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Will Smith to fight in Glens Falls

By Mark Frost
Chronicle Editor

Fresh off his slap of Chris Rock seen and heard around the world at Sunday night's Academy Awards ceremony, Best Actor winner Will Smith has agreed to engage in his next fight at the Cool Insuring Arena in Glens Falls.

"Glens Falls is a second home to me," Mr. Smith said in an unreleased statement. "My family and I were the original investors in JUST Water in Glens Falls. You should try it."

"Let's put the violence in the ring, where it belongs," said an unidentified Cool spokesman.

The bout is set for May, but Arena officials were not specific except to say, "It won't be on Mother's Day. You can take that one to the bank, but

May bout set at Cool Insuring Arena!



be careful who's in there when you go."

When tickets do go on sale, there will first be a two-hour window when tickets can only be purchased by City of Glens Falls property owners who've seen their taxes rise by more than 25 percent in the new citywide reassessment — but they'll have to agree to drop their grievance if they planned to protest the new rate.

It's not known who Mr. Smith

will fight, or even if the bout will be boxing, karate, WWE wrestling, slapping or another form of legalized assault.

Mr. Rock's reps did not return phone calls. Interestingly, the Park Theater has set aside an undisclosed date in May for "a night of comedy by the hottest comic on the planet."

No one would confirm that it's the same night that Mr. Smith will have his bout at the Cool

Insuring Arena.

One rumored opponent, Mike Tyson, contacted by The Chronicle, said, "I don't rule anything out. I like Glens Falls. It's where I beat Quick Tillis and Joe Frazier's son. They like me there."

If Chris Rock won't fight Mr. Smith in a rematch, some city officials are pushing to land "the other Rock — Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson," the pro wrestler turned Hollywood mega-star.

Podcaster Joe Rogan, who has close ties to Dana White, who heads UFC — the Ultimate Fighting Championship — is another top name apparently showing interest in Will Smith's first post-Academy Award bout.

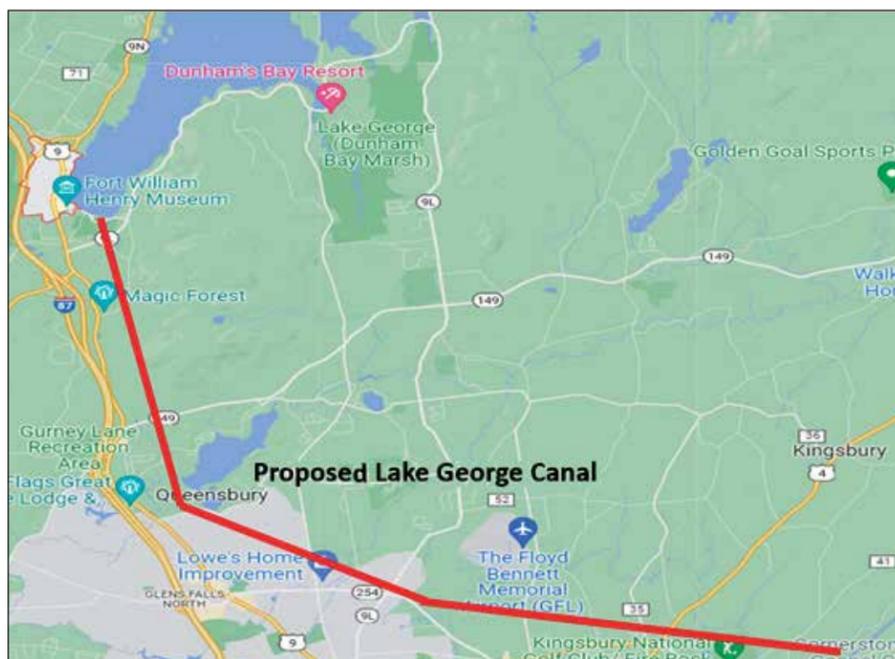
It's not known if Mr. Rogan has any hard feelings toward The Rock, who first defended, then renounced Mr. Rogan when a Twitter mob branded him a racist.

Cool Insuring Arena said it will enforce whatever Covid protocols are in effect at the time.

There is hope that President Biden will attend. "Everybody knows I love a good fight," he told reporters. "Will Mitch McConnell be there?"

Gov will link LG to outlet shops, Champlain Canal

Having pledged \$600-million toward building Buffalo's new football stadium, Gov. Kathy Hochul is showing zeal beyond her hometown. Her administration has quietly pledged \$200-million toward "The Lake George Canal Connector" that will let boaters go to and from the outlet stores at Exit 20 and the Hudson River-Champlain Canal. "More docks, more boats, more homes, more revenue to afford the best environmental safeguards anywhere!"



NYS to pass voter vax ID law

Democrats who control the State Legislature plan to enact an election law requiring all voters to show a proof of Covid vaccination identification card in order to vote. "Republicans want voter I.D., we'll give them voter I.D.," chortled one legislator.

It's one of numerous bills expected to be approved in the wee hours some night soon:

- The Swallow What You're Fed Act.
 - The We'll Tell You What to Think Act.
 - The Perpetual Emergency Act.
- Some say it's already in effect.

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