

**WCFE (Mountain Lake PBS)
Plattsburgh, NY
PBS Quarterly Program Topic Report
January 1, 2024 – March 31, 2024**

Arts

Series Title: American Masters
Episode Title: HOPPER: An American Love Story
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 1/2/2024 9:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:26:46

Discover the secrets behind Edward Hopper's most iconic and enigmatic works. Meet the man behind the brush, and see how his marriage to fellow artist Josephine Nivison Hopper shaped his art and career.

Series Title: American Masters
Episode Title: Little Richard: The King and Queen of Rock and Roll
Length: 120 minutes
Airdate: 2/2/2024 9:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 01:26:46

Experience the meteoric rise and enduring legacy of Little Richard. This portrait of the "King and Queen of Rock and Roll" explores his far-reaching influence as well as his advocacy for the rights of Black artists in the music industry.

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Episode Title: Episode 182
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 3/12/2024 7:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:06:32

"Second Act" is a common term which, for some people, means loving your current career but wanting something new. Special correspondent Mike Cerre looks at how a former White House lawyer, federal prosecutor and advisor to four presidents is now forging a musical path for our arts and culture series, Canvas.

Culture

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Episode Title: Episode 131
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 1/1/2024 7:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:05:37

Spray-painted words and pictures, usually clandestine and often illegal, are getting erased by a group of New Englanders who have tagged themselves the anti-graffiti vigilantes. But the method they employ against the perpetrators is an art in itself. Pamela Watts of Rhode Island PBS Weekly reports for our arts and culture series, CANVAS.

Series Title: NOVA
Episode Title: Easter Island Origins
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 2/7/2024 9:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:46

The giant stone heads of Easter Island have inspired theories for centuries. Now, new research reveals intriguing evidence of the origins and inspirations of the ancient Rapanui people who created the iconic monoliths.

Series Title: Amanpour and Company
Episode Title: Episode 179
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 3/7/2024 11:30:00 PM
Service: PBS-PLUS
Format: Interview/Discussion/Review
Segment Length: 00:18:13

Chen Almog-Goldstein's husband and daughter were murdered by Hamas and she and her three youngest children were then kidnapped and held for 51 days in Gaza. She tells her story. Suzanne Nossel CEO of PEN America Center discusses the power of culture to shape the world order. Plus, reports on Putin's propagand machine and rising violence in Haiti.

Environment/Nature/Natural Disasters

Series Title: Nature
Episode Title: The Serengeti Rules
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 1/3/2024 8:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:46

Travel back in time, from the Arctic Ocean to Pacific tide pools, with a pioneering group of scientists who make surprising discoveries that transform human understanding of nature and ecology

Series Title: Nature
Episode Title: Flyways
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 2/7/2024 8:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:53:10

Shorebirds fly thousands of miles each year along ancient and largely unknown migratory routes called Flyways. Species travel from feeding grounds in the southern hemisphere to breeding grounds in the Arctic regions and back again, flying up to nine days non-stop without food or water. But their populations are crashing. Follow a conservation movement of bird-loving experts and citizen scientists as they mobilize to the challenge of understanding and saving shorebirds.

Series Title: NOVA
Episode Title: Polar Extremes
Length: 120 minutes
Airdate: 3/20/2024 9:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Other
Segment Length: 00:00:00

Join renowned paleontologist Kirk Johnson on an epic adventure through time at the polar extremes of our planet. Following a trail of strange fossils found in all the wrong places-beech trees in Antarctica, hippo-like mammals in the Arctic-Johnson uncovers the bizarre history of the poles, from miles-high ice sheets to warm polar forests teeming with life. What caused such dramatic changes at the ends of the Earth? And what controls the dial on Earth's thermostat? Today, the Arctic is warming faster than anywhere else in the world, and Antarctica has locked in its ice enough water to raise sea level by a terrifying 200 feet. The way that the poles respond to a warming climate is one of the greatest wildcards in predicting our climate future. Johnson uses Earth's history, written in stone, as a cipher to decode what is going on at our polar extremes today, and what the future may hold.

Family/Marriage

Series Title: Finding Your Roots
Episode Title: Fathers and Sons
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 1/16/2024 8:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Interview/Discussion/Review
Segment Length: 00:56:46

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. meets actors LeVar Burton and Wes Studi—two men who grew up without their fathers. With few clues to guide him, Gates introduces them to ancestors they've never known—revealing connections to key moments in history.

Series Title: Finding Your Roots
Episode Title: Far and Away
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 2/6/2024 8:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Interview/Discussion/Review
Segment Length: 00:56:46

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. explores the extraordinarily diverse roots of journalist Sunny Hostin and actor Jesse Williams—telling long-lost stories of African and European ancestry that compel his guests to rethink their own identities.

