

JULY 2019

CLIFTON PARK

AN EXCLUSIVE MONTHLY PUBLICATION
FOR READING & ENJOYING

Neighbors



Willie Miranda
Capital Region Mentor



Best Version Media
Cover photo by Mark Bolles



Dear CLIFTON PARK RESIDENTS

By the time you are reading this, we will be in the midst of our summer fun. BBQs, beaches, pool parties, fun in the sun -- summer always seems to fly by so quickly! Perhaps part of the reason is because it makes us feel so free. We are unencumbered by coats, weather, school and minimal hours of light.

Of course, our freedom as a country is also something we honor this month. And as always, the Capital District offers many fun activities to celebrate. Check out our events page for just a sampling of the fun fireworks displays, concerts, movies, and other events happening throughout the Capital Region this month to be sure you take full advantage of all that our area has to offer during the summer. We are so lucky to have so much to choose from!

Then be sure to peruse the articles from our Expert Contributors to learn more about how you can keep your home and body in tip-top shape for the season. Willie Miranda, local entrepreneur, offers his advice for success in our feature story this month. Be sure to visit his website for more information about him, his businesses, and his books that are available to help you make the right choices for your home.

We can't wait to hear your own stories from your adventures this summer. Please be sure to stop by our Facebook page at @CPNeighbors to share with us your pictures, events, accomplishments, and tips on all that is happening in our wonderful community. We're looking forward to sharing in the fun!

Have a wonderful summer!

Jenna



BARB SCHRADER,
PUBLISHER



JENNA CAPUTO,
CONTENT
COORDINATOR



MARK BOLLES,
CONTRIBUTING
PHOTOGRAPHER

Best Version Media®

PUBLICATION TEAM

PUBLISHER Barb Schrader

CONTENT COORDINATOR Jenna Caputo

DESIGNER Kelly Anderson

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

SuperSourceMedia.com

CONTRIBUTORS

Pete Bardunias, The Chamber of Southern Saratoga County

Jenna Caputo, Silverpen Productions

John L. Scherer, Clifton Park Town Historian

Rebecca Zeh, Saratoga Arts

Christine Matthews, The Brown School

Ty Rainsberg, Garage Kings

Dr Lucie Capek, Lucie Capek,

MD Plastic Surgery & MedSpa

ADVERTISING

Contact: Barb Schrader Phone: (518) 926-0727

Email: bschrader@bestversionmedia.com

COMMUNITY SUBMISSIONS

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

CONTENT SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Please submit your content by the 1st of each month. 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. © 2019 Best Version Media. All rights reserved.

© 2019 Best Version Media



ON THE COVER

The Miranda
Family

SERVING THE UPSTATE NY AREA



**Junk Removal
& Hauling**

Locally Owned &
Operated by Veterans
& Military Family
Members

Respect, Integrity, Trust

New Delivery & Small Moves • Furniture
Exercise Equipment • Appliances
Mattresses & More!

Residential & Commercial Clean-outs
Single Items to Multi-Trailer

518-944-0901

www.JDogNY.com | JDogCR@JDog.com

A FAMILY TRADITION

FOUR GENERATIONS OF THE HARADEN FAMILY ARE SERVING THE
COMMUNITY THROUGH THEIR WORK AT MOHAWK HONDA
AND THROUGH THEIR VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT



Mohawk Honda has its roots in the company founded a century ago by my grandfather, Joseph Haraden. Since then, our family has grown significantly, as has our family business. Today, Mohawk Honda is the Capital Region's #1* Honda dealer, selling and servicing thousands of cars each year.

Much of our success is founded on what each Haraden generation has taught the next: treat the people around you with respect and dignity and everything else will fall into place.



To mark our centennial, Mohawk Honda is donating \$10,000 to each of 10 local charities. In addition, our employees – nearly 200 strong – will be serving 10,000 hours of community service throughout the year.

Since 1919, we've been proud to meet the region's automotive needs, and proud to call this community home. And we look forward to serving you and our community for the next 100 years.

Jeff Haraden, on behalf
of the Haraden family

MOHAWK Honda

175 Freemans Bridge Road (at Route 50), Scotia • 518-370-4911 • mohawkhonda

*BASED ON 2013/2014/2015/2016/2017/2018 NEW VEHICLE SALES PER AHM

EXPERT CONTRIBUTORS

To learn more about becoming an expert contributor, contact BVM at BSchrader@BestVersionMedia.com or phone 518-926-0727.

