

JUNE 2018

# CLIFTON PARK

AN EXCLUSIVE MONTHLY PUBLICATION  
FOR RESIDENTS

## Neighbors

### Bobby Chase

Using Film &  
Humor to Make  
a Difference



Best Version Media

Cover photo by Mark Bolles

DIRECTOR: Bobby Chase

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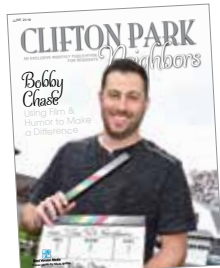
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## ON THE COVER

Bobby Chase



## Dear CLIFTON PARK RESIDENTS

June is one of my favorite months ~ summer is finally here, the kids are out of school, the farmers' markets are open and everyone is coming out to play!

This area has no shortage of things to do either. There are Festivals for everything from Veggie's to Strawberries, Balloons and BBQ to Art and "Dads." There are Golf Classics and Fun Runs, Cruises and Bowling that all raise money for charities, so you can do good while having fun, and of course there's always something to celebrate from Father's Day to Flag Day and Summer Solstice to Graduations. So make sure you take the time this month to get out and enjoy all this region has to offer!

In the meantime, sit back on the porch with your *Clifton Park Neighbors* magazine and read about your community, from Bobby Chase, who has found his focus through film, to Jocelyn Bishop who has found her voice through music and learning, to the founding fathers of Clifton Park who held the very first Town Hall meeting at Grooms Tavern and to the volunteers of today that keep that history alive.

Then send us a note about who you want to see featured next! Do you have a great recipe? A wonderful summer read? Some stories or photos to share about your pets, your family, your vacations? We'd love to hear all about it so we can share it with the rest. Thanks for reading!

Barb



BARB SCHRADER,  
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# The Birth Of Earthly Solar Power

## When was solar electric power invented?

By Choppy Wicker, Lotus Solar

Short answer? Modern solar PV was invented in 1954. But wait – there's more to the story!

These days, we take solar electric (photo voltaic, or PV) power for granted. It's on our space ships, our homes, our calculators, and numerous everyday electrical gadgets. So, who thought this up, and how did we get to where we are?

Look out at your sunny lawn or driveway. Each square meter of it is receiving 1,000 watts of potential solar power; that's enough for 10 old incandescent 100 watt lightbulbs (or a whole bunch of LED ones!), or a medium-sized toaster or microwave oven. Converting it to electricity though, Ah! That's the trick. And the winning solution? Highly refined sand, also known as silicon.

Back in 1839, Frenchman Edward Becquerel was the first to recognize the photovoltaic effect – a tiny voltage in a wire immersed in a conductive solution exposed to light.

In 1883, American Charlie Fitz used selenium on a thin layer of gold. This was 1% efficient.



Lucent Technologies Inc./Bell Labs

During the 115 years since Becquerel's discovery, 23 other major inventors and milestones led to crystalline silicon and other enhancements.

The breakthrough came in 1954 when Darryl Chapin and other scientists at Bell Labs tried using silicon and added tiny amounts of boron and phosphorus. The result was impressive: 6% efficiency! Oh, you say; not impressed? Well, consider that a tomato plant is only 1% efficient at converting sunlight to plant energy. Besides, we're talking about highly refined sand, remember?

This was enough to build small solar panels that would provide telephone service to remote areas, and soon led to panels on spacecraft. (Spacecraft, by the way, use toxic materials not permissible on Earth but are about half again as powerful as modern home solar panels.) As commercialization expanded, research produced ever-stronger panels.

Today, the average home solar panels are 15-18% efficient. The very best ones are over 22% efficient (and cells are even more). That's enough to make excellent economic sense for anyone who wants solar now. Will they become better yet? Somewhat, but not much; there are some limits to growth. The good news is that a reputable solar brand will still be making good power 25 years from now, and in the best brand, up to 40 years. All with no moving parts, no bad side effects, with complete quiet, and without polluting our atmosphere. Pretty cool, huh? And all from sand.... ■

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# New Student Jocelyn Bishop Finds Her Voice

By Caroline Boardman

Since enrolling at Brown School's newly-developed high school last fall, (the school previously only went as far as eighth grade) fourteen-year-old Jocelyn Bishop says she feels a lot more confident.

Her teacher and parents both say that they have seen her grow during the past year and that she has become much more comfortable speaking up for herself, as well as for fellow classmates.

"Jocelyn has really begun to advocate for herself and others. She recently spoke in a class meeting in a very responsible and mature way. She has also found her voice quite literally as she is learning to play guitar and sing," said

Teresa Burke, Brown School's director of middle and high school.