Series Title: Finding Your Roots
Episode Title: Secret Lives
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 3/26/2024 8:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Interview/Discussion/Review
Segment Length: 00:56:46

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. uses DNA to help comedians Carol Burnett and Niecy Nash solve deep family mysteries.

Health/Healthcare

Series Title: Secrets of the Dead
Episode Title: Van Gogh's Ear
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 1/10/2024 10:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 01:00:00

The night when Vincent van Gogh cut his own ear defines his turbulent life and art. Generations have theorized about what really happened on December 23, 1888, in the French town of Arles, but no one has been clear on the details—until now.

Series Title: Secrets of the Dead
Episode Title: The Woman in the Iron Coffin
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 2/14/2024 10:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:46

Follow a team of forensic experts as they investigate the preserved remains of a young African American woman from 19th century New York and reveal the little-known story of early America's free black communities.

Series Title: American Experience
Episode Title: The Cancer Detectives
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 3/26/2024 9:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:51:49

Three heroes and their dramatic journeys in the fight against cervical cancer.

Local News/Local Interest

NOLA: MLJ 0002001
Series Title: Mountain Lake Journal
Length: 30 minutes
Airdate: 01/05/2024 8:00:00 PM
Service: MLPBS
Format: Local News/Local Interest

HOCHUL AGENDA 2024: New York Governor Kathy Hochul previews some of the initiatives that will be part of her new legislative agenda for 2024 ahead of her State of the State Address that she will deliver to lawmakers on Tuesday. Kicking off what Governor Hochul says will be initiatives to make living in New York more affordable, including an increase in the minimum wage that went into effect on New Year's Day raising the minimum wage upstate and here in the North Country to \$15 an hour. Hochul will also focus on other types of affordability issues including the need for more housing and tackling a multi-billion-dollar deficit in the state's budget. She is also calling for tougher consumer protections like protecting lower income New Yorkers from getting sued for unpaid hospital bills and eliminating co-pays for insulin. Watch live coverage of the 2024 State of the State Tuesday at 1pm on Mountain Lake PBS.

ASSEMBLYMAN BILLY JONES: We look ahead to the new legislative session getting underway in Albany. We'll talk with North Country Assemblyman Billy Jones about his priorities for the New Year -and what could be a year of belt tightening to deal with a multi-billion-dollar budget deficit. You can watch our extended interview with Assemblyman Jones where we talk about the \$41-million dollar expansion announced by electric aircraft manufacturer BETA Technologies at the Plattsburgh Airport, and we talk more about potential future bids by Lake Placid & New York State to host another Winter Olympics.

LAKE GEORGE WINS \$10-MILLION DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION GRANT: The Town & Village of Lake George are celebrating the New Year with a \$10 million Downtown Revitalization grant that Governor Kathy Hochul announced this past week. The governor didn't break down exactly what will be funded but said the money will help the Town & Village of Lake George revitalize the downtown and boost tourism.

NCREDC WINS \$10-MILLION: The North Country's Regional Economic Development Council was one of three statewide to win \$10 million in state funding. The money will go to retain and retrain Fort Drum soldiers and their families once they leave the military. The North Country region is expected to experience a shortage of nearly 50-thousand workers over the next decade. With about 35-hundred soldiers at Fort Drum transitioning into civilian life every year, along with their spouses, the plan, called Next Move NY, will encourage some of those people to remain in the North Country and fill the workforce gap.

YMCA CAPITAL CAMPAIGN: Major donations are pouring in to help the Plattsburgh YMCA build its new \$13-million recreation center.

SILLO TREE: We'll show you what's become a much loved and celebrated yearly tradition on the Bedard Family's Sperry Brook dairy farm along Route 11 and the Canadian Border.

NOLA: MLJ 0002002
Series Title: Mountain Lake Journal
Length: 30 minutes
Airdate: 01/12/2024 8:00:00 PM
Service: MLPBS
Format: Local News/Local Interest

STATE OF THE STATE: New York Governor Kathy Hochul lays out her legislative agenda for the new year focusing on crime and domestic violence, expanding mental health services, and another push for long-term housing.

SENATOR DAN STEC ON STATE OF THE STATE: We get reaction to the Governor's State of the State and her proposals from lawmakers here in the North Country, including State Senator Dan Stec, who also discuss his and his fellow Republicans priorities for the 2024 legislative session.

Watch Extended Interview with Senator Dan Stec on the looming deficit facing NY's SUNY System and whether the Legislature may be poised this session to send additional funding to SUNY.