CONTENT SERVICES



Silverpen Productions, LLC
Jenna Caputo

info@silverpenproductions.com
www.silverpenproductions.com
518-330-3685

FENCES & GATES



Precision Gate & Fence LLC
Mark DiCocco
www.PrecisionGateAndFence.com
Mark@
PrecisionGateandFence.com
518-384-4213

GARAGE FLOORING



Garage Kings
Ty Rainsberg
www.garagekings.com/albany-ny
518-545-0169

INSURANCE



Miranda Insurance Agency
Willie Miranda
1480 Route 9,
Clifton Park, NY 12065
williemiranda.allstate.com
518-373-1458

JUNK REMOVAL



JDog Junk Removal & Hauling
www.JDogNY.com
JDogCR@JDog.com
518-944-0901

PHOTOGRAPHY



Super Source Media LLC
Mark Bolles
www.SuperSourceMedia.com
SuperTeam@
SuperSourceMedia.com
518-858-4248

PLASTIC SURGERY



Board Certified Plastic Surgeon
Lucie Capek, MD Plastic Surgery & Med Spa
713 Troy-Schenectady Rd #308
Latham, NY
www.CapekPlasticSurgery.com
518-786-1700

BUILD YOUR BRAND

Share Your Expertise
BSchrader@BestVersionMedia.com
518-926-0727

REAL ESTATE



Miranda Real Estate Group
1482 U.S. 9,
Clifton Park, NY
www.WillieMiranda.com
WMiranda@MRGTeam.com
518-348-2060



Professional Expert in:
Organizing
Downsizing
Senior Move Relocation
Real Estate Staging

In TRANSITION?
OVERWHELMED?
DISORGANIZED?
TIRED of it ALL?

holly pajak's
seniormovesbydesignny
we handle the details

Let Us Help You!
Call for a Free Consultation
518-339-7361

www.SeniorMovesNY.com



Now Booking
Senior Portraits

(518) 858-4248
SuperTeam@
supersourcemedia.com



ASPHALT PAVING
DRIVeways PARKING LOTS ROADWAYS
EXCAVATION
FOUNDATIONS SEPTIC SYSTEMS LAND CLEARING
CONCRETE
FOUNDATION WALLS SIDEWALKS PADS

**CALL 518.857.4583
FOR A FREE ESTIMATE**
TO SEE MORE SERVICES VISIT
WWW.MORGANSCONSTRUCTION.COM

Why Resurface Your Exterior Concrete?

By Ty Rainsberg, Garage Kings

First impressions matter. For most homes, the first impression is the front step. Whether you're improving your home for you or getting ready to sell in a competitive market, resurfacing your steps or porch will give you the curb appeal boost you are looking for.

Chances are, if you're reading this, you aren't completely satisfied with the way your exterior concrete steps or walkways look.

Perhaps they are showing their age. Maybe your concrete is starting to fall apart or "spall" or crack, and it just doesn't look like it used to. If you choose to resurface your steps properly,

you will add years of life to them. The concrete will be sealed and protected, and it will look fantastic.

Pools and sidewalks can be done too! You can have exterior concrete that is super easy to clean and blends well with any exterior décor. It's also way more cost effective than you might think. You'll replace your beat up, weathered, cracked concrete with something attractive, durable and anti-slip, all at a cost that won't have you running for the hills.

Did you know the Garage Kings Signature Polyaspartic Flake Floor System is a great alternative to replacing with paver stones or concrete overlays? This coating is also way more durable than the do-it-yourself products available at



your local big box store. Peeling and flaking are two common problems with improperly installed coatings. Landscaping contractors come to us for the clients that don't want to spend \$3,500+ on a stone front step.

How long should it last? These coatings are designed to hold up to salt, chemicals, forklift traffic, heavy use. As long as your concrete is not falling apart from inside, you can

count on enjoying your new surface for years! That means your coating will not peel or lift, the most common problem with do-it-yourself installed coatings.

Does it get slippery? No more than any other

exterior concrete. The flake system has built-in traction, and our installers can also add a clear grit to your top coat to make it even more slip resistant!

Can I do it myself? The coatings we use are industrial grade and have a short working time. That means once they are mixed you really need to know what you're doing so you can work quickly without mistakes. For the price point of a resurfacing option like ours, we recommend you rely on an experienced installer to complete your project! If you are going to invest in resurfacing your concrete steps or walkways, you owe it to yourself to do it once and do it right. ■

STUNNING GARAGE FLOORING AND EPOXY COATINGS FREE ESTIMATES • FINANCING AVAILABLE

»» BE PROUD OF YOUR CONCRETE FLOOR

GARAGE • PATIO **BASEMENT • LAUNDRY • WALKWAY**



RENOVATE YOUR SPACE WITH AN AMAZING NEW FLOOR!

GET A FREE QUOTE

1-518-545-0169

- The most durable floor coatings on the market.
- Dozens of beautiful options to choose from.
- Incredibly easy to clean.

PROTECT YOUR CONCRETE FLOORS AGAINST SALT • OIL • RUST • FUEL • UV RAYS • ICE • HOT TIRES

Learn more at GarageKings.com Like us on Facebook  @garagekingsny Follow us on Instagram  @garagekingsny

Brown School

Contributed by the Brown School

Brown School, a private, nondenominational elementary, middle and now high school in Schenectady, celebrated its 125th anniversary last year. Quite an achievement considering that the independent school was started in the living room of founder Nellie Brown in 1893!

Although Brown School's mission has remained the same, much has changed. The diversity within the school has expanded over the years. The school originally served the children of General Electric, but today has students from 21 neighboring school districts including areas of Clifton Park, Fort Plain and Glens Falls. In 2017, the high school was added so that students could continue their education past the eighth grade.

