

Federal budget's local impact

# Airline funding cuts



A Cape Air pilot guides a nine-seat Cessna 402 over the Adirondack Mountains at sunset in August 2015. (Enterprise photo — Peter Crowley)

## Trump proposes eliminating funding for rural air service

**By ANTONIO OLIVERO**  
Staff Writer

SARANAC LAKE — Tri-Lakes area air travel and tourism could be altered significantly if President Donald Trump's proposed budget blueprint is passed with its current call to eliminate program funding to commercial air service in rural communities, including here.

To offset major increases in defense spending, President Trump proposes \$54 billion in cuts to various federal programs, including slashing the \$175 million annual allotment for Essential Air Service. It's a program that was enacted nearly four decades ago to provide a minimal level of scheduled passenger airline service to rural communities where it otherwise would not be profitable.

EAS subsidizes airline service at 159 U.S., 44 of which are in Alaska. Six are in New York, including five in the North Country: Lake Clear, Plattsburgh, Massena, Ogdensburg,

**'There is a lot of time for this (budget proposal) to change. That's what we are hoping for.'**

*Adirondack Regional Airport Manager  
Corey Hurwitch*

Watertown and Jamestown in western New York.

In a 62-page proposal released last

(Continued on Page A7)

### How Trump's budget could affect northern New York

**Increases:**

- Military, which may include the Army base at Fort Drum
- Homeland Security, which includes staff at the U.S.-Canada border
- Veterans Affairs, which could increase VA medical offerings

**Cuts —** Trump's budget proposal would eliminate or severely reduce these federal programs:

- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, which helps many people heat their homes
- Essential Air Service, which funds rural passenger service
- Community Development Block Grants, which recently has helped Tupper Lake microenterprises, Saranac Lake storefront facade renovations, the Jay Community Center in AuSable Forks and housing rehabilitation for low- and moderate-income people
- AmeriCorps, which has done trail and invasive species work in the Adirondacks since 1998
- Public broadcasting funds for North Country Public Radio and Mountain Lake PBS — NCPB says this would remove 13 percent of its budget.
- The Environmental Protection Agency, including its Clean Power Plan, perhaps leading to increased acid rain and mercury poisoning Adirondack waters and forests
- National Institutes of Health, which pays for some research at Trudeau Institute in Saranac Lake
- Raise fees for National Flood Insurance Program

To read President Trump's full budget blueprint, go to [https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/whitehouse.gov/files/omb/budget/fy2018/2018\\_blueprint.pdf](https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/whitehouse.gov/files/omb/budget/fy2018/2018_blueprint.pdf).

## Enviro groups differ on Stefanik

**By MAURY THOMPSON**  
Post-Star

Environmental groups dispute whether U.S. Rep. Elise Stefanik, R-Willsboro, is a Republican climate change pace setter or one who is lagging behind the congressional norm.

"If you package all this stuff up together, you can tell there's actually some substantive move in the right direction," said Tony Kreindler, senior director of government relations for the Environmental Defense Fund, a national environmental group that praised Stefanik for recently introducing a resolution urging the House "to commit to working constructively" to address climate change.

Some suggest the resolution is mere rhetoric.

"A non-binding resolution on climate action isn't climate action," said Travis Proulx, a spokesman for Environmental Advocates of New York. "For us, the bottom line is simple: What are her votes?"

Stefanik received 29 percent in the most recent League of Conservation Voters scorecard, based on votes in 2016.

Her score is up from 9 percent in 2015, bringing her "lifetime" score to 19 percent over two years in the House.

"So in other words she's batting about 190," said Peter Bauer, executive director of Protect the Adirondacks. "That batting average (in professional baseball) would get her yanked from the team."

The League of Conservation Voters, which compiled the scorecard, however, praised Stefanik for scoring among the highest of Republican House members.

The nationwide House Republican score in 2016 was 5 percent, and the average House member score was 43 percent.

The nationwide House Democrat average was 94 percent.

"This represents their willingness to support key bipartisan conservation issues that provide a significant benefit to New York such as renew-



Stefanik

## Dylan Ratigan returns as news commentator

**By the Enterprise staff**

SARANAC LAKE — Dylan Ratigan, one of this village's most famous natives, is returning to news commentary with a new job at a progressive online news network.

The Young Turks, which goes by the acronym TYT, has hired the former host of "The Dylan Ratigan Show," which was MSNBC's highest-rated non-prime-time show from 2009 to 2012, according to The Hill. Ratigan, 44, was previously Bloomberg News's global managing editor, hosted various CNBC shows and wrote "Greedy Bastards," a book that made it to the New York Times best-seller list. He was known for focusing on corporations bending American politicians to their will.

After leaving MSNBC on the eve of the 2012 election, he founded Helical Holdings, a company that makes a hydroponic farming system.

Now Ratigan will once again be a

news commentator, one of several well-known left-wing pundits TYT recently hired using more than \$1.5 million raised from a crowdfunding campaign. Others include David Sirota, a former radio host and newspaper columnist and current investigative editor for International Business Times, and Jonathan Larsen, who has been a producer at Al Jazeera America, Keith Olbermann's MSNBC show "Countdown" and Jon Stewart's "The Daily Show" on Comedy Central.

Progressive activists Cenk Uygur and Ben Mankiewicz launched TYT in 2002 on Sirius radio and then on YouTube in 2005.

Ratigan was born and grew up in Saranac Lake, the son of Adrienne (Dodge) and John Ratigan. Now, according to his website, he is "a nomadic road warrior constantly traveling around the country, primarily residing in New York City, Louisiana, California and Chicago."



