

## Hicks is in on the hard cider boom

**By Mark Frost**  
 Chronicle Editor

Five years ago, Hicks-Wilson Orchard in Granville didn't make hard cider. Now they say it's 20 percent of their business.

"It'd be great if it was 50 percent," says Dan Wilson, 54, who with his wife Susan Knapp, 52, is the second generation of Wilsons to operate the 109-year-old business that was purchased from the Hicks family in the 1970s.

The farm, which touts itself as "New York's oldest U-pick orchard," created a separate entity, Slyboro Cider House LLC, to make and market the alcohol product.

Hard cider sales are booming for makers large and small.

"We can't make enough cider right now to meet the demand," says Susan. "Most of our cider goes to New York City," where the hard ciders have a gourmet following.

"There's a real appreciation for it," says Dan. Slyboro ciders are served in "some really nice places," he says, mentioning off

**Vintage**  
**Granville**  
**orchard**  
**thrives in**  
**new wave**



Susan Knapp and her husband Dan Wilson operate the 109-year-old Hicks-Wilson Orchard. They're created the Slyboro Cider House to make hard cider — and can't keep pace with demand.

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**She's making it happen**  
**in North Creek ▶ 20**

**Jennifer Gadway** is a country singer/musician and organizes "Nashville in North Creek."

Chronicle photo/Mark Frost

## Post-vote notes

**By Mark Frost**  
 Chronicle Editor

I take elections at face value. I assume the voters did what they wanted to do. I don't think they're stupid. I don't think they're misled. I try to understand their thinking, whether or not they voted the way I hoped they would.

(In this case, I agreed with many of the results.)

Anyway, some thoughts.

**1. Republican Elise Stefanik not only won, she won respect.** In becoming the youngest woman elected to Congress, at age 30, even some foes tip a hat to her. "For all of the money that Karl Rove spent to help," Warren

*Please turn to page 6*

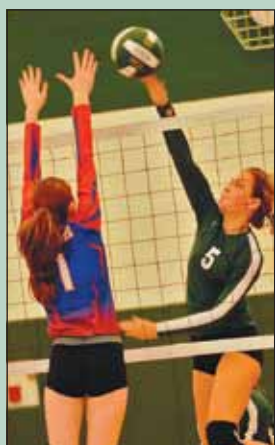
**Opinion/**  
**analysis**

### Latest outpost in GF abortion fight?

The controversial play apparatus erected near the fence next-door to Planned Parenthood. ▶ 9

Chronicle photo/Gordon Woodworth

### Hudson Falls girls seek NYS volleyball title at GF Civic Center ▶ 17



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