

BRIEFS

Urgent Care facility opens today

ITHACA — Five Star Urgent Care, 740 S. Meadow St., Ithaca, next to Chipotle Mexican Grill, will open a clinic today for non-emergency medical needs.

Patients are accepted on a walk-in basis only from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. weekdays and from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Office visits start at \$110 and Five Star will accept most insurances.

An opportunity to meet the staff and tour the facility will be available to the public at the grand opening from 6 to 8 p.m. today at the clinic.

Red Cross to host blood drives this week

The American Red Cross will hold blood drives this week at the following Ithaca-area locations:

» 1:30-6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Ithaca Moose Lodge, 367 Elmira Road.

» Noon to 6 p.m., Thursday, Banquet Room, 124 Coddington Road.

» 8 a.m. to noon, Saturday, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 114 Burleigh Drive, Ithaca.

Danby Town Board hosts special meeting

DANBY — There will be a special meeting of the Danby Town Board to vote on resolutions related to the improvement grant project for the West Danby Water District from 4 to 7:30 p.m. today at Danby Town Hall.

Any questions may be directed to Pamela Goddard, Danby Town Clerk, at (607) 277-4788.

Book signing scheduled at church

ITHACA — Carl J. Humphrey will give a reading of his book, "Homelessness: An American Tragedy," at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Unitarian Church on the corner of Buffalo and Aurora streets.

Humphrey will be available to sign books.

Construction training for women

ITHACA — Habitat for Humanity's Women Build Program will host a training session on construction for women from 6 to 7 p.m. Thursday, at Lowe's, 130 Fairgrounds Memorial Parkway.

For more information, call Shannon MacCarrick at (607) 898-4148.

LOTTERIES

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

SUNDAY

N.Y. Daily (day): 3-6-8
N.Y. Win 4 (day): 3-6-2-0
N.Y. Daily (night): 0-8-8
N.Y. Win 4 (night): 9-8-0-1

SATURDAY

N.Y. Daily (day): 9-8-0
N.Y. Win 4 (day): 0-5-2-4
N.Y. Daily (night): 2-7-3
N.Y. Win 4 (night): 6-3-8-2
N.Y. Take 5: 14-18-19-20-26
N.Y. Pick 10: 18-25-37-38-40-45-50-52-54-55-56-66-67-68-69-70-71-75-76-78
N.Y. Lotto: 3-9-10-33-48-51
Bonus: 49
Powerball: 3-8-13-41-56
Powerball: 16

FRIDAY

N.Y. Take 5: 3-8-10-30-32
N.Y. Pick 10: 2-10-11-15-18-22-27-32-33-35-41-46-60-61-68-69-74-76-77-78
Mega Millions: 17-30-38-43-51
Mega Ball: 20

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.

Fracking study news is divisive

Cuomo lauded, criticized for decision to wait on Pa. health report

By Mary Esch
Associated Press

ALBANY — While opponents of fracking are pleased at a report that Gov. Andrew Cuomo will wait for a Pennsylvania health study before deciding whether to allow hydraulic fracturing, landowners are preparing to sue New York over lost gas-leasing opportunities and an industry group warned Sunday that a business exodus from the state will worsen.

The Associated Press reported Saturday that Cuomo came close to approving a limited drilling plan for as many as 40 shale gas wells last month be-

fore former brother-in-law Robert Kennedy Jr. helped persuade him to await a new study, which could delay a decision for up to a year or longer.

Cuomo is expected to announce a formal decision after the Department of Environmental Conservation completes its five-year environmental impact study in the coming weeks. DEC Commissioner Joseph Martens has said that study will be finished after Health Commissioner Nirav Shah makes recommendations based on his own review, which will include a look at the new \$1 million Geisinger Health System study launched recently in Pennsylvania.

New York has had a moratorium since 2008 on high-volume hydraulic fracturing, which frees natural gas from shale by injecting a well with chemically treated water and sand at enormous pressure.

Jim Smith, of the Independent Oil and Gas Association of New York, said Sunday that permit applications for conventional vertical gas wells, which are still allowed in the state but are less profitable than the horizontally drilled gas wells, have dropped from about 600 in 2008 to below 200 in 2012 as the industry has moved to other states.

"For business owners, the opportunity is not here in New

York," Smith said. "We can assume the exodus we're seeing now will continue" if the moratorium remains until results of the Geisinger study are in, he said.

John Armstrong, of New Yorkers Against Fracking, a statewide coalition of health and environmental groups, said "it's a great sign" that Cuomo reportedly is waiting for health study results before making a decision on fracking.

"Geisinger and other studies have the potential to give us some important data, but we also need to look at concerns specific to New York state," Armstrong said.

IPEI hosts afternoon of F-U-N



Eldred Harris, left, reacts as his team is eliminated from the first round of the IPEI Adult Spelling Bee on Sunday. Harris, along with Pat Wasyliw and Sean Eversley Bradwell, misspelled the word "solecism."
MATT HAYES / STAFF PHOTO

Adult Spelling Bee raises \$16K for teachers

By Matthew Hayes
mmhayes@gannett.com

ITHACA — Marooned for a few hours from the everyday world of spell-check and online dictionaries, teams of adults gathered Sunday at Ithaca High School to test their spelling acumen while raising money for local teachers.

