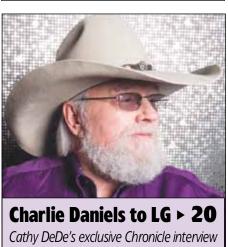
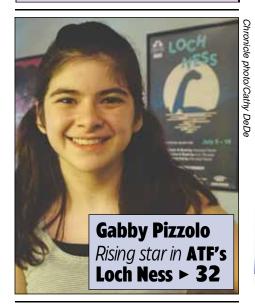


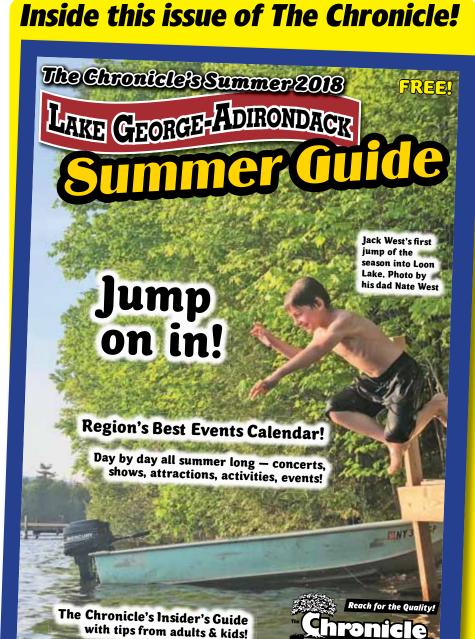
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civility; fight wrongs

Editor:

True civility is a reflection of a harmonious and just society, not an obstacle to it.

Editor Frost's paeans to civility as The Virtue

above all else raise some questions.

As our government rounds up innocent children

into for-profit prison camps, can we criticize this or would that be uncivil?

As the president describes immigration as an infestation — a term typically usually to subhuman vermin — can we criticize this or would that be uncivil?

As Americans suffering in Puerto Rico as the U.S. territory remains devastated long after the

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About that snake at a Lake George campsite

Thanks (not), Mark

Hey Mark,

Thank you so much for telling us about seeing a black snake that someone had butchered. We really needed to know that.

For the record, black snakes are not venomous and are not known to be aggressive, and it is illegal to kill one, according to the NYSDEC.

— Kathleen Carey, Fort Ann

Prof. Brown, in praise of black rat snakes

Hello Mark,

I read your reactions to seeing a dead Black Rat Snake at your island picnic table last weekend.

As a dedicated life-long snake researcher, of course I have certain opinions that differ from yours concerning the large group of limbless reptiles (snakes), some of which we are

lucky enough to have among our native wildlife species here in northern New York.

This species is totally harmless, feeds chiefly on rodents (and thus is beneficial in the scheme of things), and would have simply run away from you had it been alive. That a thoughtless human had killed the snake is unfortunate.

All species of amphibians

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