ASSEMBLYMEMBER BILLY JONES ON STATE OF THE STATE: North Country Assemblymember Billy Jones also joins us to talk about Governor Kathy Hochul's State of the State Address and her proposals for the new legislative session getting underway in Albany.

CLINTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE MOVING: Under financial stress from years of decline in enrollment, Clinton Community College is moving ahead with plans to move to the SUNY Plattsburgh Campus in 2025. The move is not a merger, and no cuts are planned for academic programs or student services, but by sharing facilities CCC President John Kowal says it will save the institution about \$1-million-dollars a year in building operations and maintenance costs and help reduce the roughly \$850,000 debt CCC is facing. Meantime, Clinton County will begin work on finding new uses for the campus and its buildings/facilities which include the multi-million-dollar IAM Institute for Advanced Manufacturing that has become the centerpiece of much of the job training on the CCC campus since it opened in 2017.

REMEMBERING DMITRY: Dmitry Feld, who grew up in Kyiv, Ukraine moved to Lake Placid in 1984 when he was hired as a coach for USA Luge. In 2022, with the help of the village of Lake Placid, Dmitry help put up Ukrainian flags along Main Street in a show of support and unity following the Russian invasion.

He became the local face of humanitarian efforts, organizing fund drives, and helping to collect supplies and even bullet-proof vests to send to soldiers on the frontlines. In the fall of 2022, Dmitry traveled back to Ukraine with his long-time friend, Dr. John Cogar, a veterinarian in Saranac Lake. Dmitry volunteered as a translator to help Dr. Cogar, who was working with a nonprofit agency that was caring for abandoned pets who were suffering in war-torn parts of Ukraine. We join countless friends who are remembering Dmitry this week, after he lost his battle with Leukemia. Dmitry was 68 years old.

NOLA: MLJ 0002003
Series Title: Mountain Lake Journal
Length: 30 minutes
Airdate: 01/19/2024 8:00:00 PM
Service: MLPBS
Format: Local News/Local Interest

HOCHUL BUDGET PRESENTATION: Governor Kathy Hochul delivers the numbers to go with the hundreds of proposals from her State of the State Address. Her budget plan holding the line on spending increases while tapping into reserves to fund the migrant crisis. For the second year, Hochul is proposing another 2-and-a-half billion-dollars to help house and feed the tens of thousands of migrants arriving every month to New York City. Language authorizing up to 5 more prison closures have North Country lawmakers concerned.

We hear from Assemblyman Billy Jones.

CLINTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE MOVE: We sit down with President John Kowal to talk more about Clinton Community College's planned move to SUNY Plattsburgh in the fall of 2025.

MLK CELEBRATION: We take you to the celebration through song of the extraordinary life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on the SUNY Plattsburgh Campus. Plattsburgh High School Musical Director William Verity was the guest speaker and was joined by his singers with the PHS Select Vocal Ensemble who performed several numbers.

TIMES SQUARE: Students at Ticonderoga High will be performing an original play next week written by a local playwright, Kyle Lang, who is a language arts teacher at the high school. His play, "Times Square" is a story about a well-known crossroads for Adirondack 46ers hiking in the Santanoni Range of the High Peaks, written and directed by Land, who himself is a hiking enthusiast --- and 46er. The Drama Club will be presenting the play next Friday and Saturday, January 26th and 27th at 7 pm at the Ticonderoga High School auditorium.

NOLA: MLJ 0002004
Series Title: Mountain Lake Journal
Length: 30 minutes
Airdate: 01/26/2024 8:00:00 PM
Service: MLPBS
Format: Local News/Local Interest

GOVERNOR HOCHUL VISITS LAKE PLACID: Governor Hochul came to the Adirondacks to tout the millions of dollars in her budget for the North Country, including money for housing, mental health, and opioid addiction. Hochul's budget also includes \$82-million more to make improvements to the Olympic venues in Lake Placid and would use \$13-million from the Environmental Bond Act passed in 2022 to complete the Adirondack Rail Trail, the 34-mile multi-use recreation trail between Lake Placid and Tupper Lake. At a press conference with reporters after her budget presentation, the Governor talked about the language in her 2025 Budget that would allow her to close another 5 NYS prisons.

CLINTON COUNTY IDA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: We sit down with the economic development director of Clinton County, Molly Ryan, to size up Governor Hochul's budget proposals and talk about the new airline that's landed at Plattsburgh International and the big expansion and new jobs BETA Technologies is planning to bring to the airport's Industrial Park. We also talk about what the County is planning to do with the Clinton Community College campus when the college moves to SUNY Plattsburgh in 2025.

