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Health care challenges ahead



Joan K. Lentini photo

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Health care challenges ahead

Clinics, hospitals, nursing homes weigh effects of big Medicaid cuts

By MAURY THOMPSON
Contributing writer

SALEM, N.Y.

The grand opening of the new Salem Family Health complex in May marked a major milestone for health care in rural Washington County.

“It was a big day,” recalled town Supervisor Sue Clary, who had pushed for the center’s development for much of the past eight years.

The new health center, built and operated by the Hudson Headwaters Health Network, provides a lot more access to primary care for people in Salem and surrounding towns. The area has a graying population and is a 45-minute drive from each of the nearest hospitals and medical-office hubs – in Saratoga Springs, Glens Falls and Bennington, Vt.

In the weeks since the new center opened, Clary said she has been delighted to see people using it.

“I like to watch the parking lot, and I see that there are always cars there,” she said in a July 24 telephone interview.

But lately Clary also has begun to worry about how the health center will be affected in the years ahead by major cuts to Medicaid funding under the new domestic policy legislation President Trump signed into law on July Fourth.

The legislation cuts more than \$1 trillion from health care nationwide over 10 years, said Dr. John Ruge, the founder and former longtime chief executive of Hudson Headwaters.

And some experts predict community health centers could be among the hardest hit by the cuts.



Joan K. Lentini photo

Hudson Headwaters Health Network opened its newest family health center in May in Salem, N.Y. Now the center is among the many health care facilities across the region that are likely to lose revenue as the federal government cuts about \$1 trillion in Medicaid spending in the years ahead.

“It’s a little bit frightening,” Clary said. “In a small town, these things matter.”

Clary is hardly the only person who’s worried. Across the region, health centers, hospitals, nursing homes and local social service agencies are starting to consider how they’ll navigate the reduced revenues and new expenses imposed by the federal legislation. And many are still trying to gauge the magnitude of the changes ahead.

Pamela Fisher, the director of external affairs for Hudson Headwaters, declined an interview request for this story in late July, saying it was simply too early to understand the impact of the new law.

Big bill, many changes

Most of the new law’s spending cuts and policy changes will begin to take effect after next year’s congressional elections.

“If there’s a silver lining, it’s that these new policies won’t become effective until the out years of 2026, 2027 and 2028,” said Kevin Kerwin, president and chief executive officer of Iroquois Healthcare Association, a trade group of upstate

New York hospitals.

Over 10 years, federal Medicaid payments will be reduced an estimated 19 percent, or \$120 billion, to New York; 13 percent, or \$2 billion, to Vermont; and 13 percent, or \$25 billion, to Massachusetts, according to the Kaiser Family Foundation. (New York has a much higher reliance on Medicaid than some other states.)

Congress included the Medicaid cuts in comprehensive spending legislation that made permanent the temporary tax cuts passed in the first Trump administration in 2017, established new tax cuts and credits, and increased spending on defense and immigration enforcement. The legislation, dubbed the “big, beautiful bill” by Trump and his allies, passed the Senate and House in near-party-line votes, with Democrats unanimously opposed, at the beginning of July.

Kerwin said it’s too soon to estimate the facility-specific reductions in revenue that likely will result from the Medicaid cuts.

“There’s more that we don’t know than what we do know, at this point,” Kerwin said.

But state governments and health-care

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Editor & Publisher Fred Daley
Contributing writers Kate Abbott, Tracy Frisch, Craig Idlebrook, Don Lehman, Stacey Morris, John Seven, Maury Thompson, John Townes
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Advertising Design Sara Kelly
Editorial Cartoon Mark Wilson
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organizations already are bracing for major changes. Vermont allocated about \$300 million in this year's state budget to offset expected federal Medicaid cuts. New York legislators are expected to meet in a special session this fall to weigh how to respond to the cuts.

The new law outlines broad policy changes and total reductions in spending, but federal agencies now must determine details of how the changes will be implemented.

"I saw a recent analysis where there are 40 components, just for health care," said Ruge, the founder and longtime leader of Hudson Headwaters, which operates health centers in six New York counties from Washington, Saratoga and Warren north to the Canadian border.

Now in retirement, Ruge is leader of the volunteer advocacy group Healthcare Coalition of New York, which was formed to oppose the federal cuts and now will focus on urging the state to continue to support rural health care.

One of the more widely discussed of the new law's provisions is a new work requirement, beginning at the end of 2026, for many Medicaid recipients. With certain exceptions, adults under 65 with children over age 15, or with no children, will be required to work or volunteer at least 80 hours a month to remain eligible for benefits.

In addition, non-citizens who are in the country lawfully, such as asylum seekers, will no longer be eligible for coverage under state health insurance exchanges — the federally subsidized health plans for people who earn more than the Medicaid limit but do not have health insurance through an employer.

The new federal law also contains a multitude of other policy changes, new restrictions and new co-pays that are less widely known, Ruge said.

One major change is a prohibition on new use and much existing use of a so-called "provider tax," a tactic through which states tax health care providers and then use the revenue to gain federal matching funds they can use to increase payments to providers.

"It's akin to money laundering, but it's part of the system," said Andrew Cruickshank, the president and chief executive of Fort Hudson Health System in Fort Edward.

Twenty-two states, including Vermont and New York but not Massachusetts, now have a provider tax, according to the Kaiser Family Foundation.

Shrinking 'expanded' Medicaid

Medicaid was created in the 1960s as a joint federal- and state-funded health and long-term care insurance program for the poor, elderly and disabled. In New York, county governments also pay a portion of the program's cost.

Although it began as a health-care program for people in poverty, Congress broadened Medicaid's scope over the years — especially when it passed the Affordable Care Act, the health care reform championed by President Barack Obama, in 2010. That law expanded Medicaid coverage to adults with incomes up to 138 percent of the poverty level — and provided enhanced federal matching funds to states

providing coverage to this population.

In New York, this type of coverage is called an "essential plan." In Vermont, expanded Medicaid coverage is provided through Vermont Health Connect, and in Massachusetts it's provided through the Massachusetts Health Connection.

These types of expanded Medicaid represented a seismic shift in federal healthcare policy when they were set up under the Affordable Care Act, which also became known as Obamacare. The goal of that effort was to get as close as possible to having universal health insurance coverage, in various public and private forms, thereby improving patients' access to care while reducing the volume of uncompensated care being provided by hospitals, physicians and health centers.

Now, some health care providers fear they'll face an increase in uncompensated care for treating patients who may lose Medicaid coverage under the new law.

"These folks are going to continue to have needs," said Paul Scimeca, the president of chief executive of Glens Falls Hospital.

Health care officials said they are morally, and in some cases legally, required to provide care regardless of whether patients are insured or not.

"If you practice in a small town, there's no way you can tell people that you see at the grocery store and at the theater, 'I can't treat you anymore,'" Ruge said.

Health care experts say patients who lack insurance tend to avoid getting primary and preventative care and delay getting care when they develop symptoms of serious illness. The result is that they often wind up needing more extensive and expensive care later.

New York Gov. Kathy Hochul has said that as a result of the federal Medicaid cuts, uncompensated care is expected to increase by an estimated \$3 billion annually statewide.

And even as uncompensated care is increasing, it's possible that provisions of the new federal law will limit or reduce the payments the state makes to hospitals to offset uncompensated care, Kerwin said.

Supporters say changes under the new law will add accountability while bringing the Medicaid program back in line with its original role as a health insurance program for the truly

impoverished.

"We want to strengthen and protect Medicaid," U.S. Rep. Elise Stefanik, R-Schuylerville, said in a July 12 interview on Buffalo radio station WUSV-1270 AM. "That's what this bill does."

But Ruge said he hopes no one wants to return Medicaid to the scale it had at its inception in 1965.

"It was for people under the poverty level, and it was just to see the doctor," he said.

The Medicaid program has been expanded seven times since then, most recently under Obamacare, Ruge said, adding that he is disappointed to see the federal government now cutting back.

Coverage at stake for millions

The Congressional Budget Office has estimated about 11 million Medicaid recipients nationwide will lose coverage under the new law.

The law's supporters have played down the potential loss of coverage.

"If you're one of these 11 million, you have 18 months to determine, 'Hey, can I get some type of part-time work? ... It's not a huge requirement,'" said Rep. Blake Moore, R-Utah, the House Republican Caucus vice chairman, in a June 26 appearance on the C-SPAN program "Washington Journal."

Critics of the legislation have said many recipients will lose their coverage either because they won't be able to meet the new work requirements or because the new twice-yearly certification process will prove too complex.

Ruge predicted the new work requirements will apply to about 8 percent of Medicaid recipients, about half of whom will wind up not complying.

Community health centers may be hit the hardest.

Joe Dunn, the chief policy officer of the National Association of Community Health Centers, said in a July 12 interview on C-SPAN's "Washington Journal" that typically half the patients at community health centers nationally are enrolled in Medicaid, which provides 40 percent of the centers' revenue.

In Vermont, Northern Tier Center for Health in St. Albans has estimated it will lose 65 percent of its Medicaid revenue. Kathy Benoit, the health center's chief executive officer, recently told *The*

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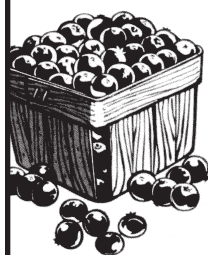


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St. Albans Messenger that about one-third of the health center's patients are covered by Medicaid.

Hospitals, in contrast, tend to draw a larger portion of their revenue from Medicare, the federal health care program for the elderly and disabled, which wasn't cut by the new legislation.

Scimeca said Glens Falls Hospital receives about 6 percent to 7 percent of its revenue from Medicaid.

But any loss of revenue is critical when hospitals already are operating at razor-thin margins or at a loss, said Kerwin, of the Iroquois Healthcare Association.

"Unfortunately, 75 New York hospitals are already financially distressed, with many more on the brink," the Healthcare Association of New York State and Greater New York Hospital Association said in a joint statement that Hochul's office distributed with a news release on July 1.

At Glens Falls Hospital, "we are on the positive side, knock on wood, just slightly," Scimeca said.

Scimeca said the hospital will seek to absorb the pending cuts with increased efficiency and collaboration through its affiliation with Albany Medical Center. The hospital is committed to maintaining its current services, he added.

Other area hospitals said it is premature to comment on the potential impact of the legislation.

'Rural health fund' planned

At Berkshire Medical Center in Pittsfield, Mass., spokesman Michael Leary stressed the hospital's commitment to maintaining services.

"We are working in partnership with the Massachusetts Health & Hospital Association on reviewing the potential impacts of the bill, which will affect all hospitals in Massachusetts and across the nation," Leary said in written statement. "Some of these impacts are not scheduled to occur for an extended period of time. We continue to provide our programs and services to all who live and work in the Berkshire community."

Rutland Regional Medical Center is not commenting about the legislation at this point, spokeswoman Gerianne Smart said.

U.S. Sen. Ed Markey, D-Mass., released a list of 300 rural hospitals nationwide that are at risk of reducing services, closing or being converted to other uses as a result of the legislation, including 11 in New York and one in Massachusetts, but none in Vermont. None of the hospitals on Markey's list are in the Observer readership area.

In an effort to assuage concerns about rural hospital closings, the U.S. Senate made a last-minute addition to the new spending bill, providing \$50 billion for a "rural health fund."

Scimeca said he does not expect Glens Falls Hospital will benefit from this fund.

Rugge said it is not yet clear whether community health centers will be eligible for this funding. Although he said he appreciates that Congress recognized the importance of rural health care, Rugge said the fund will not be sufficient to offset an estimated \$1.02 trillion in cuts to health care nationwide.

The \$1.02 trillion figure includes cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly known as food stamps.

"Food is pretty essential, and it's important to health," Rugge said.

Nursing homes: More unpaid stays

Cruickshank, the Fort Hudson Health Systems president, said nursing homes are directly affected by two measures in the new legislation.