**GOING FOR THE GOLD** — Carol Chan of Washington, D.C., poses after being named to the Gold Team Monday during the Miracle on Ice Fantasy Camp draft at the Lake Placid Conference Center. From left are Rob McClanahan, Jim Craig, Chan and team coach Ken Morrow. In all, 14 of the 19 members of the 1980 U.S. Olympic hockey team and 56 campers are participating in the event, which began on Sunday and wraps up on Thursday. (Enterprise photo — Andy Flynn)





Ranger Report

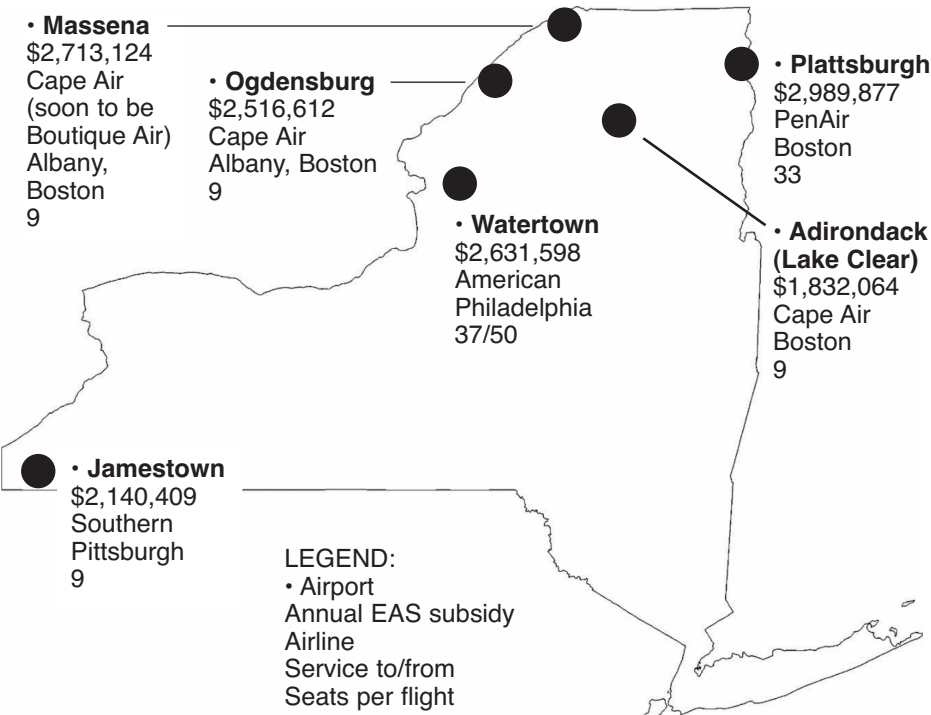
**By the Enterprise staff**  
State Department of Environmental Conservation forest rangers discovered a wanted man who was camping in St. Lawrence County and assisted another man after an ankle injury in Wilmington last week.

**Town of Brasher**  
On Tuesday, March 21, two forest rangers were on routine patrol when they found a group camping in an unusual location. The rangers engaged the group in conversa-

tion and one of the rangers believed, due to a prior encounter, that one of the men gave a false name. The rangers looked up on Massena Police Department social media page the arrest warrants and found that the man matched the description of an individual with a warrant. The rangers took the man into custody and transported him to the Massena Police Department for processing and arraignment.

**Town of Wilmington**  
On Thursday, March 23, Essex County 911 transferred a call to DEC dispatch in Ray Brook for a 65-year-old man from Massena with an ankle injury on the Poor Man’s Downhill trail in Wilmington. Rangers evaluated and packaged the man before transporting him via snowmobile to a waiting Wilmington Rescue Squad ambulance. The man was taken to a local hospital for treatment.

Budget could eliminate Adirondack airline  
Essential Air Service in New York



(Enterprise graphic — Peter Crowley; Source — U.S. Department of Transportation)

(Continued from Page A1)

month, titled “America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again,” Trump’s office deems EAS a temporary program from the late 1970s. The executive office’s reasoning for eliminating it is that EAS-funded flights are often not full and have high subsidy costs per passenger. “Several EAS-eligible communities are relatively close to major airports, and communities that have EAS could be served by other existing modes of transportation,” the document reads. “This proposal would result in a discretionary savings of \$175 million from the 2017 annualized (continuing resolution) level.” At Adirondack Regional Airport in Lake Clear, manager Corey Hurwitch said the elimination of EAS would have a “wide and drastic effect.” The program provided more than \$1.8 million to subsidize Cape Air’s three daily round-trip flights year-round between Lake Clear and Boston’s Logan International Airport on Cessna 402 airplanes, which hold nine passengers each. Cape Air is the only commercial carrier currently flying out of

Adirondack Regional, which is owned and run by the town of Harrietstown. To Hurwitch’s knowledge, Adirondack Regional’s annual EAS subsidy is in the ballpark of \$1.8 million per year. “There is a lot of time for this (budget proposal) to change,” Hurwitch added. “That’s what we are hoping for.” Meanwhile, he stressed that the ramifications for his airport would be “drastic, for sure” if EAS is abruptly cut without a phase-out period. He hopes the airport would establish “some sort of” commercial service with Cape Air or another carrier. He added that the airport does not have any unsubsidized commercial flights at this time, though during past summer seasons Cape Air has operated a fourth daily flight on its own. “But it became difficult for them to sustain,” Hurwitch said. Airport managers and local elected officials such as Harrietstown town Supervisor Michael Kilroy haven’t wasted time in contacting federal representatives to relay their discontent with Trump’s proposal. Hurwitch said it was agreed to at a recent Harrietstown town board meeting to

draft a letter to U.S. Sens. Chuck Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand and U.S. Rep. Elise Stefanik about the elimination of EAS. Schumer, the Senate’s top Democrat, called the EAS cut “reckless and counterproductive” in a press release. He said the Adirondack Regional Airport served 9,547 passengers in 2016 compared with 13,432 in Plattsburgh, 10,554 in Massena, 8,233 in Ogdensburg and 3,537 in Jamestown. “There is no question about it — access to air travel is good for businesses, good for jobs, good for the middle class and good for financial health of the community,” he said. Stefanik, a Republican from Willsboro, has not specifically mentioned EAS but said she does not support Trump’s budget proposal and that “ultimately Congress controls the power of the purse and will write the final federal spending plan.” Adirondack tourism leaders see the potential loss of airline service in Lake Clear as a detriment to the economy as well. In early January when Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced a \$38 million investment in an expanded

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Enviro groups differ on Stefanik

(Continued from Page A1)

ing the Land and Water Conservation Fund,” the group said, referring to Stefanik and other top Republican scorers. Kreindler, of the Environmental Defense Fund, noted the improvement in Stefanik’s environmental voting record. “And I would say it was about July of 2016 where we saw the realization manifest itself in actual votes,” he said. Bauer said it is particularly important for Stefanik to have a strong environmental voting record because she represents the Adirondack Park. “I think it’s safe to say that in the year 2017, we are beyond resolutions. We need action,” said Bauer, of Protect the Adirondacks. Kreindler said Stefanik’s climate change resolution, which has 16 Republican cosponsors, is significant because it restores bipartisan agreement that climate change is an important issue, agreement that was there in 2009 before it became unpopular for Republicans to acknowledge climate change. “After 2009 and 2010, the politics, if you might remember, got really crazy ... and it got very partisan in that seven years of darkness,” he said. “What we are seeing is folks starting to chip back away at that partisan divide and get back to a conversation about solutions.” Bauer said Stefanik,

indeed, has the potential to be a leader on climate change if she can put together a coalition of about 25 Republicans that would vote with Democrats on environmental issues. Kreindler said the environment is an issue that is less confrontational than others for a Republican. “It’s very hard to be a Republican in a swing district and maintain your voter coalition without moderating on a couple of issues,” he said. “Frankly on the environment, it is a very good issue on which to moderate.”