EXTENDED INTERVIEW WITH CCIDA'S MOLLY RYAN: In our extended interview we talk with Clinton County Industrial Development Agency Executive Director Molly Ryan about the new round of potential prison closures in New York, the goal of luring an airline to the Plattsburgh International Airport that will offer international flights out of Plattsburgh, and the state mandates for Medicaid that are placing a financial burden on counties in New York State:

TRUMP'S RUNNING MATE: Campaigning this past week for former President Trump in New Hampshire, speculation is growing that New York Congresswoman Elise Stefanik is on the former president's short-list of potential running mates.

CHRISTMAS MOVIE FILMED IN ADIRONDACKS: Our Jack LaDuke tells us how film crews have been here in the Adirondacks this fall and early winter shooting a new Hallmark-style Christmas movie called "A Jar Full of Christmas" that its director hopes to premiere this summer in Lake Placid.

NOLA: MLJ 0002005
Series Title: Mountain Lake Journal
Length: 30 minutes
Airdate: 02/02/2024 8:00:00 PM
Service: MLPBS
Format: Local News/Local Interest

CUTS IN SCHOOL AID: Hundreds of New York schools could get a lot less state aid in Kathy Hochul's new budget. There is fierce opposition from school districts, NYSUT, and lawmakers to the Governor's plan to change the complicated school funding formula. The Governor has said that the dramatic increases in Foundation Aid the past couple of years cannot be sustained and says that the formula for calculating school aid must be changed.

PRISON CLOSURES: Another hot issue is a proposal in the budget that would allow the Governor to close up to 5 more state prisons.

State Senator Dan Stec spoke out against the cuts during a budget hearing last week.

Stec and other North Country lawmakers are hopeful that the Moriah Shock facility in Mineville, that was closed in the last round of cuts 2 years ago, might be one of the state-owned sites the Governor says could be suitable for new housing.

Moriah's new Town Supervisor, Matt Brassard, says he is hopeful the camp, that the state has continued to maintain, would be one of the sites considered for affordable housing or assisted living for tenants receiving mental health services.

ASSEMBLYMAN MATT SIMPSON ON BUDGET AND LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES: North Country Assemblyman Matt Simpson joins us to talk about the proposed cuts in school aid in Governor Hochul's budget, as well as a proposal that would allow the Governor to close as many as 5 more state prisons. Simpson also weighs in on the Governor's budget proposals to increase mental health services and affordable housing including the possibility of using former prisons as sites for new housing.

EXTENDED INTERVIEW ASSEMBLYMAN SIMPSON:

Assemblyman Simpson talks about his priorities for the 2024 Legislative Session, including his push to repeal the HALT Act, and an investigation of pricing policies that Simpson says are resulting in the State of New York buying paper from China instead of from local paper mills in Ticonderoga and Glens Falls, as well as forcing soup kitchens and food pantries to purchase lower quality food.

GOSPEL FESTIVAL: In honor of Black History Month, PBS is celebrating Gospel Music with a 2-night special hosted by Henry Louis Gates Junior, on February 12th and 13th, and the director of the Plattsburgh State Gospel Choir is hosting a 2-day Gospel Festival in Plattsburgh in April that will bring together high school students from all over Northern New York and Vermont. The Dalton R. Criss Adirondack High School Gospel Honors Festival will be held on April 19th and 20th at SUNY Plattsburgh and the Strand Center for the Arts.

NOLA: MLJ 0002006
Series Title: Mountain Lake Journal
Length: 30 minutes
Airdate: 02/09/2024 8:00:00 PM
Service: MLPBS
Format: Local News/Local Interest

MAYOR ROSENQUEST: Plattsburgh City Mayor Chris Rosenquest announced that he won't be seeking reelection this fall leaving City Hall after just one term. He'll tell us what he's hoping to accomplish during his final year in office and if he might consider returning to politics down the road.

STATE OF THE COUNTY, CITY & TOWN: The political leaders of Clinton County, and the City and Town of Plattsburgh tell a Chamber of Commerce gathering about their agendas for 2024

GARRY DOUGLAS: North Country Chamber of Commerce President Garry Douglas joins us to discuss the optimism among businesses returning after the pandemic, and legislative priorities for 2024 including a push for more housing and concerns about staffing at the Northern Border.

2026 WINTER OLYMPIC BID: Lake Placid will have to wait a few more weeks to find out if it may be selected to host the sliding events for the 2026 Winter Olympics.