Jocelyn agrees that she is feeling more at ease with herself since coming to Brown, thanks to the supportive environment at school combined with a number of adults who have acted as mentors for her. She's still working on immediately standing up for herself if the situation calls for it.

Outside of school, Jocelyn delves into her artistic side, and is able to see the beauty in many things. "I love photography, illustration and reading the most." According to her mother Cindy Bishop, Jocelyn spends a lot of time cultivating the "perfect shot."

Her mother adds that Jocelyn is also a voracious reader and absorbs everything she reads, which makes her a great conversationalist; she is very articulate and has a vocabulary that is years beyond her chronological age.



One special talent that Jocelyn's schoolmates may not be aware of is that at

home, she is known as an amazing "cat whisperer" and has an innate way of handling her family's two cats, Tobi and Lovey. ■

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# Bobby Chase

## Using Film & Humor to Make a Difference

### COVER STORY

*By Jenna Caputo*

*Photos by SuperSourceMedia.com*

Film can be a medium for so many things. It can make us laugh and forget about the real world for a while, but it can also force us to face the uncomfortable; to feel emotions maybe we're not quite prepared for. It serves as a source of therapy. It can teach us about things we've never thought of before and help us to learn something new and to experience our world from our very own couches. It inspires us to make changes in our own lives or to do good in the world. It allows us to understand humanity and to comprehend ourselves.

Bobby Chase is a local filmmaker that has been using this medium to entertain and inspire for years, and now he's also using it to support a cause that is very near to his heart.

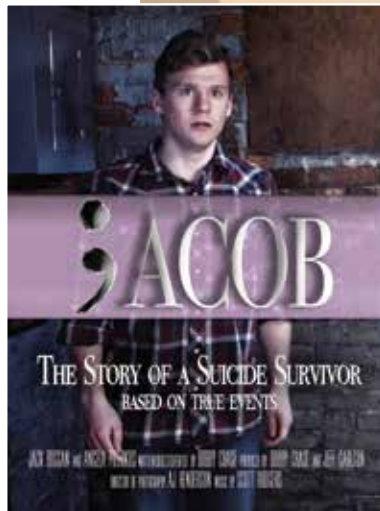
Originally from Mechanicville, Bobby enjoyed playing football, basketball, Nintendo and watching movies with friends. He would spend time with his family while everyone told jokes and stories to one another. He was fascinated with comedy and would often watch the great standup comedians of the time with his father and brother, even from a young age. "I liked to hear them laugh even though I didn't get some of the jokes at the time," he says. Those experiences always stayed with him. "I love to laugh and I love to create, so I think I am in the right business," he adds.

CLIFTON PARK *Neighbors*



But it took him a little time to figure out exactly what that business was. He went to college at SUNY Plattsburgh originally intending to study audio production through their communications program. He thought he would go into sound design for film/television or that he would be a music producer. He found himself in a television writing class, where he wrote a spec script for the TV show, *Seinfeld*, as a project. He had a lot of fun writing it and realized that it came more naturally to him than anything in the math or science field. After completing more production classes, he began creating his own student films. One of his films, *The Last Supper*, which was a spoof on the famous painting using modern day technology and flash animation, culminated with winning the regional National Broadcasting Society award. These national awards are presented through the National Electronic Media Association and are the equivalent of the Emmys for college students.

He felt like he had found his calling and after graduation contacted local filmmakers to see if he could work for them for free to gain experience. He joined forces with director Jeff Knight, assisting with audio and editing work in order to better learn the craft and to network. Bobby worked on a few low-budget films before landing a job as a voice-over producer/video editor at Whitelake Music and Post, a local recording studio. He worked there a few years before moving to New York City to work full time in the freelance film industry. While in the city, he produced two web series and created multiple spec scripts for both film and television, which led to sit-down meetings with Hollywood production companies. While writing for a DVD review company, he also had the opportunity to interview actor,



Bobby at the premiere of *Jacob* at the Mechanicville Library.

Will Farrell, on a rooftop in Manhattan about Farrell's latest movie at the time, *Everything Must Go*. "He was really cool," says Bobby. "He was telling stories from when he lived there when he was on SNL and doing his Bush impression. He was really funny. He's a very intelligent man."