One is that the period for which a nursing home can bill Medicaid retroactively after a patient applies for coverage is being cut back from three months to one month.

Where this typically comes into play, Cruickshank explained, is when a patient is admitted to a nursing home temporarily under Medicare, which pays only for short stays for rehabilitation. The initial expectation is that the patient will return home, but if that turns out not to be feasible, it can take the family time to apply for Medicaid to pay for long-term care,

continued on page 11

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NEWS & ISSUES

The divide over dirt roads

Columbia County paving projects meet resistance from homeowners

By JOHN TOWNES
Contributing writer

HILLSDALE, N.Y.

One day soon, Texas Hill Road might not be a dirt road anymore.

After months of controversy, officials in the Columbia County town of Hillsdale have opted to go ahead with plans to pave the rural road – over the objections of most of the people who live along it.

The road’s defenders went so far as to offer the town a gift of nearly \$20,000 to help cover the cost of maintaining it as a gravel road. But the Town Board in mid-July rejected that offer in a 4-0 vote, with one member abstaining.

The dispute is among several that have emerged around the region in recent years between rural homeowners and municipal officials over road paving. Local highway officials generally say paved roads are less costly to maintain, are safer for cars and provide better access for emergency vehicles.

But those in favor of preserving dirt roads say they’re an important part of the region’s rural character. They contend paved roads invite higher speeds and more traffic, posing a safety hazard to people out walking, running or bicycling. And they say pavement speeds the runoff of pollutants into the local watershed.

The dispute in Hillsdale started around the beginning of the year after the town announced a plan to resurface two roads in



Scott Langley photo

Texas Hill Road residents Peter Cohen, Leandra Solovay and Miles Flamenbaum and area bicyclist Steven Klein have opposed the town of Hillsdale’s plans to pave the road.

the southwestern corner of town, north of the hamlet of Craryville, using a process known as chip sealing.

Chip seal is a type of pavement made up of small rocks or gravel held together by a binder such as asphalt or tar. It’s often used on rural roads as a less costly alternative to standard asphalt pavement.

The town said it would pay for the work on Texas Hill Road and Appletree Lane using funds from a grant of more than \$400,000 from the state Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program.

Apple Tree Lane is a short road that runs through Honey Dog Farm, an organic farm on Rodman Road. Texas Hill Road extends 2.1 miles, connecting West End Road and Lockwood Road, and has about 15 homes along it.

Miles Flamenbaum, who lives on Texas

Hill Road, said the town’s paving plans caught homeowners there by surprise.

“It came all of a sudden, and word spread quickly,” he recalled.

Nearly everyone along the road would prefer that it remain unpaved, he said.

“Most of us love the road the way it is,” Flamenbaum said. “It’s part of the bucolic character of the neighborhood, and people enjoy walking along it.”

So he and his neighbors formed an ad-hoc group, the Taghkanic Creek Old Road Society, to push for preserving Texas Hill and other dirt roads. Flamenbaum serves as the group’s president.

Emotional debate

Although the town’s paving plan underwent basic reviews required under Section 284 of state highway law, opponents contend the town failed to engage in good-faith efforts to solicit and fully consider public input. Flamenbaum said town officials were hostile and unresponsive to residents’ requests from the beginning.

“It became emotional and divisive very quickly,” Flamenbaum said. “I still am trying

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to figure out why. We were trying to be neighborly. We were happy the town got the state money for improvements. We just were suggesting using it for other projects instead of this.”

He acknowledged that while most of those living on Texas Hill Road oppose the paving plan, it’s difficult to gauge the sentiment of the broader public, as townspeople who showed up at public meetings expressed views both pro and con.

Efforts to interview town officials for this article were unsuccessful. Supervisor Mike Dvorchak declined an interview request, saying the town’s decision had been made and that there was nothing more to discuss. Messages left the week of July 20-26 for Highway Superintendent Richard Briggs and other officials were not returned by the end of the month.

But in public meetings and documents from the first half of this year, town officials argued the paving project was needed because of public safety concerns and to avoid the higher expense of maintaining an unpaved road. Because state money would cover the cost of paving, they said, the project effectively would save local taxpayer dollars.

In a letter to the editor published in *The Columbia Paper*, Briggs said chip sealing has several advantages. He also characterized this form of paving as a “compromise” that he said would retain the overall appearance of



The Taghkanic Creek Old Road Society, a local group pushing to preserve unpaved roads, distributed lawn signs opposing Hillsdale’s paving plans.

Scott Langley photo

traditional dirt and gravel roads while providing a superior surface.

“This makes the road more durable, less dusty, and more skid resistant, resulting in safer roads that need far less maintenance than gravel-dirt ones,” Briggs wrote.

He went on to explain that loose gravel roads need to be regularly regraded, with new gravel applied, especially after winter, while chip-sealed roads only require periodic patching. He estimated that gravel replacement costs taxpayers \$25,500 per mile annually in addition to labor and equipment costs.

Briggs also contended that chip sealing is better for the environment. He noted that “all those tons of gravel and dirt don’t just disappear

over the winter.” Instead, he said, they wind up in streams and other habitats and interfere with fish spawning and plant life.

Briggs and other town officials also have argued that unpaved roads can cause problems for public safety by hindering the ability of firetrucks, ambulances and other equipment and crews to respond to emergencies.

Flamenbaum and other opponents disagreed with this view, pointing out that Texas Hill Road is not a primary travel route and has very little traffic.

“It’s not a major connection between major roads,” Flamenbaum said. “I work at home and see it from my office window all day. Typically I rarely see more than one vehicle an hour on it.”

He and others also disputed the town’s claims about maintenance costs. He said an analysis by his group of what the town had spent previously found the maintenance cost for Texas Hill Road was considerably lower than the amount the town cited.

Opponents of the paving also argue that chip sealing has negative environmental impacts, such as runoff of the petroleum-based adhesive, and that paving leads to safety issues such as increased and faster car traffic.

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to maintain them as dirt roads, town officials set up a Gifting Committee in recent months to review and make recommendations on whether to accept private contributions that could reduce the use of tax dollars on road supplies and maintenance.

Through this process, the town decided in June accepted a proposal from Honey Dog Farm to provide \$20,000 to cover gravel and maintenance costs on Apple Tree Lane, preventing that road from being paved.

But when the Taghkanic Creek Old Road Society said it had raised commitments for a similar gift to pay for maintenance of Texas Hill Road, the town refused that offer.

“We’re happy that Honey Dog Farm was able to make that arrangement, but the town handled our proposal differently,” Flamenbaum said. “They had told us to submit a proposal, but they never had a sit-down meeting, and they refused to cooperate or provide us with clear guidance about what was required. The process was very opaque.”

As of late July, Flamenbaum said the group is considering its options, including the possibility of submitting another gift proposal. But he said he was not optimistic the paving of Texas Hill

Road could be halted.

Flamenbaum said the conflict seems to have touched on divisions that are larger than the fate of one road.

“Speaking personally, I’d probably have been OK with this result if the process had been more transparent and open to actual review and public input,” he said. “But it also raises larger question of how other situations like this will be handled in the future.”

Preserving a rural tradition

Some communities in the region appear to have taken a more accommodating approach to homeowners who want to keep their roads unpaved. In the nearby town of Chatham, for example, dirt and gravel roads still account for about 47 of the 97 miles of roads the town maintains.

There, a private organization, The Chatham Dirt Road Coalition, works to encourage support for unpaved roads as an element of the town’s heritage and appeal.

Chatham Highway Superintendent James Fetzter said the town does not have an overall policy about preserving or paving dirt roads but handles them on a case-by-case basis. Although

there have been occasional controversies over specific roads, in general there is an acceptance and appreciation of dirt roads, he said.

“We seem to like our dirt roads in Chatham,” Fetzter said. “I live on a dirt road myself, and I love it. In my position as superintendent, I’m for having a mix of both paved and unpaved roads, as long as I have the resources to maintain them.”

From a practical standpoint, Fetzter said dirt and gravel roads can be more challenging.

“They do require more time and maintenance for such things as grading and repairing rain damage,” he said. “And when a problem arises on one of these roads, people are quick to call us to fix it right away.”

Overall, he said, most people have been tolerant of differing attitudes about Chatham’s dirt and gravel roads.

“I’d say there’s a mix of people who love them and want to protect them, while others would prefer to see all of our roads paved,” Fetzter said. “And there are many who just accept them as part of the town’s identity. If problems do arise, we encourage everyone to handle their differences respectfully. That generally works out.”

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A MONTH IN THE HILLS

Vermont starts major overhaul of education

Vermont’s political leaders have embarked on a plan to dramatically reshape the state’s education system over the next few years by sharply reducing the number of school districts while giving the state more control over districts’ spending.

The state Senate and House each gave final approval to the controversial education reform plan on June 16, and Gov. Phil Scott signed the legislation later in the month.

The *Rutland Herald* reported that the Republican governor, speaking at a news conference where he signed the bill, stressed the need for major change.

“For over 30 years, the state has tried to fix a broken system by tinkering around the edges,” Scott said.

With passage of the new law, he said, “we were able to come together and chart a path towards a system that better serves our kids and one that taxpayers can afford.”

The new law calls for reducing the number of school districts in Vermont from nearly 120 today to about a dozen – each with a minimum of 4,000 students. In a first step toward this goal, a new task force created by the law is expected to craft three alternative maps of consolidated districts for the Legislature to consider next year.

The law also would shift to a funding system in which the state would set a baseline of “foundation aid” to individual districts based on student enrollment, beginning in fiscal year 2029. Although most other states including New York already use a foundation-aid system, Vermont until now has left spending authority mainly in the hands of local districts and voters.

Under the current system, set up in the late 1990s, school districts bill the state, which collects education property taxes from individual towns and then redistributes them under a complex formula that’s intended to account for disparities between ‘property-rich’ and ‘property-poor’ communities.

Many of the details of the new funding formula – and its effects on individual towns’ property tax bills – remain unknown and will depend on the results of a series of studies and reports the state has yet to produce.

Opponents, including groups representing teachers, superintendents and school board members, said the new law would largely end the state’s tradition of local control over education – and that class-size minimums set by the law would force small, rural schools to close, resulting in long bus rides for students.

Don Tinney, president of the statewide teachers union Vermont NEA, told the online news site VTDigger that the new law would go too far toward consolidating power in Montpelier.

“I think we know that the best decisions for students are made by people who know their students,” Tinney said.

The governor and many lawmakers claimed a mandate for a major overhaul of the education system after voters, facing average projected property tax hikes of 18.5 percent, rejected nearly one-third of local school budgets on town meeting day last year. Scott and his allies campaigned on the need for major changes, and in November, Republican candidates picked up nearly two dozen seats in the Legislature, erasing what had been veto-proof Democratic margins in both houses, although Democrats retained their majorities.

The new law, known as H.454, passed with bipartisan support, although its passage in the state Senate rested on the votes of a beefed-up Republican minority. The Senate approved the bill in a 17-12 vote, with seven Democrats and 10 Republicans voting in favor while nine Democrats, two Republicans and the chamber’s lone Progressive voted no.

All five senators from Bennington and Rutland counties – Democrats Seth Bongartz and Rob Plunkett of the Bennington District and Republicans Brian Collamore, David Weeks and Terry Williams of the Rutland District – voted yes.

The House passed the final version of the legislation on a voice vote, so individual lawmakers’ votes weren’t recorded. But in procedural vote on whether to send the bill to the governor for his signature, which passed 96-45, only two of the local delegation’s 22 representatives – Democrats Will Greer of Bennington and Mary Howard of Rutland City – voted no.

Although the bill’s passage puts Vermont on a road toward school consolidation, state leaders still will have to navigate a series of politically difficult decisions over the next several years. Vermont Public described the 155-page bill as being “stuffed with off-ramps.” The first of these, it said, will come next year, when lawmakers will have to approve a map of consolidated school districts before other changes like a new funding formula can begin to take effect.

