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Behind the big shows, local workers



Christopher Duggan photo courtesy of Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival

Equity project pushes to transform region's cultural workplaces

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Laboring in the arts

Equity project pushes to transform region's cultural workplaces

By KATE ABBOTT
Contributing writer

Imagine the people who make creative work happen in an arts or cultural institution all having a stake and a voice in the organization's operations and mission.

Or imagine creative organizations clearly recognizing and valuing the work of staff members who handle programming, education and communications – along with those on the design crew and the people caring for the theater, the garden and the land.

Nearly two years ago, leaders from several arts organizations in Berkshire and Columbia counties came together to look into the experiences of people working in creative places — theaters, music venues, art spaces and museums. They wanted to gain a deep understanding of arts workers' lives, challenges and passions — and to collect data and new perspectives from employers.

The result was the Berkshire/Columbia Counties Pay Equity Project. It started with a yearlong effort, originally led by a half-dozen arts organizations on both sides of the state line, that surveyed about 200 entry- and mid-level employees at 43 local arts and cultural venues — and collected data on pay and benefits from 38 area arts employers with nearly 1,000 workers.

What began as a study now has grown into a movement, consultant Aron Goldman said in an interview last month.

The findings of the coalition's initial round of work, presented in a report and community forum in June 2023, told a clear story: Many entry- and mid-level arts and culture workers in the region, even some with advanced degrees and years of experience, have struggled with low pay and long hours, unable to afford decent housing and access to basic health care – and sometimes even to put gas in their cars and feed their families.

"Passion," Goldman explained, "doesn't pay the rent."

As a result, the coalition found, employees



Courtesy photo

The consultant Aron Goldman speaks last year as the Berkshire/Columbia Counties Pay Equity Project announces the findings of an extensive survey of area arts organizations and employees. (On the cover: The Dance Theatre of Harlem performs last month at Jacob's Pillow, which has been working to implement the equity project's goals for improving employees' pay and working conditions.)

with long experience in the local arts scene were leaving. Some have been moving to jobs in other parts of the country — and some are opting to pursue new careers after realizing they couldn't afford to keep working in the arts.

Losing the energy and perspective of these workers, Goldman warns in a new report he plans to release fully on Sept. 25, "has a destabilizing effect on institutions, diminishes artistic expression, and threatens the creative economy for which this region is internationally known."

Embracing a new vision

Across the region and beyond, people are listening. The pay-equity coalition now has grown from six to 18 arts and cultural institutions on both sides of the state line — from Ancram Center for the Arts, The Hudson Eye and Art Omi to Barrington Stage Company, Jacob's Pillow, Hancock Shaker Village, Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center, The Mount and Williamstown Theatre Festival, among others.

The project's organizers are holding conversations at the local, state and national levels, Goldman said, and working with individual organiza-

tions that are pursuing concrete changes. At a summit on Sept. 25, they will detail and explore the results and momentum they've achieved over the past year.

The organizations involved, he said, have found that better understanding and focusing on the needs of their employees can help them grow relationships and resources — and expand their ability to support the creative work and community at the heart of their missions.

Employees who have less stress and more satisfaction can work more actively and with greater confidence, he explained.

By focusing on questions of equity, the project has challenged some outdated assumptions about the arts, such as the notion that low pay or limited benefits are somehow offset by the privilege of working for a creative or cultural organization. In reality, Goldman and others point out, if a job does not pay enough to live on, only someone with an outside source of income can afford to apply, thereby limiting the pool of talent available to arts employers.

"These challenges are more pronounced for people of color and other identity groups who have historically experienced oppression," Goldman explains in the report.

"We are precluding a whole world of creativity

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by requiring entry- and mid-level workers to come to us already with extraordinary privilege,” he added in an interview. “And if we have an arts and culture sector that is undergirded by people with privilege, and there’s no way in for other people, how is that going to affect the quality and content of our arts and culture institutions and the future of this world?”

A ‘road show’ for equity

In the year since the pay-equity project presented its first in-depth report, the coalition has been sharing its findings locally and nationally and working with organizations that want to bring about change.

“We were excited about it,” Goldman said. “But I don’t think we even anticipated how resonant it would be to tell the story and add rigor and provide a roadmap for doing something about this issue.”

In January, Kristen van Ginhoven, formerly the artistic director at WAM Theatre, joined Goldman as co-leader of the project, and they set out on what she calls a “board road show” to present their findings and offer guidance and support — both in person and virtually — to the trustees and other leaders of the region’s cultural organizations.

Often they have found a broad gap in knowledge in the boards’ understanding of the workers’ daily lives and experiences, she said. And in every conversation, she added, she has seen board members paying attention and showing support.

“We were thrilled how moved people were,” Goldman said. “You know, it wasn’t just an analytic exercise. Telling the story and centering workers themselves made a really big difference. And I think for that reason, in a matter of weeks, we had gone from six to 18 coalition members and are growing still. ... It has become a real regional movement, which was always the vision, but I don’t think we ourselves even knew if that was plausible. Turns out it was.”

Now representatives of the project’s 18 participating organizations are meeting quarterly as a coalition to talk about broad challenges that affect many of their workers — housing, transportation, health care.

At the same time, van Ginhoven and Goldman said, cultural organizations are supporting each other as they engage with the findings and recommendations from last year’s survey and begin to take concrete action.

“Which is not a small thing,” Goldman said, “because I think there’s a fair amount of cynicism out there. Most people can relate to the goals and the objectives and the values, but a lot of people

feel like, ‘Sure, that would be great, but how do you pay for it?’ And it’s easy to imagine that doing the right thing is just beyond our means.”

In the new report, they are gathering evidence of the ways organizations are making changes — and working to challenge assumptions and motivate more people. The coalition will discuss its new findings at a public forum from 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 25, at the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center in Great Barrington, Mass. Admission is free, but reservations are required and may be made online at mahaiwe.org.

“We want to get folks excited, not just about the employer-based changes, which are real, but even more inspiring opportunities for collective action around some major structural barriers,” Goldman said.

He and van Ginhoven said they have seen practical conversations evolve with more transparency around salaries and more open conversations about making changes, paying interns, increasing hourly wages and provisions for vacation time, benefits and paid time off.

For some organizations this may mean a reallocation of resources, van Ginhoven said, but often an organization can accomplish a good deal by reallocating attention — by listening with respect and responding with care.

The effort is only beginning to achieve results, van Ginhoven said. A year is a short time to show measure how a change may have an influence on people’s well-being, but in the conversations she is having, people working at the region’s arts organizations tell her they are seeing change and feeling seen and heard — and that they are beginning to see the results in their pocketbooks.

Putting ideals into action

In some places, making tangible changes can reach into an organization’s structure and patterns of thought.

A.J. Pietrantone, the deputy director of Jacob’s Pillow Dance Festival, walked through his own organization’s perspective. Jacob’s Pillow has been the fiscal agent for the Pay Equity Project from the beginning, he said, and has taken steps to follow the guidelines they have helped to create.

“I think for us,” he said, “the most important element of understanding the ability to make changes is that we think of it as a long-term and ongoing process. That allows you to celebrate incremental change in a way that builds trust among the employees and shows them and our peers what else can happen.”

They have set long-term goals and ways to chart progress, he said.

The process began with conversations on organizational focus, he said, when the Pillow’s current artistic director, Pamela Tatge, came on board in 2016.

Pietrantone said they began to explore the notion “that we could not be successful as an organization, even though we consider ourselves an international global center, if we did not participate in our community.”

Through the Pay Equity Project, he added, they have begun to regard employees within the Jacob’s Pillow organization not merely as a support staff for creative work but in fact as creative people involved in the work.


Pietrantone said he has held conversations with the Pillow staff about resources, goals and values, and has set a goal for himself to make them part of the conversation.

“What makes a difference for workers, what we’ve been told, is both doing things now and then being transparent about committing to getting to an even more ambitious place at a certain point in time,” he explained. “You’re charting a path, formalizing that goal and being transparent about the progress or lack of progress.”

Giving employees a stake

One of the messages of the Pay Equity Project’s findings, Goldman said, is that “we have to treat employees like adults, which means they get to

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Waiting for the train

State advances study of potential North Adams-to-Boston run

By JOHN TOWNES
Contributing writer

NORTH ADAMS, Mass.

The effort to bring passenger rail service from Boston to northern Berkshire County has reached at its first stop, but it could still be a long wait before the first trains roll into North Adams.

Last month, the state Department of Transportation released a draft of its long-awaited Northern Tier Passenger Rail Study. The comprehensive 112-page report examines the goals, requirements and options for upgrading an existing freight rail line to enable passenger trains to run from North Adams and Greenfield to Boston.

The report's release opened a public comment period that runs through Oct. 12. After that, the study will be revised into a final form that the state's political leaders could use as the basis to pursue an actual service proposal. (Copies of the report are available at www.mass.gov/lists/northern-tier-passenger-rail-study-documents.)

State Rep. John Barrett III, D-North Adams, a strong supporter of the idea of restoring train service across the state's northern tier, predicted that the advent of North Adams-to-Boston passenger trains would provide a significant stimulus for economic development in the northern Berkshires.

Although the trains would help tourists to reach the area, Barrett said the project would have a more profound effect in attracting new residents, jobs and other economic benefits to the region.

"It would be similar to the role of commuter trains for people who live in Connecticut and work in New York City," he said.

Barrett said that with the increasing traffic congestion and high costs of housing in and around Boston, people are looking for alternatives. In a new era of remote work, he suggested, train service could open up western Massachusetts to people whose professional lives remain anchored east of Route 128.

"Convenient passenger service would make the Berkshires an attractive and affordable option for people who would want to live here and commute to the Boston area," he said. "That's especially



Joan K. Lentini photo

State Rep. John Barrett III, D-North Adams, stands along the tracks near the Western Gateway Heritage State Park. Barrett and others are pushing to restore passenger rail service from North Adams and Greenfield east to Boston, and a new state study details options for the project.

true for the increasing number of people who work remotely at home and go to their office a couple of times a week."

Hoosac Tunnel route

The northern tier project would restore passenger service along a 140-mile line that was once a major east-west travel route through Massachusetts. The line, originally known as the Fitchburg Railroad, was surveyed and constructed from the 1840s to the 1870s and today is roughly paralleled by state Route 2.

The rail line includes the 5-mile-long Hoosac Tunnel, which starts on the east side of North Adams and played a vital role in the city's growth and development. It remains the longest U.S. railroad tunnel east of the Rocky Mountains.

A fleet of passenger trains still plied the Hoosac Tunnel route between Boston and Troy, N.Y., until the late 1950s, when passenger service gradually was eliminated west of Fitchburg.

Today, the Massachusetts Bay Transportation

Authority owns and operates the line for commuter trains on the 53 miles between Boston's North Station and Wachusett station, a large park-and-ride facility west of downtown Fitchburg. The track west of Fitchburg, through Greenfield and North Adams and into Vermont and New York, is owned and operated by the freight carrier Pan Am Southern LLC.

Under the scenarios contemplated by the new study, the state DOT would have overall responsibility for any new passenger service to western Massachusetts, while the trains would be operated by Amtrak, the national passenger rail carrier. That would involve having Amtrak use its train cars, locomotives and crews and coordinate train movements with the freight railroad that owns the line.