Offered as an alternative to public schools, Brown School supported small class sizes and an individualized approach to learning that would foster self-confidence, intellectual curiosity and a life-long love of learning. These

values remain today.

Patti Vitale has been head of school at Brown since 2010. She is quick to boast that being part of the Brown School community has been the best career experience she's ever had. She admits that there are challenges as there are with every job, but she is continually impressed by such a dedicated and creative faculty. Brown School has progressed in many ways as a result of the collaborative efforts of their team of professionals. The school community also has many parents who take an active part in our school life.

Brown School's tradition of small classes affords flexibility in the classroom, supports and challenges students to achieve and excel, and enables the faculty to provide a high degree of creative instruction. The curriculum provides age-appropriate learning experiences that promote intellectual flexibility, enhance



Brown School

SINCE
1893

problem-solving abilities and develop the facility to work successfully and collaboratively with other people.

Brown School helps each child become well-educated, responsible, caring and productive. They strive to cultivate every student's unique potential within a structured and balanced educational program grounded in the liberal arts, fine arts and sciences. A strong emphasis is placed upon scholastic excellence in an atmosphere that encourages personal and social growth. The development and appreciation of individual talents and achievement are highly valued, and those talents are supported through a wide variety of offerings.

Mindfulness, open-mindedness, respect, tolerance, collegiality and the spirit of intellectual engagement together serve as the foundation of the Brown School educational experience.

Vitale said that her favorite part of Brown School hands down are the students. "I love their energy, enthusiasm and compassion. They have a creative spirit and their humor and smiles brighten my day. I love when they come to my office to discuss an idea or problem. When they apologize for taking up my time, I explain that they are the most important part of my job, no apologies are necessary." ■

**INSPIRING
A LOVE OF
LEARNING**

NURSERY - GRADE 10



Brown School
SINCE 1893

150 Corlaer Ave.
Schenectady, NY
518-370-0366
BrownSchool.org

**RE-FINISHING YOUR
BASEMENT?**

Ballard & Son
CONSTRUCTION

**WE SPECIALIZE IN
EGRESS WINDOW
INSTALLATION**

FOR YOUR FAMILY'S SAFETY

**CALL FOR A FREE ESTIMATE
518-926-8417**
BALLARDANDSON@GMAIL.COM
WWW.BALLARDANDSONCONSTRUCTION.COM

Breast Implant Revision: Explant, Replacement or Both?

By Dr. Lucie Capek

Breast augmentation with implants continues to be the most common cosmetic surgery performed in the United States, and has increased annually for at least 2 decades. In 2018, over 313,000 women had breast augmentation, a 48% increase since 2000. By some estimates, 4% of American women have breast implants today; that's one in 26, and represents millions of women.

As plastic surgeons, we know that this procedure makes our patients very happy as a rule, but like any operation, it has risks. Implants are a foreign body and are not expected to last forever. Most patients will require additional surgery during their lifetime. Statistics show that about one in three women with breast implants has had a second surgery within 10 years of her initial breast augmentation.

Breast implant removal, or revision, is a common procedure and the reasons for it vary. One of the most common issues is a build-up of scar tissue around the implant called capsular contracture. This can make your breasts look distorted and may also be painful. An implant may rupture after years of "wear and tear." Or your body may have changed with child-bearing and menopause, leaving you with breasts that are too large, uncomfortable or droopy. The good news is that we have more options than ever to address these concerns.

The most obvious procedure for breast implant revision is removal and replacement with new implants. Newer implants, made of cohesive silicone gel and nick-named "gummy implants," may be more durable and less prone to rippling. Removal of scar tissue (capsulectomy) is often done at the same time. Another great alternative for women looking to downsize is fat transfer in combination with a breast lift. This includes having the surgeon harvest your own fat from stubborn areas with a gentle form of liposuction, adding the benefit of body contouring. This is a popular approach in my post-menopausal patients who don't want implants anymore.

My colleagues and I are starting to see a trend toward "explant" surgery, at the request of patients who want their implants removed. Besides the reasons described, there is a growing number of women who self-identify as having what they refer to as Breast Implant Illness (BII), a collection of non-specific symptoms that includes fatigue, hair loss, headaches, chronic pain, anxiety and brain fog to name a

few. After decades of breast implant safety studies, there has been no proven, scientific link between breast implants and any systemic disease. But these patients' symptoms are real and explant surgery does make some of them feel better. We are listening, and the American Society of Plastic Surgeons is designing a clinical study to look into this further. For more information, please visit my website at www.capekplasticsurgery.com/breast-implant-removal/.

Breast implant revision is a complex topic. The best approach for any patient with breast implant concerns is an in-person consultation with a board-certified plastic surgeon who can fully review your options for the best possible outcome. ■

 @DrLucieCapekNY

 Lucie Capek, MD Plastic Surgery and MedSpa





Willie Miranda

Capital Region Mentor

COVER STORY

By Jenna Caputo

Photos by Super Source Media

Willie Miranda is always moving, always learning, always teaching and always looking for ways to give back. He knows that there are ways to improve not only your own life, but others' lives as well, and he constantly strives to be a guiding force for others, even while advancing his own business.

