

# CLASSIFIED MARKETPLACE



- List of Categories** (check one)
- Appliance/Furniture
  - Auction/Antiques
  - Automotive
  - Employment
  - Farm/Animals
  - General
  - Home Heating
  - Home Improvement
  - Outdoor Power
  - Real Estate
  - Rec. Sport
  - Rentals
  - Services

ONE WORD PER BOX • PHONE NUMBER IS ONE WORD


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1. Select your category and write your ad how you wish it to read in the form provided.  
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3. **Send Payment and Form to:**  
**THE REPORTER** 39 Elm Street, Delhi NY 13753  
 Call: **607-464-4009** or Submit Online 24/7: **The-Reporter.net**

**DEADLINE:**  
**1pm Tuesday**



**Kitchen Magic**  
 Get your dream kitchen remodel today and take **\$2500 OFF.**  
 855.281.6439

Up to 10-15% Off maintenance-free cabinet door collections. Cannot be combined with any other offers. Offer valid during initial consultation only. Does not apply to prior purchases. Homeowner must complete their free design consultation by 6/30/2024 to qualify for this promotion. NYLicense#NassauH1759490000 Suffolk16183H NY/Rockland5642.

**LeafFilter** CLOG-FREE GUTTERS FOREVER  
 EXCLUSIVE LIMITED TIME OFFER!  
**15% OFF + 10% OFF + 0% OFF**  
 YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE SENIORS & MILITARY APR FOR 24 MONTHS\*\*  
 Promo Code: 285  
 FREE GUTTER ALIGNMENT • FREE GUTTER CLEANING\*  
 CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE  
**1-855-478-9473**  
 Mon-Thurs: 8am-11pm, Fri-Sat: 8am-5pm, Sun: 2pm-8pm EST

\*\*Needs Fargo Home Projects credit card issued by Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., an Equal Housing Lender. Special terms for 24 mo. apply to qualifying purchases of \$1,000 or more with approved credit. Maximum monthly payments will not pay off balance before end of promotional period. APR for new purchases is 28.99% effective 01/01/2023, subject to change. Call 1-800-431-5521 for complete details. The leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 6-month audit of gutter guards in 2019 and recognized LeafFilter as the #1 rated professionally installed gutter guard system in America. \*For those who qualify. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. Offer valid at time of estimate only. See representative for full warranty details. Manufacturer of Rainwater Harvesting and processed at LeafFilter Group in Ohio. #N056020022 CA #19207072 CT #MC2649925 FL #MC2656378 IA #C127230 IL #C127230 IN #C127230 LA #C127230 MA #170447 MD #MHHC18232 MI #210212396 MN #26200022 NJ #26200022 NY #26200022 PA #26200022 RI #26200022 SC #26200022 TN #26200022 VA #26200022 WA #26200022 WI #26200022 WY #26200022

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 Yeah, we do signs too. Lawn signs with stakes (Events or Contractor promotion), banners (street, trade shows or parade use) long term outdoor all weather to apply to the side of a building or in front of it. Call our specialists today to review your custom sign needs. Or, go online to request a quote. [www.dckr.com](http://www.dckr.com). Decker Advertising, 39 Elm Street, Delhi, NY 13753 607-746-2178 M-F 8:30 am to 5 pm. OtfAU

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**2012 GMC Savana** 3500 Extended Cargo Van 6 Cyl. Automatic, 145k miles, good tires, good running condition. Heat, Air Conditioning, automatic windows, AM/FM radio all work. A reliable vehicle that has some quirks that passed inspection December 2023. Selling because its not necessary to have two of these type of vans anymore. \$7,000. Call or text 607-267-2573. O12AU

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**Help Wanted: Water Safety Instructor and Lifeguards.** The Franklin Recreation Commission is in search of a WSI (Water Safety Instructor) to teach swimming lessons, as well as life-guards for the Summer 2024 season. Send letter of interest to: Franklin Recreation Commission, PO Box 886, Franklin, NY 13775. Letters must be received by April 30, 2024. For more information call 607-829-6776 or email [clerk@villageoffranklinny.us](mailto:clerk@villageoffranklinny.us). B12HW

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**FARM**  
**Hay for sale** - very nice quality grass, second and third cutting, \$4 per square bale, Jim Sickler, Franklin, 607-287-7707. 11FA  
**Compact tractor equipment** suitable for small garden or food plot. 7' cultivator, 3pt hitch, 5' disk-pull behind, plow - 1 bottom - 3pt hitch, 6' spring tooth harrow - 3pt hitch, 2 row corn planter - 3pt hitch, 9' Ford side rake. Call 607-746-6396. 11FA