NOLA: MLJ 0002007
Series Title: Mountain Lake Journal
Length: 30 minutes
Airdate: 02/16/2024 8:00:00 PM
Service: MLPBS
Format: Local News/Local Interest

PLATTSBURGH MAYOR NOT SEEKING 2ND TERM: We sit down with Plattsburgh Mayor Chris Rosenquest, who surprised a lot of people when he announced that he would not be seeking a second 4-term as mayor. Two weeks after that announcement, he talks about wrapping up his final year as Mayor and what he still wants to accomplish. The Mayor also talks about returning to politics, a move that could come much sooner than anyone expected.

ADIRONDACKS FOR ALL: A new documentary looks at the work several groups and organizations are doing to create a more diverse and inclusive Adirondack Park. We are joined by Dr. Erik Reardon, an Environmental Historian and Scholar who is the co-producer and writer of this new film, *Adirondacks For*

All, that's premiering next Friday on Mountain Lake PBS. Dr. Reardon hosted a virtual series on this topic at the Adirondack Experience Museum in Blue Mountain Lake.

NOLA: MLJ 0002008
Series Title: Mountain Lake Journal
Length: 30 minutes
Airdate: 02/23/2024 8:00:00 PM
Service: MLPBS
Format: Local News/Local Interest

Animatronic pets, computer programs and old fashioned movie screenings aim to combat senior isolation, in a state-wide effort to improve the health of New York communities.

NOLA: AFA 0000000
Series Title: Adirondacks For All
Length: 30 minutes
Airdate: 02/23/2024 8:30:00 PM
Service: MLPBS
Format: Local News/Local Interest

Rediscover the forgotten history of diversity in the Adirondacks. Explore the land through the enduring connection of the Mohawk people, the pursuit of racial justice by pre-Civil War Black settlers, the often-overlooked role of women in conservation, and the complex relationship between the pristine wilderness and issues of incarceration.

NOLA: MLJ 0002009
Series Title: Mountain Lake Journal
Length: 30 minutes
Airdate: 03/01/2024 8:00:00 PM
Service: MLPBS
Format: Local News/Local Interest

SENIOR SERVICES ON CHOPPING BLOCK:

At least \$9 million in funding for seniors across the state for community-based services like home-delivered meals and in-home care are on the chopping block in Governor Hochul's 2025 Budget. North Country Assemblyman Billy Jones spoke out against those cuts at a joint legislative budget hearing in Albany, in late January. Assemblyman Jones and other advocates say many of the services help seniors age in their own homes instead of needing assisted-living or skilled nursing care than can cost the state significantly more in the long-run.

Becky Preve, the Executive Director of the Association on Aging in New York discusses the impact the proposed cuts could have on community-based services for seniors.

The Governor's budget does include funding for robotic pets & A-I computer companions that are helping seniors with isolation and loneliness, especially during and after the COVID pandemic.

HOLD THE SALT: A State Task Force last fall released its long-awaited report and recommendations on how to cut down on the use of road salt in the Adirondacks. Adirondack Explorer magazine recently brought together some of the members of that task force and other stakeholders at The Wild Center in Tupper Lake to talk about where now, 6 months later, the state and communities are as far as implementing pilot programs and the task force's recommendations.

FOOD JUSTICE SUMMIT: We asked ADKAction Executive Director Sawyer Bailey about another summit at the Wild Center this week that brought together stakeholders from across the Adirondacks to talk about food production, distribution & food insecurity that became more of a problem during the pandemic.

KISS THE COW: Assemblyman Billy Jones and some other community leaders from the North Country puckered up and kissed a cow at the Miner Farm in Chazy recently to help raise money for the United Way of the Adirondack Region. They all planted a kiss on Sparta, a 2-year-old Holstein. The \$15-thousand dollars they collected at this year's "Kiss the Cow" event will help fund homelessness prevention services that the United Way coordinates with its partner agencies in Clinton, Essex and Franklin Counties. While the United Way helps families facing homelessness, they are also working with lawmakers on finding long-term solutions to the need for housing.

The United Way also used the event to announce its annual fundraising campaign for 2024 exceeded its goal raising \$670-thousand dollars.

NOLA: MLJ 0002010
Series Title: Mountain Lake Journal
Length: 30 minutes
Airdate: 03/08/2024 8:00:00 PM
Service: MLPBS
Format: Local News/Local Interest

SEIZED DOGS: The Clinton County Sheriff's Office and SPCA announce that 49 sick and malnourished dogs were seized from A Canine Gem, an animal rescue in Beekmantown, New York. The dogs are being cared for in a vacant section of the Clinton County Jail. The owner of the rescue is facing dozens of charges

SECOND DEMOCRAT RUNNING FOR MAYOR: Former Clinton County Assistant District Attorney Dan Lennon is the second candidate to announce his bid to run for Mayor in the City of Plattsburgh.

