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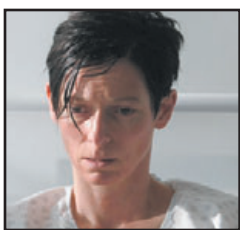
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## Study Examines Taxes, Drilling

By Eric Banford

The Tompkins County Council of Governments (TCCOG) was formed to improve communication among local governments, hoping to share knowledge and save money by tackling large issues together. Preparing municipalities for gas drilling has been a focused effort lately, and TCCOG's Assessment and Land Valuation Subcommittee recently released a white paper "urging New York State to refrain from issuing drilling permits until it can capture appropriate taxes and fees and allocate them to cover costs to all levels of government, based on sound policy and verifiable data."

"We looked at the system of taxation in New York," says Tompkins County Legislator Carol Chock, subcommittee chairwoman, "and came up with a few key principles. Taxpayers shouldn't be responsible for expenses or risks of the gas drilling industry. The entire system needs to be fair, equitable and accurate, and needs to cover local and state costs."

"The mere fact that a gas well's assessment is based on self-reported figures is mind-boggling to me," says Jay Franklin, director of

assessment at Tompkins County Department of Assessment. "I'm sure most people in the state would love to self-report their assessed value."

Franklin is concerned that the tax burden of drilling be shared fairly. "For my office, the most important factor is that

there is an open and transparent process to both monitor gas production but also to review the unit of production value (UPV) methodology. This was created in the late 1970s; the world is a much different place now, and all the input variables should be reviewed," he says.

"The fact that the base discount rate is set at 17.5 percent by law shows how inflexible this formula is, as it does not respond to market factors," says Franklin. "Loan rates were much higher in the 1970s, and this rate should be able to be adjusted to take into consideration factors such as that. This is necessary to ensure that the tax burden is distributed equitably across all properties."

According to Chock, there is an approved gas meter to measure production, but that is all that is in place. "There is no one who checks where the meter is installed, the accuracy of the meter, or the reported output numbers. It is all self-reported by the gas industry and affects everyone in three ways: It affects individual landowners who have leases, since royalty checks depend on accurate readings. Also, local property taxes are impacted. And if a severance tax is put in place, it is impacted there as well," she says.

Irene Weiser, a Caroline Town Board member, thinks that TCCOG's white paper makes important points. "The work that TCCOG has done points out that the state needs to ensure that gas drilling

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### Sweet



Photo by Kathy Morris

Trumansburg residents Peter and Sarah Fry had the winning bid on Julia Uticone's "old-fashioned cherry pie" during the Pie-O-Rama at the Trumansburg Conservatory of Fine Arts on March 11. The event, a fundraiser for the conservatory, was inspired in part by blacksmith Durand Van Doren's fanciful pie racks (in background). According to organizers, 19 pies—some still warm from the oven—were entered, and scores of attendees went through at least 600 tasting cups.

## Ithaca Biodiesel Builds Local Base

By Anne Marie Cummings

Ithaca Biodiesel Cooperative (IBC), a volunteer, cooperative-run organization, has launched its March membership and fundraising drive, an effort to increase membership, increase awareness of renewable energy and raise \$100,000 from the community. It is the organization's largest open-ended fundraising drive since it was established formed five years ago.

A turning point for IBC came in February 2011, with the death of Meghan Murphy, co-founder and president of the organization, and the sale of the property in Enfield where IBC's micro-refinery was located. Since then, six new members of the board and one founding member have come together to re-define IBC's mission, which is to meet all legal and industry standards in producing high-quality and affordable biodiesel, using waste vegetable oil, on a much greater scale for the community.

According to McKenzie Jones-Rounds, president of IBC, funds raised will help pay for a containment dike, large storage tanks, biodiesel processors, a canopy for vehicles and a fuel pump—the latter being what Jones-Rounds calls "a dream" for IBC. The bulk of the funds raised, however, will go toward obtaining a new location. Two sites are currently under consideration.



Photo by Anne Marie Cummings

Joe Fisher, James Jones-Rounds, Brian Buchman and McKenzie Jones-Rounds at the launch of Ithaca Biodiesel Cooperative's membership and fundraising drive on March 11 at The Space at GreenStar.

The first location is vacant building, once a bookstore, along South Elmira Road. The second is land in Dryden. "Both locations have attractive qualities, but one would require building from the ground up," Jones-Rounds says. "Fortunately, we have received support from the Ithaca Town Board for the existing building along South Elmira Road, yet, since October 2011, we've had to explain what we are doing and assure them that the work we do is clean and

extremely safe."

James Jones-Rounds, a board member of IBC and McKenzie's husband, adds, "We haven't finalized our plans as to whether we'll rent or own. That will be determined in the next few months based on the amount of funds raised, as well as negotiations with property owners. Regardless, both options would require around \$100,000, or more."

For the previous five years, IBC

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# T-burg Market Under New Management

By Sue Henninger

Avi Miner knows the Trumansburg Farmer's Market inside out. As a high school student, he worked at the consignment stand that Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) operates there. After graduating from Oberlin College, he returned to manage the market's youth program, and this year he'll serve as the market's manager.

Miner's new duties include making sure the daily operations run smoothly and acting as the point person who handles questions from the vendors, the community and market customers. He's excited to see his career grow along with the popular, open-air village market.

"I've seen the farmer's market grow from four vendors hidden under the willows to one of the fastest-growing markets in the small towns surrounding Ithaca," he says. He attributes the market's success to strong community support, observing that the pavilions built by local volunteers indicate how important it is for residents to have easy access to fresh local produce and products.

Miner plans to spend most of his first year on the job learning how the various components of the market work. One of his goals is "making sure we stay the course and solidify our identity as a strong, small-town market."

In addition to having a new manager, the Trumansburg market will be guided by a nine-member board of directors that will include community members and market vendors. Q. Cassetti, described by Miner as "an enormously talented



Avi Miner, the new market manager for the Trumansburg Farmer's Market, looks forward to opening day on June 6.

graphic designer who knows publicity inside out," is leading the board.

The group's focus is on promoting local farmers and the foods they produce through a variety of means, including a Facebook page, updating the farmer's market website to make it more accessible and by distributing rack cards in key locations around the community. The new board wants the Trumansburg Farmer's Market to embrace the community and is developing ways to make it easier for people to use food stamps at the market.

Cassetti, who owns the graphic design company Lucky Stone Partners, is doing some pro bono branding work for small agricultural businesses in the vicinity to help them define "how our area

looks and feels."

The new board and manager also plan to increase the promotion of special events at the market. Miner says their hope is to get even more locals and tourists to come to the market to shop or eat by advertising the musicians who are performing each Wednesday. They also plan to have a table at the market where members will distribute information, talk to the public and sell reusable produce bags.

Cassetti credits the previous market manager and board of directors with doing a "tremendous job" of positioning the Trumansburg Farmer's Market for the next steps toward expanding its current offerings. A pilot Saturday market this season is planned, as is a holiday market to be held during the annual Trumansburg Winter

Festival. Members are also interested in using the market's space more creatively, by tying it in with other established community activities and increasing opportunities for youth there.

"I'd like to see more utilization of the green space that isn't occupied by the vendors—something that would enhance the space and visitors' experience there," Miner says, suggesting that one good use for the space might be lawn games.

Official sponsorship of the market by the Village of Trumansburg, since 2007, helps provide a good foundation. Miner says the village is a "rock solid" sponsor because they "aren't going anywhere soon," and he's found the office staff to be very supportive, helping with tasks like copying fliers and supplying information on the market.

Monika Roth, issue leader and agriculture educator at Cornell Cooperative Extension, agrees. "Many small markets do not have this luxury of both strong official and community leadership."

Naturally, the vendors serve as the base for a successful farmer's market. Weekly offerings at the Trumansburg stands include organic, pasture-raised, grass-fed meats, produce, herbs, fruits, dairy and eggs, flowers, and value-added/ornamental products like honey and bread. And there are always supper vendors for those who don't feel like cooking and craft vendors for anyone who wants to do some shopping.

The farmer's market opens for the season on June 6 with about 32 vendors. It's held every Wednesday from 4 to 7 p.m. in the village park.

Photo by Sue Henninger



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# Court Decisions on Home Rule Reviewed

By Patricia Brhel

At the meeting of Residents Opposed to Unsafe Shale-gas Extraction (ROUSE) on March 7 in the Brooktondale Community Center, Helen Slottje, an attorney and member of the Community Environmental Defense Council, discussed the recent victories for those opposed to hydraulic fracking.

The two recent lawsuits that were decided in favor of municipalities both hinged on one issue: Does a town have the legal authority to pass a law prohibiting gas drilling? Slottje said, "In both the Middlefield and the Dryden lawsuits, it was decided that every town in New York State does indeed have such land use authority. New York State Law ECC&23-0303(2) is clear. It states: 'The provision of this article shall supersede all local laws or ordinances relating to the regulation of the oil, gas and solution mining industries but shall not supersede local government jurisdiction over roads or the rights of local governments under the real property tax laws.'"

She went on to explain, "A judge must make his decision based on three things: a reading of the actual law, a look at legislative history and a look at previous court decisions. In the Dryden case, which was decided on Feb. 12, the judge said, 'Nowhere in legislative history is there any suggestion that the legislature intended—as was argued by Anschutz—to preempt local zoning authority.' And the court added, 'The gas mining statute does not prevent a municipi-

ality's authority, through the exercise of its zoning power, to completely ban operations related to the oil and gas production within its borders.'"

In the Middlefield case, which was decided on Feb. 24, the judge there said, "Neither the plain reading of the statutory language nor legislative history would lead this court to conclude that the phrase 'This article shall supersede all local laws relating to the regulation of the oil, gas and solution mining industries' was intended to abrogate the constitutional and statutory authority vested in local municipalities to limit regulation affecting land use." Slottje also addressed the issue of whether a town without formal zoning could pass a ban. "Zoning is a way of dividing up a town so that a law can be passed pertaining only to one portion of a town. A town without zoning must pass a law which is relevant to the entire town. They don't give up their ability to ban an activity because they are without zoning. They just can't make a law specific to only one portion of their town," she said.

She discussed the difference between regulation and banning an activity. "Local governments don't have the ability to regulate the industry. Regulation would be telling a drilling company how deep to drill, what kind of concrete to use, what kind of drill bit to use. Those things might be covered by the EPA or by industry regulations, but town boards don't typically have the expertise to address such issues. What a town board can do is to decide whether or not an activity,

whether it's nude dancing or pig farming, can take place in their town." She continued, "The only thing that would supercede a local law regarding where something could take place is if there is already a regulation like Article 10 and an agency, like the power plant site agency, in place."

With her long experience in this field of law, Slottje discussed previous case law as easily as most people rattle off the names of their relatives: "In the case of Gernatt Asphalt Products, the court said, 'In order to determine whether a local law is preempted, it is necessary to distinguish between ordinances that regulate property use and ordinances that regulate mining activities.' As far as the companies being allowed to claim economic harm in Briarcliff Associates, Inc. v. Town of Cortland and as quoted in Penn Central Transportation Co. v. City of New York, the United States Supreme Court said, 'The submission that a property owner may establish a taking simply by showing that they

have been denied the ability to exploit a property interest that heretofore they'd believed was available to development is quite simply untenable.'"

Slottje explained that any government has a right to limit activity to protect the health and safety of its citizens. It is this right that the courts have considered most important and the reason that the anti-fracking people have won their cases and can expect to continue to win. "The general welfare of the public," she continues, "is more important than the desire of any individual to make money. In Gernatt Asphalt Products and other cases, it's the rights of society to be safe and to prevent damage to public health and safety that is most important," she said.

"While the law is clear, it is still a long fight before industry abandons what they hope will be a profitable venture," Slottje opined. "It will take a lot of people working together and a lot of like-minded lawyers to protect our water, our air, our land and our way of life."

## ICSD Unveils Budget Proposal

At the regular discussion and voting meeting of the board of education, on March 13, Ithaca City School District Superintendent Luvelle Brown presented a budget proposal for the 2012-2013 school year. The total proposed budget is \$107,812,513.

The tax levy limit as determined by New York State calculations for 2012-13 is 3.11 percent. The budget proposed by Brown assumes only a 2.4 percent increase. The remaining unused balance of .71 percent may be used in future years, irrespective of state limits.

In planning for 2012-2013, the district was tasked with balancing a \$1,398,762 decrease in federal jobs money and a \$1,187,205 increase in debt service costs for capital projects. To offset these costs, the district is using savings achieved through controlling hiring by scrutinizing positions, based on need, as they become vacant.

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# Briefly...

## Shinagawa Enters Race for Congress

Tompkins County Legislator and hospital administrator Nate Shinagawa has announced that he is running to be the Democratic candidate for the proposed 23rd Congressional District in New York.

Shinagawa is the Vice-Chair of the Tompkins County Legislature. He serves on the board of the Tompkins County Industrial Development Agency and Community Development Corporation. He has also served on the boards of the Ithaca Tompkins Regional Airport, Lifelong Senior Center, Greater Ithaca Activities Center and the Finger Lakes International Dragonboat Festival. He holds both a bachelor's degree and master's degree in Health Administration from Cornell University. He resides in Ithaca and has lived in the community for ten years.

The proposed 23rd Congressional district includes all of Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Chemung, Schuyler, Steuben, Tompkins and Yates counties and part of Ontario and Tioga counties.

## City Begins Street Cleaning Operations

On Monday, March 19, the Department of Public Works will begin street cleaning operations. This work will move throughout the city during the next five weeks.

Residents who park on the street should watch for street signs and check on their cars daily from March 19 to April 20. If you will be away during this time, please make other parking arrangements for your vehicle. People in need of long term parking arrangements can call the City Chamberlain's Office at 274-6580 to inquire about the availability of long-term parking permits in the parking garages or find information at [www.cityofithaca.org/departments/chamberlain/index.cfm#LTP](http://www.cityofithaca.org/departments/chamberlain/index.cfm#LTP).

The full schedule of the street cleaning program can be found on the city's website: [www.cityofithaca.org](http://www.cityofithaca.org).

## Spring Softball & Baseball Signups

Dryden Kiwanis will be having it's annual, in person, sign ups for Spring Youth Softball and Baseball at the TC3 Field House on the following date: Thursday, March 22, 2012 from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm. Practices are to start in early April. Games will start April 30. Applications can be mailed till March 30, 2012. Please visit [www.drydenkiwanisonline.com](http://www.drydenkiwanisonline.com) for additional information.

## IHS to hold Spring Sports Conference

The Ithaca City School District will hold a spring sports conference in the Ithaca High School gym on Thursday, March, 22 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. The conference will include opening comments from Superintendent Luvelle Brown, a presentation by athletic trainer and strength conditioning coach Tim Koba and a tour of the school's new fitness center.

Following the tour visitors may meet with junior varsity and varsity spring sports coaches. This event is free and open to the public.

## 2-1-1 Extends Service to Cortland

Cortland County residents will soon have access to 2-1-1 free and confidential help-line services in their communities through a partnership of 2-1-1 Tompkins, a program of the Human Services Coalition of Tompkins County, and Cortland's Seven Valleys Health Coalition. The projected start-up for answering 2-1-1 service requests from Cortland County is mid-2012.