In other news from around the region in June and July:

College puts federal grants on pause

Williams College has temporarily stopped accepting funds from the National Science Foundation and National Institutes of Health, citing legal risks stemming from the Trump administration’s targeting of diversity initiatives.

The college notified faculty of the decision in a May 30 email from Provost Eiko Siniawer and Lara Shore-Sheppard, the dean of faculty.

“The college is unfortunately not comfortable accepting any new NSF or NIH grants, at least at this time,” Siniawer and Shore-Sheppard wrote.

The decision was first widely reported in early June by the journal *Science*, which said Williams “appears to be the first college or

continued on page 11



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Lengthy strike disrupted region's slate industry

Maury Thompson

About 600 area slate workers walked off the job on May 12 a century ago.

The skilled slate workers at quarries around Granville, N.Y., and Poultney, Vt., were demanding an hourly wage increase of 5 cents — the equivalent of 92 cents in today's dollars.

Even with the increase, their wages, after adjusting for inflation, would still have been low by today's standards. The increase would have brought their hourly wages to 62 cents for trimmers, 63 cents for splitters and 65 cents for block cutters — amounts equivalent to between \$11.39 and \$11.94 an hour today.

While the dispute involved pennies per hour, the requested increase amounted to a wage hike of more than 8 percent for the affected workers.

The strike began after the two union locals, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, negotiated unsuccessfully for an increase to make their wages commensurate with the higher wages being paid slate workers elsewhere — including in other parts of Vermont.

Members of the Poultney local voted 74 to 4 on April 24 to authorize a strike, *The Granville Sentinel* reported on May 1. The Granville local backed the strike in a 223-14 vote on April 25. Not all union members voted.

The strike began as the slate industry was enjoying its highest annual national sales among the years leading up to the Great Depression. Yet management officials of local companies insisted they could not afford the requested wage increases because, they said, the industry was depressed.

A representative of local slate companies said

quarry operators were experiencing the worst slump in 30 years and had a surplus of about 15,000 squares of slate in storage, *The Post-Star* of Glens Falls reported on May 13.

The volume of slate sold in New York and Vermont did drop off in 1925, though this might have been a result of the strike, surplus supplies, or both.

New York slate producers sold 10,974 squares of slate in 1924, 7,650 squares in 1925, and 11,903 squares in 1926, according to the National Slate Association. Vermont producers sold 168,083 squares in 1924, 154,400 squares in 1925, and 148,026 squares in 1926.

On the second day of the strike, O'Brien Slate, which employed about 50 skilled workers, settled with the union, agreeing to the 5-cents-per-hour wage increase.

But larger operators appeared to be digging in for a long fight.

"It was stated yesterday that one of the largest slate operating concerns had started to store away equipment," *The Post-Star* reported on May 14.

The union denied that striking workers were involved in setting off a stick of dynamite on local railroad tracks on May 15, the *Sentinel* reported in its May 22 issue.

A commissioner from the U.S. Department of Labor traveled to Granville to attempt to negotiate a settlement, but he was not successful, *The Glens Falls Times* reported June 2.

On July 21, *The Post-Star* reported that the

federal Labor Department had again attempted to convene negotiations.

"By an act of Congress, the secretary of labor is empowered to intervene in labor disputes and use his 'friendly office in bringing the two sides together,'" the newspaper explained.

The union was willing to "cooperate" with negotiations, but management refused, *The Post-Star* reported on July 22.

"There is no settlement in sight," Labor Commissioner Richard A. Brown told the paper. "This controversy may be ended in a week, maybe in a year. I am in no position to say."

The strike continued through the fall and beyond. Several small companies offered a 2-cent-an-hour raise, which the union rejected, *The Post-Star* reported on Oct. 3.

The strike helped to create a cottage industry for some.

"Since the strike went into effect, ... numerous farmers and landowners have opened small pits on their property and, not pushed by competition from the larger operators, have reaped a harvest from otherwise useless deposits," the paper reported. "In many cases pits are operated by regular farm help, which cut the labor cost to where there is a larger profit for the operator."

Some striking workers opted to relocate.

"Several Granville families who have been deriving their income from work in the slate quarries have moved to Georgia, where they have obtained similar employment," *The Post-Star* reported on Oct. 3.

Others opted to defy the union.

continued on next page

News that's slow-brewed for a high-speed age

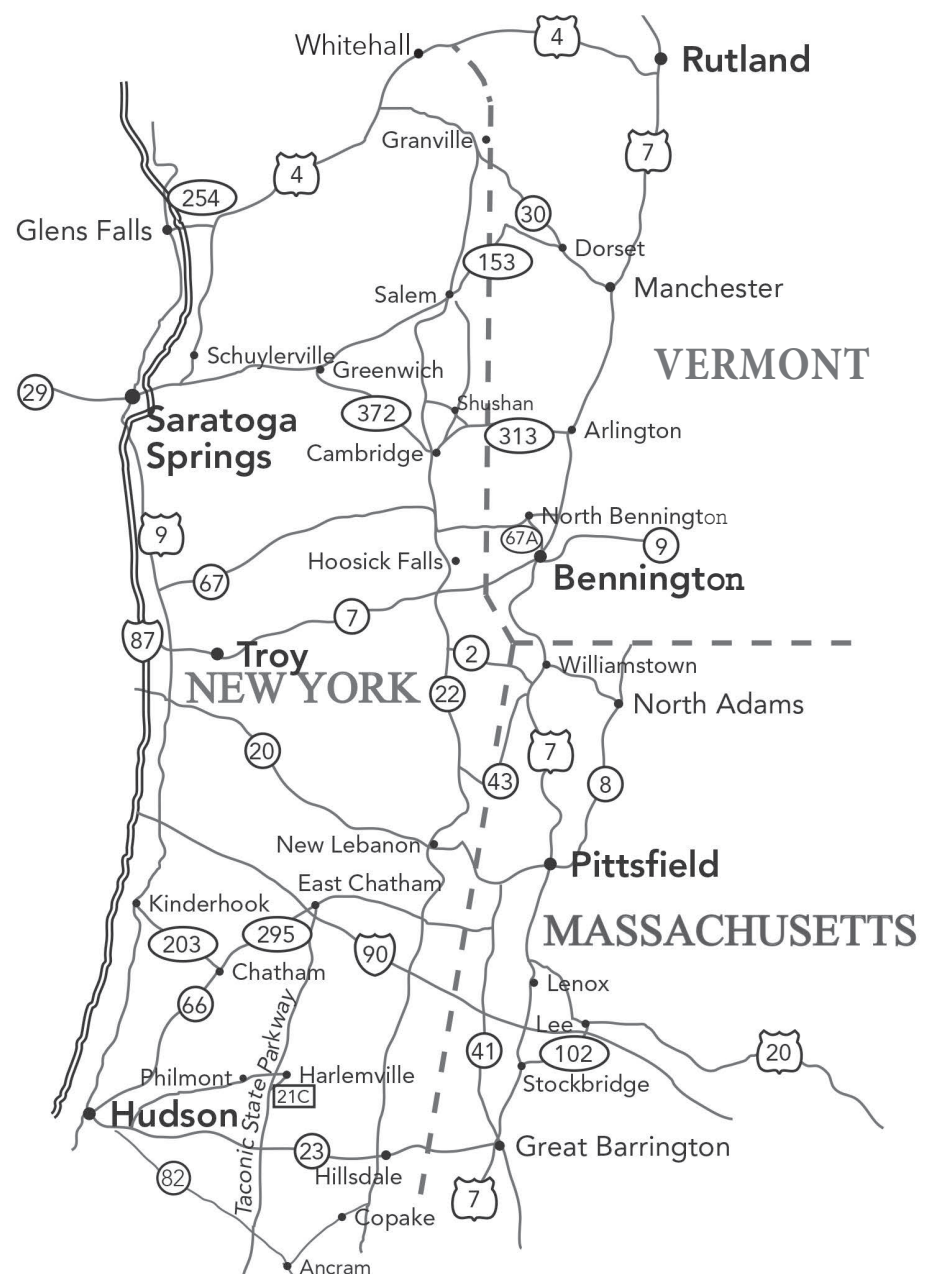
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observer



Month continued from page 9

university to have taken such a dramatic stance.”

But some college officials cast the decision as a matter of legal caution rather than as an act of political resistance to the Trump administration.

A key concern is that the government recently added new clauses to the certifications the college must make before drawing grant funds. Under the new language, the college must certify that it does not “and will not, during the term of this financial assistance award, operate any programs that advance or promote DEI, or discriminatory equity ideology in violation of Federal anti-discrimination laws.”

The certification documents don’t define what might constitute “discriminatory equity ideology.”

Meike Kaan, the college’s chief communications officer, told *The Berkshire Eagle* that another concern is the Trump administration’s use of a Civil War-era law called the False Claims Act. That law has long been used by federal prosecutors to target businesses

and organizations suspected of fraud. But lately Trump Justice Department officials have used it to target universities whose diversity programs they contend are violating civil rights laws.

So if the college were accused of operating a “discriminatory equity ideology” program after certifying that it would not, it might be at risk of criminal prosecution.

In a statement to the *Eagle*, the college said it was in the midst of “a thorough review amid the rapidly evolving federal enforcement environment.”

Although Williams receives only a handful of federal research grants each year from the NSF and NIH, those grants are critical to the scholarly work of some professors. After being notified that the college had paused these grants, dozens of faculty signed a petition expressing “deep concern” and asking the administration for more information.

The administration met with faculty members on June 10 and 11, after which several professors told the student newspaper *The Williams Record* that they felt reassured the

college would resume accepting grant funds after a legal review.

“The timeline is murky,” Leo Goldmakher, an associate professor of mathematics, told the *Record*. “But it sounds like it should be a question of months, not years.”

Since President Trump returned to office in January, his administration has threatened a series of major universities with a loss of research funding, increased taxes on their endowments and a loss of visas for international students, among other moves. The administration also has proposed slashing the budgets of both the NIH and the National Science Foundation.

“The actual story here is that the Trump administration is attacking institutions of higher education and the ability of people to do scientific research,” Sarah Jacobson, an economics professor at Williams, told the *Record*. “The college’s policy in reaction to the changes at the federal level is a much smaller deal to me.”

– Compiled by Fred Daley

Medicaid continued from page 4

resulting in a gap in coverage.

Nursing homes can’t in good conscience forcibly discharge those patients while they wait for Medicaid coverage.

“What it’s going to mean is there are going to be some unpaid stays,” Cruickshank said.

The other change for nursing homes is that the new federal law removes authorization for a new state tax on managed care insurance plans to fund Medicaid inflation adjustments this fiscal year and next. It’s not yet clear when that will be implemented.

“We’re not sure it’s going to affect us this year,” Cruickshank said.

The bigger question is what priority the state will place on nursing homes as it responds to a “sizable gap” in federal Medicaid funding, Cruickshank continued.

He hopes any cuts will be applied proportionately to all types of health care.

“If they are going to continue to fund these programs, all providers are going to have to take a haircut,” he said.

County governments in New York face potential increased costs for administration of Medicaid.

The legislation requires local social services

departments to certify continued eligibility of Medicaid recipients every six months instead of once a year, and there will be additional administrative tasks associated with enforcing new work requirements.

The New York State Association of Counties estimates the legislation will increase county administration costs by 20 percent.

Thompson continued from page 10

“One manufacturer reported that he had inventoried more slate at the end of this year than he had on his books when the strike was declared in the summer,” the *Sentinel* reported on Jan. 1, 1926. “Men have gone back to work regardless of whether union men were working in quarries or not.”

As winter turned to spring, and quarry operators prepared to reopen for a new season, operators began settling with the union.

Progressive Slate Co. of Granville and one other company agreed to the union’s wage demand on March 8, the *Sentinel* reported. Several other operators settled in April.

