the street to a pay phone and called Shaker. "I'll take the job," he said.

Two days later, he and his new wife, Nancy, were off on their honeymoon in Cape Cod. They had no reservations or anything planned, but lucked out and had a wonderful time. Once they returned home, they started on their journey to the Capital Region, eventually settling in Clifton Park. He began his new job at Shaker and continued his studies. He took masters' classes in the summers at Boston College. "Man, did we learn mathematics. Did we BREATHE mathematics. Even every table napkin had math on it!" he says. "Math is all mental – representative. I learned the *why* of math." He continued taking grad courses at various local colleges near home including Albany State, Siena and RPI. He also received two national science grants to take intensive courses at Simmons College and Boston College.

Teaching was obviously meant to be. Even as we talked, he was teaching me and trying to jog my memory of some long-ago math, using scraps of paper we had around to illustrate as we went along. Obviously touched by his own professors, he relived anecdotes of some of his former students and experiences in the classroom himself. He believes that all kids are smart. You just have to find the right way to reach them. One of his special students has since gone on to receive high honors in his life. He requested Frank attend one of the honor ceremonies as the teacher who inspired him at the start of his mathematics education. It was a moment that Frank treasures and he still tears up as he tells how the two continue to keep in touch to this day. Frank may now officially be retired on paper, but it's obvious that the teacher is still working inside him, as he inadvertently touches all those he meets.

Frank spent 32 years teaching at Shaker, growing his own family to three children and four grandchildren. He loves to visit Schroon Lake and the Zankel Music Hall at Skidmore College, calling it the secret treasure of the Capital Region. But his real passion now is directed to preserving the open space and natural resources in our own area. An environmental advocate, he is the president of Friends of Clifton Park Open Space and works daily to preserve the resources that are so unique to the Capital Region. One of his passion projects is helping save the



*Clifton Park Junior Girl Scout Troop 2158 learned about nature and ecology while helping Frank install bird boxes and plant wild flowers at the Clifton Park Transfer Station. Not only will their effort beautify the transfer station, it will also help build an ecosystem that supports birds, bees and butterflies. Girl Scouts pictured: Annika, Adama, Katherine, Eliana, Samantha, Selena*

honeybees that are disappearing in alarming rates due to pesticide use as well as a colony collapse disorder problem. The project began with an article. "I had read an article in the *Smithsonian Magazine* about a man that was doing research on the type of swarm boxes honeybees prefer. I thought, why not provide a swarm box for honeybees in Clifton Park. I was fortunate to find a gentleman named David Wood, who is now the past president of the Southern Adirondack Honeybee Association. I learned a lot from David and he has been extremely helpful."

They give out boxes every year and have had success in saving swarms from several areas. They're hoping to provide more refuges and to enlist the help of the whole county, as well as the state, in preserving such a vital part of our agriculture. He feels his biggest success, though, is the awareness that people now have about the importance of saving the honeybees from the harmful things we have been doing to our environment. He has a few tips on how to help. "Stop using herbicides that kill the clover and dandelions. Stop spraying herbicides on the side of the road to kill the wildflowers. There is no reason we can't mow them later in the fall. Planting flowers in general are good, but especially let any native flowers come up. We need to look for opportunities to provide pollen for the honeybees. The Girl Scouts scattered 90 lbs. of sunflower seeds down at the Clifton Park Transfer Station. This is their 5th year that they have been creating a meadow for

birds, butterflies and bees and it has been a tremendous success. We have stopped mowing it like a golf course and let nature use it by providing bounty for the birds, butterflies and bees. The girls have done a great job and they are getting awards for what they're doing. We also now have eight bluebird boxes down there and two bat houses."

Open Space is quickly expanding and receiving more support and recognition than they expected. People are interested in protecting their environment and now is the time to act. Frank has several other Open Space projects in the works and is always on the lookout for a new mission to make the Capital Region better and kinder to the environment. He encourages everyone to take an interest in their surroundings. "See what's going on and think before you do things. Stop with the sprays and poisons and let the dandelions be. Remember that you can't always trust the government to make the right judgments. Take action yourself," he advises.