Growing up, Willie enjoyed hanging out with his friends and playing various sports. But he was a born entrepreneur and quickly started small businesses for himself on the side, like having his own newspaper route and landscaping work, among others. He graduated from SUNY Oneonta with a degree in Business, Economics and Finance.

Deciding to follow his dream to become a New York State Trooper, he passed the written and physical exams, but they weren't hiring for at least another six months, and he needed to work. So he completed his insurance license and began selling insurance instead. After a few years, he opened his own agency – Miranda Insurance Agency, Inc., a franchise of Allstate. Knowing that Clifton Park was an open area, he decided to base the office and move his family to the town of Clifton Park so they could work, live and raise a family all in the same community.

Willie met his wife Shari during ninth grade when they both attended Mont Pleasant High School. They were friends throughout high school but never started dating until their first year in college. "The rest is history," he says.



They have now been married for 25 years and have two daughters – Christine (22) and Julia (19). Shari is a second-grade teacher for the Schenectady City School District.

Unfortunately, both girls were diagnosed with Lupus at different times in their lives. They had been to numerous places trying to find answers but no one could tell them what was wrong. Finally, they ended up at the Bernard and Millie Duker Children's Hospital at Albany Medical Center and within four hours they had a preliminary diagnosis. After testing for a few days, they had a definite diagnosis and instantly began treatment.

"The care we received for both of our daughters was exceptional," says Willie. "We were given the correct information and each staff member kept us in the loop throughout the whole process. The doctors are amazing. They seek out other professionals in other parts of the country to collaborate and confirm the diagnosis and treatment. All of the departments work cohesively helping treat their patients. No one ever wants to bring their child to a hospital; it's probably the scariest thing that can happen to your family. However, the doctors, nurses and staff took such great care of both of our girls. The plan of action was explained in terms we could understand, as we are both not in the medical field, and everyone was on board. When you encounter a situation like this in your life, you want to have the right people in your corner to help navigate the journey – that's what The Children's Hospital did for us."

The Mirandas were so grateful for their experience at The Children's Hospital that every year they hold a golf tournament to raise money to benefit the Bernard & Millie Duker Children's Hospital at Albany Medical Center. This year will be the 14th year of the tournament and is open for all to attend. They have raised almost \$300,000 for the hospital to date and are looking forward to building that



number every year. The day includes a round of golf, lunch and drinks, as well as dinner and raffles.

The girls are now doing well. When they were in school, Willie coached Christine in basketball and soccer. He coached Julia's softball team as well. Christine graduated in May from Bentley University with a degree in Corporate Financing and Accounting, and Julia just finished her freshman year at Sacred Heart University, where she is studying nursing.

Never one to become complacent, Willie is constantly looking for ways to improve his business. He always listens to his customers and their needs to see what he can do to help – even if it means starting a new business. "I met a customer who told me they had a bad experience with a real estate agent," he says. "In fact, they had wished I was their agent. So, I took it to heart, got my license and learned all I could in the real estate industry. I opened Miranda Real Estate Group, Inc. in 2002."

His brother, Brian, came on as his General Manager and has been working with Willie for the past 13 years. Together they built the business up and are now the #1 independent brokerage based in The Capital District. Willie's hard work has paid off, earning him numerous awards over the years, including Albany Business Review's, "Forty Under 40" and "Best Places to Work," as well as the Craig Proctor "Quantum Leap Award" and "The Official 2018 People's Choice Awards Best of the Best Real Estate Company."

His favorite part of his job, though, is mentoring. He coaches and masterminds with agents all across the country,

not just in his own office, to help them take their own businesses to the next level. "The goal is always to help people keep growing and stay ahead of their competition," says Willie.

In addition to his mastermind group, Willie is also a teacher at the Manfred Real Estate School. "I feel it's so important to give back to the real estate community," he says. "I am so thankful for the mentors who have helped me along the way, so I want to make sure I am giving back to those who are just starting out in this business."

Giving back is important to Willie and something he instills in his businesses as well. "I always tell my agents each year, 'We want to make more money, have more fun and give more back! It's imperative that you give back to your community and those that have supported you.' In addition to the annual fundraiser for The Children's Hospital, they have also supported many other local charities and organizations throughout the year.

Willie works hard between running his businesses, mentoring other agents, charitable work and his family, but he knows that to be successful, you must always keep learning and keep improving yourself to stay ahead of the game. "I started my business from the ground up," Willie says. "Nothing was ever handed to me. I had to work hard, surround myself with good people, put in the time and money, but I never gave up. This has helped me lead a successful life; however, I have never forgotten where I came from."



Now that the girls are in college, Willie and Shari enjoy spending time with their family and friends, visiting the kids at school, watching Christine's rugby team, and in their off time, golfing, traveling and staying active by skiing or hiking. They enjoy hitting up all the local restaurants and can often be found at 677 Prime or Pasta Pane and Wheatfields.