The initial focus is to incorporate a Cortland County community services database with the current one for Tompkins County. Beyond database development, 2-1-1 Tompkins staff will work with service providers in Cortland County to share outreach and marketing strategies.

2-1-1 services will initially be available in Cortland County Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Cortland County residents will dial the same phone numbers as Tompkins County residents: 2-1-1 or 1-877-211-8667 to connect with a help-line community services specialist.

## SewGreen Seeks Donations

SewGreen is seeking donations of unwanted sewing fabric, yarn, needlecraft and knitting supplies, and working sewing machines. Donations, which must be clean and usable, may be dropped off at the SewGreen resale store at 112 N. Cayuga St. in downtown Ithaca from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Donors are asked to follow the donation guidelines, available in the store and online at [www.sewgreen.org](http://www.sewgreen.org). Inappropriate materials cannot be accepted.

SewGreen is a not-for-profit community organization founded in 2007 as a way to save unwanted sewing materials from going to the landfill, and to teach sewing as a self-reliant skill. The original mission has grown to also include youth development, job training, and consumer education. For more information contact Wendy Skinner at [coord@sewgreen.org](mailto:coord@sewgreen.org) or 319-4106.

## Community Role Players Needed

The Community Role Players of Suicide Prevention and Crisis Service (SPCS) will hold a free acting workshop and introduction to interactive theater on Saturday, March 31, from 1 to 5 p.m. at SPCS, 124 E. Court St. in downtown Ithaca.

Teens, adults and seniors are all welcome to learn improvisation and character building techniques needed for role playing, a powerful theater tradition that addresses social and interpersonal issues with lively audience interaction. No previous acting experience is necessary.

Role playing or interactive theater is a form of community theater that addresses social and interpersonal issues. Actors enjoy learning the short improvised scenarios that are easy to learn, followed by the challenge of staying in character as they turn to the audience for help. Players attend one or two rehearsals followed by one or two performances, representing much short time commitments compared to traditional theater.

Those who complete the workshop and observe a presentation by the Community Role Players will become members of the troupe. Contact Lee-Ellen Marvin, director of interactive theater, to register and get more information at 272-1505 or [education@ithacacrisis.org](mailto:education@ithacacrisis.org).



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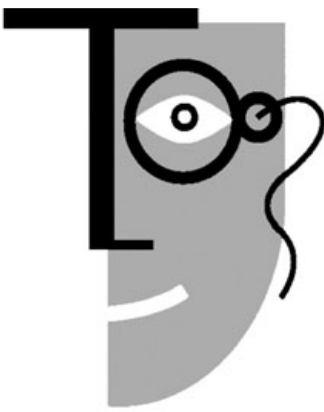
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# Families Tackle Wind Turbine Challenge

By Sue Smith-Heavenrich

Cornell's "Exploration Station" was packed to the walls on Saturday, March 10. That marked the kick-off for a month-long "Catch the Breeze" wind turbine design contest, and 125 children and their parents showed up to get advice, grab a snack and test out their ideas.

"That was far more than we expected," says Erin Marteau, executive director of Ithaca Children's Garden, of the turnout. And while she had to scrounge for extra turbine hubs (rubber balls) halfway through the introductory workshop, Marteau is gratified that so many people showed an interest in wind energy.

You don't need a machine shop to turn out parts for a working turbine; cereal boxes, plastic cake covers and slats from old venetian blinds will work. Making something that turns in a breeze is only part of the challenge, Erik Herman tells the young designers, "But your turbines will have to do work. The test will be how fast they can lift a weight."

Herman, education and outreach coordinator for the Cornell Laboratory for Accelerator-based Sciences and Education (CLASSE) holds up a rubber ball and wooden skewer. These are the essential components to a working turbine: a hub and axle. The advantage of a rubber-ball hub is that you don't have to bolt turbine blades onto it; you can poke bamboo skewers into the ball and tape or glue blades to them. Another advantage is that it's easy to move blades closer together or farther apart.

Herman reminds families that turbines aren't built in a day. "Designing and creating prototypes is an iterative process," he says. "You design it, then you try it, then you go back and do it again."

Within a half-hour, the first turbines are ready for a wind test. The testing equipment is just as low-tech and recycled as the building materials—a coatrack and a fan. Herman slides the turbine axle into a straw, so it moves freely, mounts it on the testing device and then tapes a length of white ribbon to the end

of the axle. He ties a washer to the ribbon and then has the young "design engineer" test her turbine using a fan.

The blades turn, faltered, then catch the breeze, turning the axle and winding the ribbon. "Oops!" says Herman when the ribbon falls off the end of the axle, dropping the weight. "We need to figure out how to fix that."

Testing and heading back to the drawing board seems to be the theme of the day for many families. Eight-year-old Carys Banford spends a long time working out how to attach venetian blind slats to her hub. She thought the curved slats would catch the wind. "But they're too flat," she says. "I need to figure out how to angle them."

Ten-year old Molly Rider cuts four blades from boxes and tapes them to wooden skewers that she poked into the hub. She tests blade angles and finds one that works well. But later, when she gives her turbine a "run test" around the parking lot, a blade falls out. Her dad jokingly refers to it as a structure malfunction, to which Molly replies, "I think I'll hot-glue them into the hub."

Town of Enfield councilperson Ann Rider (no relation to Molly) recruited half-a-dozen third-, fourth- and fifth-grade students to attend the turbine design event. "We have a heightened interest in wind power," she says, noting that within three years her town will be home to an operating wind farm.

"When I heard about this challenge, I felt that our community needed to be involved," Rider says. She plans to host turbine design sessions in Enfield, and hopes to get more families involved. And, if she can work out the details, maybe score a field trip to the future wind farm. Meanwhile, she and her team have a few kinks to work out before their turbine is ready to haul weight.

The wind turbine challenge is a collaboration between the Ithaca Children's Garden and CLASSE's outreach program, Xraise. Lora Hine, director of educational programs at CLASSE, says the idea came to her one day while she was weeding the Children's Garden.

## March Means Maple Syrup at Cayuga Nature Center

While Mother Nature contemplates spring, the Cayuga Nature Center is preparing for its annual Maple Festival March 24 and 25.

Taste the sweetness of maple on pancakes from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with an all-you-can-eat breakfast including local sausage and apple crisp. Live music from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. as well as

crafts and games for kids, animal programs, maple syrup demonstrations, a self-guided hike along the Sugarbush Trail, and various local vendors will keep you entertained while you digest

Admission is \$12 for adults, \$7 for children (ages three to 12), and free for children two years

old and under. Proceeds benefit the Nature Center's mission and programming. The Nature Center's Maple Festival is part of the New York State Maple Producers Weekend.

The music lineup features Kenny T. & Wildfire, Technicolor Trailer Park, Mutsu, Drew Minson and Ironwood.



Photo by Sue Heavenrich

Nathan Burkett tests how well the hub spins before putting on the blades.

"It occurred to me that a wind turbine would really accent the garden," she says. Hine and Erik Herman had been working on a simple wind turbine design that would power a small radio. "We'd planned to build and distribute some of these wind turbines throughout the community in an effort to promote renewable energy, sustainability and innovative thinking, and to promote the Xraise program," Hine explains.

When Hine mentioned her idea to Erin Marteau at the garden, Marteau immediately saw ways that a turbine could enhance the garden's community education program. So late last summer, Hine, Marteau and others erected a wind turbine and installed educational signs in the garden for visitors to see and hear:

"The wind turbine has experienced a few bumps in the road," Hine admits. It seems that high wind speeds usually result in failure. As a result, she and Herman will continue to modify and refine elements of their turbine throughout this spring—a perfect opportunity for families to see that even the so-called experts have to head back

to the drawing board sometimes.

And it's not just the turbine design that's got Herman perplexed. He and Hine are still figuring out how to fairly test the turbines for the Earth Day Catch the Breeze competition. They need a steady wind source, so that means fans. But whether they run a long extension cord to an outlet or power the fans with a solar or bike-powered generator has yet to be decided.

On the day of the competition judges will be looking at how fast a turbine can pull a weight up a given distance. "But how much weight can these turbines lift?" Herman asks. "That's one of the things we'll find out."

Turbine judging will take place on Earth Day, April 22 at 1 p.m. in the Ithaca Children's Garden. Families may pick up "regulation" hubs and axles at Cornell Cooperative Extension, 605 Willow Ave. (ask at front desk). The contest winners will be announced on May 12 at the Ithaca Children's Garden Spring Open House (1 p.m.) and turbines will be displayed in the garden. For more information contact the children's garden at 272-2292.

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# Penance Is Paid, a Quarter at a Time

## County Seat

By M. Tye Wolfe

I have not been a practicing Christian since I was a teenager, but after 20 years of trying to make spiritual sense of the universe for myself, it is curious that one day feted by the Old Religion—not Christmas, nor Easter—has continued to engender a sense of piety: Mardi Gras.

I’ve never been to New Orleans, but I feel educated, having seen “Easy Rider” and late-night advertisements for the salacious “Girls Gone Wild” videos. But in this corner of Caroline my three neighbors and I have, by consensus, spent time eating pancakes and doughnuts on the day before Lent. Nobody is really a drinker or frequents easy company, so it’s difficult to feel like it’s our night of Babylon before we attempt to find redemption in Jerusalem.

This young “tradition,” now in its second year, began when, almost as an aside, I gave a half-hearted “Happy Mardi Gras” to my neighbors. Their young son said, “Mardi Gras, what’s that?” His mother responded, more or less, “It’s a French term that means Fat Tuesday. People celebrate it by ... indulging in things they usually forswear.

“Then let’s have pancakes!” he responded, naturally.

His mother and I both learned, to

our astonishment, that pancakes, not booze and lasciviousness, are the true staples of Mardi Gras. It seemed imperative that we follow the boy’s intuitive clue. (Pancakes were a way to consume all the remaining fat stored in the pantry for the winter. Mardi Gras translates better from French as “Fat of Tuesday.”)

Of course, people can only celebrate Mardi Gras with true decadence if they plan on giving up a potentially bad habit for the following six weeks or more. Christians around the world are obliged to spend at least 40 days forswearing cigarettes, beer, wine, opium, sweets or extramarital affairs.

The one thing I thought I could improve on was my language—for my own good as much as for those who must hear (or read) what I say. In fact, I declared that I would pay a quarter to charity for every violation. My neighbors, including my friend’s young son, agreed, and we have our respective “swear jars.”

My friend shook her head at first. “Have you been listening to yourself? You’re going to owe a lot of money!” I hadn’t been listening to myself. That was the problem.

Before I come across as an uppity, Goody Two-shoes, let me say that

last year I had to reduce the amount paid to 10 cents after just a few days. I literally would have starved paying two bits for every slip.

This process does not mean abnegation of all, or even any, so-called four-letter words. However, using them out of context or even with euphemistically malicious intent (such as “Darn it”) would generate 25 cents for, say, Loaves and Fishes. The intent behind the impulse to say “Darn it” has nothing to do with textiles—it has to do with damning a person or thing to hell!

I don’t believe in a fiery place full of sadistic demons with pitchforks, but there is plenty of hellish consciousness on earth itself; not just in Somalia, where plenty of people manage to find happiness. Right here in Tompkins County, many souls feel utterly forsaken and despondent, a hellish place indeed. No one and nothing belong there.

Etymologically, the word “hell” means “the hidden place” and is related to words such as helmet, hull and occult. So, trust me, if you’re looking for something in vain and get frustrated, don’t say “Damn it.” Due to your own instruction, you will never find it.

However, “damn” (related to damage and condemn) is not ver-

boten all the time; it would be hard to write about if it was. When I had a clique of friends from Brooklyn, I heard the term “Damn straight!”—a term of affirmation and solidarity. It seems to enfeeble any fire and brimstone connotations within the word. Feel free to disagree.

Students once asked what constitutes a swear word. After a little bit of thinking, I came up with the following theory: There are basically three types of swear words, covering three subjects about which human beings are insecure or overly zealous: words concerning bodily functions, ethnicity and religion.

In my heart of hearts, I don’t think there is anything obscene about the human body or its functions, but any number of words referring to these don’t belong in a family newspaper. I think they all, including the biggest, scariest four-letter word of them all, have a time and place. Abuse of the f-word is particularly harmful because it has at least one authentic use involving a sacred act between two (or, I guess, more) human beings, an act that is nevertheless the source of shame and fear for many. We don’t need to exacerbate the misbegotten feelings toward this act, or this word. Each time I do, may it cost me the modest fee of 25 cents.

At least until April.

*M. Tye Wolfe is a columnist for Tompkins Weekly.*

### Vote New Heights Party

As a supporter of the Deer Population Management Program in the Village of Cayuga Heights, I am very troubled at the efforts to stonewall what is a well-reasoned, scientific approach to address a serious environmental and public health problem.

As a frequent attendee at Village meetings, I have great admiration for the members of the current Board of Trustees and the Mayor for their patience, intelligence, and empathy when continually being bombarded with questions from a hostile audience many of whom do not live in Cayuga Heights. I have often wondered why in the face of climate change, war, and a major economic downturn this issue has

become the primary focus for so many intelligent people.

With our recent mild winter the deer population has thrived and will become even more numerous living in the substantial feeding fields of Cayuga Heights unless this plan finally moves forward after 13 years of deliberation. I encourage all voters in Cayuga Heights to vote for the New Heights Party to ensure that the plan is implemented.

Barbara B. Eden  
Ithaca

### TCAT, Village Cooperate

The Village of Cayuga Heights

## Letters

administration has done a reasonable job facilitating alternative transportation (e.g., TCAT bus routes, pedestrian and bicycle traffic) in an active community.

That is my assessment, as a long-term member of the TCAT Riders Advisory Group. That also is the sense from TCAT riders who get on and off and pass through the Village on the way to school, work, shopping, recreation, meetings and medical appointments.

Keeping peace — between Village residents who think there are too many buses, and residents who are happy to have safe, convenient bus stops near their homes and destinations—has not been easy. The

Village’s current administration opened a dialogue with TCAT officials, expressing the concerns of some residents that Route 30 imperiled the elementary school. Alternative routings were considered, compromises were reached, improvements were made, and the dialog continues.

Routes operated through Cayuga Heights by TCAT (a national-award-winning system) keep cars off the streets. The Village returned the favor by installing safer bus stops and more visible pedestrian crossings. The ongoing planning process should highlight access to all transportation options—for all—no matter how we get around.

H. Roger Segelken  
Cayuga Heights

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<i>Managing Editor</i>	Jay Wrolstad
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<i>Advertising</i>	Jim Graney, Adrienne Zornow, Hank Colón
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<i>Cover Design</i>	Kolleen Shallcross

*Contributors:*  
*Nick Babel, Eric Banford, Patricia Brhel, Anne Marie Cummings, Sue Henninger, Nicholas Nicaastro, Rebecca Potter, Sue Smith-Heavenrich, M. Tye Wolfe*

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# Health Dept. Reports Increase in Pertussis

Pertussis, or whooping cough, is a highly contagious disease involving the respiratory tract. It is caused by a bacterium that is found in the mouth, nose and throat of an infected person. Pertussis can affect anyone at any age but it is particularly harmful to children and infants who are too young to be vaccinated.