Five years of study

Although there have been periodic calls over the past few decades to extend passenger service westward along the line from Fitchburg, the issue moved to the front burner in 2019 after state Sen. Jo Comerford, D-Northampton, successfully pushed for legislation calling on the DOT to conduct a formal study.

Barrett was a co-sponsor of the legislation, which directed to the DOT to examine the benefits, costs and investments required to implement passenger rail service from North Adams to Greenfield and Boston — and to develop the speed, frequency and reliability necessary for trains to be a competitive travel option along this

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corridor. The report was supposed to be issued in 2023, but it was delayed until now.

The draft report is based on extensive research and was developed with the aid of working groups of stakeholders as well as public input. It establishes goals including economic development, reducing transportation's impacts on public health and the environment, and increasing transportation equity and mobility.

"The population in the study corridor, particularly west of Fitchburg, is currently static and has been projected for long-term decline," the report notes. "Part of the rationale for Northern Tier Passenger Rail is to potentially reverse this trend."

The study includes extensive information about specific physical construction and the investment required to implement train service, a cost-benefit analysis, and information about potential ridership, job creation and economic and environmental impacts.

After the public comment period, the DOT will revise the report, which will become the basis for a specific plan the department ultimately will submit to the Legislature and governor for review.

"This is the initial stage of the process of moving it forward to planning, design and construction," explained Ben Heckscher, co-founder of Trains in the Valley, an advocacy group that has been pushing for expanded rail service in the Pioneer Valley and elsewhere in western Massachusetts.

"The first hurdle for a project like this is determining its feasibility," Heckscher said. "That includes a cost-benefit analysis with a preliminary number for the investment that will be required to help determine if money is available. Ultimately, the final decision will be a political one."

Five trains per day

The study details the work required to make passenger rail service a reality on the line, including track and signal upgrades, station construction and other infrastructure improvements. It also evaluates studies for integrating freight and passenger traffic along the route.

It lists six potential service options, ranging from the most basic and least costly to implement to those that would achieve faster travel times and other benefits but would require a bigger initial investment.

All of the service options envision an operation with five trains daily in each direction between North Adams and Boston.

The first, lowest-cost alternative would take the minimum steps necessary to operate passenger trains, eliminating low-speed segments and creating additional track capacity to accommodate the new trains. This option would yield a travel time of 3 hours and 55 minutes between Boston

and North Adams.

A second basic option would include additional track upgrades and other work to enable a faster total travel time of 2 hours and 48 minutes, which the study says is competitive with driving.

An additional four options would expand on these, with some involving additional intermediate stops and one option having trains continuing west from North Adams to Albany, N.Y.

Most of the options are based on trains being hauled by diesel engines, but one would use electrified trains, which would be less costly to operate but require a larger up-front investment in infrastructure.

Among the service options is one with "full local service," with intermediate stops at Shelburne Falls, Greenfield, Athol, Gardner, Fitchburg and Porter Square in Cambridge.

The study also mentions the possibilities for connections to a wider region, such as by linking with train service to Vermont and Connecticut through scheduled connections to Amtrak's north-south Vermonter route in Greenfield.

Costs of \$878M to \$2.9B

Although the report estimates the potential construction costs of various options, these are rough estimates that could be affected by future changes in the cost of supplies and services and other factors.

The lowest-cost alternative is pegged at \$878 million for initial infrastructure work, while the second lowest would cost \$1.57 billion. The full local diesel service is estimated at \$1.59 billion, while the cost of establishing the electrified service is projected at \$2.92 billion.

The report also analyzes anticipated operating and maintenance costs, ridership and revenues. It does not endorse any specific alternative and instead emphasizes that further analysis is required.

The draft report does note that the lowest annual cost of operations and maintenance per rider are associated with the full local service option and the electrified service option. Although these options would be more expensive to design and build, the study estimates they'd be more cost-effective to operate because they would have the highest ridership.

Thomas A. Mowatt

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The report doesn't draw any conclusion for or against the merits of the overall project. However, one line in its conclusions that has drawn some criticism states: "Given the estimated benefits and costs associated with each of the six alternatives, the benefit-cost analysis indicates that the benefits may not offset the capital costs required for implementation."

Barrett called that statement absurd.

"That's a very premature conclusion," Barrett said. "How can they make that assumption before a specific plan has been determined or anything has been actually done? It's obvious this will have many benefits far beyond what a preliminary cost-benefit analysis might indicate. Look at the benefits the MBTA has provided to eastern Massachusetts."

Heckscher also noted that the overall initial costs do not have to be incurred at once.

"People should not be scared away by the numbers in the study when they see billion-dollar figures for a full-build scenario," Heckscher said. "That does not necessarily mean it would all have

to be done and spent at once. Changes can also be made incrementally by doing the more basic steps to start the service and making additional upgrades and improvements over time."

Although the state would need to decide the scope of the project and what level of investment to make, it could seek federal funds to pay for a significant portion of the infrastructure upgrades needed to get the trains rolling. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, a bipartisan initiative enacted early in the Biden administration, provided \$66 billion in new funding over 10 years for passenger and freight rail, including \$43.5 billion for grants to states that want to expand and upgrade the passenger rail network.

Many states and multistate compacts are competing for those funds, however, and the flow of future infrastructure spending could be dramatically reshaped depending on the outcome of this year's presidential and congressional races.

Connecting to a network

The study of potential rail service in the

state's northern tier is one facet of a wider goal of revitalizing freight and passenger rail service across Massachusetts, with several separate but related initiatives under way.

Two years ago, the Legislature approved \$275 million in a first round of funding to support expanded train service on the east-west route that extends from Boston and Worcester to Springfield and Pittsfield. The route currently carries a once-a-day Amtrak run, but New York officials are backing Massachusetts' proposal to add two additional trains per day along this route between Boston and Albany, and Massachusetts hopes to add additional frequencies between Springfield and Boston.

The expanded east-west service via Springfield is one part of a concept officials have dubbed "compass rail," an integrated system of east-west and north-south rail services with Springfield as their hub. Springfield is already the northern terminal of frequent rail service to Hartford and New Haven, and Massachusetts for several years

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Voters face rare dual vacancy in Vermont Senate district

By MAURY THOMPSON
Contributing writer

The death of longtime state Sen. Dick Sears and the retirement of Sen. Brian Campion have set up the first election in more than three decades in which both Senate seats representing Bennington County are open.

Six candidates, including three running as independents, will be on the November general election ballot in the Bennington District, which includes all of Bennington County along with the towns of Wilmington and Londonderry in Windham County.

Three of the candidates have previous experience in the Legislature and are looking to continue or pick up where they left off.

Seth Bongartz of Manchester, one of two Democratic candidates, is in his second two-year term in the state House of Representatives and previously served two terms in the House and one in the Senate in the 1980s. He also was president of Hildene, the Lincoln family home in Manchester,

Election 2024

for nearly two decades before retiring at the end of 2019.

Cynthia Browning of Arlington, running as an independent, previously served in the House as a Democrat from 2007 to 2020. She works in banking, previously taught economics and served for many years as executive director of the Batten Kill Watershed Alliance.

Steven Berry of Manchester, another independent, was elected to the House as a Democrat for one term in 2015-16 before losing his re-election bid. In recent years he has served as pastor of the Congregational Church of Rupert.

The other three candidates are looking to make a new mark in politics.

Rob Plunkett of Bennington, the other Democratic candidate, is a prosecutor in the office of the Bennington state's attorney and a former Mount Anthony Union school board member.

Joe Gervais of Arlington, the sole Republican contender, runs a custom lumber milling company and formerly worked in sales, administration and product development for technology companies and nonprofit organizations.

Lawrence "Spike" Whitmire of Shaftsbury, the third independent in the race, is a construction contractor from Shaftsbury who is the board president of Grace Christian School in Bennington. Although he is running as an independent, Whitmire has linked his campaign with that of Gervais.

"On most issues I tend to the right," Whitmire said. "Joe and I are in agreement on most everything."

Candidates run at large, with the two who receive the most votes winning election.

Death scrambles a primary

The death of Sears, who had represented Bennington County in the Senate since 1993 and played a major role in shaping legislation across many years, brought an unusual wrinkle to last month's Democratic primary.

Sears' name was already on the Democratic primary ballot when he died in early June, and the filing deadline for other candidates to be

listed on the ballot had passed. As a result, some Democratic leaders urged people to vote for Sears in last month's primary so that the county Democratic Party committee could select the replacement candidate.

Bongartz, who was already on the primary ballot, rejected that strategy and joined his campaign with that of Plunkett, who ran as a write-in candidate for the second Democratic nomination.

"It was a horrible idea," Bongartz said in a telephone interview in late August, referring to the strategy of urging people to vote for Sears.

Bongartz received 2,641 votes and Plunkett garnered 1,616 write-in votes in the Aug. 13 primary, enough to earn them the two Democratic spots on the general election ballot. Sears received 837 votes, and other write-in candidates received a total of 294 votes, according to figures from the state secretary of state's office.

Jim Ramsey, the Bennington County Democratic chairman, said urging voters to cast ballots for Sears was a "backup strategy," because potential candidates had little time to organize their campaigns before the primary.

But then, Ramsey continued, "more of the candidates said, 'I really need to get my name out there.'" So the strategy was abandoned but had the advantage of alerting voters that Sears had died, he said.

Bongartz said he thinks most of the votes for Sears were from people who were not aware of the senator's death. He added that he does not expect there will be fallout from the controversy in the general election.

"That was a little inside-baseball thing that was not where the voters were," Bongartz said.

Large void to fill

Several candidates said there is no doubt the death of Sears and the retirement of Campion, who has served for a decade, will leave the area with less political clout, at least for now.

Sears had been chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee for many years and also was a member of the powerful Appropriation Committee.

Campion is chairman of the Senate Education Committee and chairman of the chamber's ethics panel. He previously served two terms in the House.

"It is not possible in one [election] cycle to kind of replace their effectiveness," Bongartz said.

But the candidates each stressed skills and experiences they'd draw upon in an effort to represent the region effectively at the statehouse.

"Dick Sears had a long legacy in serving in the Senate," said Gervais, the lone Republican candidate. "He left a large vacuum."

Gervais said his own "ability to listen, and listen carefully" would be an asset in the Senate. In his work in product development, he said, he spoke with customers about what kind new products they needed, and then networked with the company's engineers to design products. The same skills apply to listening to constituents and networking with fellow legislators, he explained.

Bongartz said his success at crafting legislation in the House makes him the best qualified. He said he drafted three major housing bills over the years that became law. Most recently, he was one of the authors of a major overhaul of Act 250, the state law regulating development, that the Legislature enacted in June over the veto of Republican Gov. Phil Scott.

"I have a long history of involvement with state and local government," he said.

continued on page 10



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Public financing aids challenger in Saratoga race

By MAURY THOMPSON
Contributing writer

New York's new public campaign finance system has given a big boost to the campaign of Democratic challenger Minita Sanghvi in the state Senate district that covers Saratoga County.

The new system, which uses public money to match small-dollar contributions after certain fund-raising thresholds are reached, is intended to dilute the influence of wealthy donors and political action committees on elections.

Sanghvi, a Skidmore College business professor who is serving her second term as city finance commissioner in Saratoga Springs, received \$184,000 in public campaign-finance funds, accounting for nearly 85 percent of her campaign's total receipts of \$217,000, between Jan. 11 and July 12, the state's most recent financial reporting period for campaigns.