Willie's favorite quote in life actually came to him when he was eating out at a Chinese restaurant with his family. The fortune in his cookie that night read, *The Road to Success is ALWAYS Under Construction*. "This quote has always resonated with me and it's how I run my business. You never really reach success, it's always something you keep striving

for," he says. And Willie strives every day to not only reach for success for his own family but to help others reach for it as well.

For more information about The Children's Hospital Golf Tournament or to see how you could help, visit www.MirandaGolfEvent.com.

For more information about Miranda Insurance Agency or Miranda Real Estate Group, Inc., visit www.WillieMiranda.com or agents.allstate.com/willie-miranda-jr-clifton-park-ny.html. ■

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.



Find Out What Your Clifton Park Home Is Worth Online!

Visit: www.518HomeValue.com

Willie Miranda

Real Estate Broker/Owner
Miranda Real Estate Group, Inc.
wmiranda@mrgteam.com

518-376-1073



Leading
REAL ESTATE
COMPANIES
OF THE WORLD

This is not intended to solicit properties listed for sale.

CLIFTON PARK Neighbors

Jonesville's Country Doctor

By John L. Scherer, Clifton Park Town Historian

We often name streets and roads for noted local residents. MacElroy Road, leading from Jonesville to 146A, is an example of this naming process. Dr. John R. MacElroy was a country doctor who served the residents of the Jonesville area for over 60 years. He began his medical practice in Jonesville at age 22 in 1894, and continued to care for his patients until he died in 1954 at age 81. He was known to generations of Jonesville patients, hundreds of whom he brought into life.

Dr. MacElroy was involved in an astonishing number of activities in addition to his medical practice. He was elected town supervisor from 1901 to 1906. During 1904 he was chairman of the Saratoga County Board of Supervisors. Fond of animal breeding, he was the oldest living director of the New York State Guernsey Breeders Co-operative, a position he held several decades. He operated a dairy farm of 140 acres near his home where he also raised and drove his own trotting and pacing horses.

The physician exhibited livestock in the Saratoga County Fair for 50 years and served on the board of directors of Saratoga County Agricultural Society for 35 years. He was



Home of Dr. John MacElroy, MacElroy Road recently marked by the Town of Clifton Park with a Historic Marker.

also chairman of the annual horse show for many years, and judged numerous animal shows.

Dr. MacElroy is buried on a hill top in the Jonesville Cemetery with an impressive monument befitting his important status in life. Recently, the Town of Clifton Park placed a historic marker in front of Dr. MacElroy's farm house on MacElroy Road. ■

MABEL MP CHENG MD, PLLC
BOARD CERTIFIED OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

TIRED OF YOUR GLASSES?

Be glasses
free with
LASIK
today

Accepting new patients & most insurances

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.

3140 Troy Schenectady Rd,
Niskayuna NY 12309
518-782-7777
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.

Better together.

= SAVE

The more you protect, the more you save.

I can help you protect more than you'd expect. I also have lots of ways to help you save when you bundle your policies. Get the savings you deserve. Call me or stop by my office for a free quote.



Willie Miranda
518-373-1458

1480 Route 9
Clifton Park
williemiranda@allstate.com

Personalized service. Trusted advice.



Subject to terms, conditions and availability. Savings vary by state and product line. Allstate Vehicle and Property Insurance Co., Allstate Fire and Casualty Insurance Co., Allstate Indemnity Co., Allstate Property and Casualty Insurance Co., Northbrook, IL © 2015 Allstate Insurance Co.

10013532

4TH OF JULY FESTIVITIES:

Thursday, Jul 4

CLIFTON PARK'S JULY 4TH CELEBRATION

@ Clifton Common, Clifton Park
Bring your family, friends & neighbors as we mark the birth of our nation in small-town America style! Clifton Park's July Fourth Celebration culminates with great entertainment and the Capital Region's largest locally sponsored fireworks display!

Time: 12-10:00 PM

Cost: FREE

Thursday, Jul 4

NEW YORK STATE'S 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION PRESENTED BY PRICE CHOPPER & MARKET 32

@ Empire State Plaza, Albany

Each year, more than 20,000 people gather on the Plaza and in the surrounding neighborhoods to enjoy the day, which includes a naturalization ceremony, dozens of food and craft vendors, activities for kids and an evening of live entertainment leading up to the big pyrotechnics show.

Cost: FREE

Thursday, Jul 4

SARATOGA'S ALL-AMERICAN CELEBRATION

@ Downtown Saratoga Springs
Saratoga's All-American Celebration will begin with the Firecracker 4 Road Race, a four-mile road race through Saratoga. Festivities throughout the event will include a family photo opportunity with patriotic characters, an All American BBQ & Dessert Festival, a classic car show, and a 7:00pm concert in the Springs Street parking lot featuring The Audiostars. Around 9:30pm, enjoy a live reading of the Declaration of Independence followed immediately by fireworks with patriotic music.

