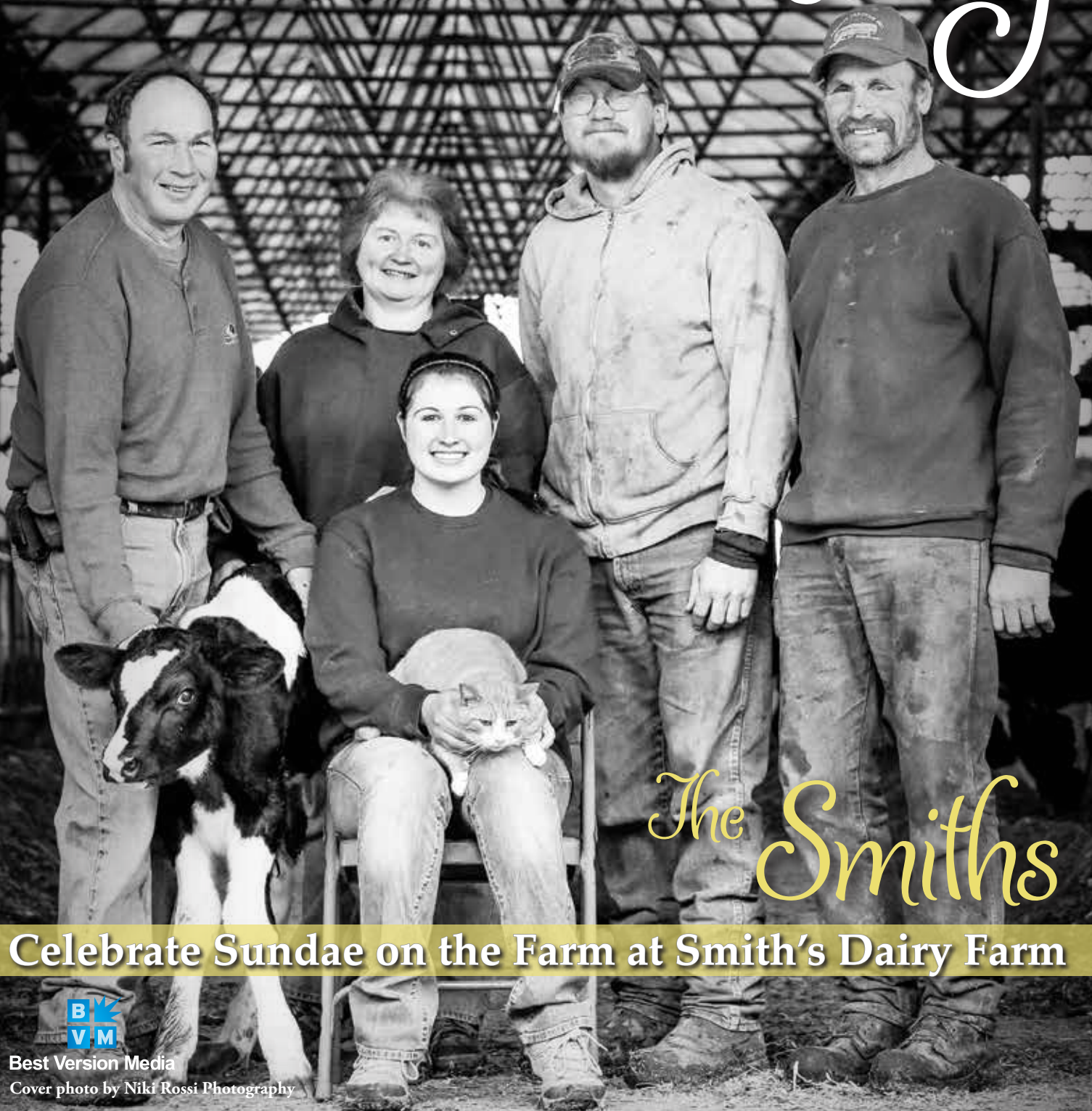


JUNE 2015

# CLIFTON PARK

AN EXCLUSIVE MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR RESIDENTS

# *Living*



*The Smiths*

Celebrate Sundae on the Farm at Smith's Dairy Farm



Best Version Media

Cover photo by Niki Rossi Photography





LOST  
120  
—LBS—

ED EASON | SCHENECTADY

NOW  
—I—  
CAN

Now Ed can feel good about himself, whether he's running a 5k race, shopping for clothes or comfortably sitting in a

theater. He can also live healthier without hypertension, diabetes and sleep apnea.

The weight loss surgery program at Ellis gave Ed the options and support he needed to safely lose weight and keep it off.

IF YOU HAVE A  
BMI OF 35 OR MORE  
GIVE US A CALL  
518.243.1313

Ellis  
MEDICINE

BARIATRIC  
CARE  
CENTER

REINVENTING HEALTHCARE  
ONE PATIENT AT A TIME

[ellismedicine.org/weightloss](http://ellismedicine.org/weightloss)



## Best Version Media™



### PUBLICATION TEAM

**PUBLISHER** Jessie Riley

**CONTENT COORDINATOR**

Jenna Caputo

**DESIGNER** Kelly Anderson

**CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER**

Niki Rossi Photography

**CONTRIBUTORS**

Dahn Bull, Clifton Park Town Hall

John L. Scherer, Clifton Park Historian

Rebecca Carman, Shenendehowa Central Schools

Pete Bardunias, The Chamber of Southern

Saratoga County

Elizabeth Dubben, Saratoga Arts Council

Dr. Terence Clarke, Ellis Medicine

Dr. Allison Graziadei, Ellis Medicine

Emilie Nadler, Skidmore College

Jenna Caputo, Silverpen Productions

Joanne DiMarco, Select Sotheby's International Realty

### ADVERTISING

**Contact:** Jessie Riley **Phone:** (917) 455-2461

**Email:** jriley@bestversionmedia.com

### COMMUNITY SUBMISSIONS

Have feedback? New ideas? We would be happy to hear from you! Please contact Jenna Caputo at [jcaputo@bestversionmedia.com](mailto: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.

