

## BRIEFS

### Court sets dates in fracking case

New York state's highest court has set key deadlines for arguments in a lawsuit against the Town of Dryden. The suit challenges whether towns, cities and villages can ban natural gas drilling within their borders. During August, the state Court of Appeals agreed to review appeals against the towns of Dryden and Middlefield, Otsego County, despite unanimous rulings upholding their drilling bans by a mid-level court earlier this year. For the Dryden case, written arguments by Norse Energy Corp. USA are due Oct. 28. Then, Dryden's written arguments are due Dec. 16, and Norse will need to reply to the town's arguments by Jan. 6. Oral arguments are possible in the court's May or June session, but they're not yet scheduled, according to Gary Spencer, the Court of Appeals public information officer.

—Andrew Casler

### American Red Cross blood drives

The American Red Cross announced the following blood drives are scheduled this month in the Ithaca area:

- » 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. today at the Ithaca College Fitness Center.
- » 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday at the Ithaca College Fitness Center.
- » 1:30 to 6:30 p.m. Oct. 9 at the Ithaca Moose Lodge.
- » 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 17 at the Tabernacle Baptist Church.
- » Noon to 5 p.m. Oct. 21 at Cornell University's Willard Straight Hall.
- » 7 to 11 a.m. Oct. 23 at Ramada Inn, 2310 N. Triphammer Road.
- » 2 to 7 p.m. Oct. 29 at Homewood Suites, 36 Cinema Drive.

### Mental health board members needed

The Mental Health Association in Tompkins County is accepting applications for new board members. The board meets from noon to 1 p.m. on the third Monday of each month. Call (607) 273-9250 or e-mail director@mhaedu.org.

### Historic Ithaca plans fundraiser tour

Historic Ithaca has scheduled its fall fundraiser tour from 1 to 4 p.m. Oct. 12, with registration being at the Clinton House, 120 N. Cayuga St. A reception will follow for 5 to 7 p.m. at the historic Ithaca Gas & Electric Corporation Building, 123 S. Cayuga St. The self-guided walking tour will visit six historic spaces as part of "Digging Downtown." Tickets are \$25 general admission, \$20 for Friends of Historic Ithaca. Children under 12 are free. Information: Call (607) 273-6633.

## LOTTERIES

N.Y. lottery: (518) 388-3300  
On the Web: www.nylottery.org

N.Y. Daily (day): 5-5-8  
N.Y. Win 4 (day): 8-3-3-9  
N.Y. Daily (night): 1-3-5  
N.Y. Win 4 (night): 8-3-2-9  
N.Y. Pick 10 (Sunday): 6-9-18-20-21-22-24-28-30-31-34-36-38-51-52-63-64-67-74-75  
N.Y. Take 5 (Sunday): 1-23-28-30-31

## FOR CORRECTIONS

The Journal attempts to correct errors in its news columns. To report a need for a correction or clarification, call 272-2321 weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

# Poll: Frack foes at all-time high

Siena survey: 45% of N.Y. voters opposed to method, 37% in favor

By Jon Campbell  
jcampbell1@gannett.com

ALBANY — The gap between opponents and supporters of hydraulic fracturing has grown to the largest it has ever been in New York, according to a new poll.

The Siena College survey released Monday shows 45 percent of New York voters do not support allowing high-volume fracking in the state, compared to 37 percent who do. Eighteen percent had no opinion or not enough information to formulate one.

The gap is even larger upstate, where 52 percent oppose fracking and 34 percent are in favor of it. The gas-rich Marcellus Shale formation, which spans several states in the

Northeast and Mid-Atlantic, stretches across New York's Southern Tier.

The survey showed the "largest anti-fracking sentiment ever in a Siena College poll," Siena pollster Steve Greenberg said in a statement.

"A majority of upstaters and Democrats, and a plurality of independents and New York City voters oppose fracking, which is supported by a plurality of Republicans and downstate suburbanites," Greenberg said.

In recent years, public polling had shown a consistent split among critics and boosters of fracking, the much-debated technique used in the natural-gas extraction process. Large-scale fracking is on hold in New York as the state completes a lengthy review launched in

2008.

Siena's August poll showed 42 percent of New York voters opposed and 41 percent in support. In January, 44 percent were supportive and 40 percent were opposed.

New Yorkers Against Fracking, a coalition of groups opposed to gas drilling, said the poll shows a shift in momentum.

"Despite an onslaught of gas industry propaganda, the more New Yorkers look at the science, health risks and bad experiences of our neighbors in Pennsylvania, the more they oppose fracking," said John Armstrong, a spokesman for the coalition.

A trade group for the oil-and-gas industry said Gov. Andrew Cuomo — whose administration has repeatedly delayed a decision on fracking — should be

looking at the Southern Tier's unemployment figures, not polls.

"New Yorkers should be concerned about this number: There are 15,300 people out of work in Broome, Tioga, Chemung and Steuben counties, where natural gas development would take place," said Jim Smith, a spokesman for the Independent Oil & Gas Association of New York. "This isn't a sample. This is reality. We should survey these people."