The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) reports an increase in pertussis activity around the state, and Tompkins County is no exception. In 2011, there were 13 cases of pertussis in the county. In 2012, to date there are nine cases. Pertussis is cyclical in nature. In 2009 and 2010 there were a total of three cases; 25 in 2008; five in 2007 and 38 in 2006.

Karen Bishop, Supervising Community Health Nurse at the Tompkins County Health Department, warns that complications from pertussis may include pneumonia, middle ear infection, loss of appetite, dehydration, seizures, and episodes of brief cessation of breathing. Infants are particularly at risk from older siblings, parents, or caregivers who may be harboring the bacteria.

The incubation period is usually five to 10 days but may be as long as 21 days, she said. Three infants in New York State died of pertussis complications in 2011.

Bishop noted that pertussis begins with mild cold symptoms including sneezing, runny nose, low-grade fever and a mild cough. Within two weeks, the cough becomes more severe and is characterized by episodes of numerous rapid coughs followed by a high-pitched “whoop.” Coughing episodes may persist for two to three months and are more frequent at night.

“Because pertussis is a bacterial infection, it can be treated with antibiotics,” Bishop said. She urges anyone who may have these symptoms to call their physician immediately. The health department has kept local physicians apprised of pertussis incidence in the County, she added.

Pertussis is spread person to person through close contact with respiratory droplets when an infected person coughs or sneezes. “If people are exposed in this way and develop symptoms,” Bishop said, “they should stay home from work, school and social gatherings to avoid exposing friends and extended family, until they are medically evaluated and treated.”

The single most effective way of preventing pertussis is maintaining the highest level of immunization in the community. Children ages two months to six years should receive all age appropriate doses of DTaP vaccine which includes a booster dose between the ages of four and six years. Children seven years of age and older, adolescents, and adults should receive a different pertussis containing vaccine—Tdap—a one time dose that will ensure ongoing protection.

Tdap and DTaP vaccines are available at local health care provider offices or at the Tompkins County Health Department. Call 274-6616 for an appointment.

Basic respiratory hygiene, including hand washing and covering coughs and sneezes and antibiotic treatment for those diagnosed with pertussis, are crucial in controlling the spread of pertussis in the community.

For more information go to [www.tompkins-co.org/health](http://www.tompkins-co.org/health).

# Street Beat

The word on the street from around Tompkins county.

By Kathy Morris

Question: How many times did you shovel snow this winter?



“Twice, tragically, because I invested in cross-country ski gear this year and never got a chance to use it.”

- Simon Rolston, Ithaca



“Three or four times. It was just something to do for winter exercise..”

- Ron Wolverton, Anne Carignani, Ithaca



“Is winter over?”

- Jenny Wang, Lansing



“About 150 times—at work at TC3 and at home in New York City”

- Terrell Haw, Dryden

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# Storytellers Take the Spotlight at Lot 10

By Rebecca Potter

“Can’t it wait ‘till the next period!” the preteen’s father yelled during an all-important hockey game. Later, receiving her news, the father immediately “turned off the television, made milkshakes and tried to impart what it meant to be a woman.”

This was the climax of the story told by Katie Foley that won the night at the first of a monthly storytelling series, “Trampoline Thursdays,” hosted by Lot 10 on Cayuga Street. The inaugural theme: “In the beginning.”

Raunchy, silly, wandering and poignant, the storytelling was nothing short of Chaucerian. Anticipation built upon opening the black door to Lot 10’s lounge and finding that the trail of people entering would be filmed as they ascended the stairs to pay the small fee for delights unknown.

Every couch and stool soon filled; more chairs were brought in and filled as well with an audience ranging from collegiate to mature, enjoying drinks ranging from PBR to gin and tonic. After the initial concern that attends a first-time event, in this case, “Will enough people want to tell stories?” the dance card was neatly filled with 10 raconteurs, and Bob Proehl of Buffalo Street Books ushered them all through with efficiency, effervescence and kindness.

Amelia Sauter, billed as the featured storyteller of the night, wore jeans and deep red maryjanes. With curly black hair with a swath of blond, she was a natural comic as she undulated across the stage demonstrating the movement of a man vacuuming, sweeping and mopping in the nude. Sauter garnered laughs when she tied her story together with a friend’s claim that after the aforementioned treat-

ment, as well as other vigorous nude male cleaning, her floors were “clean enough to eat off of.”

Community Arts Partnership’s Brett Bossard took the stage to tell the tale of “Why I hate Ricky Shroder,” recalling his third-grade heartbreak afterf being passed a note that said, “I don’t want to go out with you anymore. I like Ricky Shroder now.” The audience guffawed as Bossard alleged that “seven years passed before [he] touched a woman again, blaming it all hilariously on ‘Silver Spoon’ child star Shroder.

A house favorite was a story told by Lot 10 chef Dan Kylie, repeatable parts of which are that the German middle schooler who Kylie once wrestled was at that moment probably telling a story about him, describing him as looking like “five blood sausages sewn together.” Kylie had found his opponent somewhat more intimidating than a

blood sausage, and the story was riotous.

Justin McGuire, one of the Lot 10 owners enjoyed the evening. “Part of our business plan was to do out-of-the-box literary events,” he says.

Among those in the audience was Mimi Baveye, who says, “It was a really cool event, nothing else like it! There were a lot of people there considering it was the first one. It was great that there were so many people of different ages.”

Colleen Anunu, who also attended the event, adds, It was really surprising that there are a lot of people you see around town who are such good storytellers.”

The event will repeat next on April 12 with the theme “The X Files,” (stories about exes), and a culminating storytelling competition will be held in October. More information is available on Facebook at Trampoline, Ithaca.

# Environmental Film Festival Marks 15th Year

Beginning Sunday, March 25, and running through Sunday, April 1, the 15th annual Finger Lakes Environmental Film Festival (FLEFF) at Ithaca College will offer a week of forums, music, films and multimedia events aimed at rethinking and recreating our roles in our communities and world.

Sponsored by the Office of the Provost, FLEFF 2012 will take place on the Ithaca College campus and Cinemapolis cinema downtown.

“FLEFF continues to use sustainability to encourage interdisciplinary

and international ways of thinking about the challenges before us whether in the personal, economic or aesthetic realm,” said Tanya Sanders, assistant provost of international studies and special projects, in a statement. “Through film, video, new media, installation, performance, panels and presentations, the festival engages interdisciplinary dialogue and vigorous debate. It links the local with the global, and it showcases Ithaca College as a regional and national center for thinking differently — in

new ways, interfaces, and forms — about the environment and sustainability.”

The theme of this year’s festival is, “Microtopias.” “Micro” means small; “utopia” identifies imagined, cooperative systems of harmony. FLEFF 2012 will explore how cooperative systems such as the Oneida Colony and the Chautauqua movement have inspired ways to improve their surrounding environments.

Most of the events will take place on campus and are free and open to

the public. In addition, there will be film screenings and workshops at Cinemapolis in downtown Ithaca that will require admission fees. Many of the downtown screenings will feature visiting filmmakers and guests.

A complete list of topics, featured guests and events is available at [www.ithaca.edu/fleff](http://www.ithaca.edu/fleff). For more information contact faculty codirectors Patricia Zimmermann at 274-3431 or [patty@ithaca.edu](mailto:patty@ithaca.edu), or Tom Shevory at 274-1347 or [shevory@ithaca.edu](mailto:shevory@ithaca.edu).



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# Deep in the Parent Trap

By Nicholas Nicastro

★ ★ ★ *We Need to Talk About Kevin.* Written by Lynne Ramsay and Rory Kinnear, based on a novel by Lionel Shriver. Directed by Lynne Ramsay. At Cinemapolis starting March 23.

According to recent studies, 20 percent of American women don't start planning their pregnancies until after the age of 35. Instances of male infertility are likewise up because more potential fathers are putting off the big plunge. The delay is usually blamed on the demands of career or education. But all that seems more like a symptom than a cause, the consequence of a larger shift in priorities toward personal fulfillment—the notion that one needs to perfect oneself before venturing to procreate. At its crudest, it's wrapped up in anxieties about the expense and bother of parenthood, because once you have a kid, your life is basically over, right?

Whatever its other virtues and weaknesses, Lynne Ramsay's domestic horror *We Need to Talk About Kevin* trades skillfully in these anxieties. It's the story of Eva (Tilda Swinton), a woman we first meet in a maelstrom of guilt and despair after some undisclosed tragedy. Through deftly arranged flashbacks, the script by Ramsay and Rory Kinnear fills out the story of Eva's relationship with Kevin (played as a teen by Ezra Miller), the son who seems to have taken root in Eva's womb with the sole purpose of making a hell of her life. As an infant, Kevin is so colicky that Eva seeks out jackhammers to drown out his crying; in toddlerhood he's so unresponsive she fears he's autistic—until he opts to respond only with spite and viciousness. Dad (John C. Reilly) doesn't get it, of course, because Kevin is a perfect angel around him. As the terrible twos give way to even more terrible 'tweens and teens, Kevin's machinations against his poor mum become ever more sadistic, culminating in a final act of senseless violence that leaves Eva alone and reviled by everyone around her.

No doubt, *Kevin* is chilling. Ramsay (in *Morvern Callar*), a British director adapting an American novel with a British actress playing an American mother, builds to a steady crescendo of dread with her camera often no more than a foot or two (and sometimes a few inches) from the face of pure evil. Much like Adrian Lyne in *Fatal Attraction* a generation ago, Ramsay tells what is by nature an implausible story—a worst-case scenario in the course of human events—with such skill that its remoteness from actual human behavior is never an issue. Or hardly ever, except when she indulges a few sledgehammer visual meta-phors, such as the blood-red paint splashed on Eva's front door she struggles to strip off (“Out, out, damn'd spot!”).

Ramsay's most consequential choice lay in casting the cool, humorless Swinton in a role that could have gone in nearly an infinity of directions. Alternatives like Ashley Judd or Vera Farmiga, for

instance, would have been similarly intelligent, authentically American and more obviously sympathetic. But Ramsay doesn't want Eva to be automatically sympathetic. Kevin, after all, is a reflection of *her*, of her dread at the prospect of compromising her life. As Ramsay clearly shows, Eva is dejected by Kevin's arrival virtually as soon as she leaves the delivery room, long before he can do much more than burble and suck. Swinton is not so much a mother here as the Thin White Duke, a figure so otherworldly and androgynous as to be beyond the need for mere mortal reproduction. And indeed, it's one of *Kevin's* ironic pleasures that Miller plays Kevin with more feminine silkiness, more bewitching bitchiness than Swinton ever could if their roles were reversed.

There were many times in this film when I wanted to yell at the screen, to tell Eva to show some wit, some trace of creativity in dealing with Kevin and his deliberately soiled underpants. To adapt a phrase, it takes a heart of



Photo provided

Not pleased to meet you in *We Need to Talk About Kevin*.

stone not to laugh at a child's self-defeating spite. But, of course, I was missing the point: Eva is a modern martyr on the cross of procreation, and it isn't in the nature of a martyr to relieve her burden with clever tricks. Her part is only to suffer.

Follow Nicholas Nicastro on

Facebook at “Books by Nicholas Nicastro.”

Movie Ratings	
★ ★ ★ ★ ★	Classic
★ ★ ★ ★	Excellent
★ ★ ★	Good
★ ★	Fair
★	Poor

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# BusinessWeekly

## the bridge between workplace and workforce

# Gear Exchange Shop Opens its Doors

By Nick Babel

Downtown Ithaca welcomed a new sustainable enterprise to the area last week with the opening of the Old Goat Gear Exchange. Located one block from the Commons at 320 E. State St., next to Mayer's, Old Goat provides quality new and used outdoor gear using the buy/sell/trade model.

The store is seeking spring and summer gear, including hiking, biking, camping and paddling equipment and clothing. The Old Goat will be accepting consignments of big-ticket items like kayaks, canoes and bikes. A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on Friday with Ithaca Mayor Svante Myrick, Downtown Ithaca Alliance (DIA) Executive Director Gary Ferguson, and Old Goat's proprietor Steve Gelb.

Before this new business moved in, the building was occupied by a high-end interior design studio,

and before that there were several other specialty retail shops in the space. According to the building's owner, this type of shop is a great fit for the Commons area. "Old Goat Gear Exchange researched the market thoroughly and discovered an unmet need in the community of outdoor enthusiasts here in Ithaca. We expect that they will develop a strong and loyal following given the value they can deliver to their customers," Frost Travis says.

Ferguson, too, is confident the new business will do well. "The Old Goat should be very popular for area residents," he says. "Over the past several years there has been a national trend, that is also clearly evident here in Ithaca, focusing on the growth of pre-owned goods and apparel stores.

"Fueled by the sluggish national economy, pre-used stores have appealed to consumers of all incomes. The Old Goat is an excel-

lent example of local entrepreneurship stepping up to fill this very real market niche. Outdoor recreation, camping, hiking, and kayaking are important to many of our residents and certainly many of our visitors. Old Goat will be well positioned to serve these folks," he says.

Ferguson went on to compliment Travis on his hard work in bringing this new business to Ithaca. "This prospect came to downtown thanks to the hard work of building owner Frost Travis. The DIA will work with Old Goat on marketing and promotion and on becoming integrated into the downtown business community," he says.

Travis thinks this new business will help spotlight new and older businesses that have become staples of the Ithaca Commons. "We are excited to welcome a new business into the downtown business community and into our building. Downtown Ithaca is open for busi-

ness and shopping. Please come rediscover old friends like 15 Steps and 10,000 Villages, and make the acquaintance of newer businesses like Jillian's Drawers. You won't be disappointed," says Frost.

The Old Goat is just the latest in a long line of new businesses that have been popping up in downtown Ithaca. "So far 2012 is shaping up to be an excellent year for new businesses in downtown. Old Goat is the fifth new business so far this year, and we expect to see more businesses as spring and summer approach," Ferguson says.

The Old Goat's hours of operation are Tuesday to Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. For more information on the growing businesses in downtown Ithaca, contact Evan D. Williams, office manager, Downtown Ithaca Alliance, at 277-8679 or send an email to [info@downtownithaca.com](mailto:info@downtownithaca.com).

## Education Technology Day Returns to Ithaca College

Now in its 22nd year, Educational Technology Day at Ithaca College annually offers an opportunity to learn about — and drool over — the latest computer and communications hardware and software.

The 2012 show, which is free and open to the public, will take place on Thursday, March 22, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Emerson Suites and adjoining areas of the Campus Center.

The largest multi-platform, multi-vendor technology event for higher education in upstate New York, Ed Tech Day also attracts plenty of interest from the K-12 education and business communities. Visitors may talk directly with major computer and technology vendors, explore educational applications, be dazzled by computer graphics and state-of-the-art audiovisual systems, learn how technolo-

gy is being used today in and outside of higher education and see what can be expected in the coming years.

Local and national vendors taking part will include Adobe, Apple, Dell, Epson, Hewlett Packard and Microsoft.

Throughout the day, a series of seminars will be held on topics such as "Video Conferencing and Wireless Handheld Tablets,"

"Mobility and eBooks in Today's Classroom," "Introduction to Enterprise Content Management" and "The Do's and Don'ts of Launching a Mobile Learning Device."