Cost: FREE

FARMERS' MARKETS:

Sundays, May-Oct

SPA CITY FARMERS MARKET

@ Lincoln Bath House Front Lawn

Time: 10am-3pm

Sundays, May-Oct

SCHENECTADY GREENMARKET

@ Near Schenectady City Hall,
Intersection of Franklin St. & Jay St.,
Schenectady

Time: 10am-2pm

Mondays, June-Aug

CLIFTON PARK FARMERS MARKET

@ Shenendehowa Methodist Church,
971 Route 146, Clifton Park

Times: 2-5pm

Thursdays & Saturdays, June 15-Sept 28

BALLSTON SPA FARMERS' MARKET

@ Wiswall Park, Front Street,
Ballston Spa

Time: Thursdays – 3-6pm;
Saturdays – 9am-12pm

Saturdays, May 18- Sept 28

FARMERS' MARKET AT THE CROSSINGS

@ The Crossings, Loudonville

Time: 9am-1pm

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES:

Starting Wednesday, July 3

FREEDOM PARK SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

@ Freedom Park, 5 Schonowee Ave,
Scotia

Schedule at www.albany.com/things-to-do/freedom-park/. Rain or shine.
Time: 7-8:30pm | Cost: FREE

Sundays in July

FARM TO FOLK: CAFFE LENA MUSIC SERIES AT PITNEY MEADOWS COMMUNITY FARM

@ Pitney Meadows Community Farm,
223 West Ave, Saratoga Springs
Family Friendly American Folk Music.
Rain or shine.

Time: 3-4pm | Cost: FREE

Saturdays, Jul 6-Aug 17

HARBOR JAM CONCERT SERIES:

AMBROSIA

@ Mohawk Harbor Amphitheater,
Mohawk Harbor Way, Schenectady
Rain or shine.

Cost: FREE

Thursdays, Jun 6-Aug 1 (except July 4th)

ALIVE AT FIVE SUMMER SERIES

@ Jennings Landing, 1 Quay Street,
Albany

Rain or shine.

Time: 5-8pm | Cost: FREE

Wednesdays/Sundays, July

PERFORMING ARTS AT THE COMMON

@ Clifton Common Stage, Clifton Park
Rain or shine.

Time: 7pm | Cost: FREE

Thursdays, Starting Jul 11

BALLSTON SPA CONCERTS IN THE PARK

@ Wiswall Park, Front Street,
Ballston Spa

Time: 6-8pm | Cost: FREE

Fridays, Starting Jul 5

MOVIES IN THE PARK

@ Wiswall Park, Front Street,
Ballston Spa

Bring chairs or a blanket.

Time: 7-10pm | Cost: FREE

Friday, July 5

OPERA SARATOGA -

HANSEL & GRETEL

@ The Spa Little Theater, Saratoga Springs

The classic fairy tale comes alive anew in this remarkable production for the whole family. Manual Cinema combines handmade shadow puppetry

and cinematic techniques to create immersive visual stories for stage and screen. Featuring members of Opera Saratoga's internationally acclaimed Young Artist Program in all of the principal roles, with a guest appearance by members of the Children's Chorus of the Glens Falls Symphony.

Time: 7:30pm | Cost: \$95 / \$72.50 / \$50

Saturday, Jul 6

WILD TAILS - GUIDED WALKING TOURS 2019 (DISCOVER ALBANY VISITORS CENTER)

@ Discover Albany Visitors Center, 25 Quackenbush Square, GPS - 679 Broadway, 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 "tails" of Albany's long-time love of furry friends, including Owney the Railway Mail Dog and our beloved Nipper!

Time: 11am-12:30pm

Cost: Adults – \$3.00; Kids – FREE

Sunday, Jul 7

25TH ANNUAL SECRET GARDENS TOUR

@ Various Locations, Saratoga County
Celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Soroptimist Secret Gardens Tour with a stunning mix of some of the favorite gardens of tours past and special additions for this milestone year. The self-guided Secret Gardens tour is an all-volunteer fundraiser presented by Soroptimist International of Saratoga County. The club grants thousands of dollars a year to organizations in keeping with its mission to improve the lives of women, girls and their communities locally and globally. Reserve tickets in advance. Pickup at the Saratoga Springs Visitor Center, 297 Broadway, from 10:30am-1pm.

Time: 11am-5pm | Cost: \$25-\$30

Saturday, Jul 13

KULAK'S KIDZ CLUB FAIRY JAR CRAFT

@ Kulak's Nursery, Clifton Park

Let's make fairy lanterns! This artsy craft will entail decorating the inside and outside of a mason jar and adding a battery powered tea light inside for nighttime viewing! We will provide all the necessities for your child! Sign up at www.kulaksnursery.com/events/ by 7/10.

Time: 2pm | Cost: \$10/ child, 4 yrs +

Saturday, Jul 13

SILKS & SATINS 5K RUN

@ Fasig Tipton, 415 East Ave, Saratoga Springs

The Annual Silks & Satins 5K Run to benefit Special Olympics New York takes runners on a tour of beautiful Saratoga Springs. Packet pick up, bibs and shirts can be picked up starting at 6am on race day. Awards Ceremony will be held at 9am. This year we will once again be offering a free day pass into the track, as well as a shower pass to the YMCA for the first 1,000 registrants. Goodie bags will be distributed after the race. Free parking on side streets.