Now in its 15th year, the Adult Spelling Bee, hosted by the Ithaca Public Education Initiative, raised about \$16,000 to help fund the Teacher Grant Program, according to IPEI board member Mary Grainger.

Those grants link district teachers with community partners to bring a classroom activity or project to local students, Grainger said.

"There's a lot of people excited about competing as spellers when they know they are supporting Ithaca teachers and

students," she said.

That competition created four brackets of six teams each, with the winner of each division moving on to the championship round. An enthusiastic crowd groaned with each elimination as the word difficulty increased throughout each round.

Misspelled words were met with a cowbell from the judges and plenty of cringes from ousted team members. Curiosity, it turned out, killed the A-B Normals, as the team from the Cayuga Radio Group misspelled their first word for a quick elimination.

It was a fate shared last year by the Poi Bois, made up of Ithaca City School District personnel, who chose their name from the initial word they missed last year. This time around, the first-round word "Acapu" tripped up the team of Superin-

ON THE WEB

For more photos from the spelling bee, go to theithacajournal.com.

tendent Luvelle Brown, Chief Secondary Schools Officer Jason Trumble and Karen Keller.

Keller, a principal on special assignment in the district, said the competition was all about fun and raising money for a worthy cause. Plus, she said, it sets a good example for the students in attendance.

"I think it's good to see us make mistakes and keep on going," she said.

The final round came down to the "Fine Arts 'Word' Boosters" and the team "Two Engineers and a German." The Boosters, made up of team members Ellie Hobbie, Anne Hobbes and Linda Loomis won with the correct spelling of "bezoar."

CAMPUS WATCH

IC students to go wild with service

By D.W. Nutt
dnutt@gannett.com

ITHACA — A group of Ithaca College students will skip the beach this spring break and instead focus on helping others.

Forty-two students will participate in the Alternative Spring Break program, from March 9 to 17.

The students will serve in a wide variety of areas and activities, such as helping feed the hungry in Washington, D.C., working on maintenance and beautification projects at two of Virginia's most visited state parks and working to restore the gulf coast ecosystem in Pensacola, Fla.

The annual program is run by the Office of Student Engagement and Multicultural Affairs.

"The participants provide direct assistance to organizations addressing a variety of forms of social, economic and environmental injustice, helping them develop perspectives on civic engagement, place-based learning, diversity and activism through new and challenging environments," Don Austin, assistant director of community service and leadership development, said in a statement. "They often consider it as one of the most rewarding experiences of their college careers."

TC3 seeks nominations

Tompkins Cortland Community College is seeking nominations for alumni who have distinguished themselves in their careers and community.

Alumni can be nominated for two awards: the distinguished alumni award, which recognizes those who have established themselves in their career and by serving their community; and the community leadership award, for those who have demonstrated exceptional community participation or outreach efforts.

Nomination applications can be found at TC3Foundation.org and will be accepted through April 12.

Doctors excited by new cancer medication

By G. Jeffrey Aaron
jgaaron@gannett.com

A newly approved breast cancer medication is creating a surge of excitement among doctors treating women who are fighting an aggressive form of the disease that is less responsive to existing therapies.

Breast cancer is one of the most common cancers in women and is the second leading cause of cancer deaths in women. The new drug, Kadcyla, was recently approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

It combines the established cancer-fighting drug Herceptin with a powerful chemotherapy drug and a third chemical that links the medicines. The chemical keeps the two-drug cocktail intact until it binds to a cancer cell, where it delivers a one-two punch of anti-tumor medication.

Kadcyla will cost \$9,800 per month, compared to \$4,500 per month for regular Herceptin. A full course of Kadcyla, about nine months of medicine, will cost \$94,000. The company offers patient assistant programs to help offset the cost.

"We've been waiting for it to become available," said Dr. Cynthia Lynch, an oncologist with Guthrie Health in Sayre, Pa. "We knew last year it was being tested through trials and were waiting and hoping for its approval."

The new therapy, however, isn't for all breast cancer patients, Lynch said. It can only be used on patients with HER-2 positive breast cancer who already have undergone other cancer treatment therapies. That accounts for about one out of five breast cancer patients.

Kadcyla is administered intravenously. One of the chemicals binds to the HER-2 cells and stops growth. The second chemical enters the cells and destroys them from within.

Cancer researchers say the drug may offer an advantage over older drugs because it delivers more medication with fewer side effects.

"The real message here is there aren't many combination 'smart-bomb' therapies. Most chemo drugs use a shotgun approach and this is a directed therapy. And being a directed therapy, it avoids the toxicity that you'd see with other standard drugs," said Dr. William Muuse of Arnot Ogden Medical Center's Falck Cancer Center.



Dr. Cynthia Lynch



Dr. William Muuse