(Editor’s note: Four daily newspapers in the North Country — the Enterprise, Post-Star of Glens Falls, Watertown Daily Times and Press-Republican of Platts-

burgh — are sharing content to better cover New York’s 21st Congressional District.)

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Ralph Michael Zahn  
Branch: Marines  
Rank: Sergeant  
Years Served: 18  
Hometown: Childwold  
Family: wife, Jessica; father, John Zahn, brother, Alex Zahn  
Education: Graduate of Tupper Lake High School & NCCC

Send in their photo and information by  
Thursday, May 11, 2017.  
All submissions will be published  
Saturday, May 20, 2017.



# Adirondack Daily Enterprise75¢

## Fire contained to wall of Belvedere

**By PETER CROWLEY  
Managing Editor**

SARANAC LAKE — Fire broke out in a wall of the Belvedere Restaurant early Tuesday afternoon, and owners and firefighters suspect old neon lights may be the culprit.

Staff called the fire department after they and lunch patrons noticed smoke coming out of a front wall by the bar entrance, co-owner Jerry Cavallo said. With the electricity shut off, firefighters tore open the wall and used a minimal amount of water to extinguish the smoldering.

The wood inside the wall “had charred pretty deeply,” Saranac Lake fire Chief Brendan Keough said. “They had a pretty good burn going in the wall there.”

Other parts of the building — the rest of the bar, the dining room and apartments upstairs — were not affected, Keough said. No one was hurt, and the building is insured.

Keough said it’s good staff caught the fire when they did.

“Had it gone undiscovered, in the middle of the night, it certainly had a whole potential for disaster for the Belvedere,” he said. “Thank God. Saranac Lake can’t afford to lose any more historic places.”

The building dates to the 1890s, and the Cavallo family opened the vintage Italian eatery, commonly known as the “Bel,” in 1933. Neon tubes, grandfathered in from before zoning restricted them, light up the venue’s name on a weathered metal sign on Bloomingdale Avenue, skirt the first-floor eaves and spell out “Dining Room” and “Bar” over the two entrances.

The smoldering started around the “Bar” sign, where wires power it as well as the neon tubes along the eaves. Keough said his department is



**Smoke pours out as Saranac Lake firefighter Vernon James uses a crowbar to rip open the eaves of the Belvedere Restaurant early Tuesday afternoon to extinguish a fire smoldering in the front wall of the bar.**  
*(Enterprise photo — Peter Crowley)*

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### Federal budget’s local impact

## Future for AmeriCorps?

**By ANTONIO OLIVERO  
Staff Writer**

The Corporation for National and Community Service is mentioned only once in President Donald Trump’s 62-page budget proposal. On page 11 of the 62-page “America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again,” CNCS is one of 19 independent agencies proposed to be eliminated.

Aside from naming the agencies, details are scant.

CNCS supervises the better-known AmeriCorps, a 23-year-old federal program created under President Bill Clinton that pairs public service with compensation such as cost-of-living allowances, aid with student loans and work experience. For 2017, \$1.1 billion was budgeted for CNCS.

AmeriCorps’ interns do plenty of work in the Adirondack backcountry, jobs the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation doesn’t have the staff for. Much of this work is behind the scenes — people tend not to notice trails and outhouses after they fix them — but there are some prominent jobs as well. For instance, in 2015 AmeriCorps restored one manmade structure in the wilderness, the historic fire tower atop St. Regis Mountain, and started to dismantle another, Marcy Dam in the High Peaks.

The Student Conservation Association manages the Adirondack AmeriCorps program. This Arlington, Virginia-based nonprofit group is celebrating its 60th anniversary and engages nearly 10,000 in service programs across the country each year. It preaches a mission of harvesting future leaders and stewards of environmental conservation by engaging young people in hands-on service.

Kevin Hamilton, SCA’s vice president for communications, describes Adirondack AmeriCorps as being “on the same team” as DEC.

“Right now, (Trump’s) administration plans to X out (the CNCS), but it’s premature to go there,” he said.

“Our focus is not on what happens if this program is gutted,” he added. “We have great hope the bipartisan support (for AmeriCorps) prevails.”

Hamilton said SCA received \$117,000 last summer from federal



**Student Conservation Association intern Victoria Challingsworth collects loose pieces of wood from the top of Marcy Dam in September 2015 as an SCA-AmeriCorps crew dismantles the damaged dam’s top tier for the state of New York.**  
*(Enterprise photo — Shaun Kittle)*

AmeriCorps to help run the Adirondack AmeriCorps program. He was uncertain what percentage of the total cost to run the program that provided.

AmeriCorps isn’t SCA’s only funding source, and others could emerge. Starting this June, for instance, New York state will fund

(Continued on Page A2)

**‘We have great hope the bipartisan support (for AmeriCorps) prevails.’**

*Kevin Hamilton, SCA’s vice president for communications*

## Direct-care raises OK’d

**By BEN GOCKER  
Staff Writer**

TUPPER LAKE — Gov. Andrew Cuomo surpassed the state Legislature Tuesday in offering pay raises to people who work with those with disabilities.

Cuomo’s \$55 million goes beyond \$45 million proposed by both the state Senate and Assembly. Cuomo had not included any increases for these workers in his initial state budget in January. The size of the increase will be worked out in ongoing budget negotiations between the two legislative chambers and the governor.

The additional funds would help direct-support professionals who work for nonprofit organizations that contract with the state, such as the Adirondack Arc and Citizen Advocates, but not workers for state agencies such as the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities, who tend to have better pay and benefits. OPWDD operates the Sunmount hub based in Tupper Lake.

(Continued on Page A7)

## Trail could go off the rails, train group warns

**By JUSTIN A. LEVINE  
Staff Writer**

MALONE — Lawyers for the Adirondack Railway Preservation Society say the state may reroute part of a trail along village of Saranac Lake streets and sidewalks if it doesn’t sort out ownership issues for the railroad the trail would replace.