"The best thing about this is I've met a lot of great people since I've been involved," says Frank. "It's been a great experience. I've had help from a lot of people and support from businesses, judges, donations, etc. I do this because it makes my heart feel good. I'm very fortunate to live in this area. We have to save open space for future generations. I saw what happened in NJ and I don't want

that to happen here."

When we finished speaking, Frank's day still wasn't done. He was off to join in an organized monthly walk and had a few other things on his to-do list too. He is a humble man and shakes his head in wonderment at his success in life and all the attention he is receiving. "Why me?" he asks. "Who would have ever thought," he shakes his head again. But I can see why. Some people just "have it." Some people touch others wherever they go, even if it's just in an interview for a story. They leave smiles on the faces of all they meet. Good teachers spark something in their students and push them to their highest potential. Great teachers push them to the stars and end up leaving a piece of themselves to be spread out into the world, influencing people and events for generations to come. I think there is a lot of Frank Berlin out in this world....

*There are many ways for the community to be involved and help with preserving the open space in our area. For more information and a list of upcoming events, visit <http://cliftonparkopenspaces.org>. ■*

Do you know a neighbor who has a story to share? Nominate your neighbor to be featured in one of our upcoming issues! Contact us at [jcaputo@bestversionmedia.com](mailto:jcaputo@bestversionmedia.com).

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2. Use your hand: for small-framed women, 1 teaspoon is about the size of the tip of your thumb, 1 tablespoon is the size of your thumb and 1 cup is the size of your fist.

3. Measure once: when you're at

home, you're using the same bowls and utensils over and over again. Find out how much they hold. Measure out the amount of soup that your ladle holds. If it's 3/4 cup you'll know forever that two scoops equal a satisfying 1 1/2 cup serving. On the flip-side, you can measure out a given portion of a particular favorite food and serve it in the dish you'll almost always use when you eat that food. Once you know that one serving of something reaches only halfway up your bowl, you'll know to stop there.

Tip: Cooking individual-size portions like Broccoli & Goat Cheese Soufflé, which is made in a 10-ounce ramekin, will help you control how much you're using without even thinking about it.

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# Local Author Annie Stiles' Latest Book Is Out!

Contributed by Marisa Kane

Annie Stiles' second book in the Heritage View series, *Engaged in Heritage View*, is now available. Find it on Amazon.com!

Ambitious workaholic attorney, Kate Loudon, lives by her five-year plan. She listens to her head more than her heart, which is why she broke it off with irresistible Scott Hunter after an intense fling in college. Her father's health is in jeopardy, and the doctors say it's time to retire. Past time. The family is concerned, but he's as much of a control freak as his daughter. Her dad can't seem to close the book on his lawyering days until he knows his youngest daughter is as happily settled as his eldest, Kate's perfect sister, Amanda.

Kate realizes she has to pull out all the stops, which leads her to do the unthinkable. She contrives a fake engagement with "the one that got away." Her former

college love is no pushover and he won't be controlled by Kate. Scott leads with his heart, and he wants her, but he's going to be sure to keep Kate on her toes and inject as much reality into their fauxmance as he can. Instead of being handled, he grabs the keys to her heart and rekindles the sparks between them. For someone with a plan for everything, Kate's life turns upside down. Can the gal who follows her head change her plans for the guy who follows his heart? ■



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# The Good Old Summer Time

By John L. Scherer

This photograph shows picnickers on the bridge over the sluice-way to the Vischer Mill, Vischer Ferry, on July 4, 1891. At the end of the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth century as traffic on the Erie Canal waned, Vischer Ferry became a resort community and was a destination of many summer visitors from out of town. Some would arrive to picnic for the day, some would spend a weekend or perhaps the entire summer staying at the Vischer Ferry Hotel on the site of the present fire house or at Mrs. Van Vranken's Boarding House on Riverview Road. Folks would arrive by horse and carriage crossing the river by ferry, or arrive by train at the Rosendale Station in Colonie and walk to the ferry. Between 1900 and 1902 one could take a toll bridge across the river, but the winter ice destroyed it.