Sanghvi is challenging four-term incumbent Sen. James Tedisco, R-Ballston, who reported collecting nearly \$81,000 in campaign contributions in the same six-month period and had not yet received any public campaign funds. His campaign, however, has said he is on pace to qualify for public financing soon.

Sanghvi and Tedisco are competing in the 44th Senate District, which includes all of Saratoga County plus the city of Schenectady and town Niskayuna in Schenectady County.

Sanghvi's early advantage in campaign cash, which in past years would have been rare for a challenger in a New York legislative race, could make for a more competitive contest in the district, where Democrats have a slight enrollment edge over Republicans.

As of late February, state Board of Elections figures show there were 75,856 active enrolled Democrats in the district, 71,376 Republicans and 64,831 voters not affiliated with any political party. Democratic enrollment had increased by 453 voters and Republican enrollment by 381 since the 2022 election.

Tedisco carried the district with more than 56 percent of the vote when he won re-election in 2022.

Union backing for Tedisco

Campaign finance reports show Tedisco has drawn some financial support from labor unions, which generally are more supportive of Democrats. As of July 12, his campaign had received donations ranging from \$250 to \$1,750 from the New York Association of Electrical Workers, the New York

Election 2024

State Troopers PAC, the Police Benevolent Association of New York State, Law Enforcement Officers Council 82 and New York State United Teachers.

In addition, the Transport Workers Union of America, CSEA, Public Employees Federation, and Laborer's International Union have endorsed his re-election bid.

Sanghvi had not received any labor contributions as of July 12 and had not announced any labor endorsements on her campaign website as of Aug. 25.

Tedisco said he is proud of his labor support.

But Sanghvi attributed Tedisco's support from unions to his status as an incumbent.

"They have to work with whoever is in office," she said.

Sanghvi said she recently participated in informational pickets with SEIU 200 United, a health care workers union, and the New York State Nurses Association, and has assisted with efforts to organize backstretch workers at Saratoga Race Course, while she is not aware of Tedisco making similar efforts.

"He doesn't support labor on the picket lines," she said. "It's one thing to get labor money. It's another thing to walk the walk."

Tedisco countered that he spoke at a recent rally to protest the planned closing of Great Meadow Correctional Facility in Comstock.

"This is one thing people are tired of — lies ... mudslinging," he said.

Sanghvi, who is serving her second term in city government, said there is a clear distinction between the two candidates.

"I'm not a career politician," she said.

But Tedisco, who served 17 terms in the state Assembly before being elected to the Senate, said his longevity is an indication that voters approve of his representation.

Differing on marriage, abortion rights

Sanghvi said the race offers voters clear differences on policy.

For example, she said, Tedisco voted against allowing same-sex marriages in New York.

"He's voted against gay marriage," said Sanghvi, whose spouse is a woman. "He literally voted against me and my partner being able to get married."

Tedisco said he believes that marriage is

defined as a union between a man and a woman.

"Nobody should tell anybody how to live," he said. "But I believe marriage is what it is."

New York legalized same-sex marriage in 2011, four years before a U.S. Supreme Court decision required all states to do so. Tedisco, then an assemblyman, joined most Republicans in voting No when the Assembly passed the state's Marriage Equality Act in June 2011 by a vote of 83-60. Two Republican state senators from the region who supported the marriage bill faced primary challengers in the next year's election and wound up losing their seats.

Sanghvi criticized Tedisco for his anti-abortion voting record. Tedisco responded by saying he

continued on page 11

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Vermont continued from page 8

Plunkett, the other Democratic candidate, said Campion, the retiring senator, asked him to run.

“He’s the one who reached out to me,” Plunkett said. “If he thinks I can do it, I certainly can.”

Whitmire, who volunteers at a soup kitchen and in a program that assists families of prison inmates, said his charitable work mirrors that of Sears, who founded a local residential program for at-risk youth and served as its director for three decades, overlapping with his early years in the Senate.

“I think Dick Sears was a community servant,” Whitmire said. “And I’ve proved in my life that I care about the same things.”

Browning said her economics background and previous service on the House Ways and Means Committee provide her with the greatest degree of financial expertise for which Sears was known.

Berry, the third independent candidate, did not respond to a phone message seeking comment for this report.

An opening for the GOP?

Bennington County Republican Chairwoman Carol Dupont said this year’s race offers the rare opportunity for the GOP to pick up a seat in the

Senate. She called Gervais “probably the hardest-working politician I’ve had in a long time.”

“He’s smart, and he works,” Dupont said.

Voters in the district have not elected a Republican senator since 2004.

But Gervais said independent candidates Browning and Berry, who both have name recognition from previously serving as Democrats in the House, could siphon off Democratic votes, opening a pathway for the GOP.

Ramsey, the Democratic chairman, disputed that suggestion.

Browning and Berry “sort of have left, or abandoned, the Democratic Party,” Ramsey said. “And their focus really is as independents.”

Browning said she still identifies with the Democratic Party nationally but is running as an independent because neither Democrats nor Republicans in the Legislature seem to have an adequate strategy to address property taxes.

A Republican pick-up locally would not by itself pose any danger to the Senate’s lopsided Democratic majority.

Democrats currently hold 21 of the chamber’s 30 seats, with seven Republicans, one Progressive and one vacant seat. There are six open seats on the November ballot.

Asked about the top three issues in the race, Gervais said, “Affordability, affordability

and affordability.” He said he is particularly concerned about the cost of education and the cost of complying with the state’s new heating fuel standard.

Bongartz said the top three issues are property taxes, housing and protecting democracy from Trumpism.

Plunkett said the top three issues are criminal justice, property taxes and education.

Whitmire said the top three issues are transparency, spending and property taxes. On transparency, he stressed the importance of constituents being informed about legislation before it is voted on, not afterward.

Browning said the top three issues are property taxes, housing and the environment.

Elsewhere in the region, two Democrats are challenging the three incumbent Republicans in the Rutland Senate District. It is an at-large race for three seats.

State Sen. Brian Collamore, R-Rutland Town, is seeking a sixth two-year term, while freshman Sens. David Weeks, R-Proctor, and Terry Williams, R-Poultney, are each seeking a second term.

Democratic challenger Marsha Cassel of Rutland Town was a public school teacher for 24 years and a conflict mediator for 15 years. Democratic candidate Robert Richards is a longtime town selectman in Fair Haven.

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Saratoga *continued from page 9*

opposes “extreme” abortion rights.

Tedisco said Voters for Animal Rights and the New York State League of Humane Voters have endorsed his candidacy because of his advocacy for animal rights.

Tedisco said he has a history of championing cost-saving measures, such as using digital documents as the main method for distributing draft legislation to lawmakers. He said he also wrote legislation for the state’s first cap on local property taxes and led the effort to block former Gov. Andrew Cuomo’s plan to require vehicle owners to buy new license plates.

“We shouldn’t be No. 1 in outmigration in this state,” he said.

But Sanghvi pointed out that the population of Saratoga County has increased 9 percent over the past decade.

She said her business education and her experience as city finance commissioner provide her with expertise in assessing the state budget.

“These are all things that I have done,” she said.

Sanghvi immigrated to the United States from India in 2001, and her bid for the state Senate has drawn international attention, including articles in *The Times of India* and the *Hindustan Times*.

Her campaign received \$2,500 from the Indian American Impact Fund, a Washington-based political action committee that supports Indian

American and South Asian American candidates for public office.

Other area Senate races

The contest between Tedisco and Sanghvi is one of three potentially competitive New York state Senate races unfolding in the region.

In Washington and Rensselaer counties, Democrat Alvin Gamble is challenging freshman Sen. Jake Ashby, R-Castleton, in a district with a heavy Democratic enrollment advantage.

The two are competing in the 43rd Senate District, which covers all of Rensselaer County, a portion of Albany County and all of Washington County except the towns of Kingsbury, Fort Ann, *continued on page 19*

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See map on page 12

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Area shirt factories became focus of labor disputes

Maury Thompson

Employees at the Greenwich, N.Y., and Rutland, Vt., shirt factories of Tim, Wallerstein & Co. acted in solidarity with striking workers at the company's factory on Liberty Street in Albany in 1891.

The Greenwich and Rutland employees pledged not to complete any work transferred from the Albany factory — and if necessary, to walk off the job to protect their right to refuse the work.

The company wound up closing the Albany factory and moving the machinery and work to Troy. But it was a somewhat hollow victory for management: The striking workers affiliated with the Central Federation of Labor during the strike, which gave the union a toehold among garment factory workers in the region, most of whom were women.

Union leaders said it was a moral victory for labor, as all of the striking workers found jobs at other shirt factories in the region, which were in the midst of a shortage of skilled labor.

The strike broke out in early August when management imposed a new piece-work rate based on the same worker sewing the entire garment, rather than a system based on sewing specific parts of shirts, which had been more lucrative for employees.

"The girls claimed that they cannot make enough money to live on in this new way," *The Argus* of Albany reported on Aug. 14, 1891. "The company informed them that they must manufacture the shirt in the new way and the employees refused to do so and struck."

Management claimed the new system was already in place at all of the company's other

shirt factories.

Workers at the Albany plant walked out after an unsuccessful negotiating session between employee representatives and management that lasted just two minutes, according to Josephine Lewis, a spokeswoman for the employee committee.

"Very briefly she stated what the strikers demanded, which was assurance from their employer that they could return to work under the old system and an increase of weekly pay, or two cents advance on all parts of the shirt," *The Argus* reported.

Management, in the person of Edward Wallerstein, "evidently had not read the morning paper, for he was thunderstruck at the demand for an increase in wages, and with a wave of his hand and a toss of his head as he put on his hat, he brought the interview to a close," the paper reported.

It was a bitter strike, with workers decrying what they described as "penitentiary wages."

On Sept. 5, *The Argus* reported that the company was removing machinery from the Albany factory and taking it to a plant in Troy.

Growing industry

At the time of the 1891 strike, Wallerstein operated shirt factories in Rutland, Greenwich, Albany and Troy.

The Greenwich factory opened in 1890 and initially employed 200. The community had offered economic development incentives to

help the operation get started.

"The public-spirited citizens of Greenwich furnished the mill and power line, costing \$5,000 [the equivalent of \$172,824 in today's dollars]," *The People's Journal* of Greenwich reported on Aug. 7, 1890. "The shop gives employment chiefly to women, and there is no need for girls or women to be idle here."

The Greenwich factory expanded a few months later.

"Owing to the increased amount of hands, Tim, Wallerstein & Co. have been adding to their factory," *The People's Journal* reported on Jan. 1, 1891. "The new wheel is of the latest of improved kind, and will run upwards of 300 hands."

Wallerstein opened a shirt factory in Shushan in 1895, and in 1898 he was negotiating to open a shirt factory in Cambridge.

The 1891 strike was not the only labor unrest at Wallerstein factories. In 1896, there was a walkout at a Wallerstein mill at a different location in Albany.

"About a hundred girls, constituting the entire force employed in Wallerstein Co.'s shirt factory, located on the corner of Broadway and North Ferry Street, went out in a sympathetic strike yesterday afternoon, and operation in the factory ceased," *The Argus* reported on Feb. 5, 1896. "The cause of the strike was the firm's action in discharging the forewoman, Miss Bridget Kearns of North Albany, who has held the position for about seven months."