The disruption ended, and production

stabilized for a few years. But tough times loomed for the local slate industry as the nation entered the Great Depression.

Sales of slate nationally decreased from a peak of more than \$9 million in 1925 to \$8.5 million in 1929 and less than \$2 million in 1932, according to a National Recovery Administration report published on Jan. 22, 1934.

“The slate industry is heavily burdened by depression, by stagnant construction, by severe losses in past years, and by rival materials,” the report concluded. “Employment has averaged to about half the peak figures.”

Maury Thompson was a reporter for The Post-Star of Glens Falls for 21 years before retiring in 2017. He now is a freelance writer focusing on the history of politics, labor and media in the region.

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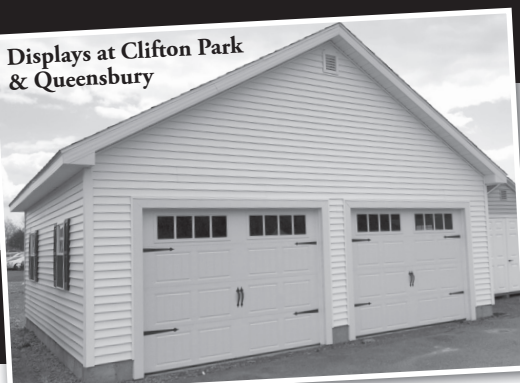
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ARTS & CULTURE



Photo courtesy of Mass MoCA

Artists take part in a 2023 workshop hosted by the Assets for Artists program at the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art in North Adams. This fall, the museum's professional development program will become an independent nonprofit organization serving all of New England.

Where artists teach, share with peers

Museum's professional development program goes independent, regional

By **KATE ABBOTT**
Contributing writer

NORTH ADAMS, Mass.

Artists gather in a tall-windowed room, talking about their work.

They may make prints in colors of sun and leaf shadow — or fire in a circle of stone at night. Or they make R&B music, quilts holding oral histories, or clay thrown on a wheel.

They are here to sustain the making. In any field, in challenging times, they need time and resources to feed their creative energy and let

their work grow.

From its base in North Adams, the Assets for Artists program provides professional development workshops and training for artists around the Northeast. This summer, actors are teaching fellow artists about financial planning, a dancer and activist will guide a session on project planning for dance artists, and a theater and performance artist will lead a workshop on the potential benefits of cooperative organizations in the arts.

And lately Assets for Artists, also known as A4A, has been growing its own structures.

On Oct. 1, the creative organization, which began as a program of the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art in North

Adams, will become an independent, regional nonprofit serving all of New England. The five staff members of the professional team will transition to become their own entity, with a new board, whose members will all be artists.

A4A's founding director, Blair Benjamin, has worked with Mass MoCA since 2000, months after the museum first opened. He launched Assets for Artists in 2008 and the Studios at Mass MoCA artists residency program in 2015.

The Studios at Mass MoCA artist residency program will remain part of the museum, he said, and A4A will continue to run from office space within the museum campus.

Benjamin sees potential energy in the new incarnation of Assets for Artists.

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“We will be able to explore some new programming and keep the momentum going,” he said, speaking from the A4A office on a stormy summer afternoon.

“The artist community’s needs have outstripped our ability to grow within the Mass MoCA structure,” he added. “And we have grown new communities and partnerships. We felt it made sense to realize this ambition and make this transition now.”

More programs in a wider region

A4A’s pool of workshops and training programs has grown significantly in just the past five years, Benjamin said.

In addition to workshops and short classes on things like personal finance and planning, A4A has deepened its teaching programs with artist cohorts — through months-long professional development programs for groups of artists in the northern Berkshires and in Pittsfield, and now across the region.

“We have staff capacity for about seven cohorts,” said assistant director Molly Rideout, a writer, artist and historian in North Adams. “Now we’re at six, because we keep adding more to each cohort.”

And A4A’s geographic footprint has grown. Its network of artists and teachers now offers programming throughout New England, through both in-person and virtual workshops, and in more possible languages, especially in Spanish.

“We’ve always done a lot of work out in western Mass.,” Benjamin said. “Pittsfield and North Berkshire has been a mainstay of our work forever. And then we have expanded our programming throughout the

Artists are the audience for workshops, training

Assets for Artists, a longtime Mass MoCA program that’s now reorganizing as an independent, regional nonprofit, leads professional development workshops and training for artists across New England. Here are some of the programs it has planned for August:

- Stage performers and tax specialists Amy Smith and Akeem Davis will lead a series on Zoom on “Understanding an Artist’s Personal Finances” from 1 to 3 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays, Aug. 4, 6, 11 and 13.
- Contemporary dancer Marissa Molinar will offer a session on “Project Planning for Dance Artists” at 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 14 on Zoom. Molinar is the founder and director of Midday Movement Series, a grassroots initiative cultivating a new generation of dance

leaders.

• Theater and performance artist Daniel Park will offer an introduction to “Cooperatives in the Arts” from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, Aug. 20 and 21, on Zoom. Park is a facilitator and organizer for racial and labor justice and a worker-owner at Obvious Agency, which is one of the nation’s only performance-based worker-owned cooperatives. The worker-owners of Obvious Agency, based in Philadelphia, “create interactive and game-like experiences for major cultural institutions that instill a sense of belonging and play in their audiences, share their expertise in democratic processes and participatory performance, and produce the artistic work of their members.”

Connecticut River Valley. In partnership with the Community Foundation of Western Mass., we have a Valley Creates initiative that supports artists there.”

Now, he said, A4A is working with partners throughout eastern and central Massachusetts — the city of Boston, the Greater Worcester Community Foundation and Arts Worcester, Mosaic Lowell, and in partnership with the city of Lowell. The program also works with

communities in Connecticut and elsewhere in the Northeast.

And starting this fall, A4A will have grant funding to add the only New England state it hasn’t yet served: New Hampshire.

“We collaborate with dozens of artists,” Benjamin said. “And we have been able to expand the staff. When I was hired, in terms of the professional development, A4A had the equivalent of one staff member — me part

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time and Brianna Halpin part time, in terms of the staff time that we could devote to the professional development work.

“And then Molly came on full time, but she was splitting her time between the professional development and the studios work. Now we’ve grown the team enough that as we go independent, we’ll have five full-time Assets for Artists professional development staff, and we hope to grow soon from there.”

For artists, by artists

As an independent nonprofit, Benjamin and Rideout explained, A4A will have the reach to work across a much wider geographic area and provide a higher level of coaching support for individual artists.

“Another thing I’m excited about is that by being an independent organization, we will be artist-led – by artists for artists,” Rideout said. “Our board will all be practicing artists themselves. Artists are at the center of everything we do.”

Through its training sessions, Assets for Artists is bringing artists into conversations with the wider community. Rideout said the organization just launched a new “cultural strategy” initiative — a pilot program being tried for the first time in Lowell.

“This group specifically focuses on artists who are doing community change work through their artistic practice,” she explained. “They want to impact the community and build relationships with other kinds of groups that are working on those issues — and that could be around food security, or it could be around affordable housing or support for folk in certain groups in their community.”

Rideout said the group is planning in-person events with community leaders who are interested in building stronger relationships with artists and understanding how they can align their work.

Across more than a dozen years, Assets for Artists has strengthened a broad web of creative minds, Benjamin said, and also of resources — a fundamental need in these recent months of rapid changes in funding at the federal level.

“We have a wide mix,” he said. “Most of the state arts councils have been able to give us some funding. We’ve had federal money — and we’ll see if it’s still around next year — that has often gone towards our workshop programming through the USDA. We have rural development funding. And then we have community foundations and some municipalities, and



Photo courtesy of Mass MoCA

Blair Benjamin has been director of the Assets for Artists program since its inception in 2008.

private funding partners as well.

“We’ve always taken very much an ecosystem approach, where we partner with many different organizations ... and we serve artists across all disciplines and at all career stages. That helps us build a wide network of thousands of artists that we have served in workshops and other services, and we see the strength of that web at a time like this, when people are feeling very scared and threatened and wanting to connect with other artists and find resources.”

Many artists on the new A4A board are alumni of the program’s capacity building program, Rideout said. So they know from experience how the group works and how A4A supports artists. And they live in North Adams, Pittsfield, Worcester, Boston and elsewhere in eastern Massachusetts.

“We’ve had about a year together now as a board,” she said, “and all of them had had past relationships with us, including as strategic planning advisers.”

“I’m really looking forward to the nimbleness that a small organization can allow for,” Rideout added. “I mean, Mass MoCA has been an amazing steward of our program over these last 16, 17 years.

“But by having artist eyes on the ground at all levels,” she said, it will be powerful “to be able to say ‘I’m really seeing this happening right now within our community,’” and be able to respond.

“In Covid, we shifted all of our programming to respond to that moment. And Blair and I

were doing consultation calls half of our days during that time. And this could be another one of those moments. We’re still figuring out: How can we support artists in this moment, and activate the network?”

Artists as agents of change

Benjamin said he is excited to work in greater partnership with people who are addressing community issues that go clearly beyond the traditional focus of arts organizations.

“The affordable housing and affordable space crisis in Massachusetts is hitting artists extremely hard, and it’s hitting all kinds of folk across communities,” he said. “That’s something that we’ve always had an interest in and connections to, not just the ways that artists make wonderful work, but also how do they have a sustainable career, how do they have a financial structure that works to survive as an artist.”

Benjamin said he has become increasingly interested in public policy issues and advocacy. He has gotten more closely involved with the statewide advocacy organization Mass Creative, and he has been putting together a coalition of artist service providers across Massachusetts.

“We’ve tried rolling out some workshops to test the interests of our artist community,” he said. “We had a home buyer workshop for artists last fall. And we’ve had workshops on cooperatives where artists can learn about land trusts and different approaches to thinking about ownership and ways to kind of improve your standing when it comes to property ... and reduce the likelihood of being displaced by some of the economic forces that have a tendency to push artists and everyone out of communities.”

Those are areas where he wants to see A4A to continue to be more active, gain more knowledge and more relationships.

“Can we be more intentional about how we build those partnerships and find alignment with organizations?” he wondered aloud. “And then also: How do we activate and plug artists into that work ... and get them involved in helping do that work and supporting that work?”

And can that work provide new alternatives and resources for artists and local communities?

As A4A moves into August, Benjamin said, theater and performance artist Daniel Park will lead a two-part workshop on worker-owned cooperatives.

An organizer for racial and labor justice, Park is a worker-owner at Obvious Agency in Philadelphia, one of the nation’s only performance-based worker-owned cooperatives. He will introduce participants to real-life cooperatives in arts and culture and encourage them to think about how a cooperative could meet their needs and the needs of their communities.

As artists continue to move to the Berkshires and to stay — a trend documented in A4A’s artist census in North Adams from 2020-24 — their needs and their communities’ needs will continue to intertwine.