For a detailed schedule, list of participating vendors, directions and information on parking, visit [www.ithaca.edu/edtechday/](http://www.ithaca.edu/edtechday/).

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# Wind Farm Rises with Local Support

By Gay Nicholson

*This is the latest installment in our Signs of Sustainability series, organized by Sustainable Tompkins. Visit them online at [www.sustainabletompkins.org](http://www.sustainabletompkins.org).*

Community power. Literally. That's the defining trait of the proposed Black Oak Wind Farm in the Town of Enfield. The project will place about 20 MW of wind turbines on the windiest hills in Tompkins County along Black Oak Road. That would be enough to power most of the county's homes—a community's power supply.

But that's not the only way the community will benefit from this project. From the beginning, when John Rancich conceived of his Enfield Energy wind farm, the focus was also on community ownership of our local renewable energy utility. This dream is now becoming our shared reality. Rancich recently sold Enfield Energy to a group of community members with significant expertise in renewable energy and project management. The eight-member managing board of Black Oak Wind Farm LLC (BOWF) has now turned to friends in the community to raise the \$1.2 million in seed capital for the initial round of financing for the \$40 million to \$45 million project.

I am a community member that is now the proud owner of 13 shares of BOWF. Even though I already own a solar electric system that powers my home, I am delighted by the opportunity to help others in my community switch to a clean energy supply. And of course, the prospect of making a healthy return on my investment is definitely part of my decision to invest in BOWF.

I'm looking at a future that is increasingly threatened by the rising costs of fossil fuel extraction and the escalating impacts of climate change. Not to mention the global casino that is rebuilding its house of cards. Though I am doing what I can to reduce my personal risk from these threats, I know that this must be augmented by helping reduce the risk my community faces. The wind farm is one way our community can buffer itself from the high costs of fossil fuel (both financial and environmental), while funneling some of the profits back into our local economy.

We can't predict the future with absolute certainty, but it seems likely BOWF will be a success. I attended one of the informational meetings that the BOWF team held in January, and learned enough to be satisfied that we are on the right track together.

Five years of wind data from the

site verifies there is an economically viable supply of wind energy. The environmental impact studies have found no pressing issues. A nearby transmission line will reduce the cost of connecting to the grid. The town government is pleased about the revenue-sharing model that will reduce local taxes. Neighbors will also be offered financial compensation.

And while coal- or natural gas-derived electricity has an unfair advantage by not paying the true full cost of its production, wind power is approaching parity in the market. Finally, the team that's been assembled, including Juhl Wind Inc. and Val-Add Service Corp., has experience in both developing wind energy and using a community ownership model.

One of the themes I've been thinking about lately is "Resilience is Resistance." If we don't want to be victimized by an unfair and exploitative forms of global capitalism, we must create our own economy based on shared ownership and responsibility. Why should we let large corporations and foreign interests own

our wind farms? They would not be as likely to respond to local concerns, and there certainly is no reason to let them garner all the profits.

Yes, it means we have to take some of the risk ourselves, and at a time when we may be feeling more vulnerable than ever. But when we accept the risk and the work of becoming more self-reliant and resilient, we also become more powerful in our own right, more capable of saying no to bad deals, more able to take care of our own people.

If you want to join me as a co-owner of BOWF, contact project manager Marguerite Wells at [enfieldenergy@gmail.com](mailto:enfieldenergy@gmail.com). She is organizing webinars for interested folks, which detail the plans for the wind farm. There are probably only a few more weeks before they reach their goal, so don't procrastinate if you want to be an early supporter (there's a \$5,000 minimum investment at this stage). This is an opportunity to put your money where your values are right here in Tompkins County.

*Gay Nicholson lives in Lansing.*

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## TCAT's UAW Employees Approve Contract

By Tompkins Weekly Staff

TCAT's bus operators and maintenance team, represented by the United Auto Workers Local 2300, overwhelmingly ratified a two-year contract on March 9, following several months of negotiations.

The previous three-year contract expired Sept. 11, 2011. After the UAW-represented work force twice rejected the contract in both September and November, negotiators from both sides finally were able to craft and communicate an agreement acceptable to UAW rank-and-file members who voted 48-16 to accept it.

"We are pleased and relieved that we now have a contract in place that ensures that our union-represented bus operators, maintenance team and custodian are adequately compensated for the hard work and professionalism they demonstrate day in and day out," said TCAT General Manager Joe Turcotte in a statement. "We hope our passengers, and the community as a

whole, can rest assured that all TCAT employees operate as a unified team in providing a critical service to the community."

Jack Kaminsky, UAW Local 2300 president, echoed Turcotte and said, "We are happy the contract was ratified and now we can all move forward."

The contract calls for a bonus of \$500 payable March 29, 2012; a \$525 bonus in 2013; and a 1.25 percent wage increase in 2014. The contract expires June 30, 2014.

TCAT's bus operators make between \$36,000 and \$44,000 per year before additional compensation for overtime and shift differentials. Mechanics' annual base wages range from \$42,000 to \$51,000.

The increases were based on TCAT's ability to adopt a dual-option health insurance plan for the next two years, which helps keep premium costs at bay. Modest increases in co-pays and deductibles were part of the new plan.

"Despite a less-than-robust fiscal climate—and at a time when most Americans are paying more for health care—we worked together to create a fair and solid contract to the very best of our ability," Turcotte noted. "I applaud the hard work of the negotiating team representing both union and management."

In 2011, TCAT broke ridership records for the fifth year in a row with nearly 4 million annual trips.

According to the latest data available for 2012, ridership is up by 8 percent.

"I am delighted that our UAW members ratified the contract as they are critical to TCAT's success," said Pam Mackesey, TCAT Board of Directors Chairperson, in a statement. "We now need to focus on making sure TCAT's financial future is on solid ground so that TCAT can continue to thrive and grow."

## Longview to Host Career Fair

Longview, an Ithaca Community, will hold a Career Fair on Thursday, March 22, from 4:30 to 7 p.m.

Longview staff will be conducting interviews on-site for resident aides, certified nurse aides, home health aides and housekeepers, as well as a variety of dining services positions. Tours of the facilities will also be available along with light refreshments.

Interested individuals are encouraged to call 375-6300 to reserve an interview space, but reservations are not required. Job-seekers should bring copies of their resume and will be required to complete an application.

Longview, an Ithaca Community, is located at 1 Bella Vista Drive, Ithaca, south of Ithaca College on Route 96B.

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# Tompkins County Community Calendar...

## 19 Monday

**Baby Storytime**, 10:30-11am, Tompkins Co. Public Library, Caregivers and newborns up to 15 months old are invited to join us each Monday in the Thaler/Howell Programming Room for stories, songs, and togetherness. October thru April, For more info, 272-4557 ext. 275.

**Breastfeeding for the Health of It!**, 10am-12pm, OR 6-8pm, Cooperative Extension Education Center, 615 Willow Avenue, Ithaca, A 6-class series for new or expectant moms! Participants receive a personal nutrition assessment, and will learn about mother's health, benefits of breastfeeding, how your body changes when pregnant, positioning your baby for proper latch, how to pump and store breast milk, and how to breastfeed in public. FREE for women who are eligible for WIC, Medicaid, Food Stamps or similar programs; \$30 for the series for all others. Join any time - classes are ongoing and topics are repeated in the next set of workshops! Call Tina or Stacy at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County (607) 272-2292 or email TMF8@cornell.edu to sign up.

**Climate Change Conversations**, 102:30pm, Lifelong, 119 W. Court St., Ithaca. These sessions are open to the public are invited to participate in one or more of these discussions. To RSVP, email brbish@newrootsschool.org or call Jillian at Lifelong at 607-273-1511.

**Cortland Youth Center**, Open from 12-9pm. Info: www.cortland.org/youth or call 753-0872.

**Danby Federated Church Soup & Games**, 12noon, Danby Federated Church, 1859 Danby Rd., Come for lunch and stay for board games, fellowship and fun with friends. Soup, bread, dessert and beverage are provided.

**Emergency Food Pantry**, 1-3:30pm, Tompkins Community Action, 701 Spencer Rd., Ithaca. Provides individuals and families with 2-3 days worth of nutritious food and personal care items. Info. 273-8816.

**Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous**, 7-8:30pm, Cayuga Medical Center, 301 Dates Dr., Ithaca, Fourth Floor North Conference Room. Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous (FA) is a free Twelve Step recovery program for anyone suffering from food obsession, overeating, under-eating and bulimia. Call FA at 781-321-9118 or toll free 1-866-931-6932. Visit our website at www.foodaddicts.org.

**"Fool for Love"**, 5pm & 8pm, Dillingham Center, Ithaca College, For more information, call (607) 274-3224 or email: ictams1@gmail.com.

**GIAC Teen Program** 4-7pm, 318 N. Albany St., Ithaca, Game Room, Video Games, Open Gym & Field Trips.

**IC Music**, 8:15pm, Ford Hall, Whalen Center, Ithaca College. Trumpeter Frank Campos will join gypsy swing band Djug Django in a performance of music by Ellington, Gershwin, Fats Waller and other jazz greats.

**ICG Annual Meeting**, 5:30-7:30pm, Ithaca Children's Garden, Ithaca. RSVP by March 12th.

**Jazz Dance Classes with Nancy Gaspar**, 7:15pm, Finger Lakes Fitness Center, 171 E. State St., Center Ithaca, Non-members & drop-ins welcome. Info 256-3532.

**Jazzercise**, 5:45 & 6:45pm, 119 W Court St., Ithaca. Jazzercise combines dance, resistance training, pilates, yoga, kickboxing and more to create programs for people of every age and fitness level. More info. 288-4040 or www.jazzercise.com.

**Knowledge is Power**, 6pm, group for those who have been in abusive relationships, For info., 277-3203.

**Kundalini Yoga Classes**, 7:30-9pm, Fine Spirit Yoga Studio, 201 Dey St., Ithaca. Info., 760-5386.

**Loaves & Fishes Community Kitchen**, 12 Noon, St. John's Church, 210 N Cayuga St., Open to all, no limitations or requirements. Info., www.loaves.org.

**Overeaters Anonymous**, 7:30-8:30pm, Henry St. John Building, 301 S. Geneva St., #103, corner W. Clinton St., Speakers/Literature meeting, Meetings are free, confidential, no weigh-ins or diets, Info., 387-8253.

**Park Hall Lobby Events**, 11am-2pm, Park Hall Lobby, Ithaca College, Several event ongoing through the week, For information on World Water Day visit www.unwater.org/worldwaterday/. For more information on the Ithaca College events contact Mara Alper, associate professor of television-radio, at malper@ithaca.edu.

**Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Meeting**, PTSD Ithaca is a Post Traumatic Stress Disorder support group for individuals in and around Ithaca, NY who have been diagnosed with (or think they may have) Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Meetings are every Monday at 6:30 p.m. Please call 607-279-0772 for more information.

**Pre-School Story Hour and Craft**, 10am, The SPCA Annex at The Shops at Ithaca Mall.

**Prom Dress Donation Drive**, Now through 4/14/2012 at 1PM, Cortland Youth Bureau Youth Center, 35 Port Watson St., Cortland, 4th annual Prom Dress Donation Drive. The Youth Center is seeking donations of formal dresses, jewelry, shoes and purses that are in new or "like new" condition. Cortland Prom Closet Giveaways will be held at the CYB Youth Center on March 24th and April 14th both from 9am-1pm.

**Tot Spot**, 9:30-11:30pm, Ithaca Youth Bureau, Mid October thru Late April. Indoor stay and play for children 5 months to 5 years & grown-ups of any age. Children ages 5 months to 1 year: \$2; Children ages 1 year to 5 years: \$4; Adults always FREE! Frequent Visit Discount Passes Available for Recreation Partnership Residents, Info., 273-8364.

**Town of Ithaca Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting**, 7pm, 215 N. Tioga St., Ithaca.

**"When Home Becomes a Gasfield"**, Newfield Fire Hall, 77 Main St., 7-9pm, Bradford Co, PA landowner and 6th generation Towanda resident Ruth Tonachel will give an informal talk on how arrival of the shale gas industry has impacted daily life and sense of place. A slide show of aerial and ground views of all aspects of gas drilling will precede her talk. Ruth is the Executive Director of the Northern Tier Cultural Alliance.

**Word Portraits: A Writing Workshop**, about Inspiring Women, 1-3PM, BorgWarner Community Room-West, Facilitated by Irene "Zee" Zahava, this workshop will provide participants of all ages and genders with the inspiration and encouragement to write about and share stories of the special women in their lives. This program is free and open to the public; however, advance registration is required. To register, contact Zahava at (607) 273-4675 or zee@twcny.rr.com.

**Yoga Classes**, 5-6:15pm, Mindful Movement in Community Corners, 903 Hanshaw Rd., Suite 201, Info., 607-592-5493.

**Zen Meditation Practice**, Every Monday 5:30-6:30pm, Anabel Taylor Hall, Cornell, founders Room. Sponsored by the Ithaca Zen Center. Prior sitting experience or attendance of an orientation session required to participate. For information or to schedule an orientation, contact Tony @ 277-1158 or Marissa @ 272-1419.

## 20 Tuesday

**Adult Karate**, Seishi Honbu, 15 Catherwood Road, Ithaca. Formal, traditional, japanese discipline, Progressive noon time classes for men and women. Info., (607) 277-1047 Email seishihonbu@verizon.net.

**Al-Anon**, 12noon, 518 W. Seneca St., Ithaca, Meeting open to anyone affected by another person's drinking. Info., 387-5701.

**Alzheimer's Support Group**, 1-2:30pm, Office for the Aging in the County Courthouse, 320 N. Tioga St., Meets 4th Tues of the month. Open to those caring for someone with dementia, confusion or serious memory loss. Info 274-5492.

**Annesty International, Group 73**, will meet at 7:30pm, at Cornell's Kahin Center, 640 Stewart Avenue. For information, call 273-3009.

**Animal Time: "Two Bad Ants"**, 10:30am, Sciencenter, 601 First St., Ithaca. Hear the story and color and assemble insects; Info., www.sciencenter.org.

**Candor Library Story Hour**, 10:15am, Candor Free Library, Bank and Main St., Info., 659-7258.

**Climate Change Conversations**, 102:30pm, Lifelong, 119 W. Court St., Ithaca. These sessions are open to the public are invited to participate in one or more of these discussions. To RSVP, email brbish@newrootsschool.org or call Jillian at Lifelong at 607-273-1511.

**Community HU Song**, 101 E. Green St, Borg Warner Room Tompkins County Public Library.

**Cooking to Relieve Stress: Meals that Add Light to your Life**, 7- 8:30 PM at GreenStar Cooperative Market, 701 W. Buffalo St. Learn what foods create stress in the body, and what foods create balance. Professional chef Anita Devine will provide recipes and samples of the food she prepares. Fee: \$8/\$10; registration required; sign up at GreenStar's front desk or call 273-9392.