Also in paperwork filed this week, lawyers representing ARPS in suing the state said the state’s plan to build a 34-mile rail-trail is “arbitrary and capricious because the state does not have sufficient ownership rights to implement the UMP (unit management plan).”

ARPS operates seasonal tourist trains under the Adirondack Scenic Railroad name between Lake Placid and Saranac Lake, as well as on the southern end of the rail

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## Trump, in break from other leaders, digs in on coal

**READ ON:**  
Stefanik says she’ll review Trump’s order to ax Clean Power Plan  
**PAGE A3**



*Trump*

**By MATTHEW DALY and JILL COLVIN  
Associated Press**

WASHINGTON — Declaring an end to what he’s called “the war on coal,” President Donald Trump signed an executive order Tuesday that eliminates numerous restrictions on fossil fuel production, breaking with leaders across the globe who have embraced cleaner energy

sources.

The order makes good on Trump’s campaign pledge to unravel former President Barack Obama’s efforts to curb global warming, eliminating nearly a dozen measures in an effort to boost domestic energy production, especially oil, natural gas and coal.

Environmental activists, including former Vice President Al Gore,

denounced the plan. But Trump said the effort would spark “a new energy revolution” and lead to “unbelievable” American prosperity.

“That is what this is all about: bringing back our jobs, bringing back our dreams and making America wealthy again,” Trump said during a signing ceremony at the Envi-

(Continued on Page A2)



## How Trump's budget could affect northern New York

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## Future for AmeriCorps?

(Continued from Page A1)

12 more SCA interns through its new Excelsior Conservation Corps.

Trump's proposal to ax AmeriCorps nationwide comes in the wake of increasing hiking and backcountry traffic here in the Adirondacks. This trend reached a crescendo during Labor Day weekend last summer, when summit stewards from the Adirondack Mountain Club counted more than 3,000 people atop the High Peaks' four most popular mountains. Summit Steward coordinator Julia Goren said that weekend "brought more people to the Adirondack High Peaks than ever before," but there were many other weekends in the summer of 2016 when trails and summits were crowded.

Losing Adirondack AmeriCorps could further remove the manpower many feel is necessary to protect the Adirondacks from further degradation.

The Adirondack Mountain Club (ADK) is the other primary organization DEC works with to do trail maintenance and other forms of environmental conservation work in the Adirondacks. Executive Director Neil Woodworth described a "highly comple-

mentary" relationship between his club and SCA, saying one will complete environmental work the other can't get to or doesn't have the expertise or resources for at certain times.

"SCA does work that our crew doesn't have to do so (ADK) can focus on projects they are specifically trained for," he said.

Woodworth added that eliminating Adirondack AmeriCorps would have a negative effect.

"Certainly we can use all the help we can get," he said. "Any reduction in funding that would affect the trail maintenance efforts of the SCA certainly would hurt the efforts to keep the hiking trails in proper shape and to avoid soil and water erosion on those trails.

"Any reduction," he continued, "in funding from Washington that reduces the level of hiking and other kinds of trail work — mountain bike trails — in the Adirondacks is going to hurt the ability of the Forest Preserve to contribute to local economies and provide a great recreational experience."

This summer will be the 19th for Adirondack AmeriCorps and its annual 21-week internship program, spanning May through October. From its home base on Little Tupper Lake in the William Whitney

Wilderness Area, SCA hires 18 interns or corps members each year to conduct heavy, laborious work such as trail repairs — 900 total hours each.

Last summer, Adirondack AmeriCorps constructed 11-and-a-half miles of new trail, did maintenance work on 44 miles of trails, installed 60 stepping stones, stone stairs and water bars, and cleared 450 blowdowns. Typical work also has included invasive species management, snowmobile trail construction, campground rehabilitation, fire tower maintenance and historic preservation, and accessible trail construction. Those who complete the five-month program are certified as conservation field specialists and can also earn certifications in advanced wilderness first aid, CPR, Game of Logging chainsaw, basic rigging, extensive trail construction and maintenance skills, backcountry living skills, and leadership and communication.

Adirondack AmeriCorps members receive a weekly living stipend, health insurance and some other benefits, and are provided with housing and meals. Jeremy Burns runs the program.

Hamilton was adamant that Adirondack AmeriCorps is

## SCA Ad'k AmeriCorps 2016 sites

- Slim Pond Trail (Blue Ridge Wilderness)
- Archer Vly Campground
- Shelving Rock Trails
- Sucker Brook Trail (Pharaoh Lakes Wilderness)
- Hudson River Special Management Area
- Wolf Pond Trail
- Hardigan Pond Canoe Carry (William C. Whitney Wilderness)
- Kunjamuk Trail (Siamese Ponds Wilderness)
- Vanderwhacker Mountain Trail
- Moose Pond Horse Trail (Eastern High Peaks Wilderness)
- Fishing Brook ADA Access
- OK Slip Trail (Hudson Gorge Wilderness)
- East River Bridge (High Peaks Wilderness)
- Willie Wildlife Marsh ADA Trail
- Marcy Dam
- Essex Chain Lakes — Deer Pond Canoe Carry
- St. Regis Canoe Area — little fish barrier dam and structure removal
- Dennie Road cross-country ski trail
- Beaver Pond trail (West Canada Lakes Wilderness)
- John Pond-Clear Pond trails (Siamese Ponds Wilderness)

vital to the region's outdoors-centric economy. He described SCA's bond with DEC as one of his organization's "poster relationships" that extends to their Hudson Valley Corps, where another 30 to 35 students take part on an annual basis.

The North Country's Congressional representative, Republican Elise Stefanik, said through her spokesman Tom Flanagan this morning that she does not support the proposal to eliminate Ameri-

corps.

"Congresswoman Stefanik has great respect and appreciation for those that strive to make our region better through public service," Flanagan wrote via email.

"While Congresswoman Stefanik believes there are savings to be found in every federal agency, she does not support the President's initial budget proposal, especially the proposed cuts to the State Department, the Department of Education, and the EPA," Flanagan added. "Furthermore, the President's budget would cut many important individual programs to our

district that Congresswoman Stefanik supports.

"Congresswoman Stefanik believes modernization and reform of our federal agencies is needed," he continued. "Therefore she supports eliminating duplicative government programs, fraud and abuse. The President's budget proposal is the first step in the process, but ultimately Congress controls the power of the purse and will write the final federal spending plan. During the budgeting process, Congresswoman Stefanik will work hard to ensure the needs and priorities of our district are met."



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## Trump digs in on coal

(Continued from Page A1)

ronmental Protection Agency headquarters, where he was flanked on stage by more than a dozen coal miners.