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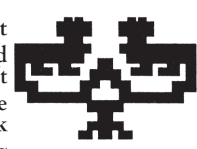
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Arts & Culture

AREA EXHIBITIONS

ArtOmi.org • outdoor, self-guided tour, multiple artists • online catalog
• through Oct. 26: Harold Stevenson: "Less Real Than My Routine Fantasy"

BecketArtsCenter.org • 7 Brooker Hill Rd., Becket, MA
• through Aug. 3: 2025 Member Show
• through Aug. 17: Macrocosm
• Aug. 22-Sep. 14: Motif
• Sep. 19-Oct. 12: Reflective

BenningtonMuseum.org • 75 Main St., Bennington, VT • Online too
• Sep. 1-Oct. 13: 1863 Jane Stickle Quilt
• Sep. 13-Dec. 31: Women in Wartime
• through Sep. 7: Samplers
• through Nov. 2: "Green Mountain Magic: Uncanny Realism in Vermont"
• through Nov. 2: NBOSS at the Museum
• through 2027: Art Bridges, featuring Paul Cadmus' "Lloyd & Barbara Wescott;" George Henry Durrie's "To Hartford - IX Miles;" Horace Pippin's "Holy Mountain I;" and David Smith's "March Sentinel"

BerkshireBotanical.org • 5 W. Stockbridge Road, Stockbridge, MA
• through Aug. 10: "Daydream"
• through Aug. 11: "Sleepwalkers"
• Aug. 15-Oct. 5: Frances Palmer: "Terracotta and Floral Photography"

BerkshireHistory.org • 780 Holmes Road, Pittsfield, MA
• The Invisible Community: African Americans in Berkshire Co. (1830-2012) • Links at URL & Berkshire Co. Hist. Soc. YouTube Channel •
• ONLINE: "Significant Moments in Pittsfield History"
• through Sep. 29: "Marriage and Memory: Weddings in Berkshire County Through the Centuries"

BoltonHistoricalMuseum.org 4924 Lakeshore Dr., Rogers Park, Bolton, NY • 518-791-7572
• through Oct. 12: "Welcome to Lake George: Vacation Paradise of the '50s and '60s"

CarrieHaddadGallery.com • 622 Warren St., Hudson, NY
• Aug. 1-Sep. 21: "Second Floor Showcase"
• Aug. 1-Sep. 21: "Weathered"

ChapmanMuseum.org • 348 Glens St., Glens Falls, NY
• through Sep. 21: "Chapman Yearbook: 60 Years of Collecting"
• through Oct. 5: "1868 Bedroom" & "1910 Bedroom"
• Aug. 12-Nov. 2: "A Good Catch"

ClarkArt.edu • 225 South St., Williamstown, MA
• through Sep. 14: "A Room of Her Own: Women Artist-Activists in Britain, 1875-1945" feat. 25 artists
• through Sep. 21: "Paginations--Bold by Design: Mid-century Modern Graphic Art"
• through Oct. 5: "Berenic Abbott's Modern Lens"
• through Oct. 13: "Isamu Noguchi: Landscapes of Time"

• through Jan. 25, 2026: "Mariel Capanna: Giornata"
• through -Oct. 12, 2026: "Ground/work 2025": monumental sculpture feat. 6 international artists

ClaverackLibrary.org • Marilyn & Bob Laurie Gallery • 9 Rte. 9H, Claverack, NY • 518-851-7120
• Aug. 8-late Sep: "Creative Claverack: Visions Unveiled" (6 local artists)

DarcySimpsonArtWorks.com • 409 Warren St., Hudson, NY • Fri.-Mon., 12-5 pm
• through Aug. 24: Craig Hood: "Country Road"

510WarrenStreetGallery.com • Hudson, NY
• Aug. 1-31: "Intergenerational Views": Paintings by Hannah Mandel & Ian Clyde

Folklife Center at Crandall Public Library
• www.CrandallLibrary.org/Folklife-Center • 251 Glen St., Glens Falls, NY
• Literature Room: "Signs, Murals, & Other Messages: Scenes of Chiang Mai & Tai of northern Thailand"
• Basement Folklife Gallery:
--through Dec. 31: "Night Market & Street Food" by Todd DeGarmo
--through Dec. 31: "Breaking the Chains: Lincoln & Douglass Linocuts of Stephen Alcorn"
• YouTube Playlist: "Local Solutions in the Champlain Adirondack Biosphere" • Original series feat. 12 mini-documentaries by six filmmakers, produced by Folklife Center, supported by a grant from Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership
• ongoing: "Hometown USA and Shutter Squad" youth photography

Framework by Downtown Pittsfield Gallery • 431 North St., Pittsfield, MA
• Aug. 1-Aug. 25: "Let It Shine! Artist Exhibition," feat. Carly Holmes, Riley Wilde, Jesus Alicea, & Kenny Davis

HancockShakerVillage.org • 1843 W. Housatonic St., Pittsfield, MA
• through Nov. 30: "The City of Peace: Photos by Dylan Kubis" • "Simple Gifts: Visual Translations of Shaker Hymns & Copland Music" • Steve Careau: "Chaste" • "Imagining Shaker Sisters" • "Elements of Harmony"
• through Nov. 30: "Couture from the World: Inspired by the Shakers"
• through Nov. 30: "All Around the Room"

Historic Salem Courthouse.org • 58 East Broadway, Salem, NY
• Aug. 8-30: Laurie Goodhart's "Reveries and Reverence"

Hudson Opera House • HudsonHall.org • 327 Warren St., Hudson, NY
• through Aug. 17: John Kinzel: "Hudson Terminus"
• Aug. 23-Oct. 5: Christian Marclay, Artwork & exhibition courtesy of Second Ward Foundation

HydeCollection.org • 161 Warren St., Glens Falls, NY • 518-792-1761
• through Sep. 21: Prosperity and Exclusion: European Prints from 1500-1850
• through Sep. 28: "George Rickey Across Time" and "Architect[ural]"

Image Photos Gallery • 413-298-5500
• photography of Clemens Kalischer

JacobsPillow.org • 358 George Carter Road, Becket, MA
• through Aug. 22: jacobspillow.org/livestreams (reg. req'd. to receive link)
• through final curtain: "Connecting Through Time: 50 Seasons w/Norton Owen" • Blake's Barn & Norton Owen Reading Room
• through final curtain: "Dancing the Algorithm" • Doris Duke Theatre Gallery
• through final curtain: "Ailey Connections" • Ted Shawn Theatre Lobby
Online Exhibit: "Jacob's Pillow Dance Interactive" at danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org

LABspace • 2642 NY Rte. 23, Hillsdale, NY • julielabspace@gmail.com
• through Aug. 24: Zohar Lazar: "UTOPIA PKWY"

LARAC.org • Lapham Gallery • 7 Lapham Pl., Glens Falls, NY
• through Aug. 6: "Further On Up the Road"
• Aug. 15-Sep. 17: "As It Was"

LaurenClarkFineArt.com • 684 Main St., Unit 2, Great Barrington, MA
• through Aug. 4: Pamela Berkeley & Joan Griswold: "All the Comforts of Home"
• Aug. 9-Sep. 8: Susan Dibble & Jim Youngerman's "Let's Dance Together!"

Lichtenstein Center for the Arts • lovepittsfield.com/lichtenstein-center-pittsfield • 28 Renne Ave., Pittsfield, MA • 413-499-9348
• through Aug. 22: "CATA: I'm a Part of Art"
• Sep. 3-26: "Katunemo: We are America Too: The Journey Continues"

MASSMoCA.org • Adams, MA
• through Aug. 31: "Like Magic"
• through Nov. 30: Amy Podmore: "Audience"
• through Apr. 5, 2026: Vincent Valdez: "Just a Dream"
• through May 2026: Jeffrey Gibson's "Power Full Because We're Different"

Middletown Springs Historical Society • mshsvt.org • 10 Park Ave., Middletown Springs, VT
• through Oct. 12, & by appt through Dec. 21: "Patterns and Provenance: Quilts of Middletown Springs, 1840-1920"

The Mount, EdithWharton.org Home
• through Oct. 19: "Sculpture at the Mount"

Norman Rockwell Museum • 9 Glendale Rd, Stockbridge, MA • nrm.org
• through Oct. 26: "I Spy! Walter Wick's Hidden Wonders"
• through Oct. 26: "Hidden Worlds and Wonders" contemp. sculpture & installation art
• through Jan. 4, 2026: "Illustrators of Light: Rockwell, Wyeth, and Parrish from the Edison Mazda Collection"

NorthCountryArts.org • Ste. 120, 71 Lawrence St., Glens Falls, NY
--Shirt Factory Gallery
• through Aug. 2: "Magnum Opus - Solo Show:"

continued on page 19

Arts & Culture

THE CALENDAR AUGUST 2025

Fri. Aug. 1



- ATFestival
- Bridge Street
- Fort Salem
- Lake George
- Living Room
- WTFestival

misc.

BattenkillBooks.com
--Sidewalk Sale • 12-6 pm
--Sit 'n Knit • 2-4 pm

Sat. Aug. 2



HudsonHall.org
--Hudson Sankofa Black Arts & Cultural Festival & Parade
• 1-7 pm
--Eric Fraser's "From the Hooghly to the Hudson" • 7 pm



ArtOmi.org • Dance Showing • 5-7 pm



- ATFestival
- Bridge Street
- Fort Salem
- Lake George
- Living Room
- WTFestival

TheFoundryWS.com
--Magic & Malarkey w/ the Alans • 3 pm • Family friendly
--In Cahoots: An Evening of Matic & Mentalism w/the Alans • 8 pm



ClarkArt.edu
--Outdoor Series: Ground/Work 2025: A Closer Look: Aboubakar Fofana • 1 pm • Stone Hill
--Rebecca Birrell: "Corruptive. . . Destructive:" Women Artists Paint the Nude, 1875-1945 • 2 pm • Manton Aud.

misc.

Bennington.edu • Colors from Flowers: Intro. to Natural Dyeing • 2-4 pm • Reg. REQ'D. • Robert Frost Stone House Museum

BattenkillBooks.com
See Aug. 1 • 10 am-6 pm

ClaverackLibrary.org • Basic Acrylic Painting • 10:30 am • ages 10 to adults • Reg. REQ'D. 518-851-7120 or info@claveracklibrary.org • also Aug. 9 (choose either, not both)

Sun. Aug. 3



AstonMagna.org • "Fiddlers Four" (season final) • Talk 2:15/Concert 3 pm • Saint James Place, Great Barrington, MA • Tix at URL

HubbardHall.org • Music From Salem Summer Concert • 4 pm • Main Stage

HudsonHall.org • 2025 Hudson Jazz Workshop Concert • 4 pm



- ATFestival
- Bridge Street
- Lake George
- Living Room
- Shakespeare
- WTFestival



ClarkArt.edu • Hank O'Neal: Berenice Abbott's Modern Lens • 2 pm • Free • Manton Aud.

misc.

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau • Scenic Paddle • 9 am • Free • Ltd. space, adv. reg. REQ'D at 518-793-0511

BattenkillBooks.com
See Aug. 1 • 10 am-3 pm

HydeCollection.org • Community Day • 10 am-4 pm

Mon. Aug. 4



BerkshireBotanical.org
• The BTUs • 5:30-7:30 pm • \$15/\$25

Tues. Aug. 5



JacobsPillow.org • Dance Festival • See JacobsPillow.org/calendar for robust daily events schedule



- ATFestival
- Lake George
- Shakespeare



https://library.org/crandalllibrary • Virtual: The Stories, Science, and History of Birds w/Smithsonian Biologist Jay Falk • 2-3 pm • Adults • Reg. REQ'D. at URL

misc.

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau • Potter's Point Hike • 8:30 am • Not stroller-friendly • Adv. reg. REQ'D. at 518-793-0511

SlateValleyMuseum.org • Trail Walk: Walking w/History on Walk Like a Dog Day (in Honor of Quarry Dogs) (incl. 40 min. moderate walk) • 10 am • Free • Friendly, leashed dogs welcome

Crandall.librarycalendar.com • American Girl Celebration • 2:30-3:30 pm • 1st grade and up • Pre-reg. REQ'D. by Aug. 5, 2:30 pm

Wed. Aug. 6



StoneValleyArts.org • Jazz Essentials • 7 pm • Free • 145 E. Main St., Poultney, VT



JacobsPillow.org • Dance Festival • See Aug. 5



- ATFestival
- Lake George
- Shakespeare

parktheatergf.com
• Comedy Night: Regional Showcase • Doors 6:30/7:30 show • 14 Park St., Glens Falls, NY

ParkMcCullough.org • "A Victorian Romance: Lizzie Park & John McCullough's courtship in letters" • 7-8:30 pm • 1 Park St., Bennington, VT

Saratoga Jewish Cultural Festival • "Furrow," feat. Karen Sabo • 7 pm • 509 Broadway, Saratoga Springs & Zoom • Reg. REQ'D



ClarkArt.edu • "Lady Bird" • 8:10 pm



ClarkArt.edu • Women Impressionists w/Esther Bell • 1 pm • Free, seating ltd.