### MAGAZINE DEADLINES

Please submit your content by the 10th of each month.

Clifton Park Living will usually arrive in your mailbox within the first week of every month. Dates may vary depending on the post office.

Any content, resident submissions, guest columns, advertisements and advertorials are not necessarily endorsed by or represent the views of Best Version Media (BVM) or any municipality, homeowners associations, businesses or organizations that this publication serves. BVM is not responsible for the reliability, suitability or timeliness of any content submitted. All content submitted is done so at the sole discretion of the submitting party. © 2015 Best Version Media. All rights reserved.

© 2015 Best Version Media

## Dear CLIFTON PARK RESIDENTS

Father's Day has a controversial past. Many people rallied against this becoming a national holiday because they viewed it as being just a commercial ploy. And although the first woman who tried to establish the holiday, Sonora Smart Dodd, did it to honor her father that had to raise six children on his own after her mother died, it was the Depression that managed to keep the idea of the holiday around mainly to help the struggling retailers. Even though, as one florist was quoted, "fathers haven't the same sentimental appeal that mothers have."

World War II helped add to the appeal of recognizing Father's Day, using the holiday as another reason to honor the troops and help support the war. It still was not an official holiday yet (Nixon signed it as a federal holiday in 1972), but it had now become a national institution.

Perhaps we don't necessarily think of flowers when we think of dad. Perhaps we don't always think of cuddle, tear-filled moments, but certainly there are many sentiments surrounding fathers. Every "daddy's little girl" can certainly remember those moments of seeing dad as a superhero – the one guy in her life that can make anything happen. The guy she always pictures walking her down the aisle to her new Prince Charming. How many little boys out there shadow their dads, wanting to do everything they do? And what is sweeter than seeing that picture of a father holding his child for the first time?

Father's Day doesn't have to be about commercialism. It doesn't have to be all sentiment and goo either. But in the spirit of the first Father's Day, let's use the day to honor those personal superheroes in our own lives. Fathers, husbands, brothers, sons – every man that has inspired us, supported us, cared for us – Happy Father's Day!



Jenna Caputo

CONTENT COORDINATOR

\*Source: <http://www.history.com/topics/holidays/fathers-day>

*Call TODAY for Spring & Summer Projects*

POOLS • MASONRY • CARPENTRY • OUTDOOR KITCHENS • GARDEN DESIGN

**WWW.REDBUDDEVELOPMENT.COM**

RESIDENTIAL LANDSCAPE DESIGN • CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT 518.691.0428

 **Redbud**  
Development Inc.



# The Good Old Summer Time

By John L. Scherer, Clifton Park Historian

Now that summer is here and warmer weather prompts us out of doors, we begin to plan picnics and side trips to the lakes and mountains. At the turn of the last century, that magical year 1900 when life seemed slower and carefree, Vischer Ferry was the destination of many area picnickers and tourists.

People came from Schenectady, Albany, Troy, Cohoes and even New York City to spend a day, a week, a month or the complete summer in the healthful climate and beautiful surroundings of Vischer Ferry. As quiet 100 years ago as it is today, the village was an ideal spot to escape from the noise and turmoil of the city.

There were a number of ways that a visitor could arrive at Vischer Ferry. Many would drive their carriages or autos over the Troy and Schenectady Road to Rosendale Road, which led down to the river where a boat was in readiness to convey the visitor to Vischer Ferry on the other side of the river. Another popular way was by train to the Niskayuna Station from which it was necessary to walk or hire a vehicle to the crossing at the river. This restored Niskayuna train station remains along the Colonie-Niskayuna Bike path, which now follows



*Picnickers on the mill pond bridge at Vischer Ferry, July 4, 1891.*

the railroad route.

The trolley from Schenectady to Troy paralleled the train tracks a short distance above Niskayuna, and still other visitors came by this route. A toll bridge was built across the Mohawk River at Vischer Ferry in 1900, and until the bridge was destroyed by ice flows two years later, picnickers could come by this route rather than waiting for the ferry. In later years, there was an autobus from Schenectady direct to Vischer Ferry. This was probably the quickest way of reaching the town from the west. The fun way of visiting Vischer Ferry was to charter the "Kittie West," a small steamer, and come down the Erie Canal. Many a family, complete with picnic basket and blanket, arrived at the village in this manner to spend a pleasant day. ■

**BUY FACTORY DIRECT**



## 3

Different Cabinet Lines Available

Granite & Quartz Countertops




**CABINETS • GRANITE • INSTALL**

Free In-Home Measurements • Free Estimates • Free Design Services • Professional Installation



**518-782-5159**

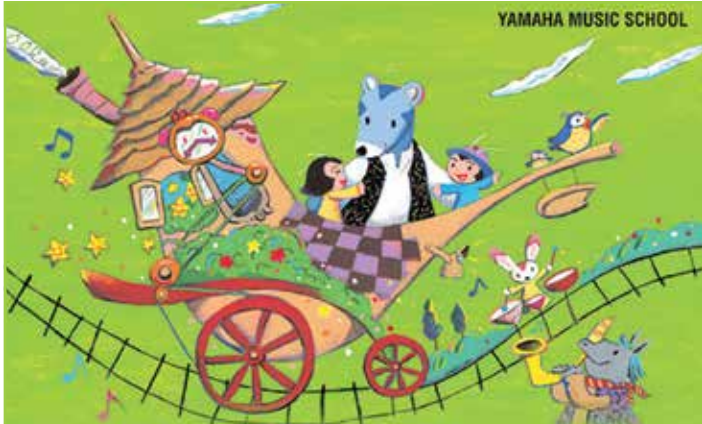
515 Troy-Schenectady Rd.,  
Latham, New York