Time: 8am

Cost: \$25 and up after July 1st

Saturday, Jul 13

ALBANY ARCHITECTURE - GUIDED WALKING TOURS 2019

@ Discover Albany Visitors Center, 25 Quackenbush Square, Albany
The architecture in downtown Albany is like none other in the United States. This tour will reveal the rich history of the city through the creative expressions of the architects who built her. Learn what the Olde English Pub has to say about early Dutch America, uncover the hidden faces at the SUNY Administration Building and the drama surrounding the construction of the State Capitol.

Time: 11am-1pm

Cost: Adults – \$3; Kids – FREE

Saturday, Jul 13

SARATOGA BRIDGES ANNUAL GALA: "THE WHITE PARTY"

@ Saratoga National Golf Club, Saratoga Springs

The White Party will be held at the majestic Saratoga National Golf Club in Saratoga Springs with delicious food, complimentary cocktails, live and silent auctions, music by GRAVITY, cigar rollers, Heather Bohm-Tallman Photography and Smile Lounge Interactive capturing fun memories and Fireworks!

Time: 6-11pm | Cost: \$150-\$200

Tuesday-Monday, Jul 23-28

178TH SARATOGA COUNTY FAIR

@ Saratoga County Fairgrounds, Ballston Spa

Classic carnival fun is just around the bend in Saratoga County! The 178th Saratoga County Fair is sure to be a hit with every member of your family. Enjoy one of the country's oldest fairs, right in Ballston Spa. The Saratoga County Fair expertly combines agriculture, entertainment and education for the ultimate fair experience. Visit SaratogaCountyFair.org for times and prices. Senior and Military / Veterans Deals available.

Thursday, Jul 25

AN UNBRIDLED AFFAIR: 11TH ANNUAL GALA

@ Saratoga Springs City Center, Saratoga Springs

The 11th Annual An Unbridled Affair Gala is CAPTAIN CHS's premier event. Join us for hors d'oeuvres, a sit-down dinner, a unique 90-plus item silent and live auction, and a program honoring a CAPTAIN CHS client, as well as individuals, organizations and a Thoroughbred horse -- all of whom have contributed to the betterment of CAPTAIN CHS, and the Saratoga Thoroughbred racing industry.

Time: 6-10:30pm | Cost: \$125

Welcome to the Neighborhood

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



The team at **First New York Federal Credit Union** (www.firstnewyork.org) celebrates the groundbreaking of their new branch in Halfmoon. Chairman Charles R. Smith (front row, 3rd from right) and fellow executives held golden shovels in front of the foundation already taking shape for the new facility, scheduled to open later this year. First New York Federal Credit union prides itself in being a pillar of the community and a resource for small businesses as they grow and gain in stature, and they have lived up to that philosophy by sponsoring all ribbon cuttings in 2019 for both the Chamber of Southern Saratoga County and the Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce.

Clifton Park was once home to dozens of family farms, and some of them still operate today, with no sign of any letup! Here, four generations of the Bowman Family cut the ribbon on a brand new store on the premises of their 98 tree-filled acres, producing over 46 varieties of apples. The new store will also sell home-baked pies, fresh apple cider, cider donuts, breads, pastries, ice cream, fudge and of course strawberries, raspberries, pumpkins, pears, peaches and blackberries. **Bowman Orchards** (157 Sugar Hill Rd, Rexford, 518-371-2042, www.bowmanorchards.com) is a great place to bring the family during harvest season!



Meet other business neighbors at www.southernsaratoga.org.

2019 Open Mind Scholarship Winners

Contributed by Northshire Bookstore

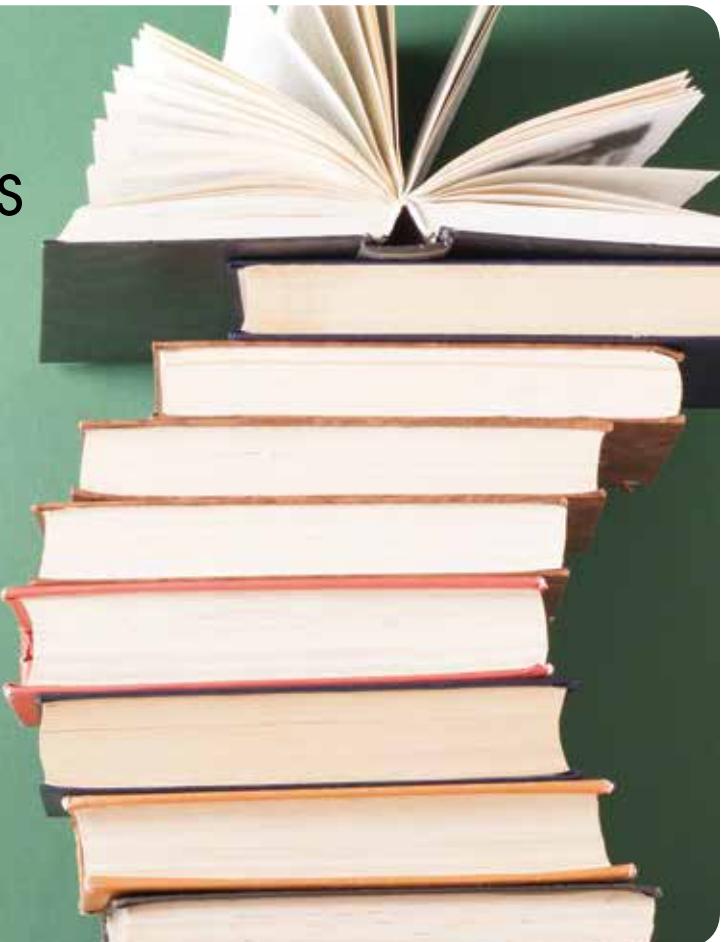
Northshire Bookstore is pleased to announce the winners of 2019's Open Mind Scholarship award!