Crandall.librarycalendar.com • Seed Library: Cover Crops • 5-7 pm • Teens, Adults • Pre-reg. REQ'D. • McDonald Community Room



MassAudubon.org • Birding by Canoe for Beginners • 8-10:30 am • Adults • Pre-reg. REQ'D. • Decker Boat Ramp, Lenox

Slate ValleyMuseum.org • Wonder Studies - Nature Program for Kids (ages 7-12) • 2-3 pm • Free • Space ltd., reg. at 518-642-1417

Glens Falls, NY
• "Take a Bite" • 5-7 pm • Glen Street

Thurs. Aug. 7



SVAC.org
--Community Drum Circle • 3:30-4:30 pm • Free • All ages
--MMF Grand Finale: Cabaret Songs & Stravinsky's L'Histoire du soldat • 7:30-9:30 pm

Ballston.org • Annual Ice Cream Social feat. Union Fire Co. Band • 6-8 pm • 198 Front St., Ballston Spa, NY

Tang.skidmore.edu • Annie and the Hedonists • 6 pm

TheFoundryWS.com • The Pluto String Ensemble • 7:30 pm

Dream Away • Asher Isak of Bella's Bartok • 8 pm • Becket, MA



JacobsPillow.org • Dance Festival • See Aug. 5



- Ancram Center
- Lake George
- Shakespeare

Crandall.librarycalendar.com • Alyx the Magician • 10-11 am • Children • McDonald Community Room



BattenkillBooks.com
• Book Club: Jayne Anne Phillips' "The Night Watch" • 6:30-7:30 pm

misc.

ClarkArt.edu • Family Art: Noguchi Light Sculptures • 1-4 pm • Free • Cancelled if rains

Railroad Street Youth Project.org • Memorial Park Community Day • 1-4 pm • All ages welcome

SVAC.org • "First Fridays" (neuro-diverse art class) • 3:30-5:30 pm

MassAudubon.org
• Summer Eve. Birding • 6-7:30 pm • Adults • Pre-reg. rec'd. • Canoe Meadows Wildlife Sanctuary, Pittsfield

Fri. Aug. 8



SVAC.org
--What I Hear From "Lilly": Pre-concert convo w/Jonathan Whitney • 5-6 pm
--Jonathan Whitney w/Taconic Music • 5:30-8:30 pm

BenningtonMuseum.org • Big Stone Gap • 5-7 pm • Free • BYOChair

HotPlateBeer.com/The-Pitt • Perennial & Friction Fit • 6-8 pm • Dunham Mall, Pittsfield, MA



JacobsPillow.org • Dance Festival • See Aug. 5



- Ancram Center
- Fort Salem
- Lake George
- Shakespeare



Parks.ny.gov/Moreau
• Bobcat Chat • 11 am • All ages • Free • Adv. reg. REQ'D. at 518-793-0511

BattenkillBooks.com
• Sit 'n Knit • 2-4 pm

misc.

MassAudubon.org • Moonlight Canoe Trip • 6:30-9 pm • Adults • Pre-reg. rec'd. • Buckley Dunton Lake, Becket

Sat. Aug. 9



GlensFallsFarmersMarket.com • Alan Epstein Solo • 8 am-noon • 57 South St.

SalemCourthouse.org
• Helen Gillet • 7-8:30 pm • Salem, NY



JacobsPillow.org • Dance Festival • See Aug. 5
--Q-MoB Discount: Bill T. Jones • 2-4 pm

NorthBerkshireDance.org • Community Contra Dance! • 7:30-10:30 pm • 59 Summer St., North Adams, MA



- Ancram Center
- Fort Salem
- Shakespeare

BridgeSt.org • Tommy Baker, Magician • 7 pm

TheFoundryWS.com • Gadzukes! Costume & Variety Show Contest! • 7 pm



HudsonFalls.sals.edu
• Kids Movie Book Club • 10:30 am



ClarkArt.edu
--Lecture: Isamu Noguchi: "Landscapes of Time" • 11 am • Free
--Outdoor Series: Milena Naef • See Aug. 2

BattenkillBooks.com
--Middle Grade Bk Club: Rebecca Stead's "The Lost Library" • 10-11 am
--Story Hour • 11 am

misc.

PoultneyHistoricalSociety.org • 90th East Poultney Day!: America's 250th Celebration of the Revolutionary War • 9 am-3 pm • Full events list at URL

ValleyArtisansMarket.com • Annual Overstock & Seconds Sale • Check URL for time

BenningtonMuseum.org • Museum ABCs: Vermont Raptors • 10:30-11:30 am

ClaverackLibrary.org • Basic Acrylic Painting • see Aug. 2 (choose either, not both)

SlateValleyMuseum.org • Barn Work! Tools, Trucks, Tractors, & More • 11 am • Free • 17 Water St., Granville, NY

@CambridgeNYMuseum • "Embroidery: Storytelling with Thread" Workshop • 1-4 pm • Barn, 12 Broad St., Cambridge, NY

HudsonCrossingPark.org • 19th Cardboard Boat Races Festival • First Race, 1 pm

BerkshireBotanical.org • Annual Grow Show • 1-5 pm • Free w/Garden admission

MassAudubon.org • Beaver Lodge Loop Hike (1.5 mi., mixed terrain) • 7-8 pm • Adults • Pre-reg. REQ'D. • Pleasant Valley Wildlife Sanctuary, Lenox

Sun. Aug. 10



StoneValleyArts.org • Community Music Jam • 4-6 pm • Poultney, VT



JacobsPillow.org • Dance Festival • See Aug. 5



- Ancram Center
- Fort Salem
- Shakespeare

HubbardHall.org • Artists-in-Residence Sharing: Scenes, Stories, & a Film in Progress • 1 pm • Space Ltd., pre-reg. rec'd. • Main Stage



ImagesCinema.org • "Familiar Touch" w/special guest casting dir. Betsy Fipping • 2 pm

misc.

ValleyArtisansMarket.com • See Aug. 9

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau • Monthly Hiking Challenge: Stonewall Trail (3.5 mi; weather-appropriate shoes & attire req'd.) • Ages 13+ • Ltd. space, adv. reg. REQ'D at 518-793-0511

BerkshireBotanical.org
• See Aug. 9 • 10 am-4 pm • Free w/Garden admission

Mon. Aug. 11



BerkshireBotanical.org • Mike Cobb & the Crevulators • 5:30-7:30 pm • \$15/\$25

misc.

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau • Full Moon Kayak • 8:30 pm • Ages 13+ • Free • Adv. reg. REQ'D. at 518-793-0511

Tues. Aug. 12



SPAC.org • Pop-Up Choir: Defying Gravity • 6-9 pm • Free • Reg. REQ'D. at URL



JacobsPillow.org • Dance Festival • See Aug. 5



- Lake George
- Shakespeare


misc.

MassAudubon.org • Birding by Canoe for Beginners • See Aug. 6

Arts & Culture


THE CALENDAR AUGUST 2025


Wed. Aug. 13

 **SVAC.org** • SVMC presents Classic Stones Live • 7:30-9:30 pm

 **JacobsPillow.org** • Dance Festival • See Aug. 5

 • Lake George
 • Shakespeare

 **ClarkArt.edu** • "Shrek" • 8:10 pm

 **MassAudubon.org** • Birds, Butterflies, & Midsummer Blooms • 9-10:30 am • Adults • Pre-reg. REQ'D. • Chesterwood, Stockbridge

misc.

Glens Falls, NY --"Take a Bite" • 5-7 pm • Glen Street
--parktheatergf.com • Comedy Night: Regional Showcase • Doors 6:30/7:30 show • 14 Park St.

Thur. Aug. 14

 **SalemCourthouse.org** • Children's Workshop: Music From Salem • 2-3 pm • Salem, NY


Ballston.org • Diamond Cut Horns • 6-8 pm • 198 Front St., Ballston Spa, NY

Tang.skidmore.edu • Girl Blue • 6 pm

 **JacobsPillow.org** • Dance Festival • See Aug. 5

 • Shakespeare

ImagesCinema.org • Comedy Night w/Maggie Crane + Charlie Nadler • 7 pm • \$40

 **www.OtisPreservationTrust.com** • "The Knox Trail" • 7 pm, in person or Zoom • Free, donations welcome • Reg. REQ'D. at URL or www.townofotisma.com

misc.


ClarkArt.edu • Family Art, see Aug. 7

CrandallLibrary.org • Ride Right: Smart Cycling for All Ages • 10-11:30 am • Community Room

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau • Hudson River Kayak • 9 am • Space Ltd. • Adv. reg. REQ'D. 518-793-0511

MassAudubon.org • Summer Evening Birding • See Aug. 7

Fri. Aug. 15


 **BenningtonMuseum.org** • SIRSY • 5-7 pm • Free • BYOChair

SVAC.org • Rani Arbo & Daisy Mayhem w/Serenity Singers • 5:30-8:30 pm

HotPlateBeer.com/The-Pitt • Signature Dish • 6-8 pm • Dunham Mall, Pittsfield, MA

 **JacobsPillow.org** • Dance Festival • See Aug. 5

 • Fort Salem
 • Shakespeare

 **ImagesCinema.org** • --"The Big Lebowski" (1998) • 7 pm
--"Bring Her Back" • 9:30 pm

Sat. Aug. 16

 **GlensFallsFarmersMarket.com** • Mike Grazioso • 8 am-noon • 57 South St.

 **JacobsPillow.org** • Dance Festival • See Aug. 5

 • Ancram Center
 • Fort Salem
 • Shakespeare

 **ImagesCinema.org** • --Catvideofest 2025 • 12 pm
--"Other Side" w/Filmmakers • 2 pm
--"Raiders of the Lost Ark" (1981) • 7 pm
--"Bring Her Back" • 9:30 pm


misc.

CastletonHistoricHouseTour.org • 85th Colonial Day House Tour • 10 am-3 pm • \$20 • Tix. at URL or 802-468-5691 • Castleton, VT




StockbridgeChamber.org • 33rd Stockbridge Summer Arts 7 Crafts Show • 10 am-5 pm • Free adm. • 50 Main St.


@CambridgeNYMuseum • Museum open for Tours of Museum; Barn open for "Community Weaving Project: Following the Thread" • 1-4 pm • 12 Broad St., Cambridge, NY

Sun. Aug. 17

 **Tanglewood.org** • Q-MoB Chamber Music & Potluck Picnic • Stockbridge, MA • 9:30 am-12:30 pm

 **JacobsPillow.org** • Dance Festival • See Aug. 5

 • Ancram Center
 • Fort Salem
 • Lake George
 • Shakespeare

 **ImagesCinema.org** • --Catvideofest 2025 • 12 & 2 pm
--"Quick Change" (1990) • 7 pm


misc.

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau • Scenic Paddle • See Aug. 3


StockbridgeChamber.org • See Aug. 16 • 10 am-4 pm

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau • National Honey Bee Day Celebration • 11 am • All ages • Free • Adv. reg. REQ'D. at 518-793-0511

Mon. Aug. 18

 **BerkshireBotanical.org** • South Pleasant Revival • 5:30-7:30 pm • \$15/\$25

 • Lake George


 **ImagesCinema.org** • "To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything! Julie Newmar" (1995) • 7 pm

Tues. Aug. 19

 **JacobsPillow.org** • Dance Festival • See Aug. 5




 • Lake George
 • Shakespeare

 **ImagesCinema.org** • "Mamma Mia!" (2008) • 7 pm

 **SlateValleyMuseum.org** • Trail Walk: Walking w/History on World Photography Day (D&H Rail Trail) • 10 am • Free


Wed. Aug. 20

 **JacobsPillow.org** • Dance Festival • See Aug. 5

 • Hubbard Hall
 • Lake George
 • Shakespeare

parktheatergf.com • Comedy Night: Carmen Lagala • Doors 6:30/7:30 show • 14 Park St., Glens Falls

 **ImagesCinema.org** • "Zodiac" (2007) • 7 pm

 **ClarkArt.edu** • America's Grand Tour w/Hannah Chew • 1 pm • Free, seating ltd.


@CambridgeNYMuseum • Eric Strebel: "What 'All Out' Means: WW2 Homefront, Cambridge, NY" • 7 pm • 12 Broad St., Cambridge, NY

misc.