The employees not only sympathized with Kearns but also feared the firing was a precursor

continued on page 20

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

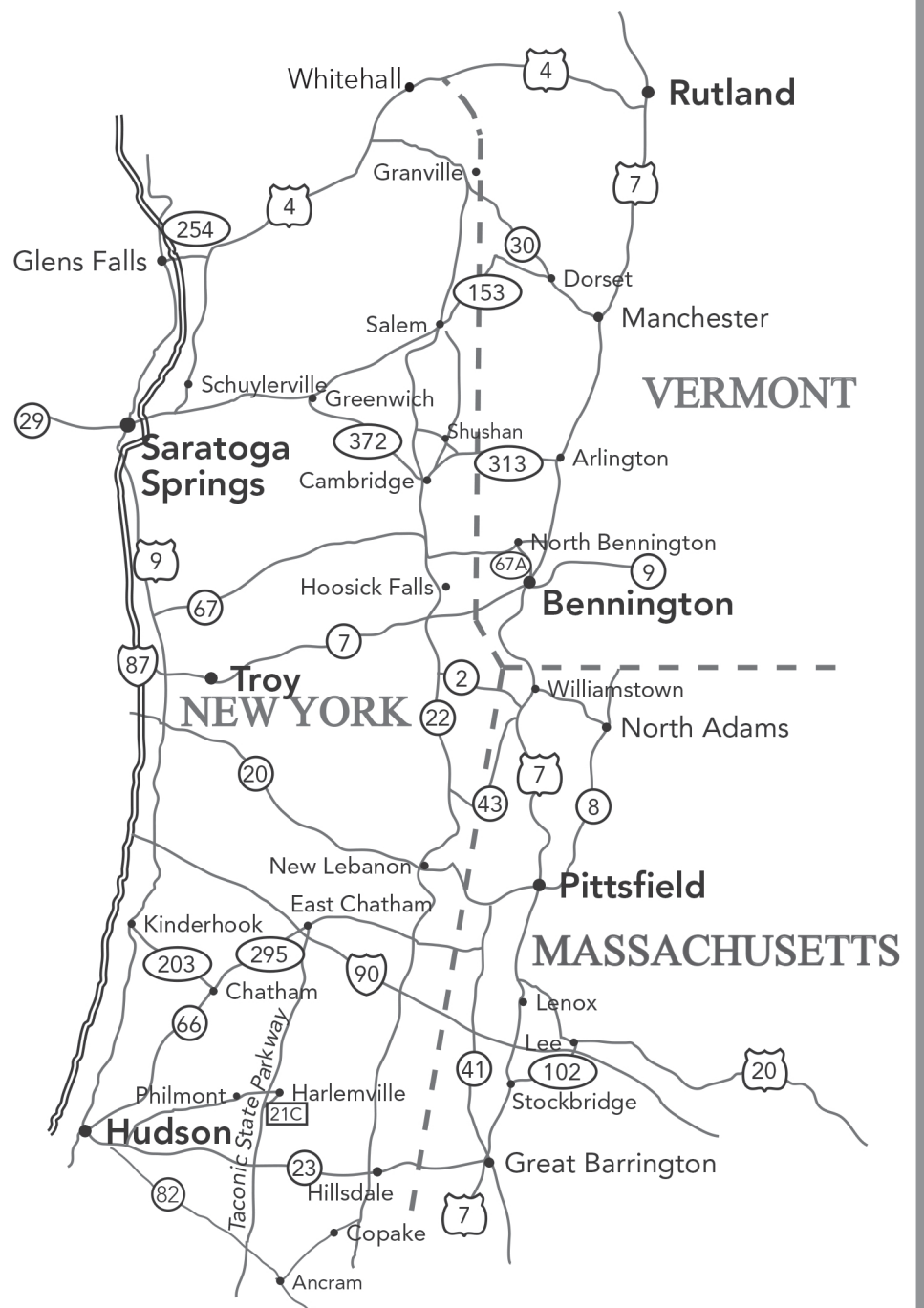
We're told we live in an information age, yet the traditional gathering of news is in decline.

Conventional news organizations are scaling back their efforts to ferret out the facts, even as they spread each factoid ever more widely via 24-hour broadcasts and the Internet. Is this the best way to keep you informed?

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HILL COUNTRY
observer



Arts *continued from page 3*

know how the organization works.”

That means being transparent about the opportunities as well as the constraints an organization faces, he explained.

“When people are given the opportunity to understand some of those dynamics, the attitude or feeling within which those discussions happen changes,” he said.

In the case of Jacob’s Pillow, Pietrantone said he has asked the staff to understand that the organization will only be able to increase everyone’s pay with time to plan and grow the resources. And then the organization’s leaders have set a plan across three years to raise and build in the funds to sustain those increases.

“What we’ve done is made it part of our strategic plan,” he said. We’ve always been a people-centered, artist-centered organization but made a very conscious effort that when we discussed people in our strategic plan, it was audiences, artists and staff. ... So we set a three-year timeframe of being able to get from where we were to everyone being at a certain point in salary ranges.

“And we focused on those making less than \$60,000 first, and that those at the higher end would take longer for us to get there. So 2025 will be our third year, and we will have made those adjustments throughout the organization.”

Pietrantone said he wants to make sure people feel seen — and that they have ways to give responses, whether anonymously or face to face.

“Quite frankly,” he said, “when we put our compensation policy in place and established salary grades for every position, I had a one-on-one

meeting with every staff person to discuss what it meant.”

In that approach, Goldman said he sees a fundamental commitment to the concept of equity. Every employee needs different kinds of resources, he explained, rather than a blanket policy, and the leadership at Jacob’s Pillow is making the effort to figure out what each person needs.

“That to me is a beautiful expression of that fundamental value,” Goldman said. “And it takes work. It takes time, and it takes appreciation for that concept. And it’s much easier to just apply something just across the board. So I’m really appreciating that.”

Boosting recruitment, retention

To make changes in its structure, culture and communication, Pietrantone said, Jacob’s Pillow has had to invest in support — and focus resources that had been scattered through other operational elements of the organization.

“We’ve created a new role: our director of strategic initiatives, people in culture,” he said. “She has three people as part of her department, which took a couple of years to get it to where it is.”

The changes emphasize a commitment to open communication among employees and supervisors, he said. Toward that end, Jacob’s Pillow has begun a supervisor training program, so that the people trusted to guide the organization have grounding in its values and a sense of what being a leader should mean.

“We’ve revamped all of our meeting practices,” he said. “We’ve created a staff steering committee on diversity, equity and inclusion. ... We’ve developed a culture statement that goes hand in hand with our values.”

Although these changes may seem abstract and theoretical, Pietrantone said he has seen tangible results. For one thing, more people are applying for open positions at Jacob’s Pillow, he said, and these applicants have done their research and ask about the company’s values and practices.

“We’ve had a real uptick in the number of applicants we have for every open job, which was not the case four or five years ago,” he said. “We really struggled to fill open positions. And not to say that it’s easy, because it’s still tough to be competitive with other markets and cities, but it has improved for us dramatically.

“And we’re seeing our retention rates increase as well,” he added.

Goldman said that kind of practical, positive result shows the benefit for cultural organizations to focus on the needs of their employees.

“When you’re talking affordability — thinking about more effective recruiting, thinking about lower turnover — these represent real savings for organizations,” he said.

It can be a challenge to measure or prove an immediate cause and effect, but he said there are “real and potentially substantial savings that offset any upfront investment. And I think part of our work is to capture that.”

Pietrantone said Jacob’s Pillow, as it focuses on its staff’s needs, has found it can provide creative flexibility even in areas like housing.

The Pillow has 130 seasonal staff and actually can house 110 on the property (its campus is on a former farm). Even so, staff members still face challenges in finding housing and transportation to this beautiful setting on a mountaintop 10 miles from Lee, the closest town large enough for
continued on page 14

Destination: BENNINGTON, VT

GETTING TO BENNINGTON

- from Cambridge 30 minutes
- from Glens Falls 1 hour, 30 minutes
- from Great Barrington 1 hour, 20 minutes
- from Hudson 1 hour 30 minutes
- from Manchester 30 minutes
- from Pittsfield 50 minutes
- from Saratoga Springs 1 hour, 15 minutes
- from Williamstown 20 minutes

See map on page 12

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Arts *continued from page 14*

cross streets and a spotlight.

“We’ve regularly been faced with the challenge of work-life balance,” Pietrantone said, “when work and life happen at the same place.”

But they have found new ways to share what they have.

“We’ve been more creative in terms of allowing for hybrid roles – and breaking through the myth that everybody has to be on site all the time,” he said. “So maybe you’re here for three days out of week, and you can be home for three days and then someone else is here for three days. And that way we can actually accommodate more people with fewer housing resources.”

Cutting back but growing

Goldman said that in many of the conversations he has seen unfolding, cultural institutions are working to support employees’ needs while also discovering that thoughtful recalibration can give them ways to support their creative work more fully — in quality and in sustainability as well.

“It does also indirectly have the effect of showing what artistic expression really costs,” he said, while demonstrating “what is needed to fill that gap.”

Sometimes, he said, the solution is to pull back. Sometimes the solution is to make sure programming aligns with the available staff and the amount of work they can reasonably do.

And sometimes organizations find they can

makes changes that grow their audience while also better supporting their work force.

As part of its rethinking of its operations, Pietrantone said, Jacob’s Pillow went from a 10-week festival to a nine-week festival. Although that meant fewer performances, it has also meant more time and attention for the rest.

“It helped us be prepared to handle increased audiences,” he said. “And we’ve actually seen more people coming through our nine-week festival than a 10-week festival.”

Goldman sees that shift in thinking as profound, not only within one organization but as a movement against long-held national assumptions.

“It’s not just the practical benefits that we’ve mentioned already,” he said, “but this really represents challenging some fundamental notions about how the world should work, at least in America — more, more, more, bigger, bigger, bigger, do more with less, exploit all of your resources to their fullest, short-term outcomes.”

It is a big deal, he said, to do things differently — to explain how and why, and to offer new ideas and show that they can work.

“And I think what we’ve done collectively,” he said, “by supporting each other and committing to some explicit values, is to challenge some of those traditional notions and help everybody understand.”

Charting a path forward

With their new report and the Sept. 25 summit, Goldman, van Ginhoven and the coalition’s

members are winding up the second phase of the project. Van Ginhoven has just taken on a new role as executive director of Project Sage in Lakeville, Conn., and she sees the next steps in the hands of the coalition’s members.

A range of organizations, large and small, now are coming together at quarterly meetings, she said, exchanging ideas about the questions and challenges coming up for them and their staffs — anything from paid time off to retirement benefits. She said she finds it exciting that members are trying different ideas, and she also is in touch with organizations that have not yet joined the coalition but are following its guidelines.

“Last year we shared the why, and the beginnings of what,” she said. “Now we’re starting to share the how. This is a new world, and it gets messy when you’re trying to figure out what an equitable system looks like for your five or 10 or 20 or 200 employees. That people are committed to acting as a lab and working with their staff, that is hopeful.”

Goldman said these conversations are especially timely now, when so many creative nonprofits, like so many local businesses, have weathered the unpredictable turmoil of the pandemic. Many have seen turnover and change on many levels. And this work, at its core, involves rebuilding solidarity, rebuilding culture and community.