Throughout the election, Trump accused the former president of waging "a war" against coal as he campaigned in economically depressed swaths of states like West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Ohio.

The miners "told me about the efforts to shut down their mines, their communities and their very way of life. I made them this promise: We will put our miners back to work," the president said. "My administration is putting an end to the war on coal."

But Trump's promise runs counter to market forces, including U.S. utilities converting coal-fired power plants to cheaper, cleaner-burning natural gas. And Democrats, environmental groups and scientists said the executive order ignores the realities of climate change.

"There is much our nation can do to address the risks that climate change poses to human health and safety, but disregarding scientific evidence puts our communities in danger," said Rush Holt, chief executive officer of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the nation's largest general scientific society.

California Gov. Jerry Brown was more blunt.

"Gutting the Clean Power Plan is a colossal mistake and defies science itself. Erasing climate change may take place in Donald Trump's mind, but nowhere else," Brown said.

While Republicans have blamed Obama-era environmental regulations for the loss of coal jobs, federal data shows that U.S. mines have been shedding jobs for decades under presidents from both parties as a result of increasing automation and competition from natural gas.

Another factor is the plummeting cost of solar panels and wind turbines, which now can produce emissions-free electricity cheaper than burning coal.

According to an Energy Department analysis released in January, coal mining now accounts for fewer than

75,000 U.S. jobs. By contrast, renewable energy — including wind, solar and bio-fuels — now accounts for more than 650,000 U.S. jobs.

Trump's order initiates a review of the Clean Power Plan, which restricts greenhouse gas emissions at coal-fired power plants. The regulation — Obama's signature effort to curb carbon emissions — has been the subject of long-running legal challenges by Republican-led states and those who profit from burning oil, coal and gas.

The order also lifts a 14-month-old moratorium on new coal leases on federal lands. The Obama administration had imposed a three-year moratorium on new federal coal leases in January 2016, arguing that the \$1 billion-a-year program must be modernized to ensure a fair financial return to taxpayers and address climate change.

The order covers a range of other Obama-era rules, including repeal of measures to consider the "social cost" of carbon emissions in all regulatory actions and crack down on methane emissions at oil and gas wells. The rule also eliminates an Obama-era rule restricting fracking on public lands and a separate rule that requires energy companies to provide data on

methane emissions at oil and gas operations.

In all cases, business groups had complained to Trump — a self-celebrated business tycoon — that the rules were overly burdensome and expensive.

The American Petroleum Institute, the chief lobbying arm of the oil and gas industry, said Trump's new "common-sense" regulations will help continue a domestic energy boom that "benefits American consumers, workers and the environment."

California, New York and other states said they will oppose any effort by the Trump administration to withdraw the Clean Power Plan or seek dismissal of a pending legal case before a federal appeals court in Washington.

Brown said in an interview he is confident the Obama-era rule will be upheld in court. "Climate change is real and is a great threat that cannot be ignored," Brown said.

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MAY 20, 2017

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Rank: Sergeant  
Years Served: 18  
Hometown: Childwold  
Family: wife, Jessica; father, John Zahn, brother, Alex Zahn  
Education: Graduate of Tupper Lake High School & NCCC

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All submissions will be published  
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Branch: \_\_\_\_\_ Rank: \_\_\_\_\_

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# Adirondack Daily Enterprise 75¢

## Fantasy camp finale



Members of Mike Ramsey's Red Light District celebrate after winning the gold medal Wednesday afternoon during the Miracle on Ice Fantasy Camp at the Olympic Center in Lake Placid. In all, 14 of the 19 members of the 1980 U.S. Olympic hockey team and 55 campers participated in the event, which began on Sunday and wrapped today. (Enterprise photos — Andy Flynn)

### ORDA wraps up Miracle on Ice event

By **ANDY FLYNN**  
For the Enterprise

LAKE PLACID — Asked if he had any predictions going into the gold-medal game at the Miracle on Ice Fantasy Camp Wednesday at the Olympic Center, 1980 U.S. hockey team goalie Jim Craig was confident.

"Yeah," he said at the Gold Rush team bench where he assisted head coach Ken Morrow. "We're going to win."

It didn't work out that way. Mike Ramsey's Red Light District remained undefeated and pulled off a 6-1 win to earn a gold medal. Gold Rush got the silver, and Neal "Brotten's Bastards" took home the bronze with a 3-2 win over John Harrington's Coneheads.

Asked what words of wisdom he passed on to his players before the game, Ramsey said, "I just told them to have fun and feel good about themselves after the game."

For four days straight, campers hugged, fist bumped and smiled at the third annual Miracle on Ice Fantasy Camp. With '80s music bouncing around the Olympic Center's red seats, white ice and blue walls, they even found time to play a little hockey.

Actually, they played a lot of hockey.

"We have 31 returning players,



1980 U.S. hockey team players Jim Craig, left, and Rob McClanahan chat at the Gold Rush bench before the gold-medal game Wednesday afternoon during the Miracle on Ice Fantasy Camp at the Olympic Center in Lake Placid. In all, 14 of the 19 members of the 1980 U.S. Olympic hockey team and 55 campers participated in the event, which began on Sunday and wrapped today.

19 third year and 12 second year, and 24 first-year players," said Jeff Potter, director of corporate development and events for the state Olympic Regional Development Authority.

Potter, who returned for his third year as the fantasy camp director, was standing next to the home team's bench after practice Monday, March 27 as he described the blend of veterans and rookies.

"It's nice to see the old faces

back, and they're having a good time," Potter said. "They're doing a great job of blending the new campers in and indoctrinating them into camp lifestyle."

From Sunday, March 26 to Thursday, March 30, 55 hockey players from around the world made a pilgrimage to the 1980 Rink in the Herb Brooks Arena, where 19 members of the U.S. hockey team pulled off the sports upset of the 20th century by beating the favored Soviet Union

squad 4-3 during the 1980 Olympic Winter Games. America had won what became known as the "Miracle on Ice" hockey game on its way to earning a gold medal that year against Finland in the finals.

In 2016, Sports Illustrated placed the Miracle on Ice game at the top of the 100 Greatest Moments in Sports History, a list of moments they called "the most

(Continued on Page A7)

## ICE questions longtime resident

By **PETER CROWLEY**  
Managing Editor

SARANAC LAKE — U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers took a longtime local resident away from home in shackles Wednesday morning.

After that, the two sides of the story diverge.

