

AUGUST 2018

CLIFTON PARK

Neighbors

AN EXCLUSIVE MONTHLY PUBLICATION
FOR RESIDENTS



Ray Gagnon
A Life of Service



Best Version Media
Cover photo by Mark Bolles

Dear CLIFTON PARK RESIDENTS

Welcome to the Dog Days of Summer! As I sit here on July 9th writing this note to you, we just got through one of the hottest 4th of July holidays on record.... So I can only imagine what August will bring!

I suggest you take some lessons from this past week – get out and enjoy it! Rise early with the sun and go fishing or to the farmers' market now exploding with summer's bounty, go berry picking and make something sweet to eat! Take a dip in the pool, jump in a lake or just run through the sprinklers to cool off. Go to the county fair and enjoy the rides, the artisans, the animals and the food! How about a summer camp for art? Or an evening with music at the Commons?

Too hot outside? There are \$1 movies for the kids at Regal Cinema and a lot of museums nearby for a bit of AC while exercising your mind. Want something for grown-ups? There's a car, truck and bike show here and the Travers Stakes is coming up too!

By the way – August is also: Admit You're Happy Month, Family Fun Month, National Catfish Month, National Eye Exam Month, (Check them out with Dr. Mabel Chen and her team!), National Golf Month, Peach Month, Water Quality Month & National Picnic Month.

So get up and get out and enjoy all that this area has to offer to make the most out of these long summer days. It will be back to school and the cool fall weather all too soon when the days grow shorter and you wish you could be outside playing in the sun again.

Barb



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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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ON THE COVER
The Gagnon Family



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One Family's Journey Into A Greener World

By Choppy Wicker, Lotus Solar

Bryan Berns is a family man, with his wife and kids settled into this neat group of houses on the outskirts of Clifton Park. Going "green" with solar was the biggest housing decision the Berns' would make as a couple.

Bryan told us, "I've been thinking about solar for a long time. Always looking for ways to save, in the short and long term. And help the environment. As soon as we got a little ahead, we were looking at funds just sitting there getting eaten by inflation. But with my background in electrical engineering at a major company, I've been skeptical about things and so I do my research."



His father-in-law is a champion of green things; he has solar and two electric cars. The cars appealed to Bryan but he realized it's important where you plug them in. The utility grid runs on fracked gas, coal and nuclear. With a home solar system, the car runs on sunshine. He liked that.

Bryan then looked into kinds of equipment and various installers. "I had been attracted to other companies from a pure pricing standpoint, but I found that some designs are very different. One had the power density and efficiency that gives me more power from my roof than anybody else. I like the advanced design of AC modules that give me more performance and monitoring capability. And I like the warranty."

Bryan said, "One big company I talked with, their salespeople didn't seem very professional or knowledgeable, and that made me wonder about the rest of their people. Another company came up with a cheap price

and a large design, but then I found out that they hadn't complied with the legal setbacks for fire codes. It wouldn't have fit!"

In the end, he chose the highest quality solar equipment he could find, and an installer with 25 years of experience actually installing solar systems. The installer handled all the government incentives, rebates, permits and paperwork. Once they got the go-ahead on permits, things happened faster than Bryan expected. It took only a few days to get everything all in and he was kept in the loop along the way.

Bryan got his system for about half its cost, thanks to government incentives. It has a good return on investment and will save about 250 tons of carbon pollution. Financing plans make the choice an easy one. Bryan's conclusion: "I was very impressed by everyone. The whole installation, up on the roof, the routing of the cables down to the basement, exceeded my expectations. Exceeded my wife's expectations, which is rare. We are very happy with all aspects of installation and follow up." ■

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Going to Disney with the 5 & Under Crowd

By Colleen Parisi, A Walk in the Park

Most everyone is going to have an opinion on if your child is too young or not to go to Disney.

My best advice is: ***you know your child best.*** Here are a few things to keep in mind when deciding on the right time to go to Disney. These suggestions and guidance can help avoid or limit the number of meltdowns in the park. I want you to have a great time while you are in Disney! Meltdowns can really ruin a day or a moment.

How Young Is Too Young?