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**COMMUNITY EVENT**  
 Is your civic organization having a community event? Post it today in The Reporter's event calendar. Go to The-Reporter.net and click on submit under the calendar tab. This is the best way of having your event considered for inclusion in the print edition of The Reporter and other publications published by Decker Advertising Inc. OtfG

**HAND LABORER**  
 Applicant must be relatively physically fit and expect to perform manual labor such as lifting heavy objects and operating hand tools/hand equipment. Equipment experience a plus. Willing to train the right candidate. Compensation package. Opportunity for prevailing wage. Inquire at: [klafever@delawarebulldozing.net](mailto:klafever@delawarebulldozing.net). Delaware Bulldozing Corp. 5700 County Hwy 18, Bloomville, NY 13739. 607-538-1185 B11HW

**Watershed Agricultural Council**  
 Agriculture • Forestry • Conservation Easements • Economic Viability

**The Watershed Agricultural Council**, a non-profit organization working to protect the NYC Watershed while supporting farm and forest land uses seeks an **Economic Viability Program Intern** to assist the Economic Viability Program with Pure Catskills membership relations and support, guide deliveries, document archiving, content development for various electronic and print media, event coordination and setup, and creating outreach materials consistent with messaging of the Pure Catskills Buy Local Campaign. This is a 10-week summer position that pays \$16.80 per hour. Must have a dependable vehicle, insurance and a valid N.Y.S. driver's license. Will be reimbursed for mileage incurred on the job.  
 Send cover letter and resume to **Patti Bowker, WAC**, 33195 State Highway 10, Walton, NY 13856 or email [pbowker@nycwatershed.org](mailto:pbowker@nycwatershed.org).  
**Job description: [nycwatershed.org/careers](http://nycwatershed.org/careers).**  
**Cover letters/resumes accepted through March 29, 2024. E.O.E.**

**Delaware Academy**  
 CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AT DELHI

Our innovative, high performing district invites creative and motivated educators to join our team in Fall 2024!

- **Social Studies Teacher** – High School
- **Science Teacher (Biology)** – High School
- **Art Teacher**
- **Spanish Teacher**
- **Math Teacher** – Middle School
- **Academic Intervention Services Teacher** – Middle School (Reading or Literacy Specialist)
- **Special Education Teacher** - Elementary
- **Food Service Helper**
- **Substitute Positions:** Teachers K-12, LTA/Aides, Custodial Workers, Food Service Workers, Bus Drivers, Nurses

*\*All teaching positions are full-time, probationary*

**How to apply:** Visit our website at [www.delhischools.org](http://www.delhischools.org) (Employment Opportunities) to view job descriptions. Submit application, cover letter, resume, 3 letters of recommendation and transcripts to [www.olasjobs.org](http://www.olasjobs.org) or via U.S. Mail to:  
 Kelly M. Zimmerman, Superintendent of Schools  
 Delaware Academy CSD at Delhi  
 2 Sheldon Drive  
 Delhi, NY 13753  
 (607) 746-1306  
 EOE.

**HELP WANTED**  
**RECEPTIONIST**  
**IMMEDIATE OPENING.** As Receptionist you'll be the first point-of-contact for our customers. You'll interact directly with them via phone, e-mail, or in person. Math, spelling, computer and people skills are a must. A part-time position. Monday – Friday 9AM to 3:30 PM. Pay based on experience with an hourly range of \$16 to \$18 per hour. To apply email resume with cover letter to [r.shepard@dckr.com](mailto:r.shepard@dckr.com). Note "Customer Service Associate" in the subject line. Decker Advertising, Inc. Publisher of The Reporter. 39 Elm St., Delhi, NY 13753 Monday - Friday 8:30 AM to 5 PM. 607-746-2178. O13HW  
**Gerster Trucking** Now Hiring For: Class A CDL Drivers Local - Tank endorsement required or will help individual get endorsement. Competitive salary and