Bobby eventually decided to come back home and worked in the advertising department at CBS 6 as a video producer/director while he continued to produce his own work on the side. His web series, *Experi-Mates*, was selected to screen at the Hollyweb Festival in Hollywood, which resulted in meetings with a few producers at the Universal Studios lot. Nothing went through with that particular one, but he kept creating and one day was talking with some other industry friends: Dan Martin, Justin Alvis and Amanda Stankavich. Together, they came up with the idea of a situation comedy series about three thirty-somethings that end up back home with their parents, and the project took off. Season one of *Welcome Home* is now available through Amazon Prime and they're currently in the middle of shooting season two. Bobby is really excited about this new season. He said the overall quality is higher thanks not only to better equipment and a real budget to work with, but also to the


series really finding its niche and the writing, acting, everything clicking on a new level this time around.

Working in film definitely has its shortcomings and you have to be prepared for compromise at every level. "There is constant rejection," says Bobby. "And then when working with other people, there are many times in which you have to make compromises in order to keep the project from crumbling." But in the end, it's all worth it. "I love that every day is different. It's never mundane. There's a certain type of therapy when

## INSPIRING A LOVE OF LEARNING

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writing and creating something that helps with peace of mind. I also love that I get to collaborate with other talented people."

In addition to his film work, Bobby is the Creative Director at Go Gonzalez, creating TV commercials and web content for their clients, as well as running his own production company, Next Evolution Media Production, where he focuses on TV and film production as well as producing other media and web videos for clients. His latest project, though, is a very personal one. His short film, *Jacob*, is based on his own experience as a suicide survivor; depicting the moment he found his brother's body and how he managed to deal with it all. This was a film that has been living inside of him for 10 years since the tragedy happened. He always knew he wanted to touch on the subject, but wasn't sure how.

"I was always big into comedy and movies," he explains. "What inspires me as a filmmaker is the ridiculousness of the world that we live in and its often negative undertones. I had the misfortune of finding my brother's body after he took his life. That's a different kind of funeral. The tone is completely different. No one really knew what to do or how to react and a lot of them

seemed to look to me for some sort of leadership. I somehow managed to incorporate my sense of humor, somewhat changing the atmosphere. Everyone seemed more relaxed and started to speak more freely. It was there I realized I could use my background as a filmmaker and sense of humor in order to make people enjoy life again."

Finally he found the right way to make this deeply personal film and it already won its first award at the People's Pixel Project film festival on April 22nd. "I made it in hopes of being a positive message for others who had gone through a similar thing all while still giving some entertainment value. It's honest, intense and has a great blend of lighthearted moments," says Bobby. He used his own personal experience as the survivor and blended it with his signature lighthearted view of life to create something that is already helping others.

His goal is initially to start a much-needed conversation. "I just want people to talk about the situation. I'm sure there are many people that have gone through this. I've had a couple people reach out already that have attempted suicide before saying that it's helped them." And while it has also helped bring some closure to

Bobby himself, his work with this is far from over. While the film is making the festival circuit, Bobby is also raising money for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. *Jacob* will soon be available on Amazon along with a link to donate to the foundation directly from there as well.

Comedy and film have influenced Bobby's life from the very beginning and he urges anyone interested in the field to persevere and to just go for it. Keep your eyes and heart on your goal and don't give up. "Don't listen to people. Listen to inspiration. Many people are going to tell you what you should be or need to be doing and it's usually not in your best interest. There's only one of you. You have a distinct voice. That alone has a huge price tag on it because it's a rare commodity. Find your voice and run with it."

*For more information about the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, visit [afsp.org](http://afsp.org). For more information about Bobby and his latest projects, visit [www.nextevomedia.com](http://www.nextevomedia.com). ■*

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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# Welcome to the Neighborhood

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

**Boy Scouts from Troop 6** in Jonesville assist the Chamber of Southern Saratoga County (CSSC) during **Canal Clean Sweep** in Clifton Park, for annual maintenance and cleanup at Historic Lock 19 in Vischer Ferry. 2018 marks 100 years since the original Erie Canal was replaced by the modern New York State Barge Canal (now known as the Canal System), so remnants of the 1842 version of the canal are threatened by their age, the elements and vandals every year. CSSC-led volunteers have kept the Lock maintained in its present state since 2012, investing over \$200,000 in real and in-kind services to stabilize and enhance the structure and provide public access.



The CSSC's **Executive ACCESS** participants got a behind-the-scenes opportunity to go inside of **GLOBALFOUNDRIES** in Malta in late April. In contrast to huge foundries of old, this massive facility, hidden in the deep woods of the Luther Forest, leads the world in nanotechnology innovation, manufacturing millions of microchips for modern computerized devices on a tiny scale once thought unimaginable. Since its opening, GLOBALFOUNDRIES has exceeded every benchmark for jobs created, money invested, degree of salaries, education opportunities and more. Over 10,000 more people go to work in Tech Valley because of the emergence of the nanotech age. Participants in the Executive ACCESS program come from all types of business, from manufacturing to banking, museums, executives and staff, visiting many local companies and organizations.