[www.kitchenexpressplus.com](http://www.kitchenexpressplus.com)

FINANCING AVAILABLE




YAMAHA MUSIC SCHOOL



## Let's Go to Yamaha!

The *Hellert* SCHOOL

an authorized Yamaha Music School

**Ask About Our Fun, Educational Music Courses for Your Child**

**ENROLLING NOW**

Clifton Park Center Mall | 22 Clifton Country Rd | Clifton Park, NY 12065 518.630.6455 |  
[www.hellertschool.com](http://www.hellertschool.com) | [info@hellertschool.com](mailto:info@hellertschool.com)

# Get Digging... Gardening Is For Your Health

By Karen Kulak, Owner of Kulak's Nursery & Landscaping

As you head out to the backyard this weekend to begin turning over the soil and planting your favorite flowers, shrubs or rows of veggies and herbs you can't wait to harvest, you might like to know that your gardening efforts are doing more than beautifying the neighborhood and providing food for the family. They are actually making you happier and healthier!

If you are one of those seasoned gardeners, you can attest to the peace and tranquility found in gardening. The growing trend of do-it-yourself (DIY) has made gardening one of America's favorite hobbies. For some, getting your hands dirty can actually provide a therapeutic effect.


Little did we know that gardening exercises the body and encourages an awareness of our environment. People benefit from this type of activity and report a renewed desire to live, decreasing anxiety and improving their self-worth.

Gardening provides physical movement that we all could benefit from. Each person will benefit differently, based on his or her level of functioning as well as physical ability to garden. A stronger person may be able to do a lot of the work hauling soil and shoveling, while someone with a lower level of functioning may only be able to water the plants. While hitting the gym or taking a walk may reap similar cardiovascular benefits, gardening offers the opportunity to learn a new skill,

which may improve cognitive functioning as well.

Green spaces provide a sanctuary from our busy lives. Include vegetable and fruit producing plants such as easy-to-grow tomatoes, peppers, beans and lettuce. The ability to grow life-sustaining food strengthens feelings of self-sufficiency. Plant herbs that promote good health and add fragrance to your surroundings. Lavender is a great option as it is aromatic and calming while living or dried. Choose plants that can be dried and reused in crafts such as sachets or wreaths. You'll double your enjoyment of the gardening experience! Place a small bench, rock or chair in a shady spot of the garden, so you can enjoy the fruits of your labor. Commit to spending a few minutes each day in your garden. Even in small doses, the fresh air, vitamin D and moderate exercise is good for you. Gardening and yard work is great as a family activity and should always be looked upon positively, not as a punishment.

To find out more about gardening for your health, Kulak's Nursery and Landscaping has teamed with several local businesses and organizations for an evening of educational, inspirational and motivational demonstrations on June 17 from 6-8pm at our 1st annual Gardening for the Health of It, open house! ■



WEDDINGS, PORTRAITS, EVENTS,  
COMMERCIAL, HEADSHOTS

*Niki*ROSSI

www.nikirossi.com  
518.495.1593



**Hoff**  
DIAMONDS & FINE JEWELRY  
SINCE 1989

*Update Her Status!*

1546 Rt. 9 - Across From Walmart  
518.373.8645  
hoffjewelers.com

f AGS

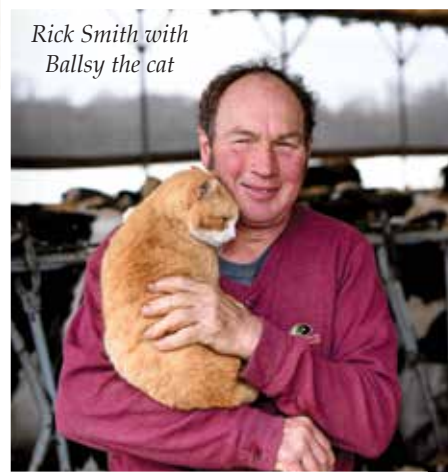




Shelly Smith



Bill Smith



Rick Smith with  
Ballsy the cat



Katie Daino

## COVER STORY

*Photos by Niki Rossi Photography*

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

# The Smiths

## Sundae on the Farm Celebrates 20 Years of Showcasing Area Farms

Each summer, local farms come alive with excitement, not only bringing food to our tables but also offering area residents a glimpse of what life is all about for those who toil in what remains the County's number one industry – agriculture.

Throughout Saratoga County, farmers are busy this time of year planting crops, tilling soil, feeding livestock, and maintaining their facilities. Events and activities

highlight the many facets of farming, including the inner workings of dairy farms, how to grow those tasty and succulent vegetables we love on our dinner tables, wool and sheep shearing and the horse farms that supply young thoroughbreds to the Saratoga Race Course and care for them later after their horse racing career is over.

For 20 years, a very special event has taken place each June to

afford city and suburban dwellers an opportunity to get up close and personal with farmers and farm animals. Held on Father's Day each year, Sundae on the Farm has established a great tradition in supporting what is still Saratoga County's #1 industry (and New York State's too!) – agriculture. Pat Peck, one of the founders of the event, recalls her surprise at how well the first one turned out. "It was a fantastically successful venture serving over 1000 people for breakfast

when we would have been extremely pleased with a few hundred,” says Mrs. Peck, “we gave non-farm people an opportunity to set foot on a real working farm.”