THE GREAT AMERICAN ECLIPSE: With just a month to go before the incredible show in the sky, we'll tell you some of the special events communities here in the Adirondacks have planned for the total solar eclipse coming up on April 8th. Adirondack Sky Center & Observatory teaming up with The Wild Center to host events in Tupper Lake, NY.

AN EVENING OF HEALING: Speakers will talk about suicide, and the unexpected loss of loved ones at the annual Evening of Healing coming up next week, sharing their stories of how they found the strength & hope to begin healing. We talk with Co-Moderator Sally Meisenheimer and two of the panelists from the 2023 event, Melissa Kuhns and her sister Amy Collin.

ELOQUENT VISIONS: North Country residents will find themselves face to face with provocative works by seven black artists in Plattsburgh at an exhibit at the Strand Center for the Arts. Our Paul Larson has the story.

SMALL TOWN CULTURES:

A local woman turns an illness into a start-up business.

Jack LaDuke tells us more.

NOLA: MLJ 0002011
Series Title: Mountain Lake Journal
Length: 30 minutes
Airdate: 03/15/2024 8:00:00 PM
Service: MLPBS
Format: Local News/Local Interest

SCHOOL BASED MENTAL HEALTH CLINICS: New York Governor Kathy Hochul has announced \$20-million-dollars in start-up money for school-based mental health clinics --- to help combat the state's youth mental health crisis.

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES CLINTON COUNTY: Richelle Gregory, the Director of Community Services in Clinton County joins us to talk about Governor Hochul's proposals to expand mental health services and clinics in schools across the state. She also talks about opioid misuse addiction treatment and prevention programs available in Clinton County that are receiving money from New York State's Opioid Settlement Fund. She also talks about a new suicide prevention mural that's planned for the City of Plattsburgh, as well as new crisis intervention teams that are working with law enforcement officers in the City and County to help connect those in need with mental health services. And like a new 24-hour crisis center that has opened in Malone, Plattsburgh is hoping to open a 24-hour emergency mental health and opioid addiction crisis center before the end of the year. **AN EVENING OF HEALING:** The Clinton County Coalition to Prevent Suicide hosted its 8th annual program that brings together speakers who have experienced suicide, the unexpected loss of a loved one, and personal trauma. Panelists this year included Lora Thornton, Jenn Boyer, and Michael Carpenter of the Northeast Group and Founder of the MHAB program, who talked about his years in recovery and helping others who are also in recovery.

SUICIDE PREVENTION MURAL: A new mural focusing on suicide prevention will go up on a wall on the back of Warren Tire on Cornelia Street in downtown Plattsburgh, right next to the main entrance of Stafford Middle School. The colorful "You Matter" mural will include the 988 suicide prevention & crisis hotline number. Artist Giovanina Bucci helped design and will paint the mural in June. The United Way of the Adirondack Region and Clinton County Coalition to Prevent Suicide are raising funds to pay for the mural.

CHAMBER STATE LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST: The North Country Chamber of Commerce hosted its annual State Legislative Forum recently with State Assemblyman Billy Jones and State Senator Dan Stec discussing some of the major issues before the State Legislature right now. At the top of the list, the current budget talks and the Governor's proposed changes to the Foundation Aid formula used to distribute school aid which many districts say is going to result in significant cuts in funding. Jones and Stec both say lawmakers are looking at preventing those cuts from happening. In fact, both the Assembly & Senate voted just this week to restore more than one-and-a-half-billion-dollars in school aid, and to form a commission to look at how to rework the education funding formula. Other legislative priorities this year include Medicaid costs, affordable childcare, and the need for new housing.

DON KASPRZAK RUNNING FOR MAYOR: A third candidate is planning to jump into the race for Mayor in Plattsburgh, and he is no stranger to the job. The City of Plattsburgh Republican Committee has

endorsed former mayor Donald Kasprzak to run again. Kasprzak served as mayor from 2006 to 2013, after serving for several years as a city alderman & councilor.

MILD WINTER: This has been an unusually mild winter in parts of the North Country and Adirondacks. In fact, The National Weather Service says this season has been the warmest winter on record, in Saranac Lake, since they've been keeping records. We talk with Paul Smith's College Natural Sciences Professor Curt Stager about the warmer temperatures we're seeing in the Adirondacks due to climate change.