The younger they are the shorter time they will remember the trip. *You will never forget* the first time your child sees Mickey, a princess or goes on a ride. TAKE LOTS OF PICTURES AND EVEN SOME VIDEOS!!

Flexibility on when to go is a *big* plus. This means going during the “slower” times for a visit, which means better rates, less crowds, less wait times, better availabilities for dining reservations.

Flexibility is very important in the parks. Be prepared for what will come your way. Keep your My Disney Experience app handy to check for wait times.

Staying on site is something I HIGHLY recommend with children of this age. It makes it so much easier to get back to the resort if needed, to rest/nap or have some down time in the afternoon.

Preferred rooms are worth spending the extra money as it gets you closer to the main building and buses/monorails to the parks.

Bring a stroller or rent one!! You can rent one in the park each day or you can also rent from off-site companies

for the duration of your trip and have it delivered directly to your Disney resort or off-site hotel. This is a good idea as this means you have a stroller from the room in the morning until you return each night. You can also bring your own from home.

Characters – These are great fun! BEWARE that your children may not want to meet any of the characters, even Mickey. *Please* do not push or force them to do this.

Rides and attractions have limitations. Know before you go about the height requirements or physical limitations of a ride. They are listed on the park maps, at the ride/attraction and in the ride description in the My Disney Experience App.

Rider Switch – This is an amazing service that Disney provides that benefits families that travel with children of different ages, heights and ride preferences. I recommend using this great tool!!

Rest Time – Rest time can mean going back to the resort/hotel for a nap, time by the pool or just quiet time. It can mean finding a quiet place to relax in the parks or going on a longer indoor ride/attraction where you sit down and relax. A table service lunch with A/C can also be a sit-down away from all the stimuli of being in the park.

I hope that this information helps you decide when you want to take your child/children to Disney and *to plan a successful trip during the right time for your family!*

For more Disney planning tips and tricks, sign up for Colleen's monthly newsletter at www.awalkintheparkwithcolleen.com or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/awalkintheparkwithcolleen/. ■

Emily O'Connor Finds Brown School Support as Key to Success and Growth

By Caroline Boardman

Brown School seventh grader, Emily O'Connor, appreciates that her supportive school community allows her to experience unique opportunities and she has her eye on more new adventures. "Brown School has been my second home since I started there in nursery. My sister also just graduated Brown and had attended since first grade. We both love the community of friends and teachers and all the support we get throughout our time at this school."

In addition to being a good student, participating in girl scouts and playing team sports, last year, Emily worked on an online American Sign Language course through Brown School's Hybrid Learning Consortium program. The course featured discussion questions about deaf culture and various expressive and receptive assignments. "I had so much fun and loved meeting with my professor over online-meetup. I enjoyed learning about deaf culture," said O'Connor.

"Emily excelled in this course, achieving near perfect scores on every assessment and assignment. She shows a genuine love of learning - her traditional coursework and American Sign Language. She can often be caught teaching it to her friends and talking with other faculty members through sign," said Teresa Burke, director of middle & high school at Brown School.

Also in Emily's sights is *The Cole Sawyer Award* - where if a student at



Brown School plays every sport available to them, each year, they are eligible. "I am on the right track and really want to get this award," she said.

During summer break, Emily will once again attend a sleep away Girl Scout camp. Last year she tackled the high ropes and zip line courses, as well as a nature survival training. This year she will take two weeks of sailing instruction, which includes a multi-day sailing experience.

Emily said that she is a fan of the many traditions Brown School has such as the socials, school dances and the annual dodge ball tournament. She also likes making mascots, banners and chants for the annual field day teams and their yearly overnight field trips. This spring her class visited Philadelphia. "I loved the Philly trip and can't wait to go to Boston next year. All of these things, and so many more, make Brown School an amazing place," said O'Connor. ■

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Ray Gagnon

A Life of Service

COVER STORY

By Jenna Caputo

Photos by SuperSourceMedia.com

Ray Gagnon knows what it means to work for your community. Having an entrepreneurial spirit even as a child, Ray has been running some sort of business since he was six years old. Originally from Argyle, NY, Ray grew up enjoying the perks of living in a small town and partaking in outside activities like hunting, fishing, camping, snowmobiling and sports.