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

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Scenes from Opera Saratoga's 2017 season.  
Photos by Gary David Gold

## Do You Hate Opera?

By Lawrence Edelson, Artistic and General Director, Opera Saratoga

Have you ever heard anyone say, "I hate movies"? I haven't. Even if you're not a big movie buff, there is likely a movie out there that you really enjoy. Maybe you like comedies over science fiction, or perhaps period dramas excite your imagination – but you probably don't hate movies altogether!

"I hate opera." Now that's a sentence I do hear sometimes, but it makes no more sense than "I hate movies!" There are many different types of opera: raucous comedies, political thrillers, heart-breaking romances... something for everyone. The music of opera is also as diverse as the stories told. Opera comes in many flavors, and it is my goal to present an exciting menu of opera every summer at Opera Saratoga.

Our season opens on June 29th with one of the most famous operettas in the world, *The Merry Widow*. Hanna Glawari, the Merry Widow, is beautiful and rich... Will she be able to find a suitor that is not only after her wealth? Will the nation of Pontevedro slip into economic collapse if she marries a foreigner? Will all those dancing girls prove too distracting for the audience?! If you like Broadway musicals, you will love *The Merry Widow* – a romance and a comedy tied together with sparkling dance numbers and beautiful music that you'll leave the theater humming!

And, speaking of Broadway, did you know that many American operas premiered on Broadway? In 1950, The New York Times hailed the Broadway premiere of *The Consul* as "a smash hit!" Almost 70 years later, Menotti's riveting opera still delivers a punch as powerful and timely as its subject matter - the struggle for freedom against

oppression, and the maddening nature of unrelenting bureaucracy. *The Consul*, which won both the Pulitzer Prize in Music and the New York Drama Critic's Circle Award, is a true political thriller that remains as timely as when it was written.

Our third production is a double-bill of one-act operas that revolve around gambling and competition. If you've ever seen the hilarious movie *Best in Show*, you will love *Vinkensport*, or *The Finch Opera*. In *Vinkensport*, we see a motley assortment of contestants battle to see who has – not the best dog as in *Best in Show* – but the most melodious bird! The second half of the double-bill brings thoroughbred racing to our stage for the first time. In *Rocking Horse Winner*, a modern adaptation of D.H. Lawrence's short story, Paul becomes dangerously obsessed with solving the "bad luck" of his family. His pursuit awakens a strange magic that allows him to predict which horses will win at the track!

All of this summer's operas are sung in English and are performed in the intimate Spa Little Theatre in Spa State Park. In addition to these three productions, Opera Saratoga presents a variety of concerts across the region – many of which are free – from May 26th through July 15th. For more information, visit [operasaratoga.org](http://operasaratoga.org). ■





# Historic Grooms Tavern

By John L. Scherer, Clifton Park Town Historian

The Town of Clifton Park acquired the Historic Grooms Tavern at the corner of Grooms and Sugar Hill Roads in 1999. James Groom constructed the building in about 1825, shortly after the opening of the Erie Canal the same year. The tavern served both travelers and the local community. The second floor public room hosted social and political events. In fact, Clifton Park's first Town Board meeting was held there in 1828. The population of the Town of Halfmoon had increased due to the opening of the Erie Canal and it was necessary to create a new town from the western half of Halfmoon. The new town was named Clifton Park after the land patent granted by Queen Anne of England in 1708.

By the 1870s the tap room of the tavern was converted to a General Store. Three generations of the Groom family owned the tavern and store, until it was purchased in 1921 by Ed Klingbeil who operated the store until his death in 1971. Many older residents of town remember Ed as a rather eccentric character who wore a red toupee.

The Town of Clifton Park with the help of several public grants has restored the tavern and it now serves as the Town's historical and cultural center. The adjacent unrestored

blacksmith shop and the 1896 Grange Hall are a part of this historical complex.

The Friends of Historic Grooms Tavern assist the town in caring for these historic buildings and in hosting special events and programs. The Friends is a membership organization and has been responsible for obtaining grant money and assisting in various restoration projects, most recently the restoration of the tavern's public room where special exhibits on town history are now featured. They also maintain the gardens at the tavern, which are spectacular



*Grooms Tavern, later a General Store, postcard view, by Parker Goodfellow, c. 1910, site of Clifton Park's first Town Board meeting in 1828.*

when in bloom. A new cookbook has been produced to raise additional funds for tavern maintenance. Acknowledging their hard work, the Town of Clifton Park recently presented the Friends of Historic Grooms Tavern with their annual Preservation Award at the May 7 Town Board Meeting.

