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# The Chronicle

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## 'I was sexually abused' by then-owner of Wildwaters Outdoor Ctr.; more victims?

To the Editor:

Hey, I'm a sexual assault survivor of Peter Drutchal who used to own the Wildwaters Outdoor Center in Warrensburg. I'm trying to get my story out in that community/area, as there are no doubt many survivors from his time there. I've been contacted by a few people who were victims/survivors from VT where he later operated the Adventure Quest school from 1989 to the early 1990s when he was first arrested for sexual assault of a minor and served over a decade in prison.

— John Stawicki, Leland, NC

**Chronicle editor Mark Frost writes:** We received the above email last Sept. 1. I replied. Mr. Stawicki provided much more detail, but it never made it into our paper.

Last week he emailed again with a link to a Jan. 12 story by Wilmington, N.C. TV station WECT. It began: "A judge sentenced Peter Drutchal to 30 years

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## West Mtn's big move

By Mark Frost & Zander Frost  
Chronicle Editor & Staff Writer

West Mountain is making a big move — launching a ski academy run by Thomas Vonn, a former Olympian who also coached and was married to three-time Olympic gold medalist Lindsey Vonn.

"Thomas can coach at any level," said West Mountain co-owner/operator Spencer Mont-

**Taps Thomas Vonn to launch ski academy**



Sara Montgomery, West Mountain General Manager, and Thomas Vonn.

Photo provided

gomery. Besides Lindsey Vonn, "he's coached at the World Cup level and raced at the World Cup level and raced in the Olympics."

Mr. Vonn, 46, is a Newburgh, N.Y. native who gravitated north. He went to St. Lawrence University and has been coaching ski racing in Lake Placid.

"I've driven by West Mountain for years and years," Mr. Vonn told *The Chronicle* Tuesday. "And I've always said...I'd love to coach there because it's such a perfect

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## LG Ice Castles debut

The highly anticipated Ice Castles attraction in Lake George opens to the public **Sunday, Jan. 23.**

Tickets were to go on sale Wednesday at [www.icecastles.com/new-york](http://www.icecastles.com/new-york).

**Ticket prices** weekdays are \$20 ages 12 & up, \$15 children 4 to 11; weekends, \$27 and \$22.

**Read Cathy DeDe's first-hand Ice Castles report on the next page.**



Ice Castle 'Build Manager' Anna Closser

Chronicle photo/Cathy DeDe

## Homeschooler, 11: She loves reading Chronicle

Dear Mr. Frost:

I am writing this letter to let you know how much I enjoy reading "The Chronicle." As an eleven-year-old homeschooler, your paper has been an inspiration to me. I have always been fond of reading and writing. Since 2019 I have been writing a newsletter partly inspired by "The Chronicle." For seven years, I have been reading your paper, and almost every week it has interesting and informative writing. In my opinion, one of the most enjoyable sections you publish is your editorial every week. Thank you for producing amazing editions of "The Chronicle" and doing a great job.

— Elisabeth Schutze, Gansevoort

## Faults Chronicle for 'both sides' journalism, printing Stefanik 'absurd assertion'

To the Editor,

On journalism: "If someone says it's raining, and another person says it's dry, it's not your job to quote them both. Your job is to look out the f---ing window and find out which is true." — Sally Claire

Unfortunately, *The Chronicle* practices this type of "both sides" journalism.

Candidate Matt Castelli said his opponent, Congresswoman

Elise Stefanik, "...violated her oath to the Constitution..." by refusing to certify the Electoral College count and by repeating the Big Lie.

When Stefanik's office was contacted for comment, her spokesman, Alex DeGrasse, made this absurd assertion, "...Castelli is widely known to have been involved in the illegal coup as a member of Obama's national security staff under Susan Rice who stayed for the transition to attempt to overthrow President Trump."

Wow — this is the first I have heard of this coup attempt!

— Enid Mastrianni, Glens Falls

## If Stefanik is guilty of insurrection, must rule before vote; if she's re-elected, the issue will be 'moot'

To the Editor,

The recent opinion concerning "a new law" [urged by Congressional candidate Matt Castelli] that will give "four people in Washington, D.C. the power to override the voters' decision," misstates the issue, but does highlight the predicament facing voters. The misstatement is that the law is "new." The law

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