Adem Bukva, a native of Bosnia, said the officers drove him to Champlain, 80 miles away, where they questioned him and realized his immigration papers were in order after all. He said they gave him back his permanent resident card, aka Green Card, which is up to date, and told him to call his girlfriend to pick him up. He said there is no change to his immigration status as a result of the incident, and he added that some of the officers apologized to him afterward.

"They said, 'I'm sorry. We were just doing our job. Sorry to upset your daughter,'" Bukva said.

"I feel bad those ICE guys had to be there because it was a waste of their time and, quite frankly, a waste of our taxpayer money," said his girlfriend Lillian Cavallo.

ICE, however, says the man they picked up in Saranac Lake Wednesday morning may be deported.

"I can tell you it wasn't a mistake," said ICE spokesman Khaalid Walls, based in Detroit. "He was placed in removal proceedings. He will have a hearing before an immigration judge in the near term."

The Enterprise has independently verified that Bukva was the arrestee, but Walls would not confirm his name or describe the alleged violation, citing privacy rights.

"Immigration records are not matter of public record," Walls wrote. "For individuals who are facing administrative immigration violations only, we are only at liberty to release limited information. ... For individuals who are facing criminal charges, there's more information available."

The Privacy Act of 1974 is one law that prevents the federal government from openly discussing an individual's status without that person's written permission. It has 12 exceptions, including law enforcement — for criminal matters, for example — but not immigration.

Walls did add, "The male subject has prior convictions for acting in a manner injurious to a child less than 17 years-old, assault 3rd degree with intent to cause physical injury, and has had two orders of protection issued against him." While Walls made a point of mentioning those misdemeanors in relation to this arrest, he did not specify how they related to the violation.

"Our operations are targeted and lead driven, prioritizing individuals who pose a risk to our communities,"

(Continued on Page A7)

### Federal budget's local impact

## What will happen to HEAP in Essex, Franklin counties?

By **ANTONIO OLIVERO**  
Staff Writer

LAKE PLACID — On page 27 of his America First Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again, Donald Trump and his executive office cover the Department of Health and Human Services. Trump's office writes that its 2018 budget proposal supports the core mission of HHS through "the most efficient and effective health and human service programs," while also eliminating programs that are "duplicative or have limited impact on public health and well being."

In all, Trump's 2018 budget outlines \$69 billion for HHS, a \$15.1 billion or 17.9 percent decrease from 2017. And one of the programs on the chopping block helps thousands of

locals in Essex and Franklin counties get through costly and frigid Adirondack winters: the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

Trump's budget proposes to eliminate discretionary programs within the Office of Community Services, which includes LIHEAP and the Community Services Block Grant. It'd provide a savings of \$4.2 billion compared to 2017, Trump's executive office writes.

"Compared to other income support programs that serve similar populations, LIHEAP is a lower-impact program and is unable to demonstrate strong performance outcomes," reads page 22 of the "America First" pro-

(Continued on Page A7)

## Packed gym for job fair



State Troopers Jennifer Fleishman, center, and James D'Ambro welcome curious job seekers to a New York State Police recruiting table at the Enterprise-sponsored Job Fair Wednesday in the North Country Community College gym. (Enterprise photo — Catherine Moore)



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**WEATHER** For more, see Page A3

37  
14



**Today:** Mostly sunny  
**Tonight:** Chance of light snow  
**Friday:** Snow/rain, 37

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# Fantasy camp finale

(Continued from Page A1)

pivotal, influential and memorable of all time.” That honor came 17 years after the magazine named the Miracle on Ice the Top Sports Moment of the 20th Century.

Two years after most of the team returned to Lake Placid for the 35th anniversary reunion, 14 of the Olympians participated in this year’s fantasy camp to see old friends, make new ones and create a lifetime of memories for dozens of fans.

For the most part, the fantasy camp is treated like a real professional hockey season, only boiled down to three days of intensity.

Members of the 1980 U.S. hockey team conducted their draft Monday, March 27, at the Lake Placid Conference Center, selecting 55 players to fill four teams: Red, White, Blue and Gold. Campers skated on the ice Monday morning so the Olympians could evaluate their skills and make their picks.

“The first round will be the campers, and the second round will be the 1980 players,” ORDA Communications Director Jon Lundin explained before the draft. “So not only will these campers play against one another, but a number of the 1980 players will also be on the ice.”

The campers ranged in age from 21 to 69. Most live in the United States, but two women traveled from outside

the country: Manca Rakovec, 21, of Ljubljana-Sentvid, Slovenia; and Tamsin Wentzel, 48, of Port Elizabeth, EC, South Africa.

With eight players, the state best represented was Florida, and many of them were friends of Glenn Notice, 53, of Parkland, Florida.

“Glenn Notice was a third-year camper, and he just started spreading the word, talking to his buddies and convinced them to come up,” Potter said. “We’re offering an opportunity and an experience that’s second to none, and word spreads and they’re having such a good time, they want to bring their friends.”

Another three-year veteran from Florida, 47-year-old Robert Corsarie of Naples, sat patiently at his table with five other campers Monday afternoon in the Conference Center waiting for his named to be called. Asked whose team he was hoping to be on this year, he said, “I’m just looking to make the team.”

Of course, as a paying camper, there was no doubt Corsarie would be called up to one of the teams. Everyone was named to a team.

“You never know,” Corsarie said. “You didn’t see me practice. It’s a tough crowd out here.”

Corsarie, a goalie, was picked eighth overall in the draft and second for Mike Ramsey’s Red team. Notice, a forward, was the 13th and final person picked for the Red team.



Official Butch Martin of Lake Placid drops a puck during the gold-medal game between the Gold Rush and the Red Light District Wednesday afternoon during the Miracle on Ice Fantasy Camp at the Olympic Center in Lake Placid. In all, 14 of the 19 members of the 1980 U.S. Olympic hockey team and 55 campers participated in the event, which began on Sunday and wrapped today.

(Enterprise photo — Andy Flynn)

After the teams were filled, the players renamed them. Ramsey’s team became the Red Light District. Neal Broten’s Blue team became Broten’s Bastards. John Harrington’s White team became the Coneheads. And Ken Morrow’s Gold team became the Gold Rush.