For 2015, Sundae on the Farm will be held on Sunday, June 21 from 12-4 at Smith’s Dairy Farm in Charlton, a well-known multigenerational family farm featuring lots of cattle and a very popular pie shop. The family has been farming at 4561 Jockey Street since 1931, and the pie shop has been open since 1999. Shelley Smith and daughter Katie Daino, explained how the pie shop compliments the farm. “The farm and the pie shop really work hand in hand with each other,” says Katie. “From looking out our kitchen window in the spring at a beautiful apple blossom and knowing that in the fall the fruit that blossom produced will leave as a finished apple pie for someone’s table, to watching a Hereford calf grow into a steer that will later provide dinner for a local family. Our family enjoys the daily challenge that farming and running an agricultural food production business presents and constantly knows that no two days will be the same.”

There are challenges facing those in agriculture careers. Says Katie, “The biggest challenges that we see for our future are driving our business in a direction that suits the needs of our family as well as the needs of our customers. Keeping our farmland is vitally important to us and future generations.” By giving people a chance to see up close and personal just where their food comes from, Sundae on the Farm is a powerful advocacy tool for this important industry. Interested in a career in farming? Katie had some advice: “Find your niche and be sure you love doing what you’re doing!”

Other big agriculture events throughout the year include the Saratoga County Fair (July 21-26, 2015, [www.saratogacountyfair.org](http://www.saratogacountyfair.org)), showcasing area farms. The 4-H, sponsored by Cornell Cooperative

Extension of Saratoga County, gives children the chance to learn more about farming and to try their own hands at raising chickens or growing vegetables. The Saratoga County Dairy exhibit, featuring the Dairy Princess and fresh local milk, provides insight into what young people do on a farm all day – for a really robust experience be sure to leave extra time this year to enjoy the farm exhibits in addition to going on the rides, watching the shows and tractor pulls and eating all the junk food!

The Track may be busy for six weeks in summer, but area horse farms are active 365 days a year. For example, at After Hours Farm in Clifton Park, thoroughbred horses enjoy a peaceful retirement amid 13 rolling acres and open space, finding new careers helping to train new riders in disciplines such as show jumping. Says owner Barbara Jensen, “Over half of the horses at After Hours Farm are thoroughbreds - most of which have raced. We provide a second career to these magnificent animals once they have left the racetrack. Their intelligence and athleticism allow to them to adapt and embrace their new life whether it be jumping, showing or a pleasure horse.”

Here in Clifton Park, Farm Fest is held each autumn, showcasing many of the unique farms that exist within a 15-minute drive from the Clifton Park Center mall. For example, farmer Larry Syzdek will take visitors on a walk among the sheep and their guardian llamas (to protect from wild coyotes!) at Shepherd’s Hey Farm off Riverview Rd., while other nearby farms are open for visits. For many, the highlight of Farm Fest is the variety of available apples, and local orchards

such as Bowman and Riverview don’t disappoint.

Farms remain busy and active in winter, since dairy cows need to be milked twice a day, and harvested apples and cider are waiting to be included in the holiday dinner menu. Winter Fest, held each February in Clifton Park, includes an open house at Riverview Orchards and a wonderfully warm campfire to roast marshmallows and drink warm apple cider.

Can’t get to one of these events? Many local farms in Clifton Park and nearby towns are open throughout the season, some even year-round, including Bowman Orchards, Buckley Farms, Knight Orchards, Lakeside Farms, Lindsey’s Orchard/Country Store, Mack Brin Farms, Predel’s Ranch, Riverview Orchards, Smith’s Farm/Orchard/Bake Shop, and Willow Marsh Farm/Farm Store. All of these farms plus the Saratoga County Agricultural Promotion Group, Regional Farm and Food Project and Cornell Cooperative Extension of Saratoga County can be found on the Chamber of Southern Saratoga County’s website. Visit [www.southernsaratoga.org](http://www.southernsaratoga.org) for more information. ■

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).



**bon-bon**  
new york

**CLOTHING  
and ACCESSORIES**

from playdates and parties,  
to everything in between.

Girls age 2 - 12

Clifton Park Center Mall  
next to Regal Cinemas  
T | 518-930-2797

[www.bonbonnewyork.com](http://www.bonbonnewyork.com)



# Surgery's Growing Role in Battling Diabetes

## How weight loss surgery is helping patients with type 2 diabetes

By Ellis Medicine

Severe obesity carries with it serious health dangers, including an increased risk of such conditions as heart disease, high blood pressure, sleep apnea, diabetes and even death. When it comes to diabetes, obesity is the main cause of type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM).

"Weight loss surgery is an effective treatment for type 2 diabetes in people who are morbidly obese," said Terence Clarke, MD, a bariatric surgeon with Ellis Medicine's nationally recognized Bariatric Care Center. "We have seen, time and again, how bariatric surgery has helped resolve diabetes in our patients, which allows them to get off medications and improve their health and overall quality of life."

### About Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus

T2DM is the most common form of diabetes, and has been linked with obesity. The increased rates of T2DM directly correlate to increasing rates of obesity. T2DM is a chronic and progressive disease that tends to grow worse over time, often leading to stroke, heart disease, blindness, kidney failure, amputations, impotency, depression and other serious health conditions.

### Treatment

"Type 2 diabetes can be improved when people make lifestyle changes such as exercising more and eating healthier," explained Allison Graziadei, MD, an endocrinologist with Capital Region Diabetes & Endocrine Care. "In many cases, medications or insulin are prescribed to control blood sugar levels, and we're finding, with obese

patients, that type 2 diabetes improves and potentially resolves after weight loss surgery."