Ray entered the Marine Corps and became a Master Gunnery Sergeant. Over the years, he served the Marine Corps in multiple positions including Recruiter, Sub-Station Commander, Regional Recruiter Instructor, Sales Field Trainer, District Director of

Training & Analysis, Chief Instructor & Director of Career Recruiter Course, National Recruiting Trainer & Analyst and National Recruiting Training Director. In June of 2003, he was transferred from his then-home in San Diego, CA to the Capital District.

After 25 years of service, Ray retired from the Marine Corps in 2008 and founded his own business training and consulting company: Business Operational Success Systems, Inc. (BOSS). BOSS is a global provider of business and performance improvement programs that works with businesses of all sizes to help them grow and prosper in any economy by transforming them into "High Performance Organizations."

Internationally recognized as a world-class business builder, coach, trainer and certified curriculum developer, Ray speaks professionally throughout North America at business conferences, retreats, conventions and company meetings. He is the creator of the MOJT, KAS, APPE and PESOS training systems. He uses his vast experience and processes to help business and educational institutions all over the country increase their sales, as well as improve their own processes, skills and organizational goals. He has worked internationally with companies such as Achieve Global, DirectBuy Corporations, Shell Oil, Shell Global, Merck & Co. and the Disney Institute, as well as government

agencies and private companies, in addition to local companies such as BEST PASS, Inc., Angio Dynamics and DeCrescente Distributing. His training programs and techniques have been published, adapted and utilized throughout the world. In addition, he is a certified Master Trainer for the U.S. Department of Defense, U.S. Marine Corps, Franklin Covey, Achieve Global, 360 Solutions and the SER National Training Team and has memberships with many business and professional associations.

You would think this would be more than enough to keep him busy, but he wanted to do something more to help out his community. "BOSS has done well and I wanted to reinvest our profits into a business where I could invite and involve Marines that I had served with and other veterans. I wanted to build a family business that empowered other veterans through employment and entrepreneurship. So my wife, our sons and I started looking for a business that would fulfill this vision, and we found JDog!"

JDog is an American-owned, veteran-operated logistics company that specializes in residential and commercial junk removal and hauling services. They state their mission is to "serve our customers and



communities as we have served our country, to empower and employ more veterans than any other organization, and to support the environment by repurposing, recycling or reselling everything we possibly can."

"We pride ourselves on doing the job the military way," explains Ray. "We're on time, in uniform, we work hard, and deliver our services with Respect, Integrity, and Trust. We live by the three "R's" of Responsibility, the "C's" of Service, and the "E's" for Veterans: Responsibility – Recycle,

Repurpose & Resell, keeping 75% of everything we collect out of the landfills and transfer stations; Service – Serve our Customers, Communities & our Country; Veterans – Empower veterans through Employment & Entrepreneurship."

They also regularly support multiple charities. All JDoggers are certified American Red Cross volunteers who participate in many of the Red Cross volunteer programs annually. They donate and sponsor local veteran charities like the Veterans' Miracle Center and the Veterans Housing Coalition. All of the proceeds (minus expenses) from their resell products are given to a veteran's charity annually.

Their work isn't limited to veteran charities. Wanting to give back as much as possible, they also support several youth-based charities and events. They are major sponsors for the Marine Corps Reserve Toys-4-Tots program, donating time, trucks and resources to support the campaign each year. For 2019, they are building a 5,000 square foot warehouse and office space for the local Toys-4-Tots program to have a permanent home. They are also major sponsors for the St. Jude's Children's Hospital, sponsoring the 107.7 WGNA FM



radiothon to help raise money for these children with cancer and their families. In addition to their charity event support, they sponsor several youth league sports teams. "We are an organization of service," says Ray. "It's what we know, it's what we do! For me, we can't reach enough customers, communities, people or veterans who need our help fast enough. We want to serve everyone who needs us NOW and as soon as possible," continues Ray. He is very grateful for the position he is in and the thing he loves most about his business is the helpful, family atmosphere. "We are JDoggers!" he explains. "I get to work with my family, my Marines, my friends, veterans and/or veteran family members every day... and I get to live my vision every day."