The fun way to arrive at Vischer Ferry was on an excursion boat from Schenectady, the Kittie West, along the old Erie Canal. A booklet entitled *Beautiful Vischer Ferry* was printed in 1907 extolling the healthful atmosphere and



historic sites of Vischer Ferry. Today, visitors to the Vischer Ferry Historic District can still enjoy the atmosphere of a typical mid-nineteenth century era canal hamlet, and can hike, bike or ski along the remains of the canal on the original towpath within the six hundred acre Vischer Ferry Nature and Historic Preserve. Enjoy the summer! ■



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# Welcome to the Neighborhood

By Pete Bardunias, President/CEO, the Chamber of Southern Saratoga County



Chamber of Southern Saratoga County representatives were on hand to help celebrate the official grand opening of a joint location of **Adirondack Trust and Stewart's Shops** at 51 Luther Forest Blvd in Malta on May 19. Enjoying ice cream alongside "Flavor the Cow" are (L-R): David Snyder of Adirondack Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, the CSSC's 2017 Ribbon Cutting Sponsor; Garry Packer of Walton Realty Group; CSSC Vice President Liz Roggenbuck; Linda Tepper of the Tepper Group; Beth Silvestri of the Brookside Museum; Rich Griesche of Catskill Hudson Bank; and Tom Cronin of Success Public Relations. Rich had better watch out, it appears that Flavor is going for his wallet. Perhaps he wants to make a deposit at the new branch!



of Walton Realty Group; CSSC Vice President Liz Roggenbuck; Linda Tepper of the Tepper Group; Beth Silvestri of the Brookside Museum; Rich Griesche of Catskill Hudson Bank; and Tom Cronin of Success Public Relations. Rich had better watch out, it appears that Flavor is going for his wallet. Perhaps he wants to make a deposit at the new branch!



A reception was held at the Hilton Garden Inn in Clifton Park in early May for the grand opening of a new type of real estate listing service, **WhoWantsMyListing.com**. The company's strategy is that "when real estate agents compete, you win," so the site solicits competing offers to list customer's homes from qualified real estate agents, free of charge. The site helps assist both agents and home owners in getting started and utilizing its features. Pictured at center is Jules Ianniello, wife Becky and their two sons, along with family, friends and area real estate agents, plus volunteer Ambassadors of the Chamber of Southern Saratoga County.

Meet other business neighbors at [www.southernsarotoga.org](http://www.southernsarotoga.org).

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**Thursday Evenings**

SPIRIT TREE'S EVENING MEDITATIONS

@Spirit Tree Connections, Latham  
Each Thursday evening, we will have a different meditation lined up for you with a different meditation facilitator each week. We have drumming meditations, crystal bowls, medicine bowls, chanting, Shamanic Journeys, Angels, hypnotic meditations and much more. Register online or at 518-362-8383.

Time: 6-7pm  
Cost: \$10 drop in

**Sunday, Jul 2**

PERFORMING ARTS AT THE COMMON: THE ACCENTS

@Clifton Common Stage, Clifton Park  
One of the Capital Region's hottest party bands, The Accents, provides high energy entertainment that will keep the dance floor packed! This ensemble will fill your soul with the groove that has been missing.

Time: 7pm  
Cost: FREE

**Monday-Friday Jul 3-7**  
SPANISH FUN CAMP

@Bilingual Genius Academy, Clifton Park

The goal of this program is to introduce campers to the Spanish language and help campers start their journey on bilingualism.

Time: 8:30am-3pm  
Cost: \$116

**Tuesday, Jul 4,**

JULY 4TH CELEBRATION

@Clifton Common, Clifton Park  
Parade, live music, rides, games, food and craft vendors. The parade route begins on Route 146 in front of Shenendehowa School campus and ends at Clifton Common.

Largest locally-sponsored fireworks in the Capital Region! For further information, call Parks & Recreation at 518-371-6667.

Time: 12-10pm  
Cost: FREE

**Wednesday, Jul 5**

TRI-CITY VALLEYCATS VS. BROOKLYN CYCLONES

@Joseph L. Bruno Stadium, Troy

What's not to love about a good ole' fashioned baseball game? At the Tri-City ValleyCats games in Troy, you experience a whole lot more than just quality baseball. The ValleyCats games are a place where everyone can enjoy the game, not just die-hard baseball fans!