The tavern is opened for special events and will also be open on Saturdays in June from 12 noon to 3pm for public visitation. Stop in, have a look and learn about Clifton Park history. The Friends of Grooms Tavern are always looking for new members and volunteers. ■



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Enjoy a narrated scenic trip on the Hudson River on our Sightseeing Cruise of Albany! Round trip cruise departs from 141 Broadway, Albany and cruises south to Van Weis Point. Hudson River Historian narrates about Albany and the Hudson River. Full cash bar & snack bar available with items for purchase! Cruise is rain or shine. There are no cruise ticket refunds - no exceptions. For more information, please email us at [info@dutchapplecruises.com](mailto:info@dutchapplecruises.com).

*Time: 1-2:30pm; Boarding begins at 12:30pm*

*Cost: \$19.95 Adults; \$18.95 Seniors; \$12.00 Children 3-10yr; Children 2yr & under FREE*

## Saturday, June 2

### ALBANY VEGFEST 2018

@Polish Community Center, Albany  
The Albany VegFest brings together the global health benefits of green sustainable living, environmental awareness and compassion for animals and all beings. This landmark event will feature a robust and varied lineup of speakers, vendors and a VIP lounge.

*Time: 10am-5pm*

*Cost: Suggested \$5 donation*

## Sunday, June 3

### 11TH ANNUAL CANTINA KIDS FUN RUN

@Congress Park, Saratoga Springs

The only run in Saratoga that's designed especially for kids! Two course options: ¼ Mile Course – a short loop recommended for kids ages 7 and under, and a 1 Mile Course – recommended for kids ages 8-12. Parents running with children must also pay and register. Pre-registration closes at noon on May 31. Day of registration is open 8-8:45am. Early Packet Pickup: Saturday, June 2 from 9am-noon in Congress Park near Canfield Casino.

*Time: 1-3pm*

*Cost: Runner's Registration Fee \$20; FREE to watch*

## Sunday, June 3

### 2018 SARATOGA ANTIQUE BOTTLE SHOW & SALE

@Saratoga County Fairgrounds, Ballston Spa

The show and sale benefits the National Bottle Museum, a not-for-profit (501 C-3) educational institution dedicated to the preservation and history of bottles and the glassblowing industry. The show serves as the museum's chief fundraiser for the year, and gives the museum an opportunity to promote the fun and interesting hobby of bottle collecting.

We feature a free bottle grab bag for all students and provide research materials to learn about bottles. Attendees are encouraged to bring in their old bottles (bottles with contents please bring in a picture & brief description) for identification. Email [nbm@nycap.rr.com](mailto:nbm@nycap.rr.com).

*Time: 9am-2:30pm*

*Cost: \$5 Adults; \$1 Children 12 & under*

## Sunday, June 3

### 2018 FESTIVAL OF YOUNG ARTISTS

@Saratoga Performing Arts Center, Saratoga Springs

As part of Saratoga Performing Arts Center's commitment to fostering artistic collaboration and providing free access to enriching arts programs for local youth, it has partnered with Empire State Youth Orchestra, Northeast Ballet Company and the Capital District Youth Chorale to present the first-ever "Festival of Young Artists!" The festival will celebrate the collaborative creativity of more than 400 of the Capital Region's brightest young dancers, musicians, singers, poets and visual artists. Visit [spac.org](http://spac.org) for details.

*Time: 2-5pm*

*Cost: FREE – Reservations*

*Recommended*

## Monday, June 4

### CLIFTON PARK FARMERS' MARKET

@971 Rt 146, Clifton Park

The Clifton Park Farmers' Market opens for the season!

*Time: 2-5pm*

## Wednesday, June 6

### 9TH ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC

@McGregor Links Country Club, Wilton

Please join us for a wonderful morning of golf! Your participation as a golfer and/or sponsor will go directly towards supporting the Saratoga Center for the Family. The agency was incorporated in 1978 as the Saratoga



County Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect and was started as a grass roots response to concerns about child abuse and neglect in Saratoga County. Today the Saratoga Center for the Family provides abuse prevention programs, mental health services, victims' advocacy and is home to the Harriet M. West Child Advocacy Center.

