



PJ Ferguson comes home a star! ▶ 16

Whitehall native thrills the sold out Strand
Cathy DeDe photo

Faults 'Scoop' citing shooter gender ID in Minneapolis killings

To the Editor,
Your recent article ["The Inside Scoop," Sept. 4] on the Aug. 27 shooting in Minneapolis, while covering a tragic and painful event, raises concerns about journalistic bias and is a disservice to the victims and your readers.

The editorial decision to emphasize the suspect's gender identity while ignoring many other urgent aspects of mass

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Puppy-shaped Buster & Bella will highlight the 52nd Adirondack Balloon Festival.

52nd Balloon Fest

By C. DeDe & C. Martindale
Chronicle Managing Editor & Writer

Eleven special shape balloons are scheduled at the 52nd annual **Adirondack Hot Air Balloon Festival**, which opens **Thursday, Sept. 18**, at Crandall Park in Glens Falls, unofficially "locals day."

It continues **at Warren County Airport Friday-Saturday-Sunday, Sept. 19-21**. Special shapes will include

floppy-eared canines **Buster and Bella** the Festival bills as "**the only dogs allowed at the Balloon Festival**" other than designated service dogs. The no dogs policy has special emphasis this year. **Last year, a dog bit a child** during the Saturday night Moonglow at Warren County Airport. The owner took the dog away — and it was never located so the

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Swam Lake George!

By Ben Westcott Chronicle Staff Writer

Colby Jones Brown, 39, a Lake George mother of two and relief veterinarian at Glens Falls Animal Hospital, Moreau Animal Hospital, and Hometown Mobile Veterinary Practice, became **the 15th person ever to swim the length of Lake George** over La-

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Housing homeless is overwhelming Wash. Co.

By Cathy DeDe
Chronicle Managing Editor

Hebron Town Supervisor Brian Campbell reached out to *The Chronicle* to sound an alarm on the eve of Washington County budget talks.

Mr. Campbell, who is the Board of Supervisors' Finance Chair, warns, "If we do nothing," residents face a property tax increase of at least 10 percent or even 11 percent in 2026.

He says **the primary driver** is 2024 Department of Social Services **unreimbursed costs and overages associated with mandated temporary housing** for individuals and families.

Mr. Campbell said DSS emergency housing costs were up about \$1.5 million in 2024, while reimbursements — federal funding administered and controlled by the state, he said — came in at about \$2 million less than expected.

Mr. Campbell said he only learned this in March, when

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