Time: 7pm  
Cost: \$5.75-\$12

**Thursday, Jul 6**

BALLSTON SPA FARMERS' MARKET

@Wiswall Park, Ballston Spa  
The market features 100% locally grown produce, farm fresh agricultural products, flowers, baked goods, wine, beer & locally crafted spirits, custom blended spices, dressings, marinades, handcrafted jewelry and more.

Time: 3-6pm  
Cost: FREE

**Saturday, Jul 8**

CUSTOM & CLASSIC CAR SHOW

@Gavin Park, Wilton

Got a custom or classic car you want to show off? How hot is your ride? Enter ParkFest's custom & classic car show for a chance to find out! First,

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second and third place trophies and prizes totaling more than \$500 will be awarded. As space is limited, pre-registration is strongly advised.

*Time: 8am-4pm*

*Cost: FREE for spectators;  
\$10/car to enter*

**Saturday, Jul 8**

THE NEW YORK CITY BALLET GALA AT SPAC - THE RHYTHM OF ROMANCE

@Saratoga Performing Arts Center, Saratoga Springs

This year's annual New York City Ballet Gala at SPAC will feature three pieces set to scores by the legendary Richard Rodgers.

*Time: 8pm*

*Cost: Varies*

**Sunday, Jul 9**

23RD ANNUAL SECRET GARDENS TOUR

Sponsored by Soroptimist International of Saratoga County, this self-guided tour of 11 private gardens in and around Saratoga Springs is a major fund-raiser to support local and global initiatives. The featured gardens are a mix of styles and sizes, in both sun and shade, sure to inspire garden lovers of every level.

*Time: 11am-5pm*

*Cost: \$20-\$25*

**Tuesday, Jul 11**

ABUNDANCE AND ANGELS WORKSHOP

@Spirit Tree Connections, Latham  
Work more abundance into your life with intentions and manifestations, and the Angels are ready and willing to help you reach your goals. Register online or at 518-362-8383.

*Time: 6pm*

*Cost: \$20*

**Tuesday-Wednesday Jul 11-12**

CIRCUS SMIRKUS

@Saratoga Casino Hotel, Saratoga Springs

Embark on an enchanted journey with Jurassic jugglers, astonishing aerialists, courageous clowns and wily wire walkers as they explore a museum that springs to life when the clock strikes midnight. Circus Smirkus, presented by the Waldorf School of Saratoga Springs, invites you to witness ultra-talented kids from across the country - ages 12 to 18.

*Time: 1-6pm*

*Cost: \$20 children 2-12/ \$25 ages 13+/  
under 2 free on an adult's lap*

**Friday, Jul 14**

YOUNG LIVING PLAYDATE

@Spirit Tree Connections, Latham

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do with some of your oils? This is the workshop for you. Make some goodies that you can bring home to use!! Register online or at 518-362-8383.  
 Time: 6:30pm  
 Cost: \$5

**Saturday, Jul 15**

**THE CHIP FESTIVAL**

@Saratoga Springs City Center, Saratoga Springs  
 Salty? Spicy? Cheesy? Potato? Corn? Thick-cut? Razor-thin? No matter how you slice or flavor them, people love their chips. And that's precisely why you should join us for The Chip Festival in the birthplace of the potato chip: Saratoga Springs, NY!  
 Time: 10am-4pm  
 Cost: \$5 Adults; FREE Kids 12 and Under

**Saturday, Jul 15**

**MABEE FARM CANAL**

@Mabee Farm Historic Site, Rotterdam Junction  
 CanalFest at Mabee Farm celebrates the vibrant canalway culture of Schenectady County and all things Erie Canal-related! Visitors are invited to discover the impact the Erie Canal has had on our region's culture and heritage, and explore the recreational

opportunities along the canal today.  
 Time: 11am-3pm  
 Cost: FREE

**Saturday, Jul 15**

**KIDS DAY AT THE PLAZA**

@Empire State Plaza, Albany  
 Presented for the first time by MVP Health Plans, Kids Day is this area's "kid-centric" outdoor event. Nowhere else can children enjoy an array of favorites such as live music, the Two by Two Zoo, Touch a Truck, face painting, bounce rides, puppet shows, arts and crafts, balloons and more all in one place.  
 Time: 12-5pm  
 Cost: FREE