*Time: 8am-3pm*

*Cost: \$150 Individual; \$600 Foursome; Sponsorship levels vary*

### Thursday, June 7

#### 9TH ANNUAL ROUTE 50 MILE

@Route 50, Burnt Hills

Join us for the 9th annual USATF-certified one-mile race in support of CAPTAIN Community Human Services. Race begins at the intersection of Kingsley Road and Route 50 in Burnt Hills and ends across from Stewart's Shop, where you will receive a free ice cream cone – and then you're welcome to enjoy the Flag Day Parade that follows. Awards will be given to the top three male and female winners in each age-graded division. Dri-fit tee shirts are given to the first 200 registrants. Register online at [Zippyreg.com](http://Zippyreg.com) – Route 50 mile, or visit [captaincares.org](http://captaincares.org) and click on Events. For more information, call 518-399-4624.  
*Time: Race is run at 6:50pm. Registration begins at 5:00pm. Cost: \$15/Individual, \$35/Family – postmarked or submitted online prior to June 2. Price rises after June 2.*

### Saturday, June 9

#### LIFESONG DASH 5K

@Halfmoon Town Park, Clifton Park

Join us for our annual 5k race and Kids Fun Run to support the programs of LifeSong, Inc!

*Time: 9am | Cost: \$25*

### Saturday, June 9

#### BOWLING FOR CHARITY

@Spare Time Entertainment, Clifton Park

Come join the Saint Edwards Knights

of Columbus, Council #11064 at Spare Time Entertainment for a night of fun, food and bowling.

*Time: 7-9pm*

*Cost: \$40/Bowling, shoe rentals, food & music; \$25/Food & music only*

### Saturday, June 9

#### WILD TAILS OF ALBANY ANIMALS

@Albany Visitors Center, Albany

The City of Albany is WILD!

Wild Tails of Albany Animals is a first of its kind guided walking tour that leads your family on a safari through downtown Albany.

Together with your guide, you will uncover many creatures in the form of carvings and statues hidden in plain sight. Your guide will regale you with historic tales of Albany's long-time love of fuzzy and feathered friends, big and small, including Owney the Railway Mail Dog and our beloved Nipper!

*Time: 11am-12:30pm*

*Cost: \$3 Adults; Children FREE*

### Saturday, June 9

#### ART ON LARK IN ALBANY

@Lark Street, Albany

Art on Lark is an annual summer street festival that celebrates local art and artisans in Albany. One day each year in June, the city's historic Lark Street is shut down to traffic and transformed by artists' displays including painters, photographers, jewelers, sculptors, ceramicists, live performances and music. Shoppers can enjoy all the regular businesses Lark Street has to offer including cafés, restaurants, gift shops and bars, as well as over 50 local artists popping up for the day with their individual booths. Attendees can also enjoy food, drinks, live music and the best of Lark Street!

*Time: 11am-6pm*

### Sunday, June 10

#### 6TH ANNUAL BEEKMAN STREET ARTS FAIR

@Beekman Street Arts District, Saratoga Springs

Enjoy a juried art and craft show, musical groups, open mic, street performers, makers' spaces for kids and adults, and food trucks all in the Beekman St. Arts District from Grand Ave to West Circular, which will be closed to traffic. Produced by the Arts District on Beekman, Inc a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization with a generous Community Arts Grant from Saratoga Arts, our 6th Annual Beekman Street Art Fair will kick off summer in Saratoga Springs.

*Time: 10am-5pm*

*Cost: FREE*

### Wednesday, June 13

#### 5TH ANNUAL VALLEYCATS EDUCATION DAY

@Joseph L. Bruno Stadium, Troy

The 10am exhibition will be used as an opportunity to demonstrate how S.T.E.M. and other academic subjects integrate with the game of baseball, to an audience of over 25 local grade schools. It's also a chance for ValleyCats fans to get their first glimpse of the 2018 team. The game has drawn an average of over 4,300 fans since it began in 2014! In addition to the academic aspect, the ValleyCats will use the platform to educate students on anti-bullying and character development, creating a well-rounded educational field trip. To learn more about how to get your school involved in Education Day, contact the ValleyCats front office at 518-629-CATS (2287), or at [tcvalleycats.com/educationday](http://tcvalleycats.com/educationday).

*Time: 10am*

*Cost: Ticket prices vary*

### Wednesday, June 13

#### 55+ LEGAL PLANNING

@Christ Community Rd Church, 1010 Rt 146, Clifton Park

Shenendehowa Neighbors Connecting, a "Village in Development," will present a program on legal planning for people 55 and older. Program presenters are Attorneys and an Elder Care Advocate from Wilcenski & Pleat, PLLC. They will provide information

on traditional estate planning topics, name and explain the most important legal documents for aging adults, identify the most significant risks to independent living and review some of the most common long-term care planning techniques used to negotiate the current system of privately and publicly funded home care.