Glens Falls, NY --"Take a Bite" • 5-7 pm • Glen Street

HubbardHall.org • Breaking Bread Potluck • 6:30-8:30 pm • Beacon Feeds

Thur. Aug. 21

 **Ballston.org** • "An Evening with Elvis" Tribute Artist Joe Ramsey • 6-8 pm • 198 Front St., Ballston Spa, NY

MassMoCA.org • Q-MoB Invades FREE Mass MoCA Summer Dance Party/Drag Show • 6-10 pm • N. Adams, MA

Tang.skidmore.edu • Hot Club of Saratoga • 6 pm


TheFoundryWS.com • Sova • 7:30 pm

 **JacobsPillow.org** • Dance Festival • See Aug. 5

 • Hubbard Hall
 • Shakespeare

 **ImagesCinema.org** • "Election" (1999) • 7 pm

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau • Movie Night! • 8:15 pm • Free & no park entry fee • Info at 518-793-0511

 **SalemCourthouse.org** • 250th Anniversary: Sue Clary, Salem Town Supervisor • 6:30-7:30 pm • Salem, NY

misc.

ClarkArt.edu • Family Art, see Aug. 7

Fri. Aug. 22

 **BenningtonMuseum.org** • The Velvet Wave • 5-7 pm • Free • BYOChair

SVAC.org • The Eagles Stage Band • 5:30-8:30 pm

HotPlateBeer.com/The-Pitt • Ex-Temper • 6-8 pm • Dunham Mall, Pittsfield, MA


HubbardHall.org • Durham County Poets • 7-9 pm • Main Stage

SPAC.org • Jon Batiste w/ Philadelphia Orchestra Season • 7:30 pm

 **JacobsPillow.org** • Dance Festival • See Aug. 5

 • Hubbard Hall
 • Shakespeare

TheFoundryWS.com • Tom Truss' "Just Add Water" • 7:30 pm

 **ImagesCinema.org** • --"This is Spinal Tap" (2025 4K Rerelease) • 4:45 & 9:30 pm
--"When Harry Met Sally . . ." (1989) • 7 pm

misc.

Warrensburgh Riverfront Farmers' Market • Tomato Festival • 3-6 pm • 180 River St., Warrensburgh, NY

CrandallLibrary.org • Mario Kart Tournament 10 am-2 pm • Reg. REQ'D. • Community Room

BattenkillBooks.com • Sit 'n Knit • 2-4 pm

Sat. Aug. 23

 **GlensFallsFarmersMarket.com** • Burnsmore Bridge • 8 am-noon • 57 South St.

Boland Theater • Rogers & Hammerstein Songbook • 7-8:30 pm • Pittsfield, MA

 **JacobsPillow.org** • Dance Festival • See Aug. 5
--Adam Weinert's Garden & Queer History Tour • 12-1 pm • Becket, MA

 • Hubbard Hall
 • Shakespeare

TheFoundryWS.com • --Drag Story Hour Berkshires: Feat. Yuhua Hamasaki! • 3 pm
--An Evening with Yuhua • 7:30 pm

 **HudsonFalls.sals.edu** • Kids Movie Book Club • 10:30 am

ImagesCinema.org • --Catvideofest • 12:30 & 2:30 pm
--"This is Spinal Tap" (2025 4K Rerelease) • 4:45 & 9:30 pm
--"Dirty Dancing" (1987) • 7 pm

misc.




@CambridgeNYMuseum • "Community Weaving Project: Following the Thread" • 1-4 pm • Barn, 12 Broad St., Cambridge, NY

FriendsOfClermont.org • Tea at Clermont Gardens • 4-6 pm • \$75/\$60, 12 & under free • Pre-reg. for all attendees REQ'D by Aug. 18


NorthChathamLibrary.org • Cocktails Fundraiser • 5-8 pm • Historic Trolley Station, 103 Depot St.

Sun. Aug. 24


 **JacobsPillow.org** • Dance Festival • See Aug. 5

 • Hubbard Hall
 • Lake George
 • Shakespeare


 **ImagesCinema.org** • --Catvideofest • 12:30 & 2:30 pm
--"This is Spinal Tap" (2025 4K Rerelease) • 4:45 pm
--"About Time" (2013) • 7 pm

 **Parks.ny.gov/Moreau** • Wetland Talk • 11 am • All ages • Free • Adv. Reg. REQ'D. at 518-793-0511

Mon. Aug. 25


 **BerkshireBotanical.org** • Rounders Revival • 5:30-7:30 pm • \$15/\$25

 • Lake George
 • Shakespeare

 **ImagesCinema.org** • --"This is Spinal Tap" (2025 4K Rerelease) • 4:45 pm
--"Interstellar" (2014) • 7 pm

Tues. Aug. 26

 • Lake George
 • Shakespeare


 **ImagesCinema.org** • --"This is Spinal Tap" (2025 4K Rerelease) • 4:45 pm
--"Clueless" (1995) • 7 pm

misc.

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau • Moreau Reptiles • 4 pm • All ages • Free • At Crandall Library • Ltd. space, pre-reg. REQ'D or waitlist at https://crandall.librarycalendar.com/event/reptile-profile-10483

Wed. Aug. 27

 • Lake George
 • Shakespeare

 **ImagesCinema.org** • --"This is Spinal Tap" (2025 4K Rerelease) • 4:45 pm
--"Wet Hot American Summer" (2001) • 7 pm

continued, next page

Arts & Culture

THE CALENDAR AUG-SEPT 2025

ClarkArt.edu • "Turning Red" • 7:45 pm

misc.

MassAudubon.org

• Nighthawks & Twilight Wildlife • 6:30-8 pm • Adults • BYOChair & Binocs. • Pre-reg. REQ'D. • Edith Wharton Park, Lenox

Thur. Aug. 28



FriendsOfClermont.org

• Harmonies on the Hudson: Sova • 6-7:30 pm • Arryl Lawn, Germantown, NY

Ballston.org

• Protones • 6-8 pm • 198 Front St., Ballston Spa, NY



• Shakespeare



ImagesCinema.org

--"This is Spinal Tap" (2025 4K Rerelease) • 4:45 pm
--"Sullivan's Travels" (1941) • 7 pm

misc.

Greenwich, NY • Express Your Creativity! One-day painting workshops for adults - no exp. needed, w/ Carol Bollinger Green • 10 am-4 pm • 338 River Rd., Greenwich, NY • Info/reg.: 518-898-8389

ClarkArt.edu • Family Art, see Aug. 7

Fri. Aug. 29



BenningtonMuseum.org

• Eric Kufs & River Man • 5-7 pm • Free • BYOChair

SVAC.org • Saints & Liars w/Ida Mae Specker • 5:30-8:30 pm

HotPlateBeer.com/ThePitt • Silver Lake Presents • 6-8 pm • Dunham Mall, Pittsfield, MA



• Shakespeare



BattenkillBooks.com

• Monthly Poetry Night • 6:30-8 pm

misc.

CreateCouncil.org

"On the Table" art-forward benefit • 6-8 pm • 398 Main St., Catskill • Tix tier details at URL

Sat. Aug. 30



GlensFallsFarmersMarket.com

• Jason Irwin • 8 am-noon • 57 South St.

ParkMcCullough.org w/ McCullough Free Lib. • Summer Reading Celebration w/ Jeh Kulu • 5 pm • Family-friendly literacy party • 1 Park St., N. Bennington, VT

DowntownPittsfield.com • Depot After Dark: Come as Your Are Dance Party w/DJ Seth • 8-11 pm



MassMoCA.org • Queer Dance Party DJ MX Oops • 8-10:30 pm • N. Adams, MA



• Shakespeare

misc.

SpencertownAcademy.org

• Festival of Books giant book sale • 10 am-5 pm

@CambridgeNYMu-seum • See Aug. 23

Sun. Aug. 31



• Shakespeare



SaratogaPreservation.org

• "Historic West Side" Sunday Stroll • 10:30 am-12 pm • \$15/\$20 • Pre-Reg. REQ'D at URL • Ltd. tix

Mon. Sept. 1

Happy Labor Day!

Tues. Sept. 2



CrandallLibrary.org • Bluegrass Music Jams • 6:30-8:30 pm



SlateValleyMuseum.org

• Trail Walk: See Aug. 19

Wed. Sept. 3

No calendar events

Thur. Sept. 4



• Shakespeare



ImagesCinema.org • See Aug. 17 • 7 pm

Fri. Sept. 5



BenningtonMuseum.org • Peter Mulvey • 5-7 pm • Free • BYOChair

EastboundThrowdown.com

Festival • Full schedule, tix., camping, at URL • Under 15, free • Irwin Family Farm, Salem, NY



• Shakespeare

Sat. Sept. 6



EastboundThrowdown.com • See Sep. 5



TheFoundryWS.com • Ballet's Metropolis: Broken Glass • 7:30 pm



• Shakespeare



BenningtonMuseum.org

• Patsy Santo's Bennington: Walking Tour through an artist's eyes • 10 am-12 pm • Tix. Ltd.

misc.

HousatonicHeritage.org

• Heritage Walks • Free, guided, family friendly • Click on Experiences tab at URL for details

PoultneyVtChamber.org

• Septemberfest! Art, Craft, & Food Fair • 10 am-3 pm • Slate Quarry Park, Main St., Poultney, VT

@CambridgeNYMu-seum

• 12 Broad St., Cambridge, NY
--Trash or Treasure? Roadshow Fundraiser • Time TBA
--Dyeing with Plants Workshop: Historical & Practical Perspectives w/Susannah White • 10 am-4 pm • Pre-reg. REQ'D. • Barn

Sun. Sept. 7



StoneValleyArts.org • Boarderland Wind Ensemble • 4-5 pm • Poultney, VT



• Shakespeare

misc.

HousatonicHeritage.org

• Heritage Walks • See Sep. 6

Sept. 8-10

No calendar events

Thur. Sept. 11



CrandallLibrary.org

Folklife Concert: Armadi Tsayn (Armenian "Voice of the Roots") • 7-8:30 pm • Free • McDonald Commt. Room



• Shakespeare

Fri. Sept. 12



BenningtonMuseum.org • Duologues Plus • 5-7 pm • Free • BYOChair

CrandallLibrary.org • Folklife Concert on the Road: Armadi Tsayn • 7-8:30 pm • Free • 58 E. Broadway, Salem, NY



• Shakespeare



TheFoundryWS.com

• Jo Weldon: "What I Wore to Work, An illustration Memoir of Dressing to Undress" • 7:30 pm

misc.

StoneValleyArts.org

• Class: WAM! (writer*artist*musician) • 7-8:15 pm pm

BattenkillBooks.com

• Sit 'n Knit • 2-4 pm

Warrensburgh Riverfront Farmers' Market

• Apple Festival • 3-6 pm • 180 River St., Warrensburgh, NY

Sat. Sept. 13



StJohnW.org/event/harvest-fest-2025 • Community Harvest Fes.l: food, drink, live music, silent auction • 4-7 pm • \$75 (at URL) • St. John in the Wilderness, Copake Falls, NY



NorthBerkshireDance.org

• Community Contra Dance! • 7:30-10:30 pm • 906 Main St., Williamstown, MA



• Shakespeare

TheFoundryWS.com

• "Communion" one-man show • 7:30 pm

misc.