**HOME HEATING**  
**Seasoned firewood delivered** within 5 miles of my Bob's Brook location and stacked (not carried). \$180.00 per load (about 2 face cord) Call 607-434-7079. X14HH  
**HOME IMPROVEMENT**  
**Do you need a Roof or Energy Efficient Windows & Help** paying for it? YOU MAY QUALIFY THROUGH NEW RELIEF PROGRAMS (800) 944-9393 or visit [NYProgramFunding.org](http://NYProgramFunding.org) to qualify. Approved applications will have the work completed by a repair crew provided by: HOMEOWNER FUNDING. Not affiliated with State or Gov Programs. Z11HI  
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**RECEPTIONIST**  
**Immediate Opening**

As Receptionist you'll be the first point-of-contact for our customers. You'll interact directly with them via phone, email, or in person.  
 Math, spelling, computer and people skills are a must.  
 A part-time position.  
 Mon – Fri. 9AM to 3:30 PM  
 Pay based on experience with an hourly range of \$16 to \$18 per hour.  
**To apply email resume with cover letter to:**  
**[r.shepard@dckr.com](mailto:r.shepard@dckr.com).**  
 Note "Receptionist" in the subject line.

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**Spring Agricultural Work**

- Land and soil preparation for tree planting
- Tree planting
- Other tree nursery tasks

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**Mon-Fri 8am-4pm**

**PETS**  
**AKC GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPPIES.** D&R German Shepherds has AKC German Shepherd puppies for sale. Call 914-380-0145. WA13P  
**RENTALS**  
**MOUNTAINVIEW ESTATES-A NICE PLACE TO LIVE!** All apartments have appliances, ample storage and patio/balcony. Also on-site laundry, playground, on-site parking, and full time maintenance staff. Call or stop in for application. Mountainview Terrace, Walton, NY. 607-865-4278, NYS Relay 711, Monday & Wednesday 8AM - 4:00 PM. EHO/HCA BTFRR  
**Westbrook Apartments, Walton, NY.** Subsidized/Income Eligible. Our apartments have abundant closet & storage space, window coverings, large pantries, ample parking, playground, full-time maintenance staff with 24 hour emergency service and on-site laundry. We allow one small pet with pet deposit. Call or stop in for an application or applications are available on-line at [crmentalmgmt.com](http://crmentalmgmt.com). Westbrook Apartments, 141 East Street, Walton, NY 13856. 607-865-8762, NYS Relay 711. EHO, HCA. BTFRR  
**WANTED**  
**WANTED: Buderus** inside wood boiler. Call 607-746-2686 after 6pm. X11WT

# Public Notices

Public notices/legals submit online 24/7 at: [www.The-Reporter.net](http://www.The-Reporter.net)

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## HUMAN RESOURCES RECRUITER

Sportsfield Specialties, Inc. (SSI) is seeking a highly motivated and experienced **Human Resources Recruiter** to assist in all recruitment and onboarding tasks for its Delhi, NY location.

### Responsibilities/Duties include but not limited to:

- Maintain up to date knowledge of federal and state employment and compliance requirements.
- Support Fair Hiring Practices by reviewing and assessing hiring/interviewing processes to ensure they are free of discrimination.
- Work closely with department managers to identify open staff positions and their key duties.
- Create and post job postings internally and externally to attract skilled qualified applicants.
- Build applicant sources by researching/contacting colleges, 3rd party recruiters, and external platforms.
- Coordinate and attend recruitment activities: job fairs, school campus events, community events, etc.
- Identify potential candidates to conduct interviews by phone and in person.
- Coordinate manager interviews with qualified candidates.
- Develop retention strategies by accessing data related to departing employees, market trends, etc.
- Screen resumes and record/maintain applicant logs.
- Maintain employee turnover and employment activity reports.
- Perform reference and background checks.
- Coordinate with local and out of state lab facilities to schedule pre-employment testing.
- Report new hires to NYS and E-Verify.
- Track, conduct, and complete employee benefit eligibility meetings/enrollments.
- Maintain the highest standards of accuracy, discretion, and confidentiality.
- Discuss any updates, changes, issues that may need addressing with supervisor.
- Perform other duties as assigned.

### Required Qualifications:

#### Skills:

- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, ethics, and cultural awareness.
- Resourceful problem-solving aptitude and understanding of HR best practices and current regulations.
- Familiarity with online meeting platforms (Teams, Zoom, Skype, etc.).
- Advanced knowledge of Microsoft Office applications; HRIS systems helpful but not required.
- Active listening with discretion, confidentiality, and empathy always.
- Ability to collaborate professionally at all levels of organization.
- Must have thick skin and be able to communicate and/or process constructive criticism.
- Self-motivated with the ability to proactively make decisions.