The 14 Olympians from the 19-member U.S. team who participated in the fantasy camp this year were: Neal Broten, Blue team coach; Dave Christian, Red team

player; Jim Craig, Gold team assistant coach; John Harrington, White team coach; Steve Janaszak, Blue team player; Mark Johnson, Red team player; Ken Morrow, Gold team coach; Rob McClanahan, Gold team player; Mike Eruzione, Blue team assistant coach; Mark Pavelich, White team player; Mike Ramsey, Red team coach; Buzz Schneider, White team player; Eric Strobel, assistant commissioner; and Mark Wells, commissioner. In addition, the 1980

team’s assistant coach Craig Patrick was participating as the general manager, and the team’s athletic trainer Gary Smith helped for his first year.

Teams played three games each, Tuesday and Wednesday morning, before moving on to either the bronze-medal game or the gold-medal game Wednesday afternoon. The Coneheads (1-2) played Broten’s Bastards (0-3) in the bronze-medal game, and the Gold Rush (2-1) played the Red Light District (3-0) in the

gold-medal game.

This was Jim Craig’s first time reuniting with his 1980 teammates at the Miracle on Ice Fantasy Camp, and he hopes to come back next year. Personally, he sees these events as a way to reconnect with “the guys.” For visitors, it’s a way to make memories.

“What Lake Placid does in a lot of different areas, whether you’re a triathlete or trying to become an Olympian, it just gives people a chance to fulfill a dream,” Craig said.

# ICE questions longtime resident

(Continued from Page A1)

Walls added.

Bukva said one of the misdemeanors dates to 2005 and the other was from 2014. He said U.S. immigration officials are well aware of them, and his probation is over.

“I was actually in the immigration office in late February,” he said. He said he is seeking to be naturalized as a U.S. citizen and was told that he would have to start his application over due to the misdemeanors. Otherwise, he said, everything seemed to be in order.

Bukva was born in Bosnia and immigrated to the U.S. in 2001, coming to the Saranac Lake-Lake Placid area, which has a substantial

community of Bosnia and Montenegrin immigrants. An electrician by trade, he said he has worked for North Country Electrical Services for 14 years and is now going into business for himself. Divorced with custody of his two daughters, he said that when the ICE officers showed up at his home, he was just leaving for Boston to see the older girl’s college art show. His younger daughter and Cavallo, who live with him and were going to Boston with him, witnessed the scene. They spoke on speaker phone while driving to Boston Wednesday evening.

“Obviously seeing your parent taken into custody in shackles like he’s public enemy number 1 is ridiculous ... humiliating and

embarrassing and, quite frankly, very scary,” said girlfriend Lillian Cavallo.

“As far as the arrest,” Walls wrote, “this arrest and all enforcement activities are conducted with the same level of professionalism and respect that ICE officers exhibit every day during the course of their work.”

Ere Cecunjanin, a Bosnian native who owns La Bella Ristorante with his family, was unaware ICE had taken Bukva. He said he knows Bukva well as a friend and a fellow emigre from the Bosnian war.

“I know 100 percent he is here legally in this country,” Cecunjanin said.

Cavallo said Bukva has “been nothing but an upstanding citizen.” While she didn’t blame the officers, she said ICE is scaring people all over the country with demonstrations of force for checkups that could be handled with phone

calls or better record-keeping.

“They have very old records, but that didn’t stop them from sending out a squad,” she said. “This is going on around the country. This isn’t just Saranac Lake. ... We were just victims of that misunderstanding.”

One of President Donald Trump’s first orders upon taking office in January was to expand ICE agents’ power to arrest and deport undocumented immigrants, moving well beyond President Barack Obama’s focus on serious criminals such as gang members. Bukva, however, says he’s in the U.S. legally as a permanent resident, so it’s unclear whether Trump’s new guidelines have anything to do with his case.

Meanwhile, Bukva said the incident left him feeling confused and embarrassed.

“I don’t know what my crime is,” he said.

# HEAP

(Continued from Page A1)

posal. “CSBG funds services that are duplicative of other Federal programs, such as emergency food assistance and employment services, and is also a limited-impact program.”

If LIHEAP were slashed, a substantial number of people here in Essex and Franklin counties would lose out on hundreds of dollars they receive each year to help pay for heat during the winter.

Speaking Tuesday, Stephanie Snow, head social services worker for Essex County, said 1,131 households were classified as HEAP-only cases last month, while there were a further 1,980 cases of households on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

Snow said that many of the households who receive benefits through SNAP also qualify for HEAP, though she was unsure of the exact number.

“I’m not sure how many of them are also HEAP,” she said. “But it’s a large amount.”

Those numbers for the county were slightly down from this time last year, when 1,209 households were classified as HEAP-only cases and 1,997 households received SNAP benefits.

There were 15,268 households in Essex County, according to the most recent United States Census.

In Franklin County, Director of Financial Assistance Jannelle Reome said to date

this season the county has allocated just under \$1.6 million in HEAP benefits to 2,097 active HEAP households and 4,122 active SNAP households. Reome said there was a slight increase in the number of households that applied for assistance this year in comparison to last season, when there were 1,671 active HEAP households and 3,894 SNAP households. Reome said the increase could be due to the increase in the SNAP and HEAP income guidelines.

There were 19,148 households in Franklin County as of the most recent U.S. Census.

Qualifying for the HEAP benefit is based on gross monthly income. The maximum monthly income for a

one-person household is \$2,300, \$3,007 for a two-person household, \$3,715 for a three-person household, \$4,423 for a four-person household and \$5,130 for a five-person household.

HEAP income level maximums are outlined for up to an 11-person household (\$6,671), \$520 for each additional person beyond 11.

Households receive HEAP funding through their heat provider.

In Lake Placid, those who receive HEAP this year to offset costs of heat through the village’s municipal electric agreement will receive a base benefit of \$350 for the season for a one-person household. Households in other county locales who

receive heat through oil or lumber companies receive more financial assistance from the state.

In Essex County, Snow said the number of households that receive HEAP each year varies slightly depending on how cold each winter is. She added, though, that she’s noticed more households headed by working family members have applied for HEAP assistance in recent years.

“It’s pretty much stayed consistent, the numbers for our county,” she said. “For those households that close accounts, there are more that open. And a lot more working households. They have income, but they can’t seem to make ends meet and they

need help with the heating. This winter has been kind of mild, but in the past when we’ve had really cold winters, we saw increases. Two years ago we were really, really busy.”

In an email Wednesday afternoon, Tom Flanagan, the spokesman for the North Country’s representative in U.S. Congress, Rep. Elise Stefanik (R-Willsboro), said Stefanik is against cutting the heating program.

“(She) is a strong supporter of the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program and does not support the President’s proposed cuts,” Flanagan wrote. “While Congresswoman Stefanik believes there are savings to be found in every federal

agency, she does not support the President’s initial budget proposal, especially the proposed cuts to the State Department, the Department of Education, and the EPA. Furthermore, the President’s budget would cut many important individual programs to our district that Congresswoman Stefanik supports.