“We have a lot of rebuilding that needs to take place, and I think it’s difficult for us to sometimes appreciate how much there is to do,” he said. “And pay equity is many things, but one of them is rebuilding trust.”

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Arts & Culture

AREA EXHIBITIONS

ArtOmi.org • 518-392-4747 • Sculpture & Architecture Park • outdoor, self-guided tour, multiple artists

- through Sep. 3: "Nathan Young: Tune It Or Die!"
- outdoor: Jiminez Lai's "Outcasts from the Underground" AND Riley Hooker's "Body, Language"

Art on Main Gallery • 38 Main St., W. Stockbridge, MA • 413-298-2288

- through Sep. 8: Celia Kahn's & Christian Dewailly's "Head Space, Earth Space"

BenningtonMuseum.org • 75 Main St., Bennington, VT • 802-447-1571 • Online, too

- Sep. 2-Oct. 14: 1863 Jane Stickle Quilt
- through Dec. 31: The Circus is Coming to Town
- through Nov. 10: "Vermont Rocks!"
- through Nov. 17: North Bennington Outdoor Sculpture Show (NBOSS) at the Museum!; artists at www.nbossvt.com/2024

BerkshireBotanical.org • 5 W. Stockbridge Rd., Stockbridge, MA • 413-298-3926

- through Oct. 6: Todd McGrain's "The Lost Bird Project"

BerkshireHistory.org/InvisibleCommunity • 780 Holmes Rd., Pittsfield, MA • 413-442-1793

- through Oct. 28: The Photography of Arthur Palme
- The Invisible Community: African Americans in Berkshire Co. (1830-2012) • Links at URL & Berkshire Co. Hist. Soc. YouTube Channel (<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLpvu1J8etvdgSsr2bmDeSEuuzV2DNIFMu>)
- Link at URL to Berkshire Literary History driving tour

BoltonHistoricalMuseum.org • 4924 Main St. (Rte. 9N), Bolton Landing, NY • 518-644-9960

- through Sep. 2: "H-2-OH!" featuring: Darrin Freshwater Inst. "Jefferson Project: "Creating the World's Smartest Lake"
- Lake George ... Assn.: "Our Treasured Water's Advocate" | Land Conservancy: "Protecting the Land that Protects the Lake" | Mirror: "The Voice of the Lake" | Park Comm'n.: "Caring for NYS's Only Park Within a Park" | Steamboat Co.: "Classic American Ships for Contemp. Touring"

Cambridge (NY) Historical Society and Museum • 12 Broad St. • Fri. & Sat., 1-4 pm, or appt. • www.instagram.com/Cambridge.NY_Hist.Soc.Museum

- through Dec. 5, 2025: "The Storied Life of Main Street" • "The Ondawa-Cambridge Chapter of the DAR Celebrates 130 Years"

CarrieHaddadGallery.com • 622 Warren St., Hudson, NY • 518-828-1915

- through Oct. 13: "Understories" group exhibition & David Konigsberg

CarvingStudio.org & Sculpture Center • 636 Marble St., West Rutland, VT • 802-438-2097

- Sep. 7-Oct. 20: Sculptor Bill Botzow's "Old Growth, Sculpture and Drawings from the Woods"
- Sep. 7-Oct. 20: SculptFest24: "Coruscation," feat. Dari Blythe, Haley Kean, Michelle Leftheris, Whitney Ramage, Joe Schine, Ilya Sobol, & Josh Urso

ChapmanMuseum.org • 348 Glens St., Glens Falls, NY • 518-793-2826

- Ongoing exhibits
- through Sep. 8: James Whitcher Mann, Adirondack Colorist
- through Jan. 5, 2025: "Stitched in Time, 1850-1950 Quilts"
- Sep. 10-Dec. 1: "Glen Street, 1880s"

ClarkArt.edu • 225 South St., Williamstown, MA

- through Sep. 22: Lunder Center, Stone Hill: Kathia St. Hilaire's "Invisible Empires"
- through Oct. 6: "Edgar Degas: Multi-Media Artist in the Age of Impressionism"
- through Oct. 14: "Guillaume Lethière"
- through Oct. 27: "Fragile Beauty: Treasures from the Corning Museum of Glass"
- through Jan. 26, 2025: "David-Jeremiah: I Drive Thee"

ClavarackLibrary.org • NY Rte. 23 & NY Rte. 9H • 518-851-7120

- Sep. 5-Oct. 19: Columbia Co. Plein Air Artists group show, feat. 13 artists

Courthouse Gallery • 1 Amherst St., Lake George, NY • www.lakegeorgearts.org • Masks

- through Sep. 15: "Synesthesia: Seeing Sound"

D'Arcy Simpson Art Works • 409 Warren St., Hudson, NY • Fri.-Mon., 12-5 pm

- Sep. 14-Oct. 13: Daniel Robn Clurman's "Mother Should I Run for President"

Eclipse Mill Gallery • 243 Union St., N. Adams, NY • carlosart.net

- Sep. 3-30: Carlos Caicedo: Abstract & Conceptual Photography

510WarrenStGallery.com • Hudson, NY • 518-822-0510

- Sep. 6-29: Doris Simon's "Multilayered"

Folklife Center at Crandall Public Library

- www.CrandallLibrary.org/Folklife-Center • 251 Glen St., Glens Falls, NY
- Online: Documentaries, Concerts, Stories at <https://www.youtube.com/@thefolklifecenteratcrandal8195>
- Folklife Gallery, Upstairs Gallery: --through Dec. 31: "Breaking the Chains: Lincoln & Douglass Linocuts of Stephen Alcorn"

HancockShakerVillage.org •

- Ongoing exhibits
- Sep. 5-Dec. 1: Sisters Harvest

Hotel on North • 297 North Street, Pittsfield, MA

- through Sep. 30: Marita Glodt's landscape paintings

HudsonHall.org • 327 Warren St., Hudson, NY • 518-822-1438

- Sep. 28-Nov. 17: "Between the Cracks - Hudson Jazz Fest. visual arts exhibition"
- through Sep. 22: Hans Frank: "Cosmic Art"
- through Nov. 26: "Houses and the Night Sky: The Art of Donna Dennis"

HydeCollection.org • 518-792-1761

- through Sep. 15: "A Long Affair: Surrealism 1924 to Now" AND "Daniel Giordano: Crystal Blue

Persuasion" & "Richard Estes: Urban Landscapes"

- through Apr. 20, 2025: Mia Westerlund Roosen: The Carmelites
- Oct. 5-Jan. 5, 2025: "Growing Up in a Renaissance Palazzo"

Image Photos Gallery • 413-298-5500

- photography of Clemens Kalischer

JacobsPillow.org • On demand at

- <https://watch.jacobspillow.org> & <https://www.youtube.com/c/JacobsPillow> & Jacob's Pillow Dance Interactive at danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org
- livestream encore at <https://watch.jacobspillow.org>: "Princess Lockeroo & The Fabulous Waack Dancers"

LABSpace • 2642 NY Rte. 23, Hillsdale, NY • 1-917-749-2857

- through Sep. 22: "Elevation" / Christina Tenaglia / Adrian Meraz

TheLafferGallery.com • 96 Broad St., Schuylerville, NY • 518-695-3181

- Sep. 21-Oct. 20: 12th Annual Upstate Invitational | Steve Kowalski + Christopher Murray + Gary Larson

LAPINcontemporary.com • 60 Roberts Dr., Studio 308, North Adams, MA

- through Sep. 28: Douglas Gilbert: "Gradient"

LARAC.org • Lapham Gallery • 7 Lapham Pl., Glens Falls, NY • 518-798-1144

- through Sep. 18: "Flirting with Eternity"

Monument Arts & Cultural Center • 44 Gypsy Ln., Bennington, VT

- through Oct. 30: "A Symphony of Styles"
- through Sep. 15: Jeffersonville Rendezvous: "Painting in the Shadow of Mt. Mansfield"
- "The Norman Rockwell Mystery"
- Portals to the Past - Covered Bridges in Art & History

Norman Rockwell Museum • 9 Glendale Rd, Stockbridge, MA • nrm.org • 413-298-4100

- through Oct. 27: "What, Me Worry? The Art and Humor of MAD Magazine"
- through Nov. 5: Tony Sarg: Genius at Play
- through Feb. 9, 2025: "Norman Rockwell: Illustrating Humor"

NorthCountryArts.org

- Elizabeth (Betty) O'Brien Gallery • Shirt Factory • Ste. 120, 71 Lawrence St., Glens Falls, NY
- through Sep. 28: Small Works 2024
- 2nd Floor Gallery at City Hall • 42 Ridge St., Glens Falls, NY • 518-222-1471
- through Sep. 28: Deborah Bryk's "Nature Photography"

NorthLoop.art • 112 Water St., Williamstown, MA

- northloopgallery.ma-AT-gmail.com
- through Sep. 15: "Perpetual Seam" & "Belongings"

Olana State Park • Hudson, NY • olana.org

- through Oct. 27: "Afterglow: Frederic Church and the Landscape of Memory"

PamelaSalisburyGallery.com • 362 1/2 Warren

continued on page 19

Arts & Culture

THE CALENDAR SEPTEMBER 2024

Sun

1



ClarkArt.edu • Family Concert • 12 pm • Free • Manton aud.

LittleTheater27.org • Johnny Cash Express w/ Marcus Ruggerio & Kelly O'Hurley • 2 pm • 27 Plum Rd., Ft. Edward, NY



• Bridge Street Theatre



RoeliffJansenHS.org • Copake Grange Historian Janet Mackin • 2-4 pm

misc.

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau • 24-hr. adv. reg req'd: 518-793-0511

--Big Bend 4.5-mi. hike • 9:30 am • ages 12+
--Family Hike (1.5 mi. loop) • 2 pm

SpencertownAcademy.org Arts Center • Festival of Books • 10 am-4 pm • Free adm. • 790 St. Rte. 203, Spencertown, NY

Mon

2

misc.

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau • Family Hike at Big Bend • 10 am • 24-hr. adv. reg req'd: 518-793-0511

SpencertownAcademy.org Arts Center • See Sep 1 • Bargain Day • 10 am-2 pm

Tue

3



LittleTheater27.org • Bluegrass Jam • 7 pm • Free, donations • See Sep. 1



ClarkArt.edu • Charlotte & Emma Kohlmann ("Emma Kohlmann: Watercolors") • 6 pm • Free • Hunter Studio

Wed

4



ClarkArt.edu • LDER • 6 pm • Free • BYOP & B • Fernández Terr.



• Barrington Stage
• Dorset Theatre Fest.

misc.

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau • meet: park office • 24-hr. adv. reg req'd: 518-793-0511
--Big Bend 'River Walk' Hike (flat, 6 mi.) • 9:30 am • ages 14+
--Kids Porcupine Adventure (fairly steep, 3/4 mi.) • 10 am

ClarkArt.edu • Weekly Writing & Revolution to writing prompts • 4-5 pm • ages 12+ • Free

8



CaffeLena.org • The Gothard Sisters • 7 pm



• Ancram Center
• Barrington Stage
• Bridge Street Theatre
• Hubbard Hall
• Shakespeare

AncramCenter.org • Downtown Upstate: "La Musica Deuxième" • 2 pm



SaratogaSinai.org • Virtual discussion: "Miss Jane Pittman" • 7 pm • Stream watch at home • Reg. REQ'D. for Zoom link



RoeliffJansenHS.org • Commem. Book Launch: Donna Platt & Nancy Thorson: historical signage & fire truck bell • Catherine Mikic: "Historic Copake NY" • 5-7 pm

misc.