#### Experience/Education:

- Associate Degree in Human Resources or similar field with minimum 2 years exempt and non-exempt recruiting experience in relevant industry.
- Will consider PHR/SHRM certification and work experience in lieu of degree.

Salary range \$50-60k/year DOE, great benefit package includes but not limited to; health, dental, vision, 401(k), Flexible Spending, life insurance and paid time off.

To apply, submit application online at [www.sportsfield.com](http://www.sportsfield.com), apply in person at 41155 St. Hwy 10, fax your resume to (607) 746-3107 or mail to Human Resources, P.O. Box 231, Delhi, NY 13753.

Sportsfield Specialties, Inc. is an Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity Employer.

Authorization to work in the U.S. is a precondition of employment. We do not sponsor employment visas.

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With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In-Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. CSLB 1082165 NSCB 0082999 0083445

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BATH REMODEL

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**50% OFF Installation** WITH **No Interest No Payments for 1 Year PLUS FREE Safety Upgrade\***

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Presented by the Greater Delhi Area Chamber of Commerce

# Delhi's St. Patrick's Day Parade

March 23, 2024

12 NOON

FROM SUNY DELHI TO BRIDGE STREET

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**O'Connor Foundation**

Pipe and Drum Bands Sponsored By  
Mable Insurance and  
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Dr Seth Blocker, Allison Oil, Smith's Tree Service, Inc., Delaware  
National Bank, Sidney Federal Credit Union,  
Community Bank and Maple Shade Farm**

# LOCALS

## Have More Fun

Get out and support our local shops, restaurants and events!



*The Gathering*  
 "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." Matthew 18:20  
 Friendship, coffee, singing, and getting to know God.  
 Fridays in Delancey beginning March 1 @ 6:15  
 444 County Hwy 2  
 For further information 607.287.8250

Walton Theatre's CLASSIC FLIX \$7  
**FORT APACHE**  
 with John Wayne, Henry Fonda & Shirley Temple  
 Thursday, Mar. 21 • 7 pm  
 31 Gardiner Place, Walton  
 www.waltontheatre.org

WALTON THEATRE  
 MARCH 15, 16, 17 & 20  
**BOB MARLEY: ONE LOVE**  
 - PG-13 -  
 FRIDAY - 7 PM  
 SATURDAY - 7 PM  
 SUNDAY - 1 PM  
 ADULTS - \$8; 12 & UNDER - \$7 (MATINEE PRICE IS \$1.00 LESS)  
 Wednesday Matinee 1 PM \$6  
 Gardiner Place 607-865-6688  
 www.waltontheatre.org

**ALL YOU CAN EAT! PANCAKE BREAKFAST**  
 Pancakes • Eggs • Sausage  
 Juice • Coffee • Tea • Milk  
 HAMDEN TOWN HALL  
 Route 10, Hamden  
 Saturday, March 16, 2024  
 8am-12:00 noon  
 Adults: \$10.00  
 Children Ages 6-10: \$7.00  
 Children Under 6: Free  
 Benefit for: Programs & Services for the Elderly  
 Sponsored by: The Delaware County Senior Council

**Holy Week Events Sponsored by the Walton Ministerium:**  
 Maundy Thursday Services-3-28-24  
 4pm Communion Service at Congregational Church  
 5pm Christ Episcopal Church  
 6pm Foot/Handwashing/Seder Meal at United Methodist 7pm Service at United Presbyterian  
 7pm Communion Service at New Hope Community Church 7pm Tenebrae Service at First Baptist  
 7pm Mass at St. John's Catholic Church  
 Good Friday Services-3/29/24  
 4pm Tenebrae Service at Congregational Church  
 5pm Stations of the Cross Christ Episcopal Church  
 7pm Commemoration Service at St. John's Catholic Church  
 7pm Joint UPC/Alliance Service at UPC Saturday-3/30/24  
 7pm Easter Vigil at St. John's Catholic Church Sunday-3/31/24  
 6:30am Easter "Sonrise" Service at More Park  
 2-4 pm Community Easter Dinner-New Hope Community Church

40.65° N, 73.98° W

41.90° N, 12.49° E

# EIGHTYMAIN kitchen & bar

42.27° N, 74.92° W

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(607) 464-4043

Winter Hours Open for Dinner Thursday thru Monday at 5pm



**Nutritional Workshops Available in your Community**

**Celebrate National Nutrition Month with SNAP-Ed NY!**

Join a Workshop, Bring a Friend!