**Curious and Creative Machines**, 7pm, Lot 10 Lounge, 112 S. Cayuga St., Ithaca. Imagine biologically inspired robots, robots painting Impressionism-inspired portraits, and robots that lose one leg and can learn to walk again. In research that focuses primarily on engineering challenges, such as machine self-replication and programmable self-assembly, the Creative Machines Lab at Cornell University is inspired by the natural sciences, as they seek new biological concepts for engineering and new engineering insights into biology; Join Hod Lipson and Jeff Klune for a lively Science Cabaret discussion at the intersection of engineering and biology. For information, visit www.sciencecabaret.org.

**Emerald Ash Borer Educational Workshop**, 6:30-8:30pm, CCE-Tompkins Education Center, 615 Willow Avenue, Ithaca, This workshop provides instruction on how to monitor for the pest, the life cycle and what to expect once it arrives. The workshop is open to nursery and tree specialists, and the general public. Info., 272-2292.

**Emergency Food Pantry**, 11:30am-2pm, Tompkins Community Action, 701 Spencer Rd., Ithaca. Provides individuals and families with 2-3 days worth of nutritious food and personal care items. Info. 273-8816.

**Enfield Volunteer Fire Company Blood Drive**, is hosting a blood drive thru the American Red Cross. The Blood Drive will be held at the Enfield Fire Station on Tuesday 3/20/2012 from 1:30 pm to 6:30 pm at 172 Enfield Main Road. The Enfield Volunteer Fire Company will host the blood drive every other month during 2011. Please come and donate. You can call for an appointment on the 17Th by calling Roy at 277-3843 or the American Red Cross at 273-1900. Walk-ins are always welcome.

**ESOPS Meeting**, 4:30-6pm, South Hill Business Campus Conference Room, 950 Danby Rd., Ithaca. Take this opportunity to learn more about ESOPS from Karen S. Bonn, Vice President and Client Development Officer for Wilmington Trust (a wholly owned subsidiary of M&T Bank).

**Excelsior Battalion Benefit Golf Tournament**, Benefit Golf Tournament 12noon-6pm, Robert Trent Jones Golf Course, Warren Road, Ithaca; Cornell Army ROTC is hosting a charity golf to benefit the CDS: Warrior Salute Program. Entry fee is \$400/ four player team and includes 18 holes of golf, lunch, dinner, cart, and raffle ticket. For more information go to excelsiorgolftournament.com or email Mike at mcl84@cornell.edu.

**Finger Lakes Gymnastics Unstructured Play-Time**, 10:30-11:30am, Sept.-June, 215 Commercial Avenue, Ithaca, Ages 6mo-5yrs, Cost: 6 Mths - 1 Year - \$3. 1 Year - 5 Years Old - \$5 for current members, \$7 for non-members; Info., 273-5187, www.flga.net.

**GIAC Teen Program**, 7-9pm, BJM, 318 N. Albany St., Ithaca, Game Room, Video Games, Open Gym & Field Trips, 272-3622.

**IC Music**, 8:15 p.m., Hockett Family Recital Hall, Whalen Center, Ithaca College. Performance by the Ithaca College Bach Ensemble, performing Brandenburg Concerto no. 1 and selected canons and cantatas.

**Immaculate Conception Church Food Pantry**, 1-1:45pm, Seneca near Geneva St., Ithaca, Free, fresh produce, breads, desserts, dairy and deli. For low to moderate incomes, limit 1 pantry per week. www.friendshipdonations.org.

**Jazzercise**, 5:45pm, 119 W Court St., Ithaca. Jazzercise combines dance, resistance training, pilates, yoga, kickboxing and more to create programs for people of every age and fitness level. More info. 288-4040.

**Loaves & Fishes Community Kitchen**, 6pm, St. John's Church, 210 N Cayuga St., Open to all, no limitations or requirements. Info., www.loaves.org.

**Nook Tablet Training Session**, Newfield Library, 5pm, Join us for a how-to session with a Barnes and Noble consultant who will be on hand to show us the ins and outs of our new Nooks. Bring your Nook if you have one. Info., www.newfieldpubliclibrary.org.

**Overeaters Anonymous**, 12:15-1:15pm, Henry St. John Building, 301 S. Geneva St., #103, corner W. Clinton St., 12 Steps & 12 Traditions meeting; 7-8pm, Watkins Glen Library; Meetings are free, confidential, no weigh-ins or diets. Info., 387-8253.

**Redistricting Committee Public Hearing**, 7-9pm, Common Council Chambers, 108 East Green Street, Ithaca. Contact Tom Frank, Chair with questions at tfrank@twcny.rr.com.

**Stress Management Group**, 11am, Starlight Center, 301 S. Geneva St., Ithaca, Suite 110, 277-7337.

**Tai Chi Classes at Lansing Library**, 11:30AM-12:30PM, Lansing Community Library, 27 Auburn Road, Lansing, John Burger - Instructor. Tai Chi promotes balance, flexibility, coordination and can reduce pain. Tai Chi is also been shown to lower the risk of falls, increase energy levels, enhance sleep, and reduce stress and anxiety. Using precise, fluid movements, Tai Chi can dissolve tension, increase your strength and cardiovascular fitness, and leave you with a greater awareness, calmness, and overall sense of wholeness. Please wear loose, comfortable clothing. \$5/class (Scholarships and reduced monthly payment options available through Lifelong - 607-273-1511 - www.tclifelong.org and the Lansing Library)

**"Tell Me Why BMI: Insects & The Language of Water Quality"**, 6-8PM, Tompkins County Human Services Building, 320 W. State/MLK Street, Ithaca. This year's program will feature short talks by local BMI experts and CSI staff and volunteers, microscopes for viewing BMI specimens, unique underwater video footage and more. Discover what insects tell us about the health of Six Mile Creek, Taughannock Creek, Fall Creek and other local streams and find out how to get involved

**Toddler Storytime**, Tuesdays, 11AM-11:30AM, Tompkins County Public Library, For ages 18 months to 36 months, Thaler/Howell Programming Room, Stories, songs, and fingerplays and more, Running Dates: February 4, 2012 – April 24, 2012.

**Toddler Time Storytime**, 10am, Groton Public Library, Enjoy stories with Mrs. Radford, Info., 898-5055.

**Tompkins Workforce NY Career Center Workshop**, 9-11am, Employment Strategies for Jobseekers with Disabilities, All workshops are offered at no cost to you and will be held at Tompkins Workforce NY Career Center unless otherwise noted. Registration is required. Please call 607-272-7570 x 118 or 135.

**Town of Ithaca Planning Board Meeting**, 7pm, 215 N. Tioga St., Ithaca.

**Tot Spot**, 9:30-11:30am, Ithaca Youth Bureau, Mid October thru Late April. Indoor stay and play for children 5 months to 5 years & grown-ups of any age. Children ages 5 months to 1 year: \$2; Children ages 1 year to 5 years: \$4; Adults always FREE! Frequent Visit Discount Passes Available for Recreation Partnership Residents, Info., 273-8364.

## 21 Wednesday

**Adult Children of Alcoholics and Dysfunctional Families Group**, ACA Meets every Wednesday 7:30-8:30 pm at The Ithaca Community Recovery Bldg. 2nd floor of 518 W. Seneca St Ithaca, NY for more info: www.adultchildren.org.

**Babies, Books, and Bounce Time**, 11:30-12noon, October-April, Tompkins County Library, Thaler/Howell Room.

**Beautification Brigade Volunteer Training**, 6-8:30pm, CCE-Tompkins Education Center, 615 Willow Avenue, Ithaca, Have fun, learn gardening techniques, and help keep Ithaca gorgeous. Free dinner provided at the trainings. FREE and open to anyone who wishes to volunteer with the program. Contact Dan Klein at dek22@cornell.edu, or call (607) 272-2292 for information or a volunteer application.

**Bread of Life Food Pantry in Candor**, Rt 96, across from Post Office, 3-6pm.

**Drew Montreuil**, 6:30-8pm, Groton Public Library, Drew will talk about the Blizzard of 1993- the "Storm of the Century." To sign up call for this FREE session: Call the Groton Public Library at 898-5055; Email to director@grotonpubliclibrary.org.

**E-Reader Help**, 11am, Trumansburg Library, Bring in your mobile device for a help session on downloading fee library books.

**Family Storytime**, 11:30-12noon, October-May, Tompkins County Public Library, Thayer/Howell Room, Free for everyone.

**Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous**, 7-8:30pm, The 1st Congregational Church, 309 Highland Rd., Ithaca, Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous (FA) is a free Twelve Step recovery program for anyone suffering from food obsession, overeating, under-eating and bulimia. Info., toll free 866-931-6932 or 718-321-9118 or www.foodaddicts.org.

**Gaelic Storm**, 7pm, State Theatre of Ithaca, State St., Tickets and info., www.stateofithaca.com.

**IC Events**, 5pm, Ithaca Falls Room, Egbert Hall, Ithaca College, "A Necessary Luxury: Tea in Victorian Britain," featuring tea and a presentation on her book of the same name by Julie Fromer, lecturer in English, as part of the Ithaca Dickens Festival; 7:30pm, Textor 102, Exonerated death row inmate, Ray Krone, to speak at Ithaca College; 8:15pm, Hockett Family Recital Hall, Whalen Center, Performance by the Ithaca Jazz Quintet.

**Immaculate Conception School Open House**, 9am-2pm, Visitors are welcome to drop by for tours of the school. Teachers and administrators will be on hand to show parents around and answer their questions. PreK-6th Grade, For information, contact the Immaculate Conception School, 607-273-2707, or visit http://schools.dor.org/ic/.

**Introduction to Compassionate Communication**, 7-9PM, GreenStar Cooperative Market, 701 W. Buffalo St. Resolve misunderstandings, conflicts, and differences using Compassionate Communication, also called NVC or Nonviolent Communication. Becca Harber has been teaching NVC since 2005. Free; registration required; sign up at GreenStar's front desk or call 273-9392.

**Ithaca Community Police Board Drop-In Hours**, 2-5pm, GIAC, 301 West Court Street, Ithaca, you can also make an appointment. To leave a private message or make an appointment, call 275-0799.

**Ithaca Singles Group Dinner**, 6pm, The Crossroads in Lansing, emls@twcny.rr.com.

**Jazzercise**, 5:45pm, 119 W Court St., Ithaca, Jazzercise combines dance, resistance training, pilates, yoga, kickboxing and more to create programs for people of every age and fitness level. Info., 288-4040.

**Knitting/Crocheting Night**, 6:30pm, Newfield Public Library, Main St., Info., (607) 564-3594.

**Lansing Writers' Group**, 7PM, Lansing Community Library, 27 Auburn Road, Lansing, Meetings are open to adults and focused, mature minors who strive to

improve their writing skills and learn from each other. All genres, skill levels, and writing types are welcome. Additional info., www.groups.yahoo.com/group/lansing-writersgroup. Free and open to the public.

**"Let's take a walk"** 8-9am, A low key walk for men and women with any type of cancer; enjoy a weekly walk and good conversation. Meets inside entrance to Border's, The Shops at Ithaca Mall. Info, Cancer Resource Center of the Finger Lakes. 612 W State St. 277-0960.

**Loaves & Fishes Community Kitchen**, 12 Noon, St. John's Church, 210 N Cayuga St., Open to all, no limitations or requirements. Info., www.loaves.org.

**Panel Discussion: Native Plants in Horticulture**, 7:00 to 8:30 PM in the Unitarian Church, Annex, 2nd floor, 208 E. Buffalo St, Ithaca. Native plant gardeners and landscapers have a belief that using locally native plants has an intrinsic value. Help us explore some of the decisions we all make and the consequences of our choices.

**Play Mah Jongg!**, 1PM-4PM, Lansing Community Library, 27 Auburn Road, Lansing, Play American Mah Jongg in an informal, relaxed setting. Free and open to the public.

**Story Time**, 3pm, Newfield Library, Main St., Newfield. Info., 564-3594, www.newfieldpubliclibrary.org.

**Tompkins Workforce NY Career Center Workshop**, 10am-12noon, Resume Critique Workshop, All workshops are offered at no cost to you and will be held at Tompkins Workforce NY Career Center unless otherwise noted. Registration is required. Please call 607-272-7570 x 118 or 135.

**Town of Ithaca Codes and Ordinances Committee Meeting**, 6:30pm, 215 N. Tioga St., Ithaca.

**Tribal Fusion Belly Dance Classes**, Wednesdays 7-8:15 pm, Moonlight Dance Studios 407 taughn-nock Blvd., Ithaca, Info., www.tessadances.com.

**Waffle Wednesdays**, 8:30-11am, Dryden Community Cafe, Main St., Dryden, Serving hot, fresh waffle from scratch, served with either real New York maple syrup or fresh strawberries and cream.

**Wednesday Breakfast Club**, 8:30am, Royal Court Restaurant, 529 S. Meadow St., Ithaca, An informal breakfast get-together for bereaved adults. Participants pay for their own breakfast. Info., Hospicare and Palliative Care Services email dgeorge@hospicare.org or 272-0212.

**Youth Workers Brown Bag Lunch**, 12:15-1:15pm, Last Wednesday of the month, Human Services Building, Ithaca, Bev Livesay Conference Room, to share your experiences and learn from our colleagues. This networking opportunity encourages participants to collaborate to support all youth in Tompkins County through the most consistent and cost effective means possible. Please join us as we work to build a healthy sustainable community of the future.

**Zen Meditation Practice**, Every Wednesday 5:30-6:30pm, Anabel Taylor Hall, Cornell, founders Room. Sponsored by the Ithaca Zen Center. Prior sitting experience or attendance of an orientation session required to participate. For information or to schedule an orientation, contact Tony @ 277-1158 or Marissa @ 272-1419.

## 22 Thursday

**AL-ANON Hope for Today**, 7:30pm, 518 West Seneca St, Ithaca, main floor, Meeting open to anyone affected by another person's drinking, Info., 844-4210.

**Anorexia Nervosa & Associated Disorders**, 7pm, Cooperative Extension, 614 W. State St., for those in need of help & recovery. Info., 272-2292.

**Asperger's Support Group Meeting**, 7pm, basement of St. Luke Lutheran Church at 109 Oak Avenue in Collegietown. If you have questions, please contact Robin L. Booth at rlmbooth@gmail.com.

**Depression Support Group**, 5:30-7pm, Finger Lakes Independence Center, 215 Fifth Street, Ithaca. Every Thurs. The group is free, confidential and organized by people who have personal experience with depression. Info., 272-2433.

**Dryden Kiwanis spring youth softball & baseball sign up** 6:30-8pm at TC3 Field House. For more info visit www.drydenkiwanisonline.com

**Educational Technology Day**, 9AM-4PM, Emerson Suites, Ithaca College, 953 Danby Rd Ithaca, Learn how technology is being used in and outside of higher education, and see what is expected in the future. The event is free, but please register online. For more information online http://www.ithaca.edu/edtechday email edtechday@ithaca.edu, or call 607-274-7000.

**Exploring Credit & Debt Management workshop**, 6-8pm, Cooperative Extension, 615 Willow Ave in Ithaca. Fee \$10 (some scholarships available). Pre-registration required- call (607)272-2292. Learn strategies to pay down debt and build your credit history.