HousatonicHeritage.org • 4 Berkshires Heritage Walks: Lee, Pittsfield, Stockbridge (2) • See Sep. 7

NPS.gov/Sara • History Caravan (in your own car) • 9:30 am • sara_reservations@nps.gov • Visitor Center meet-up

9



CaffeLena.org • Open Mic Night • 7 pm

misc.

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau • Kneehigh Naturalist • 10 am • ages 3-8 • Dress for weather • meet: Nature Ctr. • 24-hr. adv. reg req'd: 518-793-0511

10



CaffeLena.org • Chuck Lamb Trio, feat. Clay Jenkins • 7 pm



NPS.gov/Sara • Canal Walk • 10-11:30 am • Meet at Tour Stop 10, Champlain Canal

CrandallLibrary.org • Author/historian Garrett Graff ("The Only Plane in the Sky") • 2 pm live stream • Reg. REQ'D: <https://library.org/crandalllibrary>

misc.

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau • Baker to Moreau Overlook (mod., 2.5 mi.) • 10 am • ages 15+ • 24-hr. adv. reg req'd: 518-793-0511

Society of American Magicians • 7 pm • ages 16+ • 226 Old Loudon Rd., Latham, NY

11



LittleTheater27.org • Annual 50's & 60's Musical Variety Show w/MC Judy Talbot • 2 pm • See Sep. 1

Music.Williams.edu/season • Chapin Steps • 12:15 pm • Free • Chapin Hall

ClarkArt.edu • Gardy Girault • 6 pm • Free • Fernández Terr.

DeweyHall.org • Dewey Drop-In: Jazz Jam • 7 pm



ChapmanMuseum.org • Conversations with the Past: Adirondack Balloon Festival • 7 pm • Free, but reg. REQ'D 518-793-2826

misc.

ClarkArt.edu • Weekly Writing & Revolution to writing prompts • 4-5 pm • ages 12+ • Free

15



Chamber Music • Daniel Shulman & Kaori Washiyama • 3 pm • Free, donations appreciated • 3153 Co. Rte. 30, W. Hebron, NY

CaffeLena.org • Evening with Mary Gauthier & Robbie Fulks • 4 & 7 pm



• Ancram Center
• Hubbard Hall
• Shakespeare

AncramCenter.org • Downtown Upstate: "Puzzling Evidence" • 2 pm



BenningtonMuseum.org • History of Bennington College Through Books • 2-3 pm

ClarkArt.edu • Convo w/ Mary Morton (Nat'l. Gal. Art) & Michelle Foa (Tulane Univ.) • 2 pm • Manton aud.

misc.

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau • 24-hr. adv. reg req'd: 518-793-0511
--Big Bend: Beg. Birding (short start-&-stop) • 8:30 am • ages 12+
--Big Bend: Guided Plant Walk (short start-&-stop, new trails) • 11 am • all ages

HousatonicHeritage.org • 6 Berkshires Heritage Walks • See Sep. 7

BenningtonQuiltFest.com • 10 am-3 pm • See Sep. 14

DeweyHall.org • Dahlia Fest. • 12-4 pm • Free entrance; ticketed workshops (at URL)

16



CaffeLena.org • Open Mic Night • 7 pm

misc.

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau • 518-793-0511
--Forest Bathing • 9:30 am • ages 14+ • Small sit-upon, warmer clothes best • 24-hr. adv. reg req'd:
--Full Moon Hike at Big Bend (beg., family-friendly) • 7pm • EARLY adv. reg req'd (ltd. spots)

17



CaffeLena.org • Rochmon Record: Bruce Springsteen's "Born in the USA" • 7 pm



ClarkArt.edu • Patrick Sylvain: "Conceptual Autonomy of Kathia St. Hiliare" • 6 pm • Free • Manton aud.

misc.

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau • Moreau Lake Kayak • 10 am • ages 18+ if renting; 13+ if own kayak • 24-hr. adv. reg req'd: 518-793-0511

18



ClarkArt.edu • Val-Inc. • 6 pm • Free • Fernández Terr.

CaffeLena.org • Blue Grass Jam • 7 pm



• Barrington Stage

DeweyHall.org • Dewey Drop-In: Storytelling Evening • 7 pm



Cambridge NY Hist. Soc. & Mus. • 3d Wed Prgm.: "Growing Jobs for Cambridge: Seed-Related Business in the 19th-21st Centuries" • Tours, 6 pm; prgm, 7 pm

WCNYHS.org • Marie Williams ("Loyalists in the Adirondacks: The Fight for

Britain in the Revolutionary War") • 7 pm • Crandall Pub. Lib. CLM Comnty. Room

misc.

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau • Homeschool Pop-up: Leave No Trace • 10 am • ages 6+ (pub./sibs. ok) • 24-hr. adv. reg req'd: 518-793-0511

ClarkArt.edu • Weekly Writing & Revolution to writing prompts • 4-5 pm • ages 12+ • Free

ParkMcCullough.org • Wine & Cheese on the Veranda • 5:30-7:30 pm • Tix. at URL

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

Arts & Culture

THE CALENDAR SEPTEMBER 2024

Thu

Fri

Sat

5

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



• Barrington Stage
• Bridge Street Theatre
• Dorset Theatre Fest.



BattenkillBooks.com • Fict. Book Club: "Fencing with the King" by Diana Abu-Jaber • 6:30 pm

misc.

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau • Hudson River Kayak • 10 am • 24-hr. adv. reg req'd: 518-793-0511

7 Sat. *cont'd.*


HousatonicHeritage.org • 5 Berkshires Heritage Walks • Routes at URL • Hike start times vary

Free Community Day

ParkMcCullough.org • Afternoon Tea on the Veranda • 2-3:30 pm • Tix. at URL

BenningtonMuseum.org • Back to School Celebration • 10 am-4 pm •

12

 **CaffeLena.org** --Slow Jam: Folk, Bluegrass & More • 1-3 pm
--Darin & Brooke Aldridge • 7 pm

pm • Zoom on URL

misc.

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau • 24-hr. adv. reg req'd: 518-793-0511
--Forest Bathing • 9:30 am • ages 14+ • Small sit-upon, warmer clothes best
--Spring Overlook Hike (steep hike) • 10:30 am

CrandallLibrary.org/FolklifeCenter • Conor Mallon (Uilliann piper from Ireland) • 6:30 pm • Free, donations welcome



ClarkArt.edu • "Lethière: Oath of the Ancestors" • 6 pm • Manton aud.

WCHS-NY.org • Wash. Co. Hist. Soc. Benefit Night at Cooper's Cave Ale Co. • 4-8 pm • Glens Falls, NY



ClarkArt.edu • Virtual Lecture: Creating Guillaume Lethière's Monograph • 12

19

 **CaffeLena.org** • Lovella Album Release Concert • 7 pm



• Barrington Stage

WoodTheater.org • "Big Wigs, feat. Mrs. Kasha Davis & Aggy Dune" • 7 pm



ParkMcCullough.org • "Hearts Beat Loud" • 6-10 pm • Free, donations welcome



ClarkArt.edu • Kristina Richardson: "The Print Fetish" • 5:30 pm • Free • Manton aud.


Cambridge Valley Farmers Market
Every Sunday 10am - 1pm



Outside at 17 West Main at the Green Bridge
Veggies • Mushrooms
Beef • Baked Sweets • Wine
Seafood • Pork • Eggs
Bread • Goats Milk Products
Plants • Flowers • Grains
Live Music and Coffee!

visit cambridgevalleyfarmersmarket.com for info

6

 **EastboundThrow-bound.com** • 12 pm (ends Sep. 8) • Family friendly • Free, 15 yo & under; 17 yo or younger with adult • 33 Irwin Rd., Salem, NY

• Dorset Theatre Fest.
• Hubbard Hall



Cambridge (NY) Hist. Soc. & Mus. • House & exhibit tours • 1-4 pm
--Raffle: Will Moses print, view art, buy tix • Cam. Lib.

misc.

CrandallLibrary.org/FolklifeCenter • Ukulele Club • 2 & 3 pm

TheFoundryWS.com • Topsy MacBoozle's "Back to Skewl Daze" Sing Along • 7:30 pm

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau • 518-793-0511
--Wiggly Wanderers • 9:30 am • NO strollers
--Frogs & Toads • 11 am • 24-hr. adv. reg req'd



• Barrington Stage
• Bridge Street Theatre

13

 **SalemCourthouse.org** • Conor Mallon (Uilliann piper from Ireland) • 6:30 pm • Free, donations welcome



Mahaiwe.org • "Ama-deus" (1984) • 7 pm



WCHS-NY.org • Book Club: Any bio. Benedict Arnold • 12-1 pm • Skenesborough Mus., Whitehall, NY

ClarkArt.edu • Kathia St. Hilaire Closing Fest. • 7 pm

LittleTheater27.org • The Zorbas trio • 7 pm • See Sep. 1

Cambridge NY Hist. Soc. & Mus. • See Sep. 6

CaffeLena.org • Maswick & Brown w/opener Mike O'Donnell • 8 pm

BenningtonMuseum.org • The History of Utica Stoneware • 3-4 pm

misc.



• Hubbard Hall
• Shakespeare

GuelceCollaborative.com • Faxo Showcase: Hazard Zone • 6-10 pm • Free • 163 North St., Pittsfield, MA

Friends of North Adams Pub. Library Book Sale • 9 am-4 pm • 70 Marshall St.

BerkshireTheatreGroup.org • The Ivy League of Comedy Show • 7:30 pm • Colonial Theatre

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau • Looney-Tunes (for loons!) • 11 am • all ages • 24-hr. adv. reg req'd: 518-793-0511

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

7

 **EastboundThrow-bound.com** • Throwdown '24 • See Sep. 6



• Ancram Center
• Barrington Stage
• Bridge Street Theatre
• Dorset Theatre Fest.
• Hubbard Hall
• Shakespeare

BerkshireBusk.com/roadside • Colby Lewis • 2-4 pm • Sheffield, MA

LittleTheater27.org • Ann. 50's & 60's Musical Variety w/MC Judy Talbot • 7 pm • See Sep. 1

AncramCenter.org • Downtown Upstate: "La Musica Deuxième" • 7 pm



Cambridge NY Hist. Soc. & Mus. • See Sep. 6

misc.