The poll was conducted between Sept. 22 and 26 and carries a margin of error of 3.4 percentage points, according to Siena. A total of 807 registered voters were polled.

Jon Campbell is a staff writer for the Gannett Albany Bureau.

# Just Be Cause provides home for nonprofits in Ithaca

By Shawnee A. Barnes  
sbarnes@gannett.com

ITHACA — For the last 17 years, the Ithaca Public Education Initiative met in living rooms and coffee shops to conduct business because they had no central office.

That's changed thanks to the Just Be Cause Not-for-Profit Development Center, which had its opening and ribbon-cutting Monday.

"It's nice for our volunteers to have a central place to come to," said Terry Byrnes, president of IPEI. The nonprofit has roughly 50 volunteers.

Founded by Jerry Dietz, the Just Be Cause center houses five nonprofits, including a distribution center for the Friendship Donations Network, which has a home for the first time.

During Monday's ceremony, Dietz evoked his late wife Judy's spirit of charitable giving.

"It's how Judy viewed life, through acts of human kindness," Dietz said to a large crowd. "For those fortunate enough to know Judy, we have her spirit in us. For everybody else, there's the Just Be Cause Center."

The idea for the center came



The Ithaca Public Education Initiative has moved into its new office space in the Just Be Cause Not-for-Profit Center built by Jerry Dietz, right. Christina Sanchirico, left, is the executive director of the educational support organization. SHAWNEE BARNES / STAFF PHOTO

about when Dietz was looking for a place to house the Friendship Donations Network, of which his wife was the board president. He came across the former Ithaca Paint Co. building at 1013 W. State/Martin Luther King Jr. St., and it soon became clear there would be room for more occupants.

The nonprofits at the center focus on food issues, education, theater and childhood cancer family support. This includes Wood's Earth, the youth theater group Running to Places and Mira's Movement.

There is a conference room and two multi-purpose activity rooms equipped with WiFi for

use by local nonprofits.

The 5,100-square-foot building was recently renovated, and the rental offices are below market rate. Other community organizations will also be able to book time in the conference and activity rooms. Dietz's company, C.S.P. Management, will manage the building.

# Cornell student wins \$25K in half-hour on 'Millionaire'

By Shawnee A. Barnes  
sbarnes@gannett.com

ITHACA — Loren Loiacono, a Cornell University graduate student, may not have won a million dollars when she appeared on Monday's episode of "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire," but the game show was still worth her while.

"It was the most profitable half-hour I've ever had," said Loiacono of making it to the second round and going home with \$25,000. "I'm pleased. You always wish you'd done better, but (the money) is not bad for a half-hour."

Loiacono, a music composition major, watched the show with friends on Monday afternoon between classes. "Even though I knew how it ended, it was still nerve-wracking," she said.

After the syndicated show aired, she said she received many Facebook requests.

Loiacono, 24, of Setauket, Long Island, was on "Teen Jeopardy" as a high school student.

Encouraged by her mother, Loiacono auditioned for "Millionaire" in New York City, beating out hundreds of other



Cornell University graduate student Loren Loiacono, left, with host Cedric the Entertainer, won \$25,000 on the "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire" episode that aired Monday afternoon. DISNEY/ABC PHOTO

contestant hopefuls. She was picked on the first try, having answered scores of popular culture and general trivia questions and being interviewed by the show's producers.

She said she answered 10 questions right in the show that aired Monday, but got stumped on: "Which of the following is an actual type of fly?" She answered "C, Spaget Eyos," but the correct answer was "A, Reissa Roni."

Loiacono said she'd put her winnings into savings.

The game show is hosted by Cedric the Entertainer.

# Eco-friendly homes on display

Green buildings tour planned in Tompkins

Staff report

ITHACA — Homes that use renewable energy or environmentally friendly building materials and methods are getting showcased during the 2013 Green Buildings Open House.

The tours are scheduled for 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday in Tompkins and neighboring counties. Maps to tour sites are online at tinyurl.com/195whdn, or call Cornell Cooperative Extension at (607) 272-2292 for more information. Tour admission is \$5 for people 18 years old and older.

The weekend tours are preceded by a panel discussion with local green builders and experts. It's scheduled for 5:30 to 8 p.m. Friday at the Sustainability Center, 111 N. Albany St., Ithaca. The event is free.

The panel discussion will focus on getting the most from environmentally friendly building methods and making buildings better for energy savings.

The open house tours draw

about 600 to 1,000 visitors, according to open house organizer Guillermo Metz.

The 21 homes participating in the open house show a range of building or renovation strategies that create energy-efficient homes and workplaces, according to a news release.

Features on display include grid-tied and off-grid solar photovoltaic systems, wind turbines, ground-source (geothermal) and air-source heat pumps, timber framing, straw-bale construction, non-toxic finishes, and local, reclaimed and natural materials.

Many people attend while considering if they want to upgrade their home for renewable energy and energy efficiency, Metz said. Other people attend just out of curiosity, he said.

Metz added that involved businesses are told not to use the event to try to make hard sells of their products and services. The open houses are more geared toward getting information out, he said.