JDog is a true family business. Ray's wife, Robin, is the Executive Vice President of the company. His sons, RJ (25) is the VP of Sales & Marketing, and Kyle (24) is the VP of Finance. Robin, originally an optician, switched careers to primarily run JDog with Kyle. They worked the business together for two years, laying the groundwork for the current expansion. Robin is also a fantastic cook and her traditional family-recipe sauce is a favorite for everyone!



Kyle has degrees in economics and mathematics from SUNY Albany. RJ also has a Bachelor's degree from SUNY Albany and his law degree from Albany Law School. He originally worked with the family part time while he was finishing school, but expanded his role within the company a year ago once he was back home after school and traveling. The two boys have inherited their parents' entrepreneurial mindset and are excited to now fully be a part of JDog. "Kyle and I have always been in and around mom's and dad's business endeavors," says RJ. "We were finally

at the stage in life where we could be fully involved with this one and both of us have dedicated ourselves to JDog! However, he and I have already started to think of other businesses we can tackle together."

Their family also includes their two dogs, Rocky & Tiberius. They still love to camp, BBQ and snowmobile as well as enjoy family time outside of work with family dinners and card games. In his free time, Ray also has a passion for singing and song writing.

In keeping with their mission of service, JDog works with their clients for their repurposing plans. If a client wants something to go to a specific charity, JDog will make sure it gets there. If not, they have many charities they work with and they will donate to wherever it is most needed. In addition to their veteran charities, JDog works with many churches, schools, hospitals, thrift stores and Habitat for Humanity. Prices vary by the amount of junk (not the length of loading time).

For more information, visit Jdogny.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 jjcaputo@bestversionmedia.com.

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The Jonesville Hotel

By John L. Scherer, Clifton Park Town Historian

This early postcard view of the Jonesville Hotel was taken by Parker Goodfellow in about 1910 and was part of his large stock of Clifton Park postcard views that would be sold wholesale to the many general stores and inns throughout the town. The Jonesville Hotel was located on the northwest corner of Main Street and MacElroy Road,



now a vacant lot across from the Jonesville Store. James Jones constructed this hotel along the Waterford-Saratoga Turnpike about 1820 and it was as a stop on the turnpike that the

village developed.

In 1848, the section of turnpike between Clifton Park Village and Jonesville was paved with wood planks to make it passable even in wet times. A toll was charged to use this Plank Road Turnpike. Today, Plank Road remains as a section of this early toll road.

The hotel burned in 1915. Most every hamlet in Clifton Park had a tavern or hotel to

serve both travelers and the community. These structures all had a large public room where the community could gather for social and political events. ■

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Welcome to the Neighborhood

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

Celebrating their 10th Anniversary, the **Clifton Park Chabad** (495 Moe Rd, 518-495-0772, www.jewishcliftonpark.org) hosted their annual Klezmer & Kosher Music Festival at Shmaltz Brewing Co. in late June. The event featured great ethnic food and music, Shmaltz' famed He'Brew beer, and a Hebrew Bingo to celebrate the 70th Anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel on May 14, 1948. Assemblywoman Mary Beth Walsh and Senator Jim Tedisco were on hand to help the Chamber of Southern Saratoga County (CSSC) staff and volunteer Ambassadors as Rabbi Yosef Rubin and wife, Leah, cut the ceremonial ribbon. Chamber President Pete Bardunias blew a signal on the shofar, while the violinist serenaded everyone with cheerful music.



Halfmoon now has a **farmers' market**, thanks to Phil and Jill Catchpole and the folks at LifeSong (16 Dyer Dr, Halfmoon, 518-406-5157, www.lifesongdash.com). The market is located on Harris Road in Abele Park at the Town of Halfmoon Municipal Center. It will be open each Wednesday from 3 to 6PM, rain or shine, through September 26, 2018, featuring a variety of fresh produce, foods and other goods. Volunteers from LifeSong, Town officials and CSSC volunteers helped cut the ribbon (and eat the cupcakes) while Pete and Supervisor Kevin Tollisen stocked their vegetable bins with all the great produce on display. For more

information, please contact the Supervisor's office at 518-371-7410 x2 or email trussell@townofhalfmoon.org.