Colonial Theatre • Stories & Songs w/Roger McGuinn • 7:30 pm • Pittsfield

TheFoundryWS.com • Topsy MacBoozle's "Back to Skewl Daze" Sing Along • 7:30 pm

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau • Back to "school" drop-in fishing • 9-11 am • ages under 13 • \$1/C, unless bring own bait • Nature Center

continued to left, p. 17

14

 **BerkshireBusk.com/roadside** • Abby Lappen • 2-4 pm • Sheffield, MA

HudsonHall.org • "American Terror: An Opera," disc. & work-in-progress excerpt • 5 pm • Pay What Will

ParkTheatergf.com • Reese Fulmer & The Carriage House Band • 4 pm • 27 Market St., Brant Lake, NY

AncramCenter.org • Downtown Upstate: "Puzzling Evidence" • 7 pm

GuelceCollaborative.com • Musical Bingo • 6-9 pm • 163 North St., Pittsfield

TheFoundryWS.com • Jack & Zoe Comedy's "A Night of Drama" • 7:30 pm • ages 16+

Colonial Theatre • Reelin' in the Years - Music of Steely Dan • 7:30 pm • Pittsfield



Cambridge NY Hist. Soc. & Mus. • See Sep. 6

CaffeLena.org • The Kennedys w/opener Emily Barnes • 8 pm

Poultney Hist. Soc. • Adam Krakowski ("Vermont Prohibition: Teetotalers, Bootleggers & Corruption") • 1 pm • Poultney, VT, Public Library




• Ancram Center
• Hubbard Hall
• Shakespeare

WoodTheater.org • "Musical World of Disney" • 3 pm

RoeliffJansenHS.org • Judy Ackley Whitbeck: Growing up in Copake, Empire Farm & the Copake

continued on p. 18

20

 **LittleTheater27.org** • "An Evening with the Bluebillies" • 7 pm • See Sep. 1

misc.

CaffeLena.org • Kate McDonnell & Her Right Hand Men • 8 pm

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau --Wiggly Wanderers • See Sep. 6
--Stonewall Trail Guided Hike (steeper, 3.5 mi.) • 10 am • meet: office • Appr. clothes/shoes/bug spray REQ'D \$5/A • 24-hr. adv. reg req'd: 518-793-0511



• Barrington Stage
• Shakespeare


BerkshireTheatreGroup.org • Big Wigs: A Las Vegas-Style Impersonation Show • 7:30 pm • Colonial Theatre

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



Cambridge NY Hist. Soc. & Mus. • See Sep. 6

21

 **BerkshireBusk.com/roadside** • Mike Cobb & the Crevulators • 2-4 pm • Sheffield, MA

• 8-11:30 pm • 63a Putnam St., Saratoga Springs, NY



• Ancram Center
• Barrington Stage
• Shakespeare

HubbardHall.org • The Capital Trio • 3 pm

WoodTheater.org --Classic Country w/T.G. Sheppard & spec. guest Whiskey River • 3 pm
--Kevin (Richard)'s 1st 40 Close Up & Kickin' B-day Bash! • 6 pm • \$20 or free w/T.G. Sheppard ticket

AncramCenter.org • Downtown Upstate: "Plays" • 7 pm • The Stissing Center, Pine Plains

LittleTheater27.org • "Murder on the Set!; The Final Curtain" • 7 pm • See Sep. 1

BerkshireTheatreGroup.org • Mullett: '80s Hair Band Rock Tribute • 7:30 pm • Colonial Theatre

Mahaiwe.org • Lewis Black: Goodye Yeller Brick Road, the Final Tour • 8 pm



Cambridge NY Hist. Soc. & Mus. • See Sep. 6 AND Volunteer! at Movers &

cont'd. on page 18

Arts & Culture

THE CALENDAR SEPTEMBER 2024


Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

22

 **CaffeLena.org**
--Cap. Reg. Blues Solo-Duo Comp • 1-3 pm
--Saratoga Musicians Raise Funds for Snackpack • 7 pm

BenningtonMuseum.org • premier marimba comp: "The Scent of Apples" • 2-3 pm

The Guthrie Center • Black Legacy Project Album Release Show • 8 pm • 2 Van Deusenville Rd., Gt. Barrington

 • Ancram Center • Barrington Stage • Shakespeare

AncramCenter.org • Downtown Upstate: "Plays" • 3 pm • The Stissing Center, Pine Plains

BerkshireTheatreGroup.org • Sarge • 4 pm • Colonial Theatre




NPS.gov/Sara
--18th Century Med. in Rev. War • 10 am-4 pm • Vis. Ctr. Lawn
--Royalist Refugee Encounters • 10 am-4 pm • Tour Stop 9
--Soldier Encampment at Saratoga Battlefield • 10-2 pm • Tour Stops 2 & 6

RoeliffJansenHS.org • Copake Grange Historian Janet Mackin • 2-4 pm

misc.


HousatonicHeritage.org • 4 Berkshires Heritage Walks • See Sep. 7

29

 **BerkshireTheatreGroup.org** • Chris Ruggiero in Concert • 3 pm • Colonial Theatre

ClarkArt.edu • Malik Abdul-Rahmaan & DJ Rec • 5 pm • Moltz Terr. (Manton aud. if rain)

CaffeLena.org • Yacouba Sissoko & Siya • 7 pm

 **WoodTheater.org** • Dissonance • 4 pm



HubbardHall.org • 27th Ann. Manhattan Short Film Fest. • 3-5 pm

misc.

BerkshirePotteryTour.com • See Sep. 28

ParkMcCullough.org • Village Block Party

HousatonicHeritage.org • 5 Berkshires Heritage Walks • See Sep. 7

14 Sat. *cont'd.*

Telephone Co. • 2-3 pm

ClarkArt.edu • Edwidge Danticat & Kaiama L. Glover • 3 pm • Free • Manton aud.

ArtOmi.org • Writers Reading • 5-7 pm • Studio Barn • Reg. please

misc.

Friends of North Adams Pub. Library Book Sale • See Sep. 13 • 9 am-3 pm

BenningtonQuiltFest.com • Bennington QuiltFest • 9 am-5 pm • MAUMS, 747 East Rd., Bennington, VT

HousatonicHeritage.org • 7 Berkshires Heritage Walks • See Sep. 7

BidwellHouseMuseum.org • "Walk in Footsteps of Pioneers through Monterey Village" w/Rob Hoogs • Details at URL

NPS.gov/Sara • History Caravan (in own car) • 9:30 am • sara_reservations@nps.gov • Vis. Ctr. meet-up

Cambridge (NY) Hist. Soc. & Mus.
--"Indigo Dyeing: Bringing the Sky Down" Wkshp • 10 am-2 pm • Reg REQ'D: info: cambridge.ny.museum@gmail.com

--Fall Harvest Glory Sale • 8 am-3 pm • Main St. & NY Rte. 22

BenningtonMuseum.org • Museum ABCs: Rock Flipping Day • 10:30-11:30 am

21 Sat. *cont'd.*

Shakers Day • 10 am-12 pm

NPS.gov/Sara
--18th Century Medicine in Rev. War • 10 am-4 pm • Visitor Center Lawn
--Royalist Refugee Encounters • 10 am-4 pm • Tour Stop 9
--Battle of Freeman's Farm Walking Tour • 2 pm • Meet at Tour Stop 6
--Soldier Encampment at Saratoga Battlefield • 10-4 pm • Tour Stops 2 & 6


RoeliffJansenHS.org • Ross Mauri (icehouse artifacts) & Mike Fallon ("collecting Copake") • 2-4 pm

misc.

HousatonicHeritage.org • 9 Berkshires Heritage Walks • See Sep. 7

BenningtonMuseum.org

23

 **CaffeLena.org** • Open Mic Night • 7 pm

DeweyHall.org • Berkshire Strings Mon. Night Moderate Jam • 7 pm




ClarkArt.edu • Meet Me at the Clark (for those living with dementia WITH their care partners) • 1 pm • Free • Adv. reg. REQ'D. 413-458-0563

misc.

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau • Kneehigh Naturalist • See Sep. 9

30

 **CaffeLena.org** • Open Mic Night • 7 pm

DeweyHall.org • Berkshire Strings Mon. Night Moderate Jam • 7 pm

misc.

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau • Moreau Lake Kayak • 10 am • ages 18+ if rent; 13+ if own kayak • 24-hr. adv. reg req'd: 518-793-0511

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau • Annual Nature Fest! • 11 am-3:30 pm • Free entry • Any Qs: 518-793-0511

ClimateSmart.ColumbiaCountyNY.com • Climate Carnival, w/a free Repair Café • 11 am-3 pm • 182 Hudson Ave., Chatham, NY

CrandallLibrary.org • Smokey the Bear's 80th Birthday Party! • 2-3 pm • All ages • Community Rm.

HudsonCrossingPark.org • Schuylerville Lions Club's Tasting on the Hudson • 3-6 pm • ages 21+

--Disc Golf at the Museum • Reg. req'd.
--NBOSS Artist Reception • 1-3 pm

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau • Mushroom March: Hike to ID Fun-gis • 10 am • ages 14+ • 24-hr. adv. reg req'd: 518-793-0511

SalemCourthouse.org • 9th Beer & Brats Fest • 4-8 pm • Adv. tix. encouraged

24



ClarkArt.edu • Claire Bosc-Tiessé: "To Represent, or Not: Ideology of the Image in the Kingdom of Ethiopia" • 5:30 pm • Free • Manton aud.

misc.

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau
--Mud Pond Hike (mostly flat, 2.5 mi.) • 9 am • meet Nature trail
--Autumn Equinox S'mores & Story Hour • 6:30-7:30 pm • all ages • 24-hr. adv. reg req'd: 518-793-0511

ClarkArt.edu • Foraging Walk • 5:30 pm • Free • Adv. reg. REQ'D., ltd. space

25



CaffeLena.org • Lena Go Round Songwriter Showcase w/Erin Harkes • 8 pm



• Barrington Stage

DeweyHall.org • Dewey Drop-In: Talent Share • 7 pm

misc.

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau • Homeschool Pop-up: Food Chain • 10 am • ages 6+ (public & siblings ok) • \$1/C • 24-hr. adv. reg req'd: 518-793-0511

ClarkArt.edu • Weekly Writing & Revolution to writing prompts • 4-5 pm • ages 12+ • Free

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THEATER LISTINGS

AncramCenter.org • 1330 Co. Rte. 7, Ancram, NY • 518-329-0114
• Downtown Upstate festival: Sep. 7-Sep. 22 • Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., 2 pm
Sep. 7 & 8: "La Musica Deuxième"
Sep. 14 & 15: "Puzzling Evidence"
Sep. 21 & 22: "Plays" (at The Stissing Center, Pine Plains)

BarringtonStageCo.org • Pittsfield, MA • Box office: 413-236-8888
--Boyd-Quinson Stage • 30 Union St.
• "Next to Normal" • through Sep. 8 • Wed., 7:30 pm; Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm
--St. Germain Stage • 36 Linden St.
• "Primary Trust" • Sep. 18-Oct. 13 • Wed., 7:30 pm; Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat., 2 pm; Sun., 3 pm

BerkshireTheatreGroup.org • 413-997-4444
At Unicorn Theatre • 6 East St., Stockbridge, MA
• Conor McPherson's "The Weir" • Sep. 26-Oct. 27 • Wed.-Sun., times vary by date

Bridge Street Theatre • 44 W. Bridge St., Catskill, NY • bridgest.org • Box office: 518-943-3818
• "Out of Order" • through Sep. 28 • Thu.-Sat, 7:30 pm; Sun., 2 pm
• "Chipandgus," by John Ahlin & Christopher Patrick Mullen • Sep. 26-Oct. 6 •

DorsetTheatreFestival.org • 104 Cheney Rd. • 802-867-2223
• "True Art," by Jessica Provenz • through Sep. 7 • Wed.-Sun • 2 & 7:30 pm

FortSalem.com • 11 East Broadway, Salem, NY • 518-854-9200
• "The Drowsy Chaperone" • Sep. 27-Oct. 6 • Fri. & Sat., 7 pm; Sun., 2 pm

HubbardHall.org • 25 E. Main St., Cambridge, NY • 518-677-2495
• "What the Constitution Means to Me" • Sep. 6-15 • Fri. & Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., 2 pm

Shakespeare.org • 70 Kemble St., Lenox, MA • 413-637-3353
Elayne P. Bernstein Theatre
• "Three Tall Persian Women" • Aug. 30-Oct. 13 • Fri. & Sat., 7 pm; Sat. & Sun., 2 pm

Arts & Culture


THE CALENDAR SEPTEMBER 2024

Thu

Fri

Sat

26

 **CaffeLena.org** • Momentum Series: Daniel Champagne • 7 pm



ClarkArt.edu • "La Reine Margot" (1984) • 6 pm • Free • Manton aud.