HousatonicHeritage.org

• Heritage Walks • See Sep. 6

QuietValleyQuilters.com

• Bennington Quilt-fest 2025 • 9 am-5 pm • \$10 • Mt Anthony Union Middle School, 747 East Rd., Bennington, VT

SlateValleyMuseum.org

• 17 Water St., Granville, NY
--Voices in the Barn: SVM Audio Tour Launch • 10 am-4 pm • Free for all
--Maker Workshop: Let's Crochet! • 10 am • call for details

BenningtonMuseum.org • Museum ABCs: The

Kindness Quilt • 10:30-11:30 am

@CambridgeNYMu-seum • See Aug. 23

Sun. Sept. 14



BenningtonMuseum.org • Taconic String Quartet: Sunrise. Japanese Myths and Romantic Passion • 2-3:30 pm

HubbardHall.org • Seagle Fest - Music of the Night (Andrew Lloyd Webber) • 2-4 pm • Main Stage

HudsonHall.org • "Abeo Quartet" • 3 pm

StoneValleyArts.org • Community Music Jam • 4-6 pm



• Shakespeare

misc.

HousatonicHeritage.org

• Heritage Walks • See Sep. 6

QuietValleyQuilters.com

• See Sep. 13 • 10 am-3 pm

Mon. Sept. 15

No calendar events

Tues. Sept. 16



SlateValleyMuseum.org • Trail Walk: See Aug. 19

Wed. Sept. 17



CaffeLena.org • Rochmon: CCR's "Cosmo's Factory" • doors 6:30/7 pm show



@CambridgeNYMu-seum

• Gerry Preece: "Cambridge Area Stories to Brag About" • 7 pm • Embury UMC, 41 E. Main St., Cambridge, NY

Thur. Sept. 18



CrandallLibrary.org • Live! Folklife Concert: Babineau & Chartrand (Québec's traditional) • 7-8:30 pm • Free • McDonald Commt. Room



• Shakespeare

Fri. Sept. 19



CrandallLibrary.org • Live! Folklife Concert on the Road: Babineau & Chartrand (Québec's traditional) • 7-8:30 pm • Free • 58 E. Broadway, Salem, NY



• Ancram Center
• Shakespeare

misc.

BattenkillBooks.com • Sit 'n Knit • 2-4 pm

Sat. Sept. 20



HubbardHall.org • Genticorum (Québécois Celtic) • 7-9 pm • Main Stage

HudsonHall.org • mùm, w/opener: Mice Parade • 7 pm



• Ancram Center
• Shakespeare

TheFoundryWS.com • EDIE: Showgirl Unleashed • 7:30 pm

misc.

HousatonicHeritage.org • Heritage Walks • See Sep. 6

ADKWoolandArts.com

• Adirondack Wool & Arts Fest. • 10 am-5 pm • \$5 adults/free under 13 • Free parking • Wash. Co. Fairgrounds, Greenwich, NY

@CambridgeNYMu-seum • Museum open for tours; Barn open for "Community Weaving Project: Following the Thread" • 1-4 pm • 12 Broad St., Cambridge, NY

ArtOmi.org • Upstate Benefit: Art, Music, Food, Auction! • 5:30-10 pm • The Caboose, Hudson, NY • Tix. at URL

Sun. Sept. 21



• Ancram Center
• Shakespeare



BenningtonMuseum.org

• Bennington Historical Society presents "The Corkscrew Railroad" • 2-3 pm

misc.

HousatonicHeritage.org • Heritage Walks • See Sep. 6

ADKWoolandArts.com • See Aug. 20 • 10 am-4 pm

Arts & Culture

THE CALENDAR SEPTEMBER 2025

Sept. 22-24

No calendar events

Thur. Sept. 25



CrandallLibrary.org • Live! Folklife Concert: Rachel Sumner & Traveling Light • 7-8:30 pm • Free • McDonald Commty. Room



• Angram Center
• Shakespeare

Fri. Sept. 26



CrandallLibrary.org • Live! Folklife Concert on the Road: Rachel Sumner & Traveling Light • 7-8:30 pm • Free • 58 E. Broadway, Salem, NY



• Angram Center
• Shakespeare

misc.

BattenkillBooks.com • Sit 'n Knit • 2-4 pm

Sat. Sept. 27



• Angram Center
• Shakespeare

misc.

HousatonicHeritage.org • Heritage Walks • See Sep. 6

BerkshirePotteryTour.com • Berkshire Pottery Tour (self-guided; map at URL) • 10 am-5 pm

ClaverackLibrary.org • Intro to Alcohol Ink Art Class • 11 am • Reg. REQ'D. 518-851-7120

@CambridgeNYMu-seum • See Aug. 23 (final community weaving opportunity)

Sun. Sept. 28



SalemCourthouse.org • Jason Anderson • 6-7:30 pm • Salem, NY



• Angram Center
• Shakespeare

misc.

HousatonicHeritage.org • Heritage Walks • See Sep. 6

BerkshirePotteryTour.com • See Sep. 27

Mon. Sept. 29

No calendar events.

Tues. Sept. 30



SlateValleyMuseum.org • Trail Walk: See Aug. 19

Exhibitions *continued from page 15*

Jude Dalton"

• Aug. 9-Sep. 28: "Don't Worry, It's Only Art" --Mezzanine Gallery, Queensbury Hotel, Glens Falls, NY
• through Sep. 27: Member Summer Show

RoeliffJansenHS.org • 8 Miles Rd., Copake Falls, NY

• through Oct. 26: "Sites to Celebrate: Local History Revisited"

SeptemberGallery.com • 4 Hudson St, 3rd floor, Kinderhook, NY

• through Aug. 3: Nicole Cherubini: "The Motherlode"
• Opening Aug. 16: Ashley Garrett: "Psyche"

SohnFineArt.com • 69 Church St., Lenox, MA

• Aug. 1-Oct. 6: Marieken Cochijs, Dennis Lee Mitchell, Leah Raintree: "Blaze, Smolder, Char"

SpaFineArtGallery.com • 376 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, NY

• through Sep. 1: Lisa Palombo: "Famous Fillies"

SparkofHudson.org • 502 Union St., Hudson, NY

• through Aug. 1: "Portraits of Hudson: A Photography Exhibition by Chad Weckler"
• Aug. 15-Dec. 19: "Hudson 1997-2003: Portraits by Phyllis Hjorth"

Spencertown Academy • 790 NY Rte. 203, Spencertown, NY

• through Aug. 3: "Gee's Band: The Next Generation" Quilts Exhibition
• Sep. 27-Oct. 26: Regional Juried Fine Art Show: Art as Memoir

StoneValleyArts.org • 145 E. Main St., Poultney, VT

• Aug. 16: 47 Main St. Painters Group Show

SVAC.org • 930 SVAC Dr., Manchester

• through Sep. 28: Summer 2025 Solo Exhibition AND "From Our Eyes"
• through Jan. 4, 2026: "Into the Abstract: Paul Gruhler & Neha Vedpathak"

Tang.skidmore.edu • 815 N. Broadway, Saratoga Springs, NY

• through Aug. 24: Anne E. Stoner: "Drowning Out the Noise"
• through Nov. 2: "Up to Us: Black Dimensions in Art, 1975--Tomorrow," A 50-year Celebration of Black Creativity
• through Dec. 7: "Building Blocks"

ValleyArtisansMarket.com • 25 E. Main St., Cambridge, NY • One-of-a-kind creations online

• Aug. 1-25: Lynn Shanks' "Places and Faces"
• Aug. 29-Sep. 22: ARRTA
• Sep. 26-Oct. 20: Edward Hayes & Lauren Kenneally: Fairy Houses & Needle Felting

Varosy Studios • 1522 North Rd., Greenwich, NY

• Aug. 15-17: Mother-Son Art Show: Anne Sutherland & Seth Butler

WorldChildrensMuseum.org • 89 Warren St., Glens Falls, NY • Online museum at URL



THEATER LISTINGS

Adirondack Theatre Festival • atfestival.org • Charles R. Wood Theater, Glens Falls, NY
• "Queens Girl: Black in the Green Mountains," by Caleen Sinnette Jennings • Jul. 31-Aug. 6 • Aug. 1, 2, 5, & 6, at 7:30 pm; Aug. 3 & 6, at 2 pm

Angram Center for the Arts • 1330 Co. Rte. 7
• Plein Air Plays 3.0: "My Dog is Dead" • "Rupert's Birthday" & "Same Picture, Different Poses" • Aug. 7-10 • Thu. & Fri., 5 & 6 pm; Sat. & Sun., 4, 5, & 6 pm
• Play Lab 2025: Staged reading by David Cale of "Blue Cowboy" • Aug. 16, 7:30 pm; Aug. 17, 4 pm
• "Penelope" • Sep. 19-28 • Thu., Fri., & Sat., 7 pm; Sun. 3 pm

BridgeSt.org Theatre • 44 West Bridge St., Catskill, NY
• "South. A Nautical Musical," by Carmen Borgia • Jul. 24-Aug. 3 • Thu., Fri., & Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., 2 pm

FortSalem.com • 11 E. Broadway, Salem, NY
• "Disney's Newsies Jr." • Jul. 31-Aug. 1 • Thu. & Fri., 7:30 pm

• "Tick, Tick . . . Boom!" • Aug. 8-17 • Fri. & Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., 2 pm

HubbardHall.org • 25 Main St., Cambridge, NY • "As You Like It" - Free Summer Shakespeare Tour: Wed-Sat., 6-7:30 pm; Sat. & Sun., 2-3:30 pm
• Aug. 20 • Greenwich Library, 148 Main St.
• Aug. 21 • Owl Pen Books, 166 Riddle Rd, Greenwich, NY
• Aug. 22 • Historic Salem Courthouse, 58 E. Broadway, Salem, NY
• Aug. 23, 2-3:30 pm • Cambridge Community Gardens, 18 Washington St., Cambridge, NY
• Aug. 23, 6-7:30 pm • Park-McCullough, 1 Park St., N. Bennington, VT
• Aug. 24 • The Georgi, 21 Adam Ln., Shushan, NY

LakeGeorgeDinnerTheatre.org • 518-668-5762, ext 411
• Guys on Ice: The Ice Fishing Musical • Aug. 1-8 • Tue.-Sat. • Tue.-Thu., 1 pm; Wed.-Sat., 7:30
• Incident at Our Lady of Perpetual Help • Sep. 12-Oct. 11 • Wed.-Sat. • Wed.-Sat., 7:30 pm

LivingRoomTheatre • LRTVT.org • "Get It Right" • Aug. 1-3 • 7 pm ParkMcCullough.org • 1 Park St., Bennington, VT

Shakespeare.org • 70 Kemble St., Lenox, MA
• Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet • Jul 12-Aug. 10 • Tue.-Sun., 7 pm • Waldstein Amphitheatre
• August Wilson's "The Piano Lesson" • Jul. 25-Aug. 24: • Wed.-Sun., showtimes vary by day • Bernstein Theatre
• Circus & the Bard • Aug. 21-31 • Tue.-Sun., 11:30 am & 2:30 pm • Tina Packer Playhouse
• The Taming of the Shrew • Aug. 14-24 • Tue.-Sun., 7 pm; Sat. & Sun. 2 pm
• Plays in Process • Aug. 26, 27 & 28 • 7 pm
• Mother Play: a play in five evictions • Aug. 29-Oct. 5 • times vary by day

Williamstown Theatre Festival • wtfestival.org • program, venues, tickets at URL
July 17-Aug. 3: "Camino Real" • "Late at the Annex" • "Many Happy Returns" • "Not About Nightingales" • "Spirit of the People" • "The Things Around Us" • "Untitled on Ice" • "Vanessa"

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