**"Flow: For Love of Water"**, 8pm, Park Hall Auditorium, Ithaca College, Irena Salina's award-winning documentary investigates what many believe to be the most important political and environmental issue of the 21st century. She builds a case against the growing privatization of the world's dwindling freshwater supply with an unflinching focus on politics, pollution, human rights and the emergence of a domineering world water cartel. Beyond identifying the problem, "Flow" also gives viewers a look at the people and institutions providing practical solutions to the water crisis.

**Founding Brothers: The Revolutionary Generation**, 5:30pm, The History Center, 401 E. State Street, Suite 100, Ithaca. Info., 273-8284, welcome@TheHistoryCenter.net.

**Getting Started with Vegetable Gardening**, 6:30-8:30pm, CCE-Tompkins Education Center, 615 Willow Avenue, Ithaca, This class for the beginning vegetable gardener will be offered twice this year! Learn where to site your garden, how to prepare the soil, how to start seeds, how to plant, when to mulch, which easy veggies to try first, and so on. Patricia Curran, Horticulture Educator, will also discuss favorite varieties, container gardening, and harvesting tips. Pre-registration is recommended; call (607) 272-2292.

**GIAC Teen Program**, 4-7pm, 318 N. Albany St., Ithaca, Game Room, Video Games, Open Gym & Field Trips, Info., 272-3622.

**How the Earth Works - Lecture Series**, 10:30AM - Noon, Lansing Community Library, 27 Auburn Road, Lansing, Don Postle will host the first of 12 videos of the How the Earth Works series. Each week the group will watch one of the lectures and then discuss what was watched. The video series is taught by Professor Michael E. Wyssession, a Professor of Geophysics at Washington University in St. Louis. Wyssession earned his Sc.B in Geophysics from



Brown University and his Ph.D. from Northwestern University. The lecture series runs 12 weeks - 12 Wednesdays from February 15th-May 2nd. Registration required and \$60 fee. Scholarships available. Register at Lifelong, 119 W. Court St., Ithaca, NY (www.tclifelong.org) or at Lansing Community Library, 27 Auburn Road, Lansing, NY.

**Ithaca High School Musical, "The Pajama Game"**, 7:30pm, Ithaca High School Performing Arts Center. Tickets are available in the high school cafeteria from 10:30a.m.-1:45p.m. the week of 3/19-3/23 and at the door. General \$10.00. Student \$8.00. Under 12-\$5.00

**L. Ron Lee**, 5-7pm, Dryden Community Cafe, Main St., Dryden.

**Loaves & Fishes Community Kitchen**, 6pm, Loaves & Fishes, 210 N Cayuga St., Open to all, no limitations or requirements. Info., www.loaves.org.

**Longview Career Fair**, 4:30-7pm, 1 Bella Vista Drive, Ithaca. Longview staff will be conducting interviews on-site for Resident Aides, Certified Nurse Aides, Home Health Aides, and Housekeepers as well as a variety of dining services positions. Tours of the facilities will also be available along with light refreshments. Interested individuals are encouraged to call (607) 375-6300 to reserve an interview space, but reservations are not required. Job-seekers should bring copies of their resume and will be required to complete an application.

**Out of Bounds Radio Show**, hosted by TISH PEARLMAN will feature Child Development Council Director SUE DALE-HALL; Sue Dale- Hall has held the position of Chief Executive officer of The Child Development Council of Central New York since 1992. 7pm: WEOS-FM ( 90.3 & 89.7 Geneva region), Live Stream: weos.org.

**Overeaters Anonymous**, 6:15-7pm, Henry St. John Building, 301 S. Geneva St., #103, corner W. Clinton St., Just for Today/open sharing meeting. Meetings are free, confidential, no weigh-ins or diets. Info., 387-8253.

**"Play on Words"**, (part of the Good Grief Program for children ages 5-12 and their families), 5:30-7pm, Nina K. Miller Hospicare Center, 172 East King Road, Ithaca, Kira Lallas, Hospice & Community Bereavement Counselor: 607-272-0212 or klallas@hospicare.org, A light supper will be served, Preregistration required.

**Preschool Story Hour**, 10:30AM, Lansing Community Library, 27 Auburn Road, Lansing, Join us for stories, songs, and fun! Different theme each week. Free and open to the public.

**Preschool Storytime**. Tompkins County Public Library, 3-3:30pm, Thaler/Howell Programming Room. Pre-school-aged children (3-5years) are invited to join us for stories, songs, activities and fun, Info., 272-4557 ext. 275.

**Read Baby Read**, 10am, Southworth Library, Main St., Dryden. Infant and toddler storytime with rhymes, songs, stories and fingerplays to delight our youngest library patrons.

**Spring Sports Conference**, 6:30-8pm, Ithaca High School Gym, The conference will include opening comments from Superintendent Dr. Luvelle Brown, a presentation by Athletic Trainer and Strength Conditioning Coach Tim Koba, and a tour of the school's newly completed Fitness Center. Following the tour, community members will have the opportunity to meet with junior varsity and varsity Spring sports coaches. This conference is free and open to the public.

**Taxes and Drilling: Revenue Potential for Municipal Governments?**, 506:30pm, Borg Warner Room, Tompkins County Library. This talk will focus on the amount of potential funding municipalities might expect should drilling come to town. Counties, cities, towns, and villages can expect increased costs should an uptick in drilling activity occur in the area.

**The Ithaca Concert Band Adopt-A-Band Concert with the Dryden High School Band**, 7pm, Ford Hall, Ithaca College, Each band will play a few pieces, and then the bands will combine and play the 3rd and 4th, movements of Holst Second Suite in F, Amen and Shenandoah by Tichelli, and Stars and Stripes forever by Sousa. The concert is free, donations are greatly appreciated. Visit our website at ithacaconcertband.org.

**Thursday Night Spaghetti Special**, Dryden Community Cafe, 1 West Main St., Dryden, Our Thursday spaghetti dinner comes with a side salad and Tuscan bread for \$4.95 with meatballs just a little bit extra. Info., 844-8166.

**Toddler & Pre-School Storytime**, 10:30-11AM every Thursday, Cortland Free Library, 32 Church St, Cortland, Info., 753-1042.

**Tompkins Workforce NY Career Center Workshop**, 9-11am, P.O.D Professional Opportunity Developers, All workshops are offered at no cost to you and will be held at Tompkins Workforce NY Career Center unless otherwise noted. Registration is required. Please call 607-272-7570 x 118 or 135.

**Tot Spot**, 9:30-11:30am, Ithaca Youth Bureau, Mid October thru Late April. Indoor stay and play for children 5 months to 5 years & grown-ups of any age. Children ages 5 months to 1 year: \$2; Children ages 1 year to 5 years: \$4; Adults always FREE! Frequent Visit Discount Passes Available for Recreation Partnership Residents, Info., 273-8364.

**Town of Ithaca Comprehensive Plan Committee Meeting**, 6:30pm, Town Hall, 215 N. Tioga St., Ithaca.

## 23 Friday

**Al-Anon**, Meeting open to anyone affected by another person's drinking. 7pm. Dryden Methodist Church, Park in Rite-Aid lot. Info., 387-5701.

**Baby Playtime**, Fridays, 11-12noon, Tompkins County Library, Thaler/Howell Programming Room, Baby Playtime is an hour long unstructured play and social time for children and adults featuring a large enclosed environment with a beautifully painted fairy-tale mural, books, music, and a variety of toys to keep the children entertained.

**Ecstatic Dance**, 9pm-12am, Community School of Music and Arts, 330 E State St Ithaca, Guest DJs SolarLion, Wolf Counsel and resident DJ D'Animal, \$10 at the door, Ecstatic Dance Ithaca creates a dance space for full self-expression and freedom. It takes place once a month at the Community School for Music and Art where Ithaca DJs and people ready to move get together for a time to let loose and set free.

**Family & Children's Service of Ithaca's (F&CS) annual Spaghetti Dinner**, 5-7pm, St. John's Episcopal Church, The dinner raises funds for F&CS's Dispositional Alternatives Program (DAP) which serves at risk youth ages 7-18. Kids enrolled in the program help run the event as hosts and wait staff and run activities such as the fish bowl raffle and cake wheel. Tickets can be purchased in advance by calling F&CS staff member Tammy Wheeler at 273-7494. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for chil-

dren aged 12 and under or \$20 for a family. Ticket prices are slightly higher if purchased at the door. Take-out dinners are also available.

**Finger Lakes Gymnastics Unstructured Play-Time**, 10:30-11:30am, Sept.-June, 215 Commercial Avenue, Ithaca, Ages 6mo-5yrs, Cost: 6 Mths - 1 Year - \$3. 1 Year - 5 Years Old - \$5 for current members, \$7 for non-members; Info., 273-5187, www.flga.net.

**GIAC Teen Program After Hours Spot** 4-midnight, 318 N. Albany St., Ithaca. Movies, open gym, game room, video games, snacks, computers, skating & more, Info., 272-3622.

**Habitat for Humanity hosts 2nd Annual Raise the Roof! Fundraiser**, 5-8pm, Finger Lakes Wine Center, 237 S. Cayuga St., Ithaca, Each "Raise the Roof" ticket pays for 6 square feet of the roof for the Women Build house, which will be located on Barrows Street in Groton, NY. Construction of the Women Build house will begin in May and anyone interested in volunteering or donating can contact the Women Build program at womenbuild@tchabitat.com or (607) 898-4148.

**Healthy Children, Healthy Families**, (7) Fridays, March 23-May 11, 10:00-11:30am, Cooperative Extension Education Center, 615 Willow Avenue, Ithaca, Parents can meet, share tips, and learn ways to help their children eat healthier meals and snacks and be more active in this FREE 7 session class series (an 8th class is a graduation celebration)! A light meal is provided at each session, and free child-care is available. Individuals who are eligible for WIC, Medicaid, Food Stamps or similar programs can attend this FREE workshop series. Class meets: Fridays, March 23-May11. Contact Tina or Heather today to find out whether you can join this class. Call Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County, 607-272-2292 or tmf8@cornell.edu.

**International Auto Showcase Custom & Classis Car and Motorcycle Show**, 11am-9pm, NYS Fairgrounds, Syracuse.

**Ithaca High School Musical, "The Pajama Game"**, 7:30pm, Ithaca High School Performing Arts Center. Tickets are available in the high school cafeteria from 10:30a.m.-1:45p.m. the week of 3/19-3/23 and at the door. General \$10.00. Student \$8.00. Under 12-\$5.00

**Kellie Cox: Art Opening, Music & More**, 5:30pm-7:30pm, Lansing Community Library, 27 Auburn Road, Lansing, Stop in for some coffee, snacks and musical entertainment by Paul Kempkes "Dr. K" Acoustic guitar and vocals, featuring songs by Steely Dan, Counting Crows, Maroon 5 and much more. Come meet artist Kellie Cox and view her exhibit - Natural Science: Illustrations and Art. A range of illustrations and art depicting natural science in a wide variety of media including ink, colored pencil, paint, digital renditions and scherenschnitte's (the art of paper-cutting design). Kellie Cox uses traditional art media and computer design techniques to create natural scientific illustrations and art. She was born and raised in Delaware and graduated from University of Delaware in the spring of 2009 with a double major in Landscape Horticulture and Plant Science. Info., www.kelliecox.com; Free and open to the public.

**Loaves & Fishes Community Kitchen**, 12 Noon, Loaves and Fishes, 210 N. Cayuga St., Open to all, no limitations or requirements. Info., www.loaves.org.

**Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre**, Cortland Ramada Inn, 2 River Street, Cortland, Just off Route 81 at Exit 11, Starring the hysterical Acme Mystery Co., "Laughter in the First Degree!", Suitable for all ages, 6:30- Doors Open 7pm Performance begins; 8pm, Buffet Dinner begins; "Early Bird Special", \$50 per person if purchased before 2/01/12; \$55 per person from 2/01/12; and after, Cash Bar Available, For tickets, contact: The CRT Box Office at 800-427-6160 or visit Jodi's Hallmark, 15 Main Street, Cortland.

**New England Contra and Square Dance**, 8-11pm, Bethel Grove Community Center, NYS Rt. 79, about 4 miles east of Ithaca. For more information: Ted Crane, 607-273-8678 or visit www.tedcrane.com/TCCD.

**NYS Park Lifeguard Exam**, 5:50PM, SHARP, Watkins Glen High School, 12th St, New candidates and returning lifeguards must pass the exam in order to be considered for a lifeguard position in the upcoming season. Candidates are required to bring their own pocket masks for the CPR portion of the exam. Please visit nysparks.com for information.

**Preschool Story Time**, 10am, Southworth Library, Dryden, For preschoolers and their caregivers. Come for stories, crafts and snacks. Info. 844-4782.

**Raise The Roof Fundraiser**, 5-9PM, The Fingerlakes Wine Center 237 S. Cayuga St. Ithaca, Tickets are \$30 each or \$50/pair Habitat for Humanity hosts 2nd Annual Raise the Roof! Fundraiser enjoy a variety of fine wines, delicious appetizers, and local music. All event proceeds will go directly towards the cost of putting the roof on TCHFH's first ever Women Build Habitat home, womenbuild@tchabitat.com.

**Theatre Incognita 'Rave Tragedy' IPHIGENIA**, 8pm, The play will be performed in a transformed empty storefront at Center Ithaca (next to ShangriLa). Tickets cost just \$10 in advance through Ticket Center Ithaca, conveniently located in Center Ithaca, next to 15 Steps and now open later hours (Mon-Sat, 11 am – 7 pm), by phone at 607.273.4497. Space permitting, tickets will also be available at the door for \$15.

**The Borealis Wind Quintet with pianist Leon Bates**, 8:15pm, Ford Hall, James J. Whalen Center of Music, Ithaca College.

**Tompkins Workforce NY Career Center Workshop**, 10-11am, How to Get your Foot in the Civil Service Door, All workshops are offered at no cost to you and will be held at Tompkins Workforce NY Career Center unless otherwise noted. Registration is required. Please call 607-272-7570 x 118 or 135.

## 24 Saturday

**Animal Feeding**, Cayuga Nature Center. Noon. Feel free to visit CNC as our animal volunteers feed our many animals, then hike one of our trails or visit the tree house. Free for members, low cost to visitors. Info www.cayuganaturecenter.org.

**Cayuga Bird Club Field Trip**, Meet at 7am in Stewart Park by the tennis courts. All field trips are open to the public, both experienced birders and novices. For Information, contact 607-257-0130 or email gjb5@cornell.edu. They will look for early spring waterfowl and other migrants.

**Cayuga Lake Wine Trail Say Chees & More Event**, Receive a wineglass and wine tote bag at your first starting point winery and travel along the trail for an experience of wine and cheese pairings

that includes scrumptious cheese recipes. Each winery will be paired with a Finger Lakes Cheese Trail creamery offering you different samples of their product. Advance tickets: \$20.00 per person plus handling fee and sales tax. Designated Driver tickets available for \$15.00 per person plus handling fee and sales tax. Tickets can be purchased online at www.cayugawinetrail.com, by calling 800-684-5217 or at any area Wegmans stores.

**Cayuga Nature Center Maple Festival**, 10am-4pm, Cayuga Nature Center, 1420 Taughannock Blvd., Ithaca. breakfast with real maple syrup, local sausage and apple crisp from 9am-2pm. maple sugaring demonstrations, self-guided tours of the sugar-bush trail, live music from local musicians, animal programs at noon. Info., 273-6260 or visit cayuganaturecenter.org.

