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Labor Day Issue

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Civic Center poker

By Mark Frost
 Chronicle Editor

Monday's "auction" of the Glens Falls Civic Center was a social and media event, but it wasn't about business, at least in the short term.

It drew a crowd, we had fun, but nobody submitted a bid. Nobody even registered to bid. No takers at the minimum asking price of \$1.5-million.

Does Mayor have ace up his sleeve? Or does Rich Schermerhorn hold it?

That there was no action came as a surprise to some elected city officials, which is a little bit worrisome because it suggests they don't understand the reality of the situation.



Chronicle photo/Mark Frost

Mayor Jack Diamond faced the media horde after Monday's auction drew zero bids.

But they're not alone. The newly formed "Coalition to Save Our Civic Center" talks vaguely of forming a "public-private partnership" to buy and operate the Civic Center, but they don't seem to have the slightest nuts-and-bolts financial or operational plan, let alone a lobbying ground-game to accomplish it.

They're very well-intentioned, but as our retired publisher Patricia Maddock has remarked, "Nice don't feed the bulldog."

The City of Glens Falls wants out from the financial sinkhole that is budgeted at \$660,000 this year and may actually cost city taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars more.

The only entity that seems even remotely a potential public partner is Warren County, and how ready it is to commit to a project that loses tons of money every year is an open question.

What Glens Falls does have

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Lake George water 'good,' but salt a worry

By David Cederstrom
 Chronicle Staff Writer

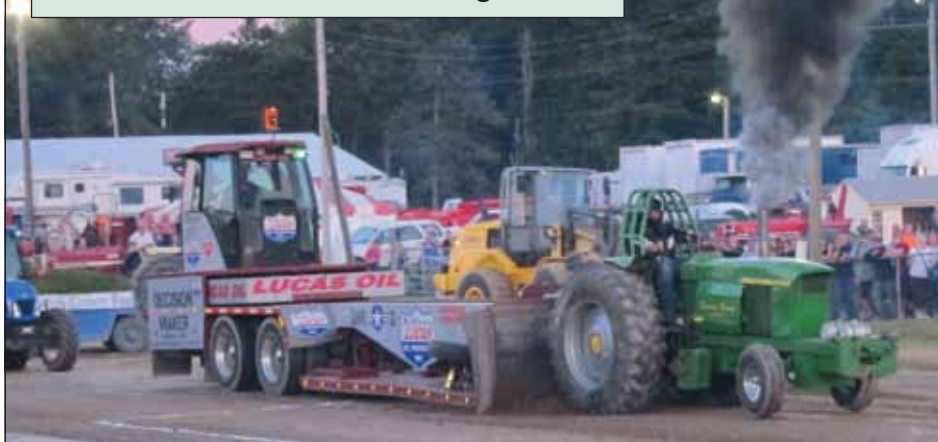
"Overall, Lake George remains in remarkably good condition environmentally," says a new report from the Darrin Fresh Water Institute (DFWI) in Bolton Landing. But it cautions that while some threats to the lake's water quality have lessened since 1980, others, like salt, have worsened.

A 30-year perspective

The report is titled: The State

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Washington County Fair continues thru Sunday ▶ 14



Chronicle photo/Cathy DeDe

Photo provided

LG classic boat Rendezvous this Saturday ▶ 17



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