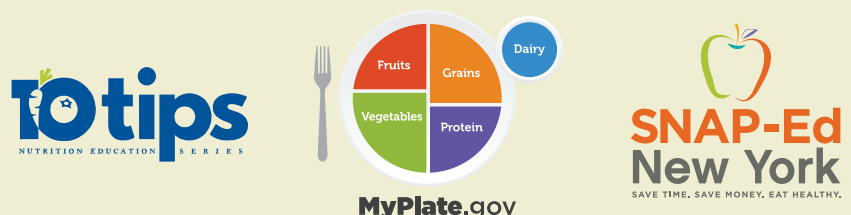
**NEW! Ten Tips for Adults Workshops include:**

<b>Activity</b> Add physical activity To your daily routine	<b>Budgeting</b> Plan meals ahead Shop for best prices	<b>My Plate</b> Eat foods from every food group
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**UPCOMING WORKSHOP SCHEDULE:**

<b>Walton First Baptist Church</b> 2PM-3PM; Wednesdays: March 20, 27 55 Townsend St. (Parking lot is off Platt St.) Handicapped Accessible	<b>Grand Gorge, 60933, NY-30 Civic Center Sr. Meal Site</b> 10:30AM-11:30AM; Fridays: March 15, 22, April 5 & 12 <b>Downsville Firehall, 15166 St Hwy 30</b> 3PM-4PM; Tuesdays: March 19, 26
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Call to Plan a Workshop Near You!  
**Delaware County Office for the Aging**  
 Call the SNAP-Ed Coordinator at 607-832-5750 • DelCoEatHealthy@gmail.com



SNAP-Ed is funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

**25th Annual Heart of the Catskills Humane Society**  
 www.heartofthecatskills.org

**Paws for Celebration!**

APRIL 20TH, 4-7PM  
 AT SPILLIAN, FLEISCHMANN'S, NY

- Live & Silent Auction with auctioneer, Chuck McIntosh
- Music by famed musician, Adam Ippolito
- Cash bar
- Charcuterie board delights, appetizers & desserts
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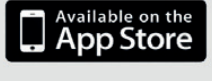
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 <b>2022 Chrysler Pacifica</b> Gray, 59,000 mi., 6, Auto, Loaded, Back up Cam, BT, HS, HSW, Lthr Seats, Power sliding doors, Power liftgate, Rem Start, Sat Radio, Prev Rental <b>\$25,200 \$422/72mos.</b>	 <b>2020 Dodge Journey Crossroad</b> Silver, 60,100 mi., 6, Auto, Loaded, Back up Cam, PS, Sat, Radio, 3rd Row, 1 Owner (Rental) <b>\$16,975 \$290/72mos.</b>	 <b>2020 Chrysler Voyager</b> Gray, 59,100 mi., 6, Auto, Loaded, Back up Cam, BT, Lthr Seats, Rem Start, Sat Radio, Prev Rental <b>\$23,475 \$401/72mos.</b>	 <b>2017 Acura RDX</b> White, 59,500 mi., 6, Auto, AWD, Loaded, Back up cam, BT, HS, Lthr, Sun Rf, Sat Radio <b>\$22,475 \$430/66mos.</b>	 <b>2022 Hyundai Tucson SEL</b> White, 34,100 mi., 4, Auto, AWD, Loaded, Back up Cam, BT, HS, Rem start, 1 Owner <b>\$26,475 \$443/72mos.</b>	 <b>2021 Kia Telluride LX</b> Blue, 25,800 mi., 6, Auto, Loaded, AWD, Back Up Cam, Sat Radio, Lthr, 1 Owner <b>\$33,975 \$581/72mos.</b>
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 <b>2016 Chevrolet Malibu LT</b> Gray, 100,000 mi., 4, Auto, Loaded, Back up Cam, Rem Start, Car play <b>\$12,975 \$248/66mos.</b>	 <b>2020 Hyundai Elantra</b> White, 24,900 mi., 4, Auto, Loaded, Back up Cam, BT, Sat Radio, Prev Rental <b>\$16,975 \$290/72mos.</b>	 <b>2020 Jeep Cherokee Limited</b> Black, 23,200 mi., 6, Auto, 4x4, Loaded, Back up Cam, BT, HS, NAV, Rem Start, Sat Radio, Sun roof, Lthr Seats, One Owner <b>\$29,975 \$512/72mos.</b>	 <b>2020 Jeep Cherokee</b> Gray, 39,100 mi., 6, Auto, 4x4, Loaded, Back up Cam, HS, HSW, Lthr Seats, Rem Start, Sat Radio, 1 owner <b>\$25,975 \$444/72mos.</b>	 <b>2020 Chevrolet Trax LT</b> Blue, 59,900 mi., 4, Auto, AWD, Loaded, BT, Back up Cam, Rem Start, Sat Radio, Prev Rental <b>\$19,475 \$333/72mos.</b>	 <b>2019 Subaru Outback Prem.</b> Gray, 82,800 mi., 4, Auto, AWD, Loaded, Back up Cam, PS, HS, HM, Sat Radio, 1 Owner <b>\$22,000 \$376/72mos.</b>