According to the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery, weight loss surgery has been shown to carry a number of benefits, including:

- Improving and/or curing type 2 diabetes mellitus in 90% of patients by reducing blood sugar and percent glycated hemoglobin (HbA1c)
- Reducing the amount of medication the patient requires
- Improving other serious obesity-related health conditions, such as heart disease, high blood pressure, sleep apnea, asthma, arthritis, depression and cholesterol abnormalities
- Improving quality of life
- Helping patients to live longer

### Is Surgery Right for You?

Bariatric (weight loss) surgery is a recommended treatment option for patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus and a BMI of 35 or more. The most common weight loss procedures performed are Roux-en-Y Gastric Bypass Surgery, laparoscopic gastric banding, and laparoscopic sleeve gastrectomy. With any surgical procedure, you should consult with your physician to weigh the risks and benefits and determine the best course of treatment. ■

### Dr. Allison Graziadei



Dr. Allison Graziadei is a board certified endocrinologist with Capital Region Diabetes & Endocrine Care, with an office at the Medical Center of Clifton Park, Suite 2700, Clifton Park. Dr. Graziadei treats patients with type 1 and type 2 diabetes, and other endocrine and metabolic disorders. To schedule an appointment, call 518-579-2750

### Dr. Terence Clarke



Dr. Terence Clarke is an experienced, board certified surgeon at Ellis Medicine's nationally recognized Bariatric Care Center, which offers a comprehensive surgical weight loss program to help qualified patients succeed in safely and effectively losing weight and keeping it off. Learn more about weight loss surgery, request an appointment or take a free online orientation seminar at [ellismedicine.org](http://ellismedicine.org) or call 518-243-1313.



# Sweet and Spicy Roasted Carrots

By Emilie Nadler

This recipe for carrots roasted with honey and Sriracha is so simple and delicious! I think roasting vegetables brings out their best flavor and this recipe can easily be adapted for all different kinds of vegetables. It could work with green beans, asparagus, broccoli or even butternut squash. These carrots are also delicious leftover in salad! Serves 2 as a side dish.

## INGREDIENTS

Carrots (should be about 1 1/2-2 cups when cut)	1/2 tsp-1 tsp Sriracha
1 1/2 tsp olive oil	Dried rosemary
2 tsp honey	Salt to taste (about 1/4 tsp)
	Pepper

Preheat oven to 435 degrees. Trim carrots and cut into thin slices. Mix together olive oil, honey and Sriracha in a bowl. Add in carrots, rosemary, salt and pepper. Toss so that the carrots are evenly coated. Heat an ungreased cookie sheet in the oven for 5 minutes. This will make the carrots nice and crisp. Lay the carrots flat on the heated pan. Bake until tender, about 20 minutes, turning halfway through.

*\*Originally published by Silverpen Productions, LLC.  
All rights reserved. Used with permission.*



Photo by Emilie Nadler

**Beacon Pointe**  
Memory Care Community

*a truly different living community for the memory impaired*

Pet Friendly Community	Supportive Family Programs
Embrace Long Term Memory	Continued Caregiver Education

Call today for more information or to schedule a tour!

1 EMMA LANE | CLIFTON PARK, NY 12065 | (518) 371-2200  
[www.beaconpointememorycare.com](http://www.beaconpointememorycare.com)

## MABEL MP CHENG MD, PLLC BOARD CERTIFIED OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

Board certified eye physicians and surgeons offering comprehensive eye care with cutting edge medical technologies to the greater Capital District for more than 25 years.

Accepting new patients & most insurances



MABEL MP CHENG, JACOB J KOCZMAN & NICOLE A LEMANSKI

3140 Troy Schenectady Rd,  
Niskayuna NY 12309

518-782-7777

[www.mabelchengmd.com](http://www.mabelchengmd.com)

SPECIALIZING IN: No stitch small incision and bladeless cataract surgery with reduced or eliminated need for glasses, laser surgery for glaucoma and refractive surgery (LASIK and PRK), dry eye, glaucoma and macular degeneration management, diabetic retinopathy, and other diseases of the eye. Also performing cosmetic procedures such as Botox injections and Pelleve skin tightening for facial wrinkles.



NATIONAL COST RECOVERY FIRM HELPING  
YOUR COMPANY INCREASE CASH FLOW

## IRS Approved Engineering Studies to Increase Tax Savings



### COST SEGREGATION

Cost-segregation is a non-intrusive yet detailed engineering study of a building's walls, flooring and ceiling, plumbing, electrical, lighting, telecommunications, heating, and cooling systems. Due to improved treatment, portions of the electrical, plumbing, mechanical systems, and site improvements of a building along with hundreds of other components can be allocated into shorter lives translating into immediate cash flow.



### ABANDONMENT STUDY

The 'abandonment study' provides an IRS-defensible position for writing off the adjusted basis of retired assets. An abandonment study can be used to eliminate "ghost" assets still being depreciated in the basis of the asset that no longer exists due to tenant improvements.



### R&D TAX CREDITS

Internal Revenue Code §41 known as the Research & Experimentation Tax Credit or the R&D Tax Credit is a general business tax credit for companies that are incurring R&D expenses in the United States. Every year, the R&D credit yields billions of dollars in federal and state benefits to companies engaged in qualifying activities.



### CLASSIC 105 BENEFIT PLAN

A uniquely designed defined benefit plan that dramatically reduces employee's exposure to out of pocket medical expenses. A Self-Funded, Pre-Paid, Medical Expense Reimbursement Plan that pays up to 75% of an employee's deductible, co-pays, coinsurance and out of network expenses, from the first dollar.

- Does NOT replace the Group Health Plan.
- Employees must have health insurance to participate.



### UTILITY REFUNDS

Energy Procurement -- Ask for your complimentary feasibility analysis.