The Open Mind Scholarship honors the diversity of thought, feelings, information and perspectives found in books, as well as the power of books to change people's lives.

Each year Northshire Bookstore awards two college-bound high school seniors, one from New York and one from Vermont, \$1,000 to help pay for college.

We are thrilled to announce our Vermont winner — Olivia Pitcher, a senior at Burr and Burton Academy in Manchester, VT for her essay on *Every Last Word* by Tamara Ireland Stone -- and our New York winner — Sarah Lamodi for her essay on Lorraine Hansberry's *A Raisin in the Sun*.

Congratulations! ■





Saratoga Arts

Contributed by Rebecca Zeh, Saratoga Arts

At the Library...

On display at the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library is artwork by Saratoga Arts Member artists Nancy Keelan and Bob Blackmon. These exhibitions are on the second floor of the library and should not be missed!!

At the Gallery...

Our Annual **10x10** show will be on display in the Arts Center Gallery from **June 29th - September 7th**. This is our most popular show of the year! Participation in this exhibition is open to everybody -- new artists, veteran artists, young and old artists, artists who are showing their work for the first time and artists who have been showing their work for years.

All are invited to the opening reception of **10x10** on **Saturday, July 6th**, from 6-8pm. Meet the artists and

celebrate our most popular show of the year! Also enjoy refreshments and craft beer provided by Druthers Brewing Company. All Saratoga Arts reception events are **FREE AND OPEN TO ALL!!!**

Art in the Park...

Are you interested in applying to be an artist vendor at our Annual Art in the Park event? This year, our 21st annual Art in the Park will be held in Historic Congress Park in Downtown Saratoga Springs on **Saturday, September 21st** from 10am-4pm. This year we are also co-promoting the event with the Saratoga Native American Festival, which is also in Congress Park on **Sunday, September 22nd**. For more information about the Saratoga Native American Festival, visit saratoganativefestival.com. For the artist submission guidelines and application for Art in the Park, visit saratoga-arts.org. ■

GET SAFE FLOORS,
wet OR dry!

Don't risk dangerous and costly slip and fall accidents. Treatments are fast & cost effective, making prevention the easy choice.

SLIP STOPPERS

Call us at
518-221-3271
for a no obligation solution assessment

Like us on Facebook @SlipStoppers
Instagram @SlipStoppers518

www.SlipStoppers518.com

JAY'S
PRECISION POOL
SERVICE

518-312-6000
www.jaysprecisionpools.com
JAY GOETZ - OWNER

Call for a free on site evaluation of your swimming pool.

CLIFTON PARK Neighbors

0153

CERTIFIED INSTALLER



ALLEN
ROOFING
518.301.6727

**ASPHALT
METAL
SLATE
FLAT ROOF
ROOF REPAIRS**

GAF Certified
Weather Stopper Roofing Contractor

**Certified Installer
Preferred Contractor**

FULLY INSURED - FREE ESTIMATES

www.allen-roofing-albany.com  www.facebook/allenroofingsiding



TORO RELIABILITY AT ITS BEST...

TimeCutter® SS SERIES ZERO TURN MOWERS

- Powerful engines from Toro® and Kohler®
- 18" Extra-tall and premium seats for superior comfort
- Smart Speed® Control System for optimal performance
- 42" Cutting Width
TimeCutter SS4200 Model 74711 Shown

PRICES STARTING AT **\$2399***

ALL SEASONS EQUIPMENT INC.

"Buy Where Service Counts" (518) 372-5611
60 FREEMAN'S BRIDGE RD., SCOTIA

HOURS:
Mon.-Wed., Fri.: 8-6
Thurs.: 8-7
Saturday: 8-2
Closed Sunday

We **install** and **service** a full line of residential and commercial fence and gate operator systems and can **design** and **build** to meet almost any need and budget.



CALL US FOR YOUR **FREE Estimate!**



PRECISION GATE & FENCE, LLC.
518 384-4213
precisiongateandfence.com