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**Sat. March 16th, 2024** -Spring Premier All Breed Sale - 11:30AM. Selling 120 Registered All- Breed Dairy Cattle we will be selling Guernsey, Holsteins, Jerseys, Shorthorn & Ayrshires. Plenty of Show-age to pick from & a lot of Fresh Cows & heifers. This sale is full, we are accepting for the May 4th sale. Catalog posted on Facebook & Website. Selling a semen tank and semen -BRING YOUR OWN TANKS TO TRANSFER SEMEN.

**Mon. Mar. 18th** - Normal Monday Sale & 1st Easter Sheep, Lamb, Goat & Pig Sale. A group of Dorsetx Lambs from one flock.

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# Maple WEEKEND

## Tapping into tradition at Shaver Hill Maple

By Alyshia Korba

HARPERSFIELD - Shaver Hill Maple is well-known as an industry leader, not just locally, but in the maple community as a whole, and with their state-of-the-art equipment producing 50 gallons of syrup per hour from over 10,000 trees, there is no question why. However, this has not always been the case.

Shaver Hill Maple was founded 1912, but at the time it was known as Shaver Farm and was primarily a dairy farm. It was owned by Alvin and Alice Shaver who ran a small maple operation on the dairy farm. In 1959, Dennis Hill started working on the farm which was then owned by the Shavers' son, Gaylord Shaver, and Hill bought the farm from Shaver in 1984 with his wife, Barbara.

It was important to the Hills to keep the Shaver name on the farm because of historical significance. The Shavers were direct descendants of Colonel John Harper who founded Harpersfield where the farm is located.

The Hills maintained the dairy and maple production at the farm for some time, but switched to maple full time in 2004. Today, the farm is run by Dennis and

his two sons, David and Dwayne Hill.

David Hill said that he and his brother have seen the farm expand significantly in their lifetime, having started working on the farm as young children. At that time, he said, they were using buckets to collect the sap instead of the tubing system used now.

"When we were younger, we had 400 buckets to gather," David Hill said. "So it's a lot different now — considerably different."

While less efficient, the bucket

collection method is deep-rooted in maple tradition as that was the method used as early as 1609 by Native Americans who were the first to produce the syrup. The sap was originally harvested by cutting a 'V' into the tree and catching the sap with a vessel made from logs, bark or clay, according to the Massachusetts Maple Producers Association. The sap was then boiled by placing hot rocks in the vessel.

This method was refined with more effective taps and metal pots to boil the sap in the late



Alyshia Korba/The Reporter

These handmade molds were used to form maple bricks which were popular because they were easy to store and ship. The bricks would be shaved down to get maple sugar.



Alyshia Korba/The Reporter

Having been around for over a century, Shaver Hill Farm has an extensive collection of equipment on display from wooden buckets to the present day vacuum systems.

1700s and early 1800s. The technology continued to progress with the invention of flat pans and evaporators to the introduction of reverse osmosis machines in the 1970s which are widely used today. According to David Hill, their reverse osmosis machine processes approximately 3,600 gallons of sap per hour — quite a bit more efficient than the original hot rock method.

While small hobby farms may still use the bucket collection method, most producers, like Shaver Hill, use a system of tubes and vacuums to collect sap. At Shaver Hill, over 40 miles of these tubes are used to collect approxi-



Alyshia Korba/The Reporter

Each barrel of syrup produced at Shaver Hill gets a sample taken, and this display shows the variance in grades between last year's barrels. Maple is classified into four grades from light to dark.

mately 10,000 gallons of sap per day, according to David Hill.