*Time: 6pm*

*Cost: FREE*

## Saturday, June 16

### CHILDREN'S STAR SIGHTING AT HENRY HUDSON PLANETARIUM

@Albany Heritage Area Visitors Center, Albany

Interactive program exploring the stars, planets, comets and constellations in the night sky.

Appropriate for children grades Pre-K – 2 and their families.

*Time: 11am-12pm | Cost: \$3*

## Saturday, June 16

### UPPER UNION STREET BID 13TH ANNUAL STRAWBERRY FEST & ART SHOW

@Schenectady

The Upper Union Street BID is excited to once again present its Annual Strawberry Fest and Art Show. Stay tuned for more details on the event as the date approaches!

*Time: 10am-3pm*

*Cost: FREE*

## Sunday, June 17

### FATHER'S DAY ZIP LINE ADVENTURE AT MOUNTAIN RIDGE ADVENTURE

@Mountain Ridge Adventure, Schenectady

Mountain Ridge Adventure is the Capital Region's one and only treetop challenge course and Zip Line Park. Located on top of a 1,000' mountain only 30 minutes from Albany and Saratoga and just 10 minutes from downtown Schenectady. Come "Experience the Adventure" of traversing obstacles in the treetops like Tarzan swings, Indiana-Jones bridges, cargo nets, zip lines and much,

much more. Enjoy the excitement of 6 courses: Spirit, Courage, Glory, Inspire, Strive and our awesome Zipline Park and coming soon the 7th course, our expert level Ninja Course. The aerial adventure and zipline park utilizes state-of-the-art safety technology where every participant is locked onto a safety cable 100% of the time.

*Time: 9am-6pm*

*Cost: \$29-\$49*

## Sunday, June 17

### ALBANY'S DAD FEST

@Washington Park, Albany

Now in its fourth year, Dad Fest is the City of Albany's celebration of all the fantastic fathers out there. Featuring live music, great food, vendors, kids' activities and more family fun, Dad Fest is a chance for the whole family to kick back and enjoy an early summer afternoon at one of the Capital Region's most picturesque parks, surrounded by good folks, good tunes and good times. Of course, you don't have to be a dad to enjoy Dad Fest – this event offers a little fun for everyone.

*Time: 1-6pm | Cost: FREE*

## Friday-Sunday, June 22-24

### SARATOGA BALLOON & BBQ FESTIVAL

@Saratoga County Fairgrounds, Ballston Spa

Don't miss the 5th Annual Saratoga Balloon and BBQ Festival (formerly the Saratoga Balloon and Craft Festival) at the Saratoga County Fairgrounds in Ballston Spa. This family-friendly event celebrates the best of the Capital Region with food, live entertainment, shopping, kid's activities and balloons! For more information and a full festival schedule, visit <http://balloonandbbq.com/>.

*Cost: \$10 Adults; \$5 Children 3-15; FREE under age 2*

## Thursday, June 28

### GOING DUTCH!

@Albany Visitors Center, Albany  
The Albany Dutch are more than just tulips and wooden shoes! Echoes of Albany's Dutch roots can be felt throughout the city, from our street names to our architectural gems.

Going Dutch is a guided walking tour within the original perimeter of Beverwyck. Learn how the tenacious Dutch adapted to the New World, formed relationships with the Native Americans and adjusted to English rule before the Revolution.

*Time: 11am-12:30pm*

*Cost: \$3/person*

## Friday, June 29

### THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY'S RED, WHITE & BLUE PARTY

@Saratoga National golf Club, Saratoga Springs

Join the American Cancer Society for Saratoga's summer BBQ party of the year... the 2018 Red, White & Blue Party presented by Saratoga Living! Come dressed in your favorite red, white and/or blue "Saratoga Summer" attire. The American Cancer Society's vision is a world free from the pain and suffering of cancer. Our purpose is to achieve it. We are a united force against all cancers and we're on a mission to save lives and celebrate life

*Time: 7-11pm*

## Saturday, June 30

### EAT DRINK SARATOGA

@Old Saratogian Lot, Saratoga Springs  
Eat Drink Saratoga seeks to showcase all the great restaurants that Saratoga Springs has to offer. The event will celebrate all the craft beer, wine, cider, mead and spirits the region and NY state have to offer in a fun, casual atmosphere all while raising money for the Saratoga Children's Committee. Please note the \$60 general admission includes access to over 70 tasting tables, custom specialty tasting glass and \$10 in food tokens from local restaurant vendors.