**Tuesday, Jul 18**

**CRYSTAL 101 CLASS**

@Spirit Tree Connections, Latham  
 In this fun and interactive workshop, you will learn all the basics of different healing crystals: how they can be used to propel healing, protection, peace and calming energies. Come experience by holding on and feeling each crystal's vibration. Register online or at 518-362-8383.  
 Time: 6:30pm  
 Cost: \$15

**Friday, Jul 21**

**SARATOGA RACE TRACK  
 OPENING DAY**

@Saratoga Race Course, Saratoga Springs  
 The highlight of summer in Saratoga is the summer racing meet, featuring world class thoroughbred horse racing! Get ready for another thrilling season of racing in Saratoga Springs!  
 Time: 11am  
 Cost: \$5-\$25; FREE for children under 12

**Friday-Saturday Jul 21-22**

**HATS OFF FESTIVAL**

@Downtown Saratoga  
 Enjoy six different bands ranging from rock & blues, to instrumental, solos & chorus spread throughout downtown to celebrate the opening of track season.  
 Time: 7-11pm  
 Cost: FREE

**Saturday, Jul 22**

**FAIRY 101 CLASS FOR CHILDREN**

@Spirit Tree Connections, Latham  
 Toni Craft, our resident Fairyologist, will teach your children all the magical qualities and fun stories about fairies. This is a fun and interactive workshop

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for your kids. Register online or at 518-362-8383.  
 Time: 10-11am  
 Cost: \$10

**Saturday, Jul 22**

**21ST ANNUAL SILKS AND SATINS 5K RUN**

@Fasig Tipton Sales Pavilion, Saratoga Springs  
 The 21st Annual Silks & Satins 5K Run to benefit Special Olympics New York takes runners on a tour of beautiful Saratoga Springs. Register today or the day of the race to earn goodies and support a great community organization!  
 Time: 8am-11am  
 Cost: Pre-Register \$25 / Price increases to \$30 day of race

**Saturday, Jul 22**

**SARATOGA BRIDGES ANNUAL**

**GALA: "THE WHITE PARTY"**  
 @Saratoga National Golf Club, Saratoga Springs  
 'The Party of the Summer' debuts at the elegant Saratoga National Golf Club! The event will feature complimentary cocktails all evening, buffet dinner and desserts, live and silent auctions, music by Gravity, wonderful artwork by Saratoga Bridges' Creative Endeavors Artists, Heather Bohm-Tallman Photography's Photo Booth and Valet Parking.  
 Time: 6-10pm  
 Cost: Reservations by June 30: \$175; \$125 (Under 35) - Price increases by \$25 after June 30

**Sunday, Jul 23**

**ELKS RIDE FOR VETS**  
 @Saratoga-Wilton Elks Lodge #161, Saratoga Springs  
 Enjoy Upstate NY's race season and support a good cause by participating

in the first Annual Elks Ride for Vets Charity Bike Ride! The event will run rain or shine, starting and ending at Saratoga-Wilton Elks Lodge #161. All funds raised will go directly to the Elks Veterans Charity, which works to help improve the lives of local veterans.  
 Time: 7am  
 Cost:  
 64 Mile Ride - \$65 before 7/1/17; \$70 after  
 31 Mile Ride - \$30 before 7/1/17; \$40 after



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# The Saratoga County Fair

Contributed by the Saratoga County Agricultural Society

The 176th Saratoga County Fair will be held on July 18-23 at 9am at the Saratoga County Fairgrounds. Newly announced entertainment includes the only touring "Lumber Jill" show in North America known as The AXE Women Loggers of Maine.

This high-energy show set to today's top rock music hits features ladies who are world champions in logging, emphasizes the nature and difficulty of the sport as well as focuses on its beginnings and historical significance. Mimicking the falling of a tree, these athletes race to chop through 12 to 14 inches of a vertical log.