**JP KOMORNY, M.E., CFO** *MANAGING PARTNER*

**518-879-0753**

**(844) 7COSTSEG | (844) 726-7873**

**CETS - CORE ENGINEERING TAX SERVICE**

**WWW.C-ETS.COM**

WWW.C-ETS.COM

WWW.C-ETS.COM

WWW.C-ETS.COM

## Shenendehowa High School - Shen PRIDE Positive Behavior Intervention System (PBIS)

*By Rebecca Carman, Shenendehowa Central Schools*

The Shenendehowa High School PRIDE Team has spent the last year and a half working on a system to promote positive behavior and character among the student population. The initial step for the PRIDE Team was to develop common school-wide expectations for the high school. The school-wide expectations include being Prepared, Respectful, Involved, Determined and Engaged, which make up the PRIDE acronym.

With the help of a grant from the Shenendehowa Educational Foundation, the Shen PRIDE Team was able to secure a 3-year contract with Capital Region BOCES to work with a PBIS consultant. The PRIDE Team's work with the consultant began in September 2014 with team trainings on the philosophy of PBIS with the goal of full implementation system by the end of the year. The PRIDE Team has provided trainings for all of the high school monitors and teacher's aides, as well as the High School and District Level Leadership Teams. By the end of the 2015-16 school year, all of the high school teachers will receive training on the philosophy of PBIS, as well.

When students at the high school are observed by a faculty or staff member demonstrating the characteristics of the school-wide expectations, they are given a "Gotcha... Showing Shen PRIDE" ticket. The "Gotcha" tickets are a quick and easy way to reinforce and promote positive behavior. The students then turn in their "Gotcha" tickets to the office where they are entered into the student of the month drawing. Each month two students, one male and one female, at each grade level are selected as the students of the month. This type of proactive and positive reinforcement helps to acknowledge all of the good things our students do day in and day out. It is the belief of the Shen PRIDE Team that we as a school community can improve the overall school experience for all students by continually acknowledging the positive behavior and character of every student. ■







**GENTECH**  
EMERGENCY POWER

A Division of Eco Sun and Power Systems, LLC

Standby Generators  
Residential & Commercial  
**SALES - SERVICE - MAINTENANCE**  
Certified Generator Technicians Available 24 / 7

**KOHLER** **GENERAC** **Onan**

*Schedule Your Appointment Today*  
(518) 895-9066  
[www.GentechEmergencyPower.com](http://www.GentechEmergencyPower.com)

THE **BEST** OF  
BOTH **WORLDS**

**TORO.**

**NEW**  
ZERO TURN  
TRACTOR



Available in 32", 42"  
and 50" Cutting Width

**ALL SEASONS**  
EQUIPMENT INC.  
"Buy Where Service Counts!"

Open Daily 8-6  
Thursday 8-8  
Saturday 8-4

**60 Freeman's Bridge Road, Scotia 372-5611**

Don't just *eat* green.



*Sleep* green, too.

Bring healthy, non-toxic air to  
your bedroom every night with  
*Savvy Rest Organic Mattresses.* **Call 518-306-5196**



**Green Conscience Home**

33 Church Street, Saratoga Springs  
[www.green-conscience.com](http://www.green-conscience.com)

Wednesday June 17th 6-8pm

Kulak's Nursery & Landscaping is happy to be partnering with these local  
businesses and organizations for our first annual

**GARDENING FOR THE HEALTH OF IT, OPEN HOUSE!**

- Altamont Vineyard & Winery - Capital Roots - Clarity Juice, LLC -
- Country Garden Club of Clifton Park - Dig Safely New York -
- Ellis Medicine Heart Health Screening - Lilananda Yoga - Log Cabin Farm Soap -
- Montessori School of Schenectady - Pure Mountain Olive Oil - Saratoga Sod -
- Rose Garden Restoration Committee and Central Park Rose Garden -
- Soroptimist International of Saratoga County -
- Thrive Chiropractic - Weathered Wonders - Wellington Herbs -

and celebrating the grand opening of Petaski's Produce Farm Stand at Kulak's



an evening of educational, inspirational and  
motivational demonstrations and hands on  
experiences to promote gardening for your  
overall health and well being

1615 Route 146, Rexford 399-2404 - [www.kulaksnursery.com](http://www.kulaksnursery.com)





# Welcome to the Neighborhood

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



"Connections Night" at TEC-SMART as international students meet potential employers and other advisers from the local business community. Shenendehowa Central Schools

Superintendent Dr. L. Oliver Robinson (far left – front) and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Elizabeth Wood (far right - front) discuss career goals and opportunities with the students from seven local colleges including RPI, Siena and area community colleges. With so many talented foreign students coming to Tech Valley in search of advanced education, it is of great value to our international companies to recruit such individuals to help develop operations throughout the world. The Chamber of Southern Saratoga County's Education and Business Partnership Committee is working with area manufacturing companies and other employers to facilitate these relationships wherever possible.

*The Chamber Spotlight is sponsored by Mangino Buick GMC, a family owned and operated business for over 36 years, now celebrating almost one year in their new state of the art Buick GMC facility on Saratoga Road in Ballston Spa.*



Homestead Funding celebrates a new location in the Town of Halfmoon, in their new offices at 1707 Route 9 Suite 200A in Halfmoon (next to Subway and Sushi Thai @ The Park restaurant). Halfmoon Town Supervisor Kevin Tollisen and Councilman Paul Hotaling joined Chamber of Southern Saratoga County President/CEO Pete Bardunias, volunteer ambassadors of the chamber, Homestead Funding employees, clients, neighbors and well-wishers in cutting the ribbon and participating in the festivities. Food for the occasion was provided by Grecian Gardens, 1612 Route 9, Halfmoon and desserts were from Baked in Mechanicville, whose facilities are co-located with Faldoni's Delicatessen & Catering Company, 116 Park Ave. Photo courtesy of Film Works 109.