Just as the technology continues to develop, maple producers continue to invent new products to make. Shaver Hill is especially known for its maple confections like maple sugar candy, hard candy, cotton candy and maple cream among many others. The Hills even run seminars all across the northeast and in Canada to teach other maple producers how to make these products.

"It's not that we're the experts, but people like the way that we show how to make the products," Dwayne Hill said.

Unlike other agricultural industries, Dwayne Hill said, maple producers are often willing to help each other and share information. He said this is because the market is less competitive due to the limited region in which maple can be produced.

"Maple syrup is only made right here in the northeast," Dwayne Hill said. "We have the whole world to market it to, and we're not even touching a drop in the bucket."

Along with the seminars, the Hills also support other producers by selling maple equipment and labeling products for other maple producers. Dwayne also served as president of the New York Maple Producers Association and continues to act as a Catskill delegate with the association.

The Hills are not only passionate about teaching other maple producers, but also teaching the public about maple. This year will be Shaver Hill's 28th annual open house and pancake breakfast for Maple Weekend, March 16 and 17, and 23 and 24, and they will be open 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. both weekends. Each day of Maple Weekend, Shaver Hill will have an all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and, weather permitting, horse-drawn wagon rides. Visitors will be able to sample some of the many maple products sold by the farm, see the equipment used on the farm and even buy some equipment if the event leaves them inspired to make their own maple syrup.

### Delaware County Farm Bureau Supports Our Maple Producer Members!

Please Support Them by Visiting Their Operation on **Maple Weekend Open House** March 16th & 17th and March 23rd & 24th and Learn More About Maple Syrup Production!



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65 Charlie Wood Rd., Delancey
- **Dar-View Maple**  
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- **Hidden Acres Maple**  
380 Lumber Rd., Deposit
- **Maplewood Farm & Orchard**  
598 Miller Ave., Bovina Center
- **Reed's Maple Products**  
1071 Reed Rd., Hamden
- **Roxbury Mountain Maple**  
750 Roxbury Mtn Rd., Hobart (23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> only)
- **Shaver-Hill Maple**  
450 Shaver Rd., Harpersfield



### Maple Weekend Open House

Saturday & Sunday  
March 16 & 17; March 23 & 24  
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# Slaple WEEKEND

## Tapping into education

### Delaware Academy FFA students profit from syrup success

By Elizabeth DeFalco

DELHI - Delaware Academy Central School District at Delhi (DA) Future Farmers of America (FFA) students got a head start in maple syrup production this

year, with nearly 4,000 gallons of sap collected from the school's 1,200 taps. Students tap trees in their "sugar bush" located behind the school and on village-owned property beginning after Christmas break, and have done

so since 2005 when the program was created by former teacher Michael Cipperly.

The program began with five taps to collect sap, science teacher and FFA co-advisor Mark Kline said, and was collected using buckets and gravitational flow. Today, students use intricate tubing with a vacuum system to draw sap from trees, larger holding tanks, and have their own sap house complete with a reverse osmosis machine, an oil-powered boiler, and an electric filter.

At the start of the season, students dedicate time after school to inspect and replace lines in the collection system behind the school campus. FFA Secretary and 10th grade student Hailey Brandenburg said, "And it's definitely a hike. You become part mountain goat."

Kline compared the tubing in the collection system to a human's circulatory system - the thicker main lines acting as the arteries and the thin lateral lines acting as the capillaries, he said, all flowing to the centralized location of the 2,000 gallon collection tank.

Once all lines are prepped and ready to go, tapping begins usually in mid-January, she said, but warmer temperatures this winter season kick-started the process. Students have collected any-



Elizabeth DeFalco/The Reporter

Delaware Academy Future Farmers of America (FFA) President Marshall LaPierre, left, teacher and co-advisor Mark Kline, FFA secretary Hailey Brandenburg, and FFA Vice President Anna Clark display bottles of DA-made maple syrup in front of the "sugar house."

reading the main line monitors.

From the collection tank, sap is then automatically pumped into 250 gallon transport cage tanks and driven to DA's sap house, located across state Route 28 from the campus. When the program first started, transferring sap from the collection tank to a transport tank was done purely by gravity, Kline said - the automatic pump, donated by former teacher Tina James, was a massive time-saver.

to rid it of any naturally occurring minerals or grit, before the syrup is filtered, then transferred into a decanter for bottling. The syrup is boiled once more to between 180 and 185 degrees to kill any bacteria, then bottled and sealed for storage and sale, LaPierre said.