**Cayuga Trails Club Hike**, Join the Cayuga Trails Club for a 5-mile hike on the East Ithaca Recreation Loop. Meet at 1PM, parking lot at Snyder Hill Road off Pine Tree Road. For more information, call 257-6906 or visit www.cayugatrailclub.org.

**CNY Maple Festival**, 9am-5pm, Marathon, NY. Family activities and food in this local annual event. Info., 607-745-7710, e-mail: cnymaplefest@yahoo.com, Mailing address: PO Box 381, Marathon, NY 13803, or visit www.maplefest.org.

**Colorado Wildflowers: An Excursion into the Alpine Tundra**, 2 pm-3:30pm, Tompkins County Cornell Cooperative Extension Education Center, 615 Willow Avenue, Ithaca. Enjoy the opportunity to visit Colorado in bloom from an elevation of 12,000 feet. Master Gardener Carol Eichler will present slides from the day trips she took during the North American Rock Garden Society's 2010 Conference. Refreshments and time to socialize will follow the talk. Free, but donations help support the Horticulture Program. Please call 272-2292 for more information, but there is no need to preregister.

**Compost Nuts & Bolts**, 2-3pm, at Groton Public Library, 112 East Cortland Street, Groton, Experts from CCE-Tompkins' Compost Education Program will cover some more advanced issues in composting, such as balancing greens and browns to keep your compost rotting properly, troubleshooting, and harvesting techniques. To sign up, please call Sara Knobel at Groton Library, (607) 898-5055.

**Dryden Senior Citizens Spring Fling**, 9am-2pm, Dryden Fire Hall. Lunch is available at 11:30am, featuring crafts and treasures.

**Easter Bunny's Arrival Parade**, 10am, The Shops at Ithaca Mall, let your child come visit the Easter Bunny. Info., www.theshopsatithacamall.com.

**Explore and More**, 11am & 3pm, The Discovery Center, 60 Morgan Rd., Binghamton. Topic: Birds of a feather. See the many shapes, sizes, and colors of bird eggs. Free with museum admission. Info., www.thediscoverycenter.org.

**Family Storytime**, Tompkins County Public Library, 11-11:30am, Feb 7-April 28, Thaler/Howell Programming Room. Saturdays. Children of all ages and their caregivers are invited to join us for exciting stories, lively music and family-friendly fun. Info., 272-4557 ext. 275.

**Garden Slide Show: Colorado Wildflowers**, 2-3:30pm, CCE-Tompkins Education Center, 615 Willow Avenue, Ithaca, Get a glimpse of the magnificent wildflowers growing at 12,000ft elevation in Colorado's mountain tundra in this garden slide show with Master Gardener Carol Eichler. Carol will present slides from the guided day trips she took during the North American Rock Garden Society's Conference in 2010.

**GIAC Teen Program After Hours Spot** 4-midnight. 318 N. Albany St.. Ithaca, Music, movies, open gym, game room, video games, computers, skating & more. Info., 272-3622.

**International Auto Showcase Custom & Classis Car and Motorcycle Show**, 11am-9pm, NYS Fairgrounds, Syracuse.

**Iron Jawed Angels: A Movie Presentation**, 1PM, BorgWarner Community Room, Tompkins County Public Library, Join us as we partner with The Tompkins County League of Women Voters and The History Center to celebrate Women's History Month with a screening of "Iron Jawed Angels". An HBO original movie, "Iron Jawed Angels" tells the true story of how defiant and brilliant activists, Alice Paul and Lucy Burns took the women's suffrage movement by storm.

**Ithaca High School Musical, "The Pajama Game"**, 7:30pm, Ithaca High School Performing Arts Center. Tickets are available in the high school cafeteria from 10:30a.m.-1:45p.m. the week of 3/19-3/23 and at the door. General \$10.00. Student \$8.00. Under 12-\$5.00

**Jazz Dance Class**, 11am, Finger Lakes Fitness Center, 171 E. State St., Center Ithaca, lower level, Beginners. Non-members & drop-ins welcome. Info., 256-3532.

**Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre**, Cortland Ramada Inn, 2 River Street, Cortland, Just off Route 81 at Exit 11, Starring the hysterical Acme Mystery Co., "Laughter in the First Degree!", Suitable for all ages, 6:30- Doors Open 7pm Performance begins; 8pm, Buffet Dinner begins; "Early Bird Special", \$50 per person if purchased before 2/01/12; \$55 per person from 2/01/12; and after, Cash Bar Available, For tickets, contact: The CRT Box Office at 800-427-6160 or visit Jodi's Hallmark, 15 Main Street, Cortland.

**Network with Newbies**, 4-6pm, Atrium, Pak Center for Business and Sustainable Enterprise, 953 Danby Rd., Ithaca. Free to attend but please RSVP to jstonehe@ithaca.edu or 274-3680.

**New York Funk Exchange**, 9pm, The Nines, 311 College Ave., Ithaca.We're coming back for seconds. We will be playing two long sets beginning at 9pm. Make sure you reserve a table in advance. BTW, they got great pizza too. For fix info and directions, visit www.theninesithacany.com or call 607-272-5890.

**"Our Brothers, Our Sisters' Table" hot cooked community meal**, 12noon, served at the Salvation Army, 150 N. Albany St. Ithaca. All welcome, No income guidelines.

**Overeaters Anonymous**, 11am-12:15pm, Henry St. John Building, 301 S. Geneva St., #103, corner W. Clinton St., 12 Steps & 12 Traditions meeting; 8-9am, Cortland Memorial Nursing Facility; Meetings are free, confidential, no weigh-ins or diets. Newcomers always welcome. Info 387-8253.

**Sapsquatch Pure Maple Syrup Event**, 11am-4pm, 2247 Mecklenberg Rd., Enfield, hosting production demonstrations, syrup tastings, and free tours of its eco-friendly sugar shack. Info., sapsquatch7@gmail.com or by cell at (607)280-8498.

**Secular Organizations for Sobriety Meeting**, 2pm, Unitarian Church Offices, Basement at Aurora and Buffalo Streets, S.O.S offers a secular approach to recovery based on self-empowerment and individual responsibility for one's sobriety.

**Seidaiko "Taiko" Japanese Drum Classes**, 4pm,

World Seishi Karate, 15 Catherwood Rd., Ithaca, Info., www.seishihonbu@verizon.net or 277-1047.

**Showtime!**, 2pm, Sciencenter, 601 First St., Ithaca. See science in action with a special interactive presentation at the Sciencenter every Saturday at 2 pm. Info., www.sciencenter.org.

**Steve Forbert**, 8pm, Center for the Arts, Homer. Info., www.center4art.org.

**Students Inside Albany Conference**, Two Tompkins County student representatives will join high school students from across the state to learn about New York State government and how citizens can participate in the policy making arena. Students will tour the New York State Capitol, shadow their Assemblyperson and State Senator, and attend lectures by guest speakers, along with participating in other government-related activities. League of Women Voters sponsorship includes the cost of the conference, room and board, and round-trip reimbursement for car/bus transportation to Albany. Applications can be downloaded at www.lwvtompkins.org/youth.htm and are due by 1/18/12. Submit completed applications to: Kathleen Yen, Students Inside Albany, 20 Cedar Lane, Ithaca, NY 14850.

Contact Yen at 257-8199 or Susan Henninger at sue@fingerlakeswriter.com for further information.

**The Cayuga Bird Club Field Trip**, 7am, Stewart Park, tennis court, look for early spring waterfowl and other migrants. All field trips are open to the public, both experienced birders and novices. For Information, contact 607-257-0130 or email gjb5@cornell.edu .

**Theatre Incognita 'Rave Tragedy' IPHIGENIA**, 8pm, The play will be performed in a transformed empty storefront at Center Ithaca (next to ShangriLa). Tickets cost just \$10 in advance through Ticket Center Ithaca, conveniently located in Center Ithaca, next to 15 Steps and now open later hours (Mon-Sat, 11 am – 7 pm), by phone at 607.273.4497. Space permitting, tickets will also be available at the door for \$15.

**Toddlers Yoga**, Namaste Montessori School, 1-1:45pm. Walkers-3. Info 273-1673 or littlebud-dhasyoga@gmail.om. 1608 Trumansburg Rd.

**Tot Spot**, 9:30-11:30am, Ithaca Youth Bureau, Mid October thru Late April. Indoor stay and play for children 5 months to 5 years & grown-ups of any age. Children ages 5 months to 1 year: \$2; Children ages 1 year to 5 years: \$4; Adults always FREE! Frequent Visit Discount Passes Available for Recreation Partnership Residents, Info., 273-8364.

## 25 Sunday

**Bound For Glory Show**, 8-11, Anabel Taylor Hall, Cornell, with live sets at 8:30, 9:30, and 10:30. All three sets are different. Kids are always welcome. Refreshments are available. For information, call Phil Shapiro at 844-4535, or email pds10@cornell.edu or visit www.wvbr.com.

**Cayuga Nature Center Maple Festival**, 10am-4pm, Cayuga Nature Center, 1420 Taughannock Blvd., Ithaca. breakfast with real maple syrup, local sausage and apple crisp from 9am-2pm. maple sugaring demonstrations, self-guided tours of the sugarbush trail, live music from local musicians, animal programs at noon. Info., 273-6260 or visit cayuganaturecenter.org.

**CNY Maple Festival**, 9am-4pm, Marathon, NY. Family activities and food in this local annual event. Info., 607-745-7710, e-mail: cnymaplefest@yahoo.com, Mailing address: PO Box 381, Marathon, NY 13803, or visit www.maplefest.org.

**Concert at State Theatre Hosted by Temple Beth El**, 3pm, State Theatre, State St., Ithaca. The concert is meant to build bridges across different ethnic, religious and racial groups in Ithaca. People can pay what they wish. Your help getting the word out would be terrific. If you would like to do an interview with Rabbi Glass, he would be delighted. You can contact him at rabbi@tbeithaca.org.

**Dryden Lacrosse Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser**, 8-10am, Applebee's, Cortland. For more info and tickets call Lance Cole 844-4532 or email drydenlax@gmail.com

**Explore and More**, 3pm, The Discovery Center, 60 Morgan Rd., Binghamton. Topic: Birds of a feather. See the many shapes, sizes, and colors of bird eggs. Free with museum admission. Info., www.thediscoverycenter.org.

**Finger Lakes Environmental Film Festival**, Ithaca College, offering a week of forums, music, films and multimedia events aimed at rethinking and recreating our roles in our communities and world. Sponsored by the Office of the Provost, FLEFF 2012 will take place on the Ithaca College campus and Cinemapolis cinema downtown. A complete list of topics, featured guests and events is available at www.ithaca.edu/leff. For more information and to schedule interviews, contact faculty codirectors Patricia Zimmermann at (607) 274-3431 or patty@ithaca.edu, or Tom Shevory at (607) 274-1347 or shevory@ithaca.edu.

**GIAC Teen Program** 4-7pm, 318 N. Albany St., Ithaca, Game Room, Video Games, Open Gym & Field Trips.

**Harford Fire Department Pancake Breakfast**, 8am-11am, Harford Town Hall, 394 Route 38, Harford, NY. The breakfast includes eggs cooked to order, sausage, pancakes with REAL maple syrup, juice and coffee. Don't miss it, Support your local firemen and it is handicapp accessible.

**Healing Meditation**, 7-8pm, Ahimsa Yoga Center, Dewitt Mall, Ithaca, \$5 suggested donation, Info., www.ithacayoga.org.

**If Only Farm Equestrian Center Spring Show**, 450 Wood Rd., Freeville, Info., 347-4615 or 227-4635.

**International Auto Showcase Custom & Classis Car and Motorcycle Show**, 11am-5pm, NYS Fairgrounds, Syracuse.

**Ithaca High School Musical, "The Pajama Game"**, 2pm, Ithaca High School Performing Arts Center. Tickets are available in the high school cafeteria from 10:30a.m.-1:45p.m. the week of 3/19-3/23 and at the door. General \$10.00. Student \$8.00. Under 12-\$5.00

**"Our Brothers, Our Sisters' Table" hot cooked community meal**, 3pm, served at the Salvation Army, 150 N. Albany St. Ithaca. All welcome, No income guidelines.

**Out of Bounds Radio Show**, hosted by TISH PEARLMAN will feature Child Development Council Director SUE DALE-HALL; Sue Dale- Hall has held the position of Chief Executive officer of The Child Development Council of Central New York since 1992. 11:30am: WSKG-FM (89.3 Binghamton, 90.9 Ithaca 91.7 Cooperstown/Oneonta, 91.1 Corning/Elmira, 88.7 Hornell/Alfred)Live Stream: Wskg.org.

**Recovering Couples Anonymous**, 8pm, Downstairs @ 518 W. Seneca St., Ithaca, RCA is a 12-step group for couples wanting to restore com-



mitment, communication & caring in their relationships. Open to all.  
**Sapsquatch Pure Maple Syrup Event**, 11am-4pm, 2247 Mecklenberg Rd., Enfield, hosting production demonstrations, syrup tastings, and free tours of its eco-friendly sugar shack. Info., sapsquatch7@gmail.com or by cell at (607)280-8498.  
**Theatre Incognita 'Rave Tragedy' IPHIGENIA**, 4pm, The play will be performed in a transformed empty storefront at Center Ithaca (next to ShangiLa). Tickets cost just \$10 in advance through Ticket Center Ithaca, conveniently located in Center Ithaca, next to 15 Steps and now open later hours (Mon-Sat, 11 am – 7 pm), by phone at 607.273.4497. Space permitting, tickets will also be available at the door for \$15.