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



**SMART. BEAUTIFUL.  
DESIGNED TO TURN HEADS...**

**Mangino**

**CHEVROLET BUICK GMC**

**MANGINO CHEVROLET**  
4447 NEW YORK 30, AMSTERDAM, NY 12010  
SALES: (518) 770-1220 SERVICE: (518) 770-1223  
[WWW.MANGINOCHEVY.COM](http://WWW.MANGINOCHEVY.COM)

**MANGINO BUICK GMC**  
1484 SARATOGA ROAD, BALLSTON SPA, NY 12020  
SALES: (518) 490-1275 | SERVICE: (518) 490-1273  
[WWW.MANGINOBUICKGMC.COM](http://WWW.MANGINOBUICKGMC.COM)



## ARTIST SPOTLIGHT



By Susan Williams

### Susan Williams

Susan has a background in acrylics and watercolors, and has been working in mixed media collage for about 15 years. She paints papers and uses them with varied mediums to create multi-layered collages.

### Rose Connors O'Shei

Rose uses oil paint to explore her memories and observations of life. The theme of fishing is a constant one. She has a great admiration for the old masters and has studied with American master teachers. Originally from Mechanicville, Rose currently teaches and paints in her studio in Springfield, MA. ■



*Fishing Reflections*  
by Rose Connors O'Shei



LET YOUR HAPPILY EVER AFTER BEGIN  
AT THE FAIRWAYS OF HALFMOON

*The Hidden Gem of Southern Saratoga County!*



Enjoy country elegance with mountain views, outdoor ceremonies and a patio with a fire pit overlooking our championship golf course.

Call 664-1578 for  
Reservations

Presently Booking for  
2015 & 2016

17 Johnson Road, Mechanicville, NY 12118  
Like us on Facebook or visit us at [fairwaysofhalfmoon.com](http://fairwaysofhalfmoon.com)

### CUSTOM CURTAINS

- Ready to Hang
- Draperies
- Ready Made
- Hardware
- Shades
- Fabric
- Area Rugs



The  
**Curtain  
Exchange**

543 Broadway  
Saratoga Springs  
518-587-4818  
[tcesaratoga@  
verizon.net](mailto:tcesaratoga@verizon.net)

### Refreshing Designer Curtains Ready to Hang



[www.thecurtainexchange.com](http://www.thecurtainexchange.com)

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Fri., June 5 - Sun., June 7

### WHITEFACE MOUNTAIN BIKE FEST

@Whiteface Mountain

Starting Friday, enjoy incredible stunts, jumps and tricks at the Jump Jam and Trials exhibition at the Wilmington Bike Park, followed by the 6th annual welcome party, featuring music, raffles, prizes and the competitive "Best Calves" contest. Races on Saturday and Sunday.

## Saturday, June 6 NATIONAL TRAILS DAY

@Wanakena, NY

Celebrate National Trails Day with the Adirondack Mountain Club (ADK). ADK will be hosting eight different trail projects that vary in difficulty to ensure there is something for everybody.

## Saturday, June 6

### GUIDED WOOD WALK

### UNDERSTANDING SUSTAINABILITY & FAMILY FUN DAY

@280 Valley Road, Athol, NY

Family fun at Martin's! Visit a Certified

Tree Farm and band sawmill. Learn how selective cutting and environmental awareness saves forests.

## Fri., June 12 - Sun., June 14 ADIRONDACK BOREAL BIRDING FESTIVAL

@Lake Pleasant, Adirondacks

Join us for 3 days exploring the Boreal Birds of Hamilton County. 15 outdoor events to choose from! All events are free, but registration is required.

Cost: FREE

## Sat., June 13 - Sun., June 14 LARAC JUNE ARTS FESTIVAL

@City Park, Glen Falls, NY

One of the premier summer events in the southern Adirondack Region, drawing crowds of 20,000!

Time: 10am-5pm | Cost: FREE

## Sat., June 13 - Sun., June 14 VERMONT DAYS

@Statewide Historic Sites and State Parks  
Free admission statewide to state historic

parks and historic sites.

## Tues., June 16 - Sat., Aug. 22

### BOAT BUILDER'S DEMONSTRATION

@Adirondack Museum

The guideboat was first designed and developed in the Adirondacks. These light-weight elegant boats are still built by skilled craftsmen and women.

## Friday, June 19

### STAND UP PADDLING FESTIVAL

@Lake Colby, Saranac Lake, NY

The Adirondack SUP Festival celebrates the fastest growing paddling sport in America. This event is fun for the whole family, with races, food vendors, live entertainment and demos.

## Tues., June 23 - Fri., August 7

### ADIRONDACK THEATRE FESTIVAL

@Charles R Wood Theater, Glen Falls, NY

Professional Summer Theatre committed to producing new and contemporary works, musicals from Broadway to Off-Broadway, one-person and world premiers.

Want to check out more fun summer events? See a listing at [www.silverpenproductions.com/our-portfolio/magazine/](http://www.silverpenproductions.com/our-portfolio/magazine/)



SPAS  
POOL OPENINGS  
INGROUND POOLS  
ABOVE GROUND POOLS  
LINER REPLACEMENTS  
WEEKLY FULL SERVICE POOL MAINTENANCE

**Adirondack POOLS & Spas, inc.**  
Servicing the area since 1974

VISIT US ONLINE AT [ADIRONDACKPOOLS.COM](http://ADIRONDACKPOOLS.COM)  
5 BOULEVARD IN QUEENSBURY | 518-798-5552



**SARATOGA NATIONAL GOLF CLUB**

SaratogaNationalEvents.com | 518-583.4653  
458 Union Avenue | Saratoga Springs | New York | f:518.226.0764  
Photos: Elario Photography | Matt Ramos Photography | Bigler Productions



**Brown School**  
SINCE 1893

Nursery to 8th Grade  
Co-ed, Independent School

Offering Summer Camp & Summer Literacy Programs

*Now Enrolling for Fall 2015*

518-370-0366  
[brownschool.org](http://brownschool.org)