Typically in the beginning of the seasons, students produce amber-grade syrup, Kline said, but this year students are producing a lighter colored syrup. Syrup is not only bottled for sale, but also used to create maple candy, cream, and cotton candy, students explained, which are sold to benefit DA's FFA program or charitable organizations.

DA's FFA program has 61 members between grades seven and 12, DA Agriculture Teacher and FFA Co-Advisor Michelle Somers said, and approximately 20 students assist with maple production, though she credited a select group of 10 students for their consistent dedication to the program.

Maple sales are one of FFA's largest fundraisers, Brandenburg said, and are ongoing most of the school year through intertwining sales with other events, like fruit sales, farmers markets, and



Elizabeth DeFalco/The Reporter

Delaware Academy 10th grade student Hailey Brandenburg and 11th grade student Marshall LaPierre test sugar density of syrup using a hydrometer.

where between 4,000 and 5,000 gallons of sap so far this year, Kline said, putting students approximately two weeks ahead of schedule, which he credited to warmer winter temperatures causing sap to flow early and use of the vacuum system.

The vacuum system suctions sap from trees, leading to a faster flow than typical gravitational flow will provide, FFA President and 11th grade student Marshall LaPierre said, and increased the amount of sap students can collect. Students nearly doubled their maple syrup production through use of the vacuum system, Kline said.

"If it was warm, we'd start to run the compressor and it'd be like drinking out of a straw," Kline said, "On a good day, it would be pouring in like someone left the sink on."

A local maple supply distributor, Tom Kaufmann, recently donated a high-tech system that is in the progress of being installed and tweaked, Kline said, and will read and provide the pressure of the system. Typically, a system's pressure level should be between 20 and 25 inches of mercury, Kline said, but if a line is chewed or damaged, the system's pressure level will decrease. The donated system is complete with pressure monitors on five of the main lines, Kline said, so when the overall system reports a decrease in pressure, the source of the leak can be centralized by



Elizabeth DeFalco/The Reporter

Delaware Academy Agriculture Teacher and FFA Co-advisor Michelle Somers peeks into the oil-fueled evaporator.

The transported sap is pumped into a 500 gallon tank outside of the sap house, and flows into the sap house to first be processed through a reverse osmosis machine. The reverse osmosis machine removes approximately 50% of the water from the sap to concentrate it and reduce boiling time, LaPierre explained; sap from DA's sugar bush typically is between 1 - 2% sugar, he said, and comes out of the reverse osmosis machine at approximately 8% sugar.

The concentrated sap is then run through an oil-fueled evaporator, where the sap is heated and concentrated until it becomes maple syrup. To test if syrup is ready to be filtered, students use a hydrometer to test its density, LaPierre said, and must be at certain density levels to be "legally considered syrup." When it becomes syrup, LaPierre said, diatomaceous earth is mixed in

selling maple cotton candy at Delhi's Fair on the Square. In the past, students would participate in New York State's Maple Weekends by hosting a breakfast and an open-house, Somers said, but have recently taken a step back to allow local producers to have the spotlight.

"We don't want to compete with local producers," Somers said, and only sells at farmer's market when other producers cannot attend and a vendor is needed to supply the demand for maple products.

In March, students in grades first through fifth who are part of the Junior Rangers after-school program will be given a tour of the facility, from the circulatory collection system to the sap house, Brandenburg said, with the hope of creating future FFA students and continuing the program.

## What is Maple Weekend?

Maple Weekend is a chance for the public to come to the farm to learn about New York's maple sugarmaking processes and traditions and to provide a chance to taste pure maple syrup in its many forms - right from the source.

The event is organized and sponsored by the New York State Maple Producers' Association.

In Delaware County visit: **Brookside Maple & Farm,**

Delancey; **Buck Hill Farm,** Jefferson; **Dar-View Maple,** Delancey; **Catskill Mountain Maple/Kaufman Farm,** DeLancey; **Kenneth Burger Farm,** Margaretville; **Maplewood Farm & Orchard,** Bovina; **Off-Road Maple,** Franklin; **Reed's Maple Products,** Downsville; **Roxbury Mountain Maple,** Hobart; **Shaver-Hill Maple,** Harpersfield; and **Tree Juice Maple Syrup,** Arkville.

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