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Homemade Strawberry Jam Recipe

(Kid Friendly)

By Samantha Garcia

The summer months are a great time to enjoy the freshly harvested fruit. You can stock up on delicious strawberry jam for the rest of the summer and not have to worry about buying the high-fructose corn syrup, factory-made, store-bought option. Once you see how easy it is to make your own delicious jam, all the store bought options won't seem as appealing!

Imagine starting your day with a breakfast crafted by you and your kids. You put the bread in the toaster. The bread is warm and toasted. As the jam melts over the bread, the sweet, rich scents enchant your senses. You and your kids are now ready to go for the day knowing your stomachs are full and hearts are happy. Most jam recipes call for pectin, an added preservative that increases the shelf-life of the jam. However, this recipe does not require pectin. The jam yield in this recipe should last you about one to two months, if you have not eaten it all by then!

Prep Time: 10 minutes. **Cook:** 30 minutes

Ingredients:

2 cups of halved strawberries	1 tablespoon of lemon juice
1 cup of granulated Domino sugar	1 teaspoon of cinnamon
1 canning mason jar	

Directions:

Place a plate in the freezer before cooking. The plate will be used later on to check for consistency.

In addition to the plate, while the mixture is cooking, heat up the canning jar either by running it under hot water or submerging it in heated water.

In a wide bowl, stem and halve strawberries. Lightly mash strawberries for desired thickness. The more mashed the strawberries are the more uniform the jam will turn out. Pour the strawberries, lemon juice, sugar and cinnamon in a medium-sized saucepan on low heat. Stir well to ensure all the ingredients are mixed together. Do a quick taste test; add more lemon juice, cinnamon or sugar to liking. (Be wary, the jam grows stronger in taste as it sets!)

Once the sugar has dissolved and the jam starts bubbling, turn the heat up to medium-high. Stir continuously and maintain a rolling boil. After 20 minutes, check if the jam is ready by placing a spoonful of the mixture on the cold plate. Let it sit for 30 seconds to 1 minute. Run a finger through the mixture while tilting the plate. If the mixture resists running back onto itself your jam is ready to be canned!

Immediately pour the mixture into a heated jar and tightly seal the top. If you desire, place the closed container upside down on a cloth and cover. Otherwise, flip the container upside down to seal the jar. Let it set for 24 hours. Your jam is ready to eat!

Wednesday, Aug 1

OLIVIA FRANCES LIVE

@MochaLisa's Caffe, 22 Clifton Country Rd

Olivia Frances is an award-winning singer-songwriter and musician with a sunny disposition. Her catchy, positive songs are the signature of her pop-folk creations, combining appreciation of Earth's natural beauty and the meaning of love.

Time: 7pm-9pm | Cost: FREE

Wednesday, Aug 1

FEMALE SELF DEFENSE CLASS

@Revibe, Schuylerville

Students learn techniques for verbal de-escalation and boundary-setting, physical strategies for dealing with standing confrontations and practice these in simulated attack scenarios. An emphasis is placed on addressing situations involving peers and social situations that young women face. Class is taught in partnership with the Sheriff's office. Open to women ages 13-23. You must pre-pay to reserve a space.

Time: 5pm-8pm | Cost: \$25

Wednesday, Aug 1

PERFORMING ARTS AT THE COMMON: SETH AND THE MOODY MELIX

Clifton Common Stage, Clifton Park
Join the newest local children's band for a fun and exciting multi-cultural musical experience designed not only to entertain but to educate children.

Time: 7pm | Cost: FREE

Thursday-Sunday, Aug 2-5

REVEAL INTERNATIONAL CONTEMPORARY ART FAIR

@Saratoga Springs City Center, Saratoga Springs

REVEAL International Contemporary Art Fair embraces diversity, discovery and curatorial integrity, providing a platform for a select group of 40 galleries that showcase the foremost emerging, mid-career and established artists.