NYSAIS



**CLIFTON PARK EMERGENCY CORPS**

Follow us:  
f t in

For more information, visit:  
[www.cphmems.org](http://www.cphmems.org)

Phone: 518.371.3880

15 Crossing Blvd.  
P.O. Box 1469  
Clifton Park, NY 12065

**PREMIER PATIENT CARE AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**

**Our Community Outreach Programs:**

- Academic Scholarships
- Babysitter Certification
- Blood Pressure Clinics
- Car Seat Installations
- Community CPR Classes



# Engaging a Realtor Before You Sell

By Joanne DiMarco, Real Estate Broker

Recently I was on a listing appointment with one of our Licensed Real Estate Salespeople. The house was in a nice area with modestly priced homes. The home we were in was truly spectacular. The homeowners, through many upgrades and thousands of dollars, had made this home into their dream home. We call this over-improving. Now it's time to sell the home and so begins the conversation.

This is when the homeowner tells me how much he or she has "into" the property. This is the price the homeowner believes the property is worth. Sometimes that is the case, but often it is not. The house is worth what someone is willing to pay for it.

My advice to all homeowners is to find a realtor you can trust, even if you are not in the market to buy or sell a home right now. Before you take on a remodeling project, put on an addition or redecorate, consult your realtor. Your realtor can tell you whether you are likely to recoup the money you are spending and advise you whether or not your decor choices will help or hinder when it's time to sell. As a homeowner, you may decide to proceed with the project anyway, but at least you will have a realistic expectation of the impact of your decision.

Some projects, such as updating a kitchen or bath or finishing a basement, if done in a neutral color palette, using popular material choices and providing features that are in keeping with

the price point of similar homes in a neighborhood, can improve your home's chance of selling, and in many cases, recoup the costs associated.

Some choices, such as bold colors, wall paper and using cheaper quality materials in higher priced homes can actually hurt the sale price. The higher the price point of a home, the more important it is to make smart remodeling and redecorating choices. The same is true for homes for people who relocate often.

If you are considering listing your house for sale in the near future, you should engage a realtor now, before you begin getting your house ready for sale. No matter how many shows you have watched on HGTV, selling real estate in the real world is best left to a realtor. A good realtor will walk you through, room by room and tell you what needs to be done and how. There may be things you would have never noticed, and by the same token, there may be things you thought you needed to do that are unnecessary. Remember when buying that next home to keep that realtor as a trusted advisor for any changes made to your new house. ■



Joanne DiMarco Real Estate Broker  
m. 518-210-3649 o. 518-580-8500  
joanne.dimarco@sothebysrealty.com

## Recently Closed

48 Spruce St, Clifton Park - Sold for \$335,000  
63 Sheldon Dr, Halfmoon - Sold for \$349,900  
22 Leonardo, Clifton Park - Sold for \$567,500  
152 Cary Rd, Halfmoon - Sold for \$740,000  
19 Tipperary, Clifton Park - Sold for \$845,000  
192 Moe Rd, Clifton Park - Sold for \$900,000  
13 Heavenly Way, Clifton Park - Sale Pending  
7 Taymor Tr, Clifton Park - Sale Pending

- Local Agents
- Global Marketing
- Professional Photography

Looking for **RESULTS?**  
Visit **[selectsothebysrealty.com](http://selectsothebysrealty.com)**  
or call our office at 518.580.8500

Select | Sotheby's  
INTERNATIONAL REALTY



© MMXII Sotheby's International Realty Affiliates, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Sotheby's International Realty® is a licensed trademark to Sotheby's International Realty Affiliates, Inc. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Each Office Is Independently Owned And Operated, Except Offices Owned And Operated By NRT Incorporated.

## IMPORTANT TOWN PHONE NUMBERS

Town Supervisor *Phil Barrett*.....371-6651  
 Town Board Members.....371-6651  
 Animal Control Officer .....371-6756  
 Town Attorney *Tom McCarthy* .....371-6651  
 Assessor *Walter Smead*.....371-6460  
 Building & Development Director  
*Steve Myers* .....371-6702  
 Building & Grounds Director  
*Mike Handerman* .....371-6651  
 Town Clerk *Pat O'Donnell*.....371-6681

Town Court, 5 Municipal Plaza .....371-6668  
 Community Development Director  
*Barb McHugh* .....371-6651  
 Town Comptroller *Mark Heggen* .....371-6651  
 Storm Water Management Technician  
*Scott Reese*.....371-6054  
 Director of Communications & Tech  
*Dahn Bull*.....371-6651  
 Highway Superintendent  
*Rick Kukuk* .....371-7310

Parks and Recreation Director  
*Myla Kramer*.....371-6667  
 Planning Director *John Scavo* .....371-6054  
 Receiver of Taxes *Lorraine Varley* .....371-5720  
 Director of Safety and Security  
*Lou Pasquarel*.....348-7311  
 Town Security Officers .....369-6651  
 Sewer Director *Mike O'Brien* .....348-7313  
 Transfer Station Supervisor  
*Jeff Vedder*.....371-6669

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.



The Areas  
Newest Distributor for

**Wood-Mode**  
FINE CUSTOM CABINETRY

**BROOKHAVEN**  
CABINETRY  
by WOOD-MODE

### HOURS:

**Mon. Tues. Wed.** 8:30 - 5:00

**Thurs.** 8:30 - 8:00

**Fri.** 8:30 - 5:00

**Sat.** 10:00 - 2:00

**EVENINGS BY APPOINTMENT**

**518 688-0898**

**144 Freeman's Bridge Rd.**

**Scotia, New York 12302**

(A Division of Solid Surface Craftsman)

*After 10 years we have moved to a New Larger Facility* **paulperrykitchens.com**