NOLA: MLJ 0002012
Series Title: Mountain Lake Journal
Length: 30 minutes
Airdate: 03/22/2024 8:00:00 PM
Service: MLPBS
Format: Local News/Local Interest

OVERDOSE EPIDEMIC: Vending machines that hold doses of Narcan are the latest weapon that are saving lives by preventing opioid overdoses and deaths. Instead of the usual snacks or soda, these vending machines are stocked with nasal spray that contains naloxone, often referred to as Narcan, a medication that can be used to reverse the effects of an overdose.

The latest vending machine has been placed outside the Community Connections Outreach & Recovery Center in Tupper Lake. The Director of Public Health in Franklin County, Katie Strack, says they chose Tupper Lake because there wasn't really a good, reliable distribution network for Narcan.

Tupper is the second community in Franklin County to get one of these vending machines. The first went into the police station in Saranac Lake. Since it was installed in early October inside the lobby of the police station, the vending machine has distributed nearly a hundred packages of Narcan.

NARCAN VENDING MACHINES: Alliance for Positive Health in Plattsburgh pushed for the installation of the Narcan vending machine in Saranac Lake, and keeps it stocked. Bianca Snipe has filled the machine 5 times in the past few months. She & Vanessa Cappon with Alliance for Positive Health talk about the two vending machines in Franklin County, and a third that's planned for Ticonderoga in Essex County this summer. In a partnership with the Adirondack Health Institute, it will be placed outside Hudson Headwaters Health's Clinic next to Moses Ludington Hospital. Two other vending machines are also planned for Cambridge and Ogdensburg. Cappon and Snide also talked about satellite locations in Plattsburgh where free Narcan is available, as well as training their staff provides to schools and organizations.

CUTTING PHOSPHORUS IN LAKE CHAMPLAIN: New York State's Department of Environmental Conservation says help is on the way to reduce phosphorus runoff into Lake Champlain. Commissioner Basil Seggos made a trip to AuSable Point State Park this week to announce the completed Lake Champlain Watershed Implementation Plan.

The State is investing nearly 450-million dollars to help communities pay for upgrades to their water treatment facilities to help reduce phosphorus from getting into the lake.

Seggos announced a 1-million-dollar grant to the Town of Peru to pay for improvements to its wastewater facility that's nearly 40 years old and one of many in the North Country that needs critical upgrades to meet new state requirements. The Town's Water & Sewer Department Superintendent, Courtney Tetrault, says the money will go toward new equipment, some of which will help lower their phosphorus output. He says the town has roughly 3-and-a-half-million dollars for the project so far. However, with an overall price tag of 25-million-dollars, he says the town is now waiting, and counting on lawmakers, to provide additional funding.

MAYOR'S RACE: Two more candidates have jumped into the Mayor's race in the City of Plattsburgh. Former mayor Donald Kasprzak officially announced this past week that he is running, as a Republican.

Kasprzak previously served as mayor from 2006 to 2013. He says his priorities would include, public safety, rising drug use, and building a new recreation center in partnership with the town and county to replace the demolished Crete Civic Center. Kasprzak says unlike the other candidates, he has had

experience running the city. This past week another candidate entered the race. Independent Iris Cain says the city's next mayor needs to capitalize on things like waterfront development and recreation, as well as arts and entertainment.

The 28-year-old moved to Plattsburgh from New York City after the pandemic. He says his background in business management makes him the right fit for the city's top job. Cain also says he wants the city to build a new entertainment complex to replace the former Crete Civic Center that could host sporting events and concerts.

Democrats Wendell Hughes and Dan Lennon are also in the race and will square off in a primary in June. All four want to replace current Mayor Chris Rosenquest who has decided not to seek a second term.

SEIZED DOGS SOON UP FOR ADOPTION: Nearly 50 dogs that were seized from an animal rescue in Beekmantown, NY last month will soon be put up for adoption.

The owner of the *A Canine Gem* rescue is facing serious allegations of animal cruelty after the dogs were removed.

The dogs are being sheltered at the Clinton County Jail, where after 3 weeks, Clinton County Sheriff Davide Favro and the Elmore SPCA say many have gained weight, are doing better, and will be put up for adoption soon. The Elmore SPCA is already accepting applications online. **VENETIAN VIEWS:** You can experience one of the most picturesque cities in the world this spring without venturing outside the state of New York. Our Paul Larson shines the spotlight on a breathtaking location that's welcomed creative people to its islands and bridges for centuries.