Time: 6pm | Cost: Students, Senior Citizens & Veterans \$10; Day-pass \$15; Multi-day \$25; VIP \$50; Children FREE

Thursday, Aug 2

BARKER PARK KID'S SUMMER SERIES: SUPER HEROES!

@Barker Park, Downtown Troy, Corner of 3rd and State Streets
The Troy Public Library will host a Story Hour with a very special visit from the one and only Spiderman! Appropriate for children ages 4 to 10. The wearing of all Super Hero gear is encouraged!

Time: 11am | Cost: FREE

Friday, Aug 3

SATISFACTION - THE INTERNATIONAL ROLLING STONES TRIBUTE SHOW

@Cohoes Music Hall, Cohoes

Time: 8pm | Cost: \$25-\$29

Saturday, Aug 4

PRINCE DADDY AND THE HYENA, KISSISSIPPI, JOUSKA, SAVE FACE, WHO LOVES YOU

@The Linda WAMC's Performing Arts Studio, Albany

Time: 7pm-11pm | Cost: \$12

Saturday, Aug 4

MOTORCYCLE RIDE4THECURE

@Shenendahowa Methodist Church, Clifton Park

Liv4TheCure is a nonprofit raising money for children with rare genetic diseases. The nonprofit was created in honor of Olivia Forman who is 3 and lives in Niskayuna, NY and has a rare genetic disease called Wolf Hirschhorn Syndrome. Olivia will be part of the ride. The ride includes the entry fee (a donation), a food plate and non-alcohol drinks at Indian Ladder Farms. There will be additional food and alcoholic beverages for sale as well.

Time: 12pm-4pm | Cost: \$25

Saturday, Aug 4

FREEDOM PARK SUMMER CONCERT SERIES: BIG FEZ & THE SMURFMATICS

@Freedom Park, Scotia

Attendees are encouraged to bring low chairs or a blanket to use within the outdoor amphitheater. All concerts are rain or shine unless there is dangerous weather. For more info, call 518-312-8646.

Time: 7pm | Cost: FREE

Wednesday, Aug 8th

NEW YORK STATE FOOD FESTIVAL WITH EVERCLEAR

@Empire State Plaza, Albany

Come down to the Empire State Plaza for the annual New York State Food Festival featuring Everclear! In addition to live music, the NYS Food Festival sheds a spotlight on NYS producers and specialty products, NYS beers and the popular Farmers' Market.

Time: 11am-9pm | Cost: FREE

Wednesday, Aug 8

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY AND POLICY FORUM

@Excelsior College, Albany

Join us for a forum exploring the realities of, and potential solutions to, the structural and market issues affecting New York's manufacturing, technology and energy employers and workforce. This is an event for manufacturers, educational institutions, workforce development advocates, policy makers and anyone interested. Visit Eventbrite.com for more info.

Time: 1:30pm-5pm | Cost: FREE

Wednesday, Aug 8

PERFORMING ARTS AT THE COMMON: JIM BRUCHAC

@Clifton Common Stage, Clifton Park
James Bruchac is an award-winning author, storyteller, animal tracker and wilderness survival expert. James will share some his favorite stories including various Native legends,

Adirondack tall tales and animal interactions. Story lovers of all ages will be taken on a journey of discovery and laughter!

Time: 7pm | Cost: FREE

Thursday, Aug 9

BARKER PARK KIDS' SUMMER SERIES: SUMMER HEROES!

@Barker Park, Downtown Troy, Corner of 3rd and State Streets
Heard's energizing world music will put a smile on your face and get you up and dancing! The group will present an all-ages interactive show with percussion instruments for kids to check out and learn some rhythms!

Time: 11am | Cost: FREE

Tuesday-Thursday, Aug 10-12

ART CAMP IN CLIFTON PARK

@King of Kings Lutheran Church
Printmaking will be the focus. Activities will include screen printing, block printing and mono printing. Kids will experiment using different objects to print on paper, then will test their expertise printing on a t-shirt. Bible lessons celebrating God's creativity and gifts to us will be included each day. Also snacks and games.