CrandallLibrary.org/Folklife Center • Connor Garvey • 6:30 pm • Free, donations welcome



BattenkillBooks.com • Poetry Night • 6:30 pm


SpencertownAcademy.org • Mary Gauthier w/ Jaimee Harris • 7:30 pm • Blanch Grubin Aud.



• Barrington Stage
• Berkshire Theatre Group
• Bridge Street Theatre

TheFoundryWS.com • Jack & Zoe Comedy's "A Night of Drama" • 7:30 pm • ages 16+

27

 **CrandallLibrary.org**/FolklifeCenter • Ukulele Club • 2 & 3 pm

TheFoundryWS.com • John Hamilton's "Honest to God" • 7:30 pm



Mahaiwe.org • "Crooklyn" (1994) • 7 pm

SalemCourthouse.org • Connor Garvey • 6:30 pm • Free, donations welcome



Cambridge NY Hist. Soc. & Mus. • See Sep. 6

Music.Williams.edu/season • Berkshire Symphony • 7:30 pm • Free • Chapin Hall

misc.

CaffeLena.org • Alash • 8 pm



• Barrington Stage
• Berkshire Theatre Group
• Bridge Street Theatre
• Fort Salem
• Shakespeare

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau --Wiggly Wanderers • See Sep. 6

--Fresh Brewed Tea in your Backyard • 12 pm • ages 12+ • 24-hr. adv. reg req'd: 518-793-0511 • Nature Ctr.

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

28

 **HudsonHall.org** • Hudson Jazz Fest.: "Melanie Charles' Make Jazz Trill Mega Jam" • 2 pm



Cambridge NY Hist. Soc. & Mus. • See Sep. 6

ParkTheatergf.com • Joseph Terrell & Blue Cactus • 4 pm • 27 Market St., Brant Lake, NY

BenningtonMuseum.org • Monument Soc. Event: Windsor • 12-9 pm • St. Gaudens Nat'l. Park, Am. Precision Mus., & Copper Fox • RSVP ASAP for sched.

GuelceCollaborative.com • See Sep. 14

misc.

LittleTheater27.org • "Whiskey River" • 7 pm • See Sep. 1

Mahaiwe.org • Villalobos Brothers • 7 pm

NPS.gov/Sara --Bird Walk • 8-10:30 am • Meet Vis. Ctr. lot --Frederick Douglass Returns to S'ville • 10 am-3 pm, at Schuyler House • 3-4 pm, at 12 Spring St., Schuylerville

CaffeLena.org • Folk Heritage: Michael Jerling • 8 pm



DeweyHall.org • Sheffield Contra Dance • 6 pm

BidwellHouseMuseum.org • "A Ramble in the Bidwell Woods" w/Richard Greene • Details at URL

WoodTheater.org • AKD-RAQS Evening of Bellydance • 7 pm

HousatonicHeritage.org • 5 Berkshires Heritage Walks • See Sep. 7



TheFoundryWS.com • Comedians Carolyn Plummer & Kelly MacFarland • 7:30 pm

BerkshirePotteryTour.com • 10 am-5 pm • 7 stops/18 potters, self-guided tour, locations at URL

ChapmanMuseum.org • 2024 Cemetery Tour • 10-11 pm • Pine View Cem., 21 Quaker Rd., Queensbury, NY • Reg. REQ'D 518-793-2826

Parks.ny.gov/Moreau --Moreau Lake Kayak • 10 am • ages 18+ if renting; 13+ if own kayak --Raise a Toast to Compost! • 1 pm • ages 10+

Train *continued from page 6*

has been supporting a couple of additional daily round-trips between Springfield, Northampton and Greenfield on the line used by Amtrak's Vermonter.

The different rail projects in Massachusetts are not necessarily in competition with one another, but the state has had to establish overall strategies and priorities among various options. Advocates say the proposed east-west service through Springfield has advanced further in the planning and design process because it was started earlier.

Barrett said he believes the most effective strategy for a statewide rail system would be to integrate the northern tier service into the "compass rail" network based in Springfield.

"Currently, the northern tier is not considered part of compass," Barrett said. "However, once we progress further after the comment period, we'll be able to demonstrate the benefits of including this in compass."

Senate *continued from page 11*

Whitehall, Dresden and Putnam.

As of late February, state figures show there were 72,713 active enrolled Democrats in the district, 53,090 Republicans, and 62,144 voters who weren't enrolled in any party.

Despite the Democratic enrollment advantage, Ashby won 51 percent of the vote in the newly configured district in 2022.

Gamble, a retired National Grid gas line service worker, is a town councilman in Colonie.

As of July 12, Ashby reported having \$141,000 in his campaign fund, while Gamble had \$25,000.

And in the Hudson Valley district that covers Columbia County, Republican Patrick Sheehan, a small business owner from Kingston, is challenging two-term Sen. Michelle Hinchey, D-Saugerties.

Hinchey defeated incumbent Republican George Amedore in 2020, in what was then the 46th Senate District. Two years ago, she won reelection with 52 percent of the vote after she and

Exhibitions *continued from page 15*

St., Hudson, NY
• Aug. 31-Oct. 6: "Understory" Snakes, Snails, and the Florest Floor

The Park-McCullough House • 1 Park St., North Bennington, VT
• Ongoing: "Women of the House & Women of the Community"

RoeliffJansenHS.org • 8 Miles Rd., Copake Falls, NY • Free adm. • roeliffjansenhs@gmail.com
• through Oct. 6: "Mementos, Maps & Milestones: Copake at 200"

RootedinSalem.com • 196 N. Main St., Unit A, Salem, NY • 518-772-9332
• through Sep. 30: Richard Criddle: "Battenkill Crossing"

(Historic) SalemCourthouse.org • 58 E. Broadway, Salem, NY • 518-854-7053
• Sep. 6-28th: Paula Krieg's "Pattern & Paper Transformations"

ShakerMuseum.us • 518-610-8543
• The Collection: Explore over 18,500 objects on

line

SohnFineArt.com • 69 Church St., Lenox, MA • 413-551-7353
• through Sep. 30: "Marilyn Uncovered: The Unveiling of the Bert Stern Family Collection" & "Alchemy of Light"

SVAC.org • 930 SVAC Dr., Manchester, VT • 802-362-1405
• through Sep. 22: "Sand to Splendor: The Nature of Glass" AND "Pastel Panorama: Journeys with a Medium"
• through Nov. 3: Summer 2024 Solo Exhibition

Spark of Hudson • 502 Union St., Hudson, NY • info (temp): 518-943-3400
• Sep. 13-Dec. 7: "Our Town on the River: Showcase of Hudson Artists"

StoneValleyArts.org • 145 E. Main St., Poultney, VT • Sat. & Sun., 1-4 pm
• Sep. 7-Oct. 20: "A Gift of Dreams: The Creative Process"

SusanEleyFineArt.com • 433 Warren St., Hudson, NY
• through Oct. 13: Ted Dixon: "Eighteen"

Tang.skidmore.edu • 815 N. Broadway, Saratoga Springs, NY
• through Sep. 22: "Voragine: Yente and Cecilia Biagini"
• through Sep. 29: "The Art of Being a Chair"
• through Jan. 5, 2025: Mark Dion & Alexis Rockman: "Journey to Nature's Underworld"
• through Sep. 7, 2025: Yvette Molina "A Promise to the Leaves"

tANJAgRUNERT.com • 21 Prospect Ave., Hudson, NY
• through Sep. 22: "Pulse" feat. Dan Devine and Susan Jennings

ValleyArtisansMarket.com • 25 E. Main St., Cambridge, NY
• Aug. 30-Sep. 23: "Tangled Stitches," works by Debra Ann Salat

Welles Gallery • Lenox Library, 18 Main St., Lenox, MA
• Sep. 5-28: Berkshire Plein Air Artists (21)

WorldChildrensMuseum.org • 89 Warren St., Glens Falls, NY • Cultural Exhibits

GOP Sen. Sue Serino were both drawn into the new 41st Senate District.

The new district covers all of Columbia and Greene counties, northern Dutchess County and a portion of Ulster County. As of late February, it had 88,463 active enrolled Democrats, 59,492 Republicans and 64,268 voters who weren't enrolled in any political party.

Thompson *continued from page 12*

to eliminating the forewoman position, leaving workers without an advocate in their dealings with management.

In the morning, employees had planned merely to send a committee to voice their concerns to management, but tensions escalated.

"The girls discussed the matter at lunch hour, and Miss Kearns had the sympathy of all," The Argus reported. "The more they talked of the matter, the more they thought the action of the firm in discharging Miss Kearns was unjust and severe. Their sympathies got the best of them about 2:00, and without any announcement of their intentions, put on their things and left the factory in body. ... The girls made no demonstration, but quietly went to their homes."

Wallerstein initially refused to consider their concerns.

"I have kept the girls on when business was very dull for charity's sake," he said. "It matters little to me whether they return to work, for when business picks up, I can assure you that I

can secure enough help to resume operations."

Miss Faren, a spokeswoman for the strikers, said she hoped Wallerstein would reconsider.

"We know that she [Kearns] must have given satisfaction, for she was always faithful, energetic, and watchful for the interests of the firm," Faren said. "This is our first grievance and I hope the firm will consider the smallness of it and reappoint Miss Kearns."

The strike was settled the next day when Wallerstein agreed to promote Gertie Sherlock, whom the employees had suggested, as the new forewoman.

In 1884, workers in the laundry department struck at the company's factory in Troy, but they returned to work when the company refused to increase pay.

There was a strike at the Rutland factory in 1886, and there was a brief work stoppage at one of the company's factories in Troy in 1887.

"The 450 employees of Tim, Wallerstein & Co.'s collar shop on Sixth Street, Troy, refused to go to work yesterday on account of the supposed unsafe condition of the boiler," *The Argus* reported on April 10, 1887.

In 1898, about 150 employees were laid

off at the Broadway factory in Albany when Wallerstein dismantled the equipment and moved it to a state prison in Ionia, Mich., where the company opened a factory that employed convict labor, *The Argus* reported on Oct. 2, 1898. The company had a 10-year contract to employ 300 inmates, the newspaper reported on Nov. 20.

A manager of another of the company's Albany-area factories disputed a Michigan news report that Wallerstein was moving the entire operation to Michigan, *The Argus* reported on Nov. 23.

"There is no foundation for this report, and to prove the utter absurdity of the rumor, I will show you where we have just put in 18 new sewing machines and contemplate adding 50 more," the manager told the Albany paper.

In time, however, Wallerstein did sell all of his New York and Vermont factory buildings as he consolidated his operations in Michigan.

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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