26 Monday

**Baby Storytime**, 10:30-11am, Tompkins Co. Public Library, Caregivers and newborns up to 15 months old are invited to join us each Monday in the Thaler/Howell Programming Room for stories, songs, and togetherness. October thru April, For more info, 272-4557 ext. 275.  
**Breastfeeding for the Health of It!**, 10am-12pm OR 6-8pm, Cooperative Extension Education Center, 615 Willow Avenue, Ithaca, A 6-class series for new or expectant moms! Participants receive a personal nutrition assessment, and will learn about mother's health, benefits of breastfeeding, how your body changes when pregnant, positioning your baby for proper latch, how to pump and store breast milk, and how to breastfeed in public. FREE for women who are eligible for WIC, Medicaid, Food Stamps or similar programs; \$30 for the series for all others. Join any time - classes are ongoing and topics are repeated in the next set of workshops! Call Tina or Stacy at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County (607) 272-2292 or email TMF8@cornell.edu to sign up.  
**Cornell Cinema**, 7:15pm, WSH, Unfinished Spaces; Info., http://cinema.cornell.edu.  
**Cortland Youth Center**, Open from 12-9pm. Info: www.cortland.org/youth or call 753-0872.  
**Drawing Through Time**, 2pm, Museum of the Earth, Join us on an artistic journey through time. Learn how to draw an Ice Age animal using the specimens in our collection and hear interesting facts about our study subject. We supply the paper and pencils, you supply the creativity! Included with the price of admission.  
**Dryden Senior Citizens Meeting**, Dryden Fire Hall, Lunch is served at 12:15pm, with announcements starting at 11:45am Please bring your own table service. The meal cost for members is \$6 and \$8 for non-members, The menu will be chicken and biscuits, tossed salad, peas and pearl onions, and carrot cake. Our entertainment will be Jomo, The King of the Kazoo.  
**Emergency Food Pantry**, 1-3:30pm, Tompkins Community Action, 701 Spencer Rd., Ithaca. Provides individuals and families with 2-3 days worth of nutritious food and personal care items. Info. 273-8816.  
**Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous**, 7-8:30pm, Cayuga Medical Center, 301 Dates Dr., Ithaca, Fourth Floor North Conference Room. Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous (FA) is a free Twelve Step recovery program for anyone suffering from food obsession, overeating, under-eating and bulimia. Call

FA at 781-321-9118 or toll free 1-866-931-6932. Visit our website at www.foodaddicts.org.  
**GIAC Teen Program** 4-7pm, 318 N. Albany St., Ithaca, Game Room, Video Games, Open Gym & Field Trips.  
**Jazz Dance Classes with Nancy Gaspar**, 7:15pm, Finger Lakes Fitness Center, 171 E. State St., Center Ithaca, Non-members & drop-ins welcome. Info 256-3532.  
**Jazzercise**, 5:45 & 6:45pm, 119 W Court St., Ithaca. Jazzercise combines dance, resistance training, pilates, yoga, kickboxing and more to create programs for people of every age and fitness level. More info. 288-4040 or www.jazzercise.com.  
**Knowledge is Power**, 6pm, group for those who have been in abusive relationships, For info., 277-3203.  
**Kundalini Yoga Classes**, 7:30-9pm, Fine Spirit Yoga Studio, 201 Dey St., Ithaca. Info., 760-5386.  
**Loaves & Fishes Community Kitchen**, 12 Noon, St. John's Church, 210 N Cayuga St., Open to all, no limitations or requirements. Info., www.loaves.org.  
**Monday Night Seminar**, 7:30PM-9PM, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, 159 Sapsucker Wood Road, Ithaca, Title/Speaker: "Scientific collecting in the digital age: Macaulay Library recording expeditions spanning the continent," Benjamin Clock, Assistant Curator, Free; Info., (800) 843-2473, cornellbirds@cornell.edu.  
**Overeaters Anonymous**, 7:30-8:30pm, Henry St. John Building, 301 S. Geneva St., #103, corner W. Clinton St., Speakers/Literature meeting, Meetings are free, confidential, no weigh-ins or diets, Info., 387-8253.  
**Pre-School Story Hour and Craft**, 10am, The SPCA Annex at The Shops at Ithaca Mall.  
**Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Meeting**, PTSD Ithaca is a Post Traumatic Stress Disorder support group for individuals in and around Ithaca, NY who have been diagnosed with (or think they may have) Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Meetings are every Monday at 6:30 p.m. Please call 607-279-0772 for more information.  
**Prom Dress Donation Drive**, Now through 4/14/2012 at 1PM, Cortland Youth Bureau Youth Center, 35 Port Watson St., Cortland, 4th annual Prom Dress Donation Drive. The Youth Center is seeking donations of formal dresses, jewelry, shoes and purses that are in new or "like new" condition. Cortland Prom Closet Giveaways will be held at the CYB Youth Center on March 24th and April 14th both from 9am-1pm.  
**Tot Spot**, 9:30-11:30pm, Ithaca Youth Bureau, Mid October thru Late April. Indoor stay and play for children 5 months to 5 years & grown-ups of any age. Children ages 5 months to 1 year: \$2; Children ages 1 year to 5 years: \$4; Adults always FREE! Frequent Visit Discount Passes Available for Recreation Partnership Residents, Info., 273-8364.

Everyday

**2012 Ithaca Festival Applications are Being Accepted**, Applications for the 2012 Ithaca Festival available from February 2nd-March 17th online at www.ithacafestival.org. The Festival invites all members of the Ithaca community to apply for roles including: performer, vendor, green business owner, craftsperson, parade participant and volunteer. For more info: marie@ithacafestival.org or 273-3646.

**Alternatives Federal Credit Union Free Tax Preparation**, to low- and middle-income community members. Tax preparation will run from January 17 – April 14, 2012. Tuesday's hours are 10AM-1PM and 3-8pm, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 3-8PM, and Saturdays 10AM-2PM. Additional hours and sites will also be available in Brooktondale, Groton, and Dryden. Call 2-1-1 or visit Alternatives' website for details. 2011 income requirements for this free tax preparation service are \$30,000 for singles with no dependents and \$50,000 for families. Info., 877-211-8667.  
**Birkram's Yoga Classes**, Bikram's Yoga is 26 postures with two breathing exercises, 90 minutes in a VERY warm room. Classes every day. Info., (607) 269-9642 or www.bikramyoga.com.  
**Boynton Middle School Book Drive**, During the month of March 2012 the school is looking for books to add to its own library collection, and so hopes to receive fiction and nonfiction for children and youth. Graphic novels, manga, coffee table books, biography, poetry, and other types of books suitable for young readers are all welcome, but they do not want adult books, encyclopedias, or textbooks. All books must be in good condition and may be dropped off at Boynton or at Wegmans Supermarket in the bin near the Kid's Place at the front of the store. Donations of new books are also welcomed and may be purchased anywhere, however, Buffalo Street Books has partnered with the school to give all Boynton donations purchased at their store a 30% discount and to deliver the books to the school for customers. For more information and a wish list, go to: http://www.icsd.k12.ny.us/boynton/library/ and click the Books 4 Boynton link.  
**Bright Red Bookshelf Book Drive**, The Family Reading Partnership, located in Ithaca, New York, is a coalition of organizations, individuals, schools, libraries and businesses that is working to create a "culture of literacy" by promoting family reading practices in the community and beyond. If you have gently used books to donate please contact: 607-277-8602, Email: office@familyreading.org.  
**Connect to the Ocean**, Sciencenter, Tues & Thurs 2-4pm, Sat & Sun 12-4pm. This permanent exhibition features a touch tank with live tide pool animals and exhibits about ecology, environmental science and conservation of water habitats. Museum admission.  
**Consumer Helpline**, Trained volunteers are available to help consumers explore their options regarding various consumer issues including: New/Used Car Warranties, Credit, Money Management, Home Repairs, Home Maintenance, Insurances, Landlord/Tenant Rights & Responsibilities, Scams/Frauds, Merchandise Selection, Merchandise Complaints, Lead Based Paint Issues, Asbestos, Indoor Air Quality, Working with a Contractor, Radon Ventilation. Call 272-2292 weekdays, 10 am to 2pm.  
**Freeskool Classes**, Calendars with complete class descriptions are being distributed throughout Ithaca and are available online at http://ithacafreeskool.wordpress.com/class-descriptions.  
**Glass in Nature Display**, The Corning Museum of Glass, Daily, Glass Collection Gallery, Glass is a state of matter, and one that can be found throughout nature. Included in Museum admission. Adult admission is \$12.50; kids and teens, 19 and under, free. Call (607) 937-5371 for more information.  
**Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art**, Cornell University, Ithaca, Tuesdays to Sundays, 10am-5pm,

Always free admission, museum@cornell.edu, www.museum.cornell.edu.  
**Jazzercise**, Dance exercise program in Lansing and Cortland. Cardio, strength and stretch choreographed to a variety of music. 3-5 classes daily a.m. and p.m. Visit Jazzercise.com for class times or call 288-4040.  
**Landscape Paintings: Scenes of Ithaca in Bold Colors**," will be on display at the Nevin Welcome Center from March 2 to April 28, 2012. Landscapes in watercolors & acrylics in a continuing series depict the beautiful scenes around the Ithaca area and the many local waterfalls. "I try to use expressive bold colors to represent the subjects that inspire me. Even a scene of winter ice and snow can contain a touch of warm color in a few spots" says the artist. He retired in 2003 after 39 years as a physicist at Cornell, to catch up on painting and music missed in those busy years. His work can be seen at http://www.ArtbyNari.com.  
**Tai Chi Classes**, Monday-Saturday, Taoist Tai Chi Society 1201 N. Tioga St. (old Fall Creek Cinema building). For health, healing and fullness of life try Taoist Tai Chi. For listing of class times visit us at www.ithaca.newyork.usa.taoist.org, e-mail ithaca.ny@taoist.org or call 277-5491.  
**Taiko Drum Lessons**, Seishi Karate, 15 Catherwood Rd., Ithaca, with "SeiDaiko". Introduction through Advance Traditional Taiko Drumming and More, Registration now open. www.seishijuku.com, Call (607) 277-1047, email: seishihonbu@verizon.net.  
**The State of the Art Gallery**, 120 W. State St., Ithaca; it is open 12noon-6pm, Wednesday-Friday, 12noon-5pm on Saturday and Sunday.  
**Vital Self-Defense For Moms and Teen Daughters**, Seishi Karate, 15 Catherwood Rd., Ithaca, Beginner - Intermediate, Private and Group Lessons. Seishi Karate Honbu. Registration now open. www.seishijuku.com, Call: (607) 277-1047. email: seishihonbu@verizon.net.  
**Volunteer Opportunities in Tompkins County**, sign-up for various volunteer opportunities with flexible hours. Info., Toll-free: 1-877-211-8667, www.211tompkins.org.  
**Women's Opportunity Center Retail Training Program** and women's clothing boutique at 110 West Court St. Check us out for great prices on new and used clothing. Shop local, shop green, support your community and our program! Call 256-9957, www.secondsoncourt.com.

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Announcements

**Boynton Middle School is holding a Books 4 Boynton book drive** during the month of March 2012. The school is looking for books to add to its own library collection. For more information and a wish list, go to: http://www.icsd.k12.ny.us/boynton/library/ and click the Books 4 Boynton link.



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SPRD (4) NURSW (5)  
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To play, fill in the blanks with the available numbers such that the equation is valid. Some numbers may be used more than once.

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Study

Continued from page 1

isn't in effect an unfunded mandate on municipalities," she says. "It takes a long time before you see money from severance taxes, and we're seeing costs already, working with an attorney and an engineering firm to set up road use agreements. If you look at Pennsylvania, they are drilling and capping some wells, waiting for gas prices to get better. In the meantime, you have all of the damage from thousands of trucks coming in," she adds.

The white paper recommends a severance tax rate of between 8 and 12 percent to cover known costs, as well as "new efforts such as establishing new open data bases of drilling violations and accidents (not available through the DEC now), health assessments (not yet conducted), tracking of health problems, independent studies to monitor water quality and so on."

"Currently, New York State only recovers expenses through the local ad valorem property tax," Chock says, "which does not come to us until several years after costs are incurred. We looked at other states that use local property taxes, severance taxes and permit fees. Before

issuing any permits, New York needs to have mechanisms in place to cover all costs.

"New York is quietly proceeding to think about how to change the system," Chock adds. "Any changes should be done through a fair, open, transparent process with input from experts and citizens alike."

Don Barber is co-chairman of TCCOG and supervisor of the Town of Caroline. As a town supervisor, he notes that New York Conservation Law states that towns have control of assessments related to gas drilling. "We discovered that we actually have none," he said. "We invited bankers, real estate brokers and attorneys to talk with us and learned there were irregularities with lease filings, problems with mortgages, property insurance, title insurance. It was a can of worms that needed to be looked at," says Barber.

The Town of Caroline conducted an analysis of expected well production with current UPV and discounts. "There is the potential for 320 wells, and based on what they would produce, the town would receive around \$75,000 per year for some number of years. School districts and the county would receive money as well, but that is the town's share, which is what I was worried about. In towns where

drilling is happening, they are spending way more than that on expenses incurred due to drilling," Barber says.

As an example of documented expenses, Nornew, Inc., the principal drilling operator in the town of Lebanon, caused some \$550,000 in road impacts in just two years.

Another issue is how long it takes to receive any money. "The fastest we would ever receive money is three years," says Barber, "way after local impacts are being felt. Taxpayers would have to pick up expenses long ahead of when revenues come in, which led us to question this whole tax structure. When can local government receive any funding from this industry? Taxpayers should not foot the bill for an industry already making billions of dollars."

TCCOG is hosting a public meeting on Thursday, March 22, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in the Borg Warner Room at the Tompkins County Library to present their findings and answer questions.

"We're hoping to attract officials who need to make decisions about their municipalities," says Chock, "who need to make budgets and depend on taxes. They need to understand how the current taxation system works and what they will receive and when. And we need

citizens to weigh in, since they pay taxes. So this is open to everyone."

"We want local officials to become advocates for their citizens and know how to plug into the Marcellus Shale Gas Advisory Committee set up by Governor Cuomo, the DEC, and the new Office of Taxation and Finance which handles the evaluation of gas," Barber says.

More information can be found at TCCOG's website: [www.tompkins-co.org/tccog](http://www.tompkins-co.org/tccog).

Biodiesel

Continued from page 1

board members have visited local restaurants, collected their vegetable oil from fryers, filtered it by removing food particles and then sold it to customers in five-gallon buckets. The cost is \$4.50 per gallon for biodiesel and \$2 per gallon for waste vegetable oil.

Making biodiesel requires more time and effort than refining waste vegetable oil. Biodiesel is a plant-based oil (vegetable oil, sunflower oil, or peanut oil) mixed with methanol and lye. According to McKenzie, during a chemical reaction, fats are removed from the oil, resulting in the final product: biodiesel; made in such a way that a standard diesel engine can use in its fuel tank.

McKenzie explains that often, when people hear the word biodiesel, they think waste vegetable oil, and that in order to use biodiesel they must convert the fuel tank and fuel lines in their car. "Diesel engines were meant to run on peanut oil, not petroleum oil," she says. "And since diesel engines are well suited to take plant-based fuel as oil, diesel cars can be converted with an added fuel tank that runs on waste vegetable oil."

She notes that she has added an extra fuel tank to her family's car. She puts diesel, or biodiesel fuel, in the diesel tank and puts waste vegetable oil in the second tank. The vehicle's engine starts with diesel fuel, and once the fuel lines are warm enough, the car switches from the diesel tank to the waste vegetable oil tank. "The reason for the second tank is because waste vegetable oil cannot be used in a standard diesel tank," McKenzie explains.

Brian Buchman, the only founding member still on the board, fuels his car and truck with one tank containing a blend of biodiesel and diesel, and an added tank containing waste vegetable oil. He also heats his home with a blend of biodiesel and fuel oil. Buchman says that IBC's customers have been diesel-fuel car owners, farmers with tractors and generators and homeowners interested in heating their homes with biodiesel. "Biodiesel can also be used for school and public buses, large moving vehicles, ambulances, fire, plow, and garbage trucks, and 18-wheelers," he adds.

Finding a new location has been a challenge for IBC, but they are thinking ahead. Joe Fisher, an IBC board member who's been heavily invested in biofuels during his adult life, says the IBC is searching for partnerships with gas stations in town interested in adding a biodiesel pump. "We are also interested in starting a dialogue with farmers interested in growing soy beans, canola or sunflowers that can be converted into fuel," he says.

At a time when gas prices are inching their way to \$4 a gallon, IBC couldn't be more convinced that Tompkins County deserves locally-made biodiesel and waste vegetable oil fuel.

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