NOLA: MLJ 0002013
Series Title: Mountain Lake Journal
Length: 30 minutes
Airdate: 03/29/2024 8:00:00 PM
Service: MLPBS
Format: Local News/Local Interest

ONE YEAR LATER: It was one year ago that President Biden & Prime Minister Trudeau agreed to change immigration rules to close a loophole that had allowed more 110-thousand migrants to use an irregular border crossing at the end of Roxham Road in Champlain, New York to enter Quebec and seek asylum in Canada.

Despite the closing of the Roxham Road crossing, migrants have continued heading north to try to make it into Canada. There has also been a new wave of migrants in the past year who have been entering the United States from Canada. Some of these migrants are now ending up in the Plattsburgh area where Clinton County Social Services and other groups like Plattsburgh Cares are pitching in to help. The leaders of Plattsburgh Cares join us to talk about how their mission has changed in the past year.

TRANSPORTATION SUMMIT: Transportation Manufacturers from both the U-S and Canada gathered in Plattsburgh this past week to talk about the future of the industry and new potential partnerships between companies on both sides of the border. Hosted by the North Country Chamber of Commerce and it's North American Center of Excellence for Transportation Equipment (NAmTrans) the summit brought together major transportation & aerospace companies to network and to talk about the growing demand for green technology including electric vehicles, batteries, and aircraft. Guest speakers talked about how the region's transportation hub can build on the already strong trade partnership between New York and Quebec and efforts to address climate change that includes the multi-billion-dollar Hydro-Quebec deal to supply about 20% of New York City's electricity. This year included a focus on aviation and new partnerships to help BETA Technologies build electric aircraft in Burlington & Plattsburgh.

SOLAR ECLIPSE: Thousands of visitors are expected to arrive here in the Adirondacks next weekend for the once in a lifetime event, the total solar eclipse that's coming up on April 8th. The Town & City of Plattsburgh are among the many communities planning to host viewing parties & events.

At SUNY Plattsburgh, a special exhibit opened this week at the Plattsburgh State Art Museum featuring rarely seen paintings from an out-of-this-world space artist Chesley Bonestell whose works & imagination helped a generation to look deep into worlds in outer space and popularize manned space travel. The

Father of Space Art: Chesley Knight Bonestell Exhibit runs March 26 - May 18, 2024 at the Plattsburgh State Art Museum and is free.

Also, a documentary on his life, *Chesley Bonestell: A Brush with the Future*, will be presented at SUNY Plattsburgh on Sunday, April 7th followed by a talk with the film's Director, Douglass Stewart. The screening and discussion will be held in Yokum Hall Room 200 on April 7 at 1:30pm. The event is free and open to the public.

Minorities/Civil Rights

Series Title: Cost of Inheritance: An America ReFramed Special; The
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 1/8/2024 10:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:46

Explore the issue of reparations in the U.S. with a focus on historical injustices, systemic inequities, and critical dialogue. Through narratives, inquiries, and insights, the film aims to inspire understanding of the scope and rationale

Series Title: American Masters
Episode Title: How It Feels To Be Free
Length: 120 minutes
Airdate: 2/6/2024 9:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:00:00

Explore the lives and trailblazing careers of iconic African American entertainers Lena Horne, Abbey Lincoln, Nina Simone, Diahann Carroll, Cicely Tyson and Pam Grier, who changed American culture through their films, fashion, music and politics.

Series Title: American Masters
Episode Title: How It Feels To Be Free
Length: 120 minutes
Airdate: 3/9/2024 8:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:00:00

Explore the lives and trailblazing careers of iconic African American entertainers Lena Horne, Abbey Lincoln, Nina Simone, Diahann Carroll, Cicely Tyson and Pam Grier, who changed American culture through their films, fashion, music and politics.

Science/Technology

Series Title: Secrets of the Dead
Episode Title: Nero's Sunken City
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 1/3/2024 10:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Other
Segment Length: 01:00:00

Baiae... An escape for ancient Rome's powerful elite, the Las Vegas of its day. Now, archaeologists are mapping underwater ruins and piecing together what life was like in this playground for the rich.

Series Title: Secrets of the Dead
Episode Title: Graveyard of the Giant Beasts
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 2/7/2024 10:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 01:00:00

A mining operation in Cerrejon, Northern Colombia, opened a window onto a previously unknown period of the earth's history – and a world teeming with giant creatures emerged. The biggest of them all was Titanoboa, a 43-foot snake, the largest that ever lived. No other creature could match Titanoboa in its size and strength, or so it was thought.

Series Title: NOVA
Episode Title: A.I. Revolution
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 3/27/2024 9:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:46

A.I. tools like ChatGPT seem to think, speak, and create like humans. But what are they really doing? From cancer cures to Terminator-style takeovers, leading experts explore what A.I. can - and can't - do today, and what lies ahead.