Time: 9am-12pm | Cost: \$10-\$15

Saturday, Aug 11

CIVIL WAR WEEKEND

@D.A. Collins Companies, Wilton
This inaugural event, held at D.A. Collins on Ballard Road in Wilton, will include dozens of Civil War era reenactors. Camp life, infantry, artillery, cavalry drills, battles and firing demonstrations will bring the period to life. Musical performances, children's activities, authors, military artifact displays, food and vendors will provide a weekend full of learning and excitement for all ages!

Time: 9am-4pm

Cost: \$10; Children FREE

Saturday, Aug 11

MANDALA ROCK PAINTING WORKSHOP

@Arlene's Artist Materials, Albany
Mandalas can help center the mind and relax the body. In this workshop, Nicole from Rock & Soul Reiki will teach a brief overview of the meaning and design of mandalas and their use for meditation. Nicole will also help you create three expressive designs to paint on stones. Supplies are included in the cost of this workshop.

Time: 2pm-4pm | Cost: \$25

Saturday, Aug 11

FREEDOM PARK CONCERT

SERIES: CONTRA DANCE NIGHT

@Freedom Park, Scotia

Attendees are encouraged to bring low chairs or a blanket to use within the outdoor amphitheater. All concerts are rain or shine unless there is dangerous weather. For more info, call 518-312-8646.

Time: 7pm | Cost: FREE

Sunday, Aug 12

FREEDOM PARK SUMMER CONCERT SERIES: BRAIN PATNEAUDE JAZZ QUINTET

@Freedom Park, Clifton Park
Attendees are encouraged to bring low chairs or a blanket to use within the outdoor amphitheater. All concerts are rain or shine unless there is dangerous weather. For more info, call (518) 312-8646.

Time: 7pm | Cost: FREE

Wednesday, Aug 15

CONTENT MARKETING: "THE NEW CONTENT CULTURE"

@Pioneer Bank, Albany
"The New Content Culture," by Keith Reynolds, offers brand teams, agencies, and entrepreneurs a dynamic and exciting new marketing strategy designed to attract and engage customers. For more info, visit nymarketing.org.

Time: 7:30am-8:45am | Cost: \$15-\$20

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Wednesday, Aug 15

PERFORMING ARTS AT THE COMMON: THE ZUCCHINI BROTHERS

@Clifton Common Stage, Clifton Park

Time: 7pm | Cost: FREE

Thursday, Aug 16

BARKER PARK KIDS' SUMMER SERIES: SUMMER HEROES!

@Barker Park, Downtown Troy, Corner of 3rd and State Streets
Formed in 2017 by Dave and his son, Luke, who has autism, WATCH REGGIE RUN, is named after how they spend their time when not making music. The father/son duo shares a love of music and has found it to be a great way of connecting despite Luke's limited communication skills.

Music can be a very powerful way of breaking down any barriers!

Time: 11am | Cost: FREE

Tuesday & Wednesday, Aug 14 & 15

REGAL SUMMER MOVIE EXPRESS: PADDINGTON 2 & CAPTAIN UNDERPANTS: THE FIRST EPIC MOVIE

@Regal Clifton Park Stadium 10, Clifton Park

Tickets are available on a first come, first serve basis.

Time: 10am | Cost: \$1

Saturday, Aug 18

12TH ANNUAL CLIFTON PARK ELKS CAR, TRUCK & BIKE SHOW

@Clifton Park Elks Lodge, Ballston Lake

All years and makes of cars, trucks and motorcycles are welcome. We have over 50 awards to registered vehicles. Fun, Music, 50/50 Raffles and Great Food. Come see the contestant vehicles!!! Registration starts at 9am until 12pm and awards around 3:30pm. Rain date is Sunday, August 19.

Time: 9am-3:45pm

Cost: \$10 registrations; Spectators FREE

Monday-Sunday, Aug 20-26

THE 2018 WASHINGTON COUNTY FAIR

@Washington County Fairgrounds, Greenwich

The Washington County Fair is home to over 1,800 exhibitors; more than 1,900 animals; over 30 free daily shows and entertainment; more than 40 carnival rides; hundreds of artisans, craftsmen & historians; 50 food vendors all located on 120 acres with ample free parking. Our mission is to educate the public on the county's agriculture in a fun, family-friendly environment. For more info, visit washingtoncountyfair.com.