*Time: 12-8pm | Cost: \$60-\$75*



# Saratoga Arts Events

Contributed by Emma Huneck, Saratoga Arts

## Call for Artists!

Saratoga Arts is getting ready for our ever-popular 10x10 Exhibition. Featuring over 800 pieces of art (all priced around \$100!) and thousands of visitors to Saratoga Arts each summer, this is an impressive show that should not be missed! This year, the exhibit will be up from June 30 - September 8. Artists of all ages, skill levels, and mediums are invited to exhibit! Artwork drop-off is Monday & Tuesday, June 18th & 19th from 9am-6pm. For \$10, you can submit up to three pieces of artwork - but they all must measure exactly 10"x10"!

For full guidelines and to print your artwork labels, please visit Saratoga Arts' website at [www.saratoga-arts.org/exhibitions/artistopportunities](http://www.saratoga-arts.org/exhibitions/artistopportunities).

## On Display in The Arts Center Gallery...

Now through June 16: *Captured Light*, featuring photographs by five local artists: Ronda Anderson, Janene Bouck, Daniel DeRusso, Brian Hoffman and Phil Scalia.

The Arts Center Gallery is open weekdays from 9am-5pm and Saturdays from 11am-5pm. You don't want to miss this beautiful show!

## On View at the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library...

Through June 25: Works by Caroline Love Miller and Digital Illustrations by Donald Cooper. Stop by any time during the library's hours to view both of these impressive exhibits - they are located on the second floor, at the top of the stairs.

## Summer Camp

It's not too late to sign your 5-14 year olds up for art, theater or book camp this summer at Saratoga Arts! Saratoga Arts offers 10-week full and half-day camps for kids who love to create, act and read! Spots are filling quickly; sign them up today. Visit [www.saratoga-arts.org/education/summercamp](http://www.saratoga-arts.org/education/summercamp) for more information and to register them online. ■



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# CLIFTON PARK Neighbors


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## IMPORTANT TOWN PHONE NUMBERS

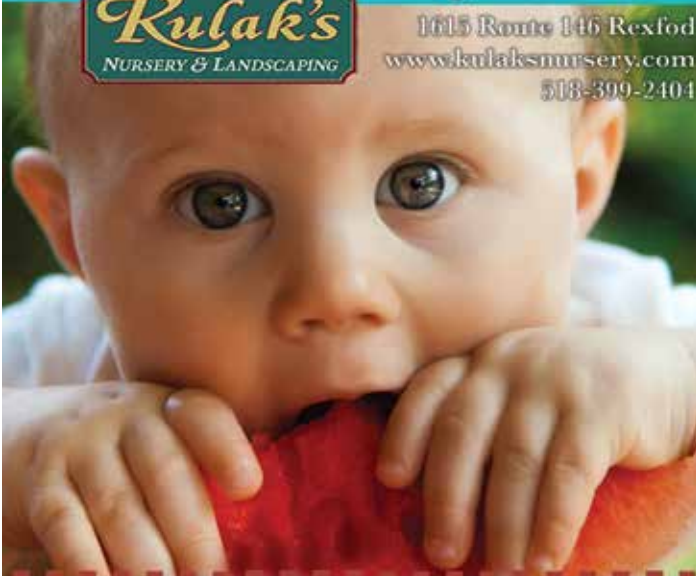
Town Supervisor <i>Phil Barrett</i> .....	518-371-6651	Town Clerk <i>Pat O'Donnell</i> .....	518-371-6681	Planning Director <i>John Scavo</i> .....	518-371-6054
Town Board Members.....	518-371-6651	Town Court, 5 Municipal Plaza .....	518-371-6668	Receiver of Taxes <i>Lorraine Varley</i> .....	518-371-5720
Animal Control Officer .....	518-371-6756	Storm Water Management Technician		Director of Safety and Security	
Town Attorney <i>Tom McCarthy</i> .....	518-371-6651	<i>Scott Reese</i> .....	518-371-6054	<i>Lou Pasquarel</i> .....	518-348-7311
Assessor <i>Walter Smead</i> .....	518-371-6460	Director of Communications & Tech		Town Security Officers .....	518-369-6651
Building & Development Director		<i>Mathew Andrus</i> .....	518-371-6651	Sewer Director <i>Mike O'Brien</i> .....	518-348-7313
<i>Steve Myers</i> .....	518-371-6702	Highway Superintendent <i>Dahn Bull</i> .....	518-371-7310	Transfer Station Supervisor	
Building & Grounds Director		Parks and Recreation Director		<i>Jeff Vedder</i> .....	518-371-6669
<i>Dan Clemens</i> .....	518-371-6651	<i>Myla Kramer</i> .....	518-371-6667		

If the person you wish to reach is not on the list above, please call 518-371-6651 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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