In between the Axe Women Logger shows, during daylight hours, there will be a special opportunity for the event attendees to take part in one-on-one log rolling instruction and one-on-one axe throwing instruction. The interactive log roll and axe throwing instructors will charge participants a nominal fee to learn. Participants will be required to sign a two page wavier in advance. Anyone under the age of 18 will need a parent or guardian to fill



out and sign the wavier.

In addition to the Axe Women, fairgoers can find loads of entertainment at the "Star to Star" Talent Show, Lego Competition, Baking Contest and Pie Eating & Donut Eating Contest. Individual, duet or group act entries for the talent show need to be submitted by July 8 in the categories of music, dance, gymnastics, comedy, magic and storytelling. Winners from July 22 and 23 will advance to the State

Fair Competition. The application form is available for printing at [www.saratogacountyfair.org](http://www.saratogacountyfair.org) (click on Exhibitor Forms/Talent Search Entry Form).

The Lego Competition's theme this year is "A Day at the Fair" and there

is no entry fee; however, you must pay regular admission to the fair. All entries must be labeled with form completed and brought to the Trustco Talent Building between 10am-12 noon on July 19.

The Baking Contest is open to all ages with an entry fee of \$2.00 for five muffins on a sturdy disposable plate. Entries close on July 8 at 5pm and can be made at [www.saratogacountyfair.org](http://www.saratogacountyfair.org). The Pie Eating Contest will be



The AXE Women Loggers of Maine

held on Friday & Saturday at 1pm at the Grandstand Meadow. The Donut Eating Contest will be held on Thursday & Sunday at 1pm also at the Grandstand Meadow.

Check the Saratoga County Fair Facebook Page for more information! ■

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# Saratoga Arts Events

Contributed by Emma Huneck, Saratoga Arts

## You're Invited!

10x10 Exhibition  
Opening Reception  
Saturday, July 8, 6-8pm

Saratoga Arts | 320 Broadway, Saratoga Springs

Craft beer and light refreshments provided by  
Druthers Brewing Company.

The annual 10x10 show exhibits the artwork of new artists, veteran artists, young and old artists, artists who are showing their work for the first time and artists who have been exhibiting their work for years. This exhibition also features the 10x10 artworks created by hundreds of young artists participating in Saratoga Arts Visual Arts Summer Camp Program. By the end of August, this exhibition will present over 800 works by over 500 artists! All artwork is for sale at or around \$100. ■



**At The Library...** Don't miss artwork on display at the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library! Two separate exhibits featuring the photography of local artists Eric Seplowitz and Greg Cuda will be on display from June 27 - July 31. Both exhibits are located upstairs and promise to be impressive!

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### IMPORTANT TOWN PHONE NUMBERS

Town Supervisor <i>Phil Barrett</i> .....371-6651	Town Clerk <i>Pat O'Donnell</i> .....371-6681	Planning Director <i>John Scavo</i> .....371-6054
Town Board Members.....371-6651	Town Court, 5 Municipal Plaza .....371-6668	Receiver of Taxes <i>Lorraine Varley</i> .....371-5720
Animal Control Officer .....371-6756	Storm Water Management Technician	Director of Safety and Security
Town Attorney <i>Tom McCarthy</i> .....371-6651	<i>Scott Reese</i> .....371-6054	<i>Lou Pasquarel</i> .....348-7311
Assessor <i>Walter Smead</i> .....371-6460	Director of Communications & Tech	Town Security Officers .....369-6651
Building & Development Director	<i>Dahn Bull</i> .....371-6651	Sewer Director <i>Mike O'Brien</i> .....348-7313
<i>Steve Myers</i> .....371-6702	Highway Superintendent <i>Rick Kukuk</i> ...371-7310	Transfer Station Supervisor
Building & Grounds Director	Parks and Recreation Director	<i>Jeff Vedder</i> .....371-6669
<i>Mike Handerhan</i> .....371-6651	<i>Myla Kramer</i> .....371-6667	

If the person you wish to reach is not on the list above, please call 371-6651 to speak to a receptionist who will direct your call to the appropriate individual or department. The Town's office buildings are open from Monday through Friday, 9am to 5pm, excluding holidays. The Town Clerk's Office is open until 7pm every Thursday. The Building and Parks and Recreation Departments are open at 8am Monday through Friday.

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