Time: 5pm-11pm

Cost: \$12 adults; 13 & under, FREE;

Week pass \$36; Senior Citizens

(Wednesday) \$6.

Tuesday, Aug 21

INTUITIVE TUESDAY

@Halfmoon Massage, Halfmoon

The future is not a destination to which we arrive, but a process that we create with the energy of the present. What goals do you wish to bring to fruition? Explore the path ahead with insight from an Intuitive/Tarot reading with Angela Kaufman.

Time: 4pm-8pm | Cost: \$45

Friday, Aug 24

FOUR COURSE SUMMER LUNCHEON

@Hilton Garden Inn, Clifton Park

Join the Mazzone Hospitality family located at the Hilton Garden Inn Clifton Park for our second Four Course Summer Luncheon featuring live music by Jeff Walton! Call for reservations at 518-631-6502.

Time: 12pm | Cost: \$39.50

Friday, Aug 24

20TH ANNUAL TRAVERS WINE TASTING

@Saratoga City Center,

Saratoga Springs

Please join us to celebrate a very

special anniversary. Our 20th Anniversary will be a night to remember; please help us make it the biggest year yet by supporting this wonderful event! Proceeds from this year's event go directly toward improving the lives of the elderly in the Greater Capital Region. Limited to guests of 21 and older, ID required. Call Development Office at 518-465-3322 for more info.

Time: 6pm-9pm

Cost: \$140 general admission

Saturday, Aug 25

THE \$1.25 MILLION TRAVERS

@Saratoga Race Course, Saratoga Springs

This is Saratoga's biggest race – the one you don't want to miss! The 149th running of the \$1.25 million Travers Stakes, the "Mid-Summer Derby" for three year olds at a mile and a quarter. More info at saratogaratetrack.com.

Time: Gates open at 7am,

1st Post at 11:35am

Cost: \$10 general admission;

Clubhouse \$25

Monday, Aug 27

TEEN CAMP: POTTER'S WHEEL EXTRAVAGANZA (AGES 14-17)

@Arts Center of the Capital Region, Albany

We will spend the week learning the potter's wheel, the most mesmerizing tool in the pottery studio! We will start with the basics then move on to explore a variety of shapes. This camp will feature demonstrations that will appeal to both beginners and more experienced wheel throwers!

Time: 9am-4pm | Cost: \$325-\$350

Wednesday, Aug 29

2018 REGAL SUMMER MOVIE EXPRESS: DR. SEUSS' THE LORAX & KUNG FU PANDA 3

@Regal Clifton Park Stadium 10, Clifton Park

Tickets are available on a first come, first serve basis.

Time: 10am | Cost: \$1

Saratoga Arts Events

There's a lot going on at Saratoga Arts this August!

Contributed by Emma Huneck, Saratoga Arts



At the Arts Center Gallery...

If you haven't already, be sure to visit The Arts Center Gallery to view the 10x10 Exhibition. Featuring 605 pieces of artwork by regional artists, everything is for sale at or around \$100! Saratoga Arts is open weekdays from 9am-5pm and weekends from 11am-5pm. Stop in to say hello and view this impressive show!

Call for Artists!

Saratoga Arts is seeking fine artists to show and sell their work at Art in the Park. Taking place on Saturday, September 22 in Historic Congress Park in downtown Saratoga Springs, this outdoor art fair features over 80 artists selling their original paintings, drawings, prints, photography, sculpture, ceramics, fine art jewelry and more! Visit www.saratoga-arts.org/exhibitions/artinthepark for more information and to apply.

At the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library...

Stop in to view an exhibition of works by Gregg Figura. His impressive works will be on display upstairs, outside of the children's section, from July 31 - August 27 and should not be missed!

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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 Plaza518-371-6668	Receiver of Taxes <i>Rose Savallo</i>518-371-5720
Animal Control Officer518-371-6756	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 Officers518-369-6651
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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