Flanagan continued to stress that Trump’s budget proposal is the first step in budget approval process, and that it is Congress that will ultimately write the final federal spending plan.

“During the budgeting process, Congresswoman Stefanik will work hard to ensure the needs and priorities of our district are met,” Flanagan wrote.

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**Youth soccer tryouts & free soccer coaches clinic**

**April 2<sup>nd</sup> at NCCC • Clinic 2pm • Tryouts 3:30pm  
Boys & Girls Ages 9 and up**

Sunday, April 2, the Adirondack Freeze F.C. is hosting tryouts for interested athletes.

Adirondack Freeze F.C., a 5 year old local youth soccer club, will have a coaches clinic directed towards the local parent volunteer coach who works in the town recreation soccer programs each summer and fall.

“We will have a hand out for these dedicated parent/volunteer people that will provide drills and coaching materials to help improve their efforts with their own kids and teams,” said Twig McGlynn, one of the co-founders of the FC Freeze in Canton in 2007.

Young athletes ages 9 and up will have a free skills clinic starting at 2:00pm at the NCCC gymnasium led by Stuart Hemsley and Chris Mariano. At 3:30pm, the tryouts will commence.

“We want to showcase our 5 year old program that provides solid instruction for beginner players through kids desiring to play in college. We train indoors November through the end of April and these practice sessions provide great exercise, motor skills, balance and general athletic work out for the kids enjoyment in the lifetime sport of soccer.

“If kids progress and want the next level, we compete in the Crete Indoor Soccer League in Plattsburgh all winter.”

**What coaches and parents are saying:**

*“To me, Adk Freeze means that my girls can play soccer year round. When soccer is such a family passion, indoor soccer was such an exciting discovery for us.” – Jen Clark*

*“I encourage anyone to have their future stars join us and make the club what it can be, and you be proud of time invested in practice and game with the development of the individual to improve the team.” – Coach Stuart*

*“Between Saranac Lake and Lake Placid, we have a good size pool of committed and skilled players, that I believe will form an excellent team ready to compete at a much higher level than in the past.” – Coach Chris M.*

*“With Adk Freeze, you can stay in good shape by doing it as your only sport. But if you’re busy with other sports at school and still want to keep up your foot skills so you won’t be too rusty when the ‘real’ soccer season starts in August, you can choose what we are doing here at Adk Freeze.” – Erika*

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# Adirondack Daily Enterprise75¢

## What spring? More snow today for N.Y.

ALBANY (AP) — Several inches of snow have fallen on parts of eastern New York where forecasters say up to a foot of wet, heavy snow could blanket some areas.

The National Weather Service says 1 to 3 inches of snow has fallen this morning in an area stretching from the Catskills through the Mohawk Valley to the Albany area and the Berkshires.

Meteorologists say some valley areas could get up to 6 inches of snow, while higher elevations in the southern Adirondacks and near the Vermont and Massachusetts borders could get as much as 12 inches. The snow will turn to rain and possibly sleet later today in some areas.

A March 14 storm dumped up to 3 feet of snow on parts of upstate New York.

### Federal budget’s local impact

## Cuts put grants at risk

President is proposing 20% cut to NIH, where Trudeau gets research funding

By **ANTONIO OLIVERO**  
Staff Writer

SARANAC LAKE — Just nine months into his tenure as the new president and director of Trudeau Institute, Atsuo Kuki said there’s progress in the first phase of transforming into what he calls “Trudeau 3.0.” But if President Donald Trump’s budget blueprint comes to fruition, Kuki said there would be a “dramatic impact” on Trudeau’s strategic plan for the future.

“It would have a major impact on our growth plan,” he said.

On page 22 of the president’s “America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again,” Trump’s executive office proposes to reduce the National Institutes of Health’s spending by \$5.8 billion, compared to 2017. In 2018, the NIH would get \$25.9 billion, a decrease of nearly 20 percent.

The stated purpose is “to help focus resources on the highest priority research and training activities,” the budget blueprint reads.

Details are scant on how the proposed NIH reduction would affect individual institutes such as Trudeau.

Speaking Thursday, Kuki said he is confident Trump’s proposal will not come to pass as congressional representatives work with the president on the final budget.

“I’m looking to see true bipartisan support for one of the strengths in the U.S.,” Kuki said, “which is our biomedical (research and development), and that needs to be very, very firm and very, very strong. It’s the wrong place to cut.”

North Country Congresswoman Elise Stefanik, R-

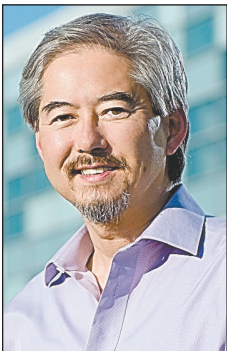


Trudeau Institute in Saranac Lake

(Photo provided)

**‘I do believe the support for biomedical research is absolutely bipartisan, and not just biomedical research, but as a job creator — you have entrepreneurial activities that stem from our discoveries.’**

Trudeau Institute President Atsuo Kuki



### “Trudeau 3.0”

Under Kuki’s leadership, the institute’s strategic plan is to become a hub for applied research of infectious diseases rather than what previously was the basic research into how diseases work and how a body fights them. Federal funding for basic research has waned, and Trudeau’s recent years have been tumultuous, especially after a failed attempt to relocate it in 2010.

Kuki said that through his first nine months the institute has been fortunate to receive good news, such as the early success of its selective hiring and a more diversified and larger-scale business model. The institute’s renewed focus includes, for example, applied research of different kinds of mosquito-borne viruses that can travel very quickly, resulting in pandemics. Military medicine is part of the plan as well, and this renewed focus also includes finding new ways to work on tuberculosis — the

(Continued on Page A7)

## Tupper budget sees minor increase

By **BEN GOCKER**  
Staff Writer

TUPPER LAKE — The village of Tupper Lake will see a minor increase in spending and an even smaller increase in the tax levy for the fiscal year 2017-18.

A draft budget proposal was released on Wednesday night at the regular village Board of Trustees meeting.

In the proposed budget, there will be a 1.9 percent spending increase over the previous year’s budget and a small increase in the tax levy of .052 percent.

The village is just under the Property Tax Cap Limit set by Albany. The tax cap is meant to limit local government’s overall growth in the property tax levy to 2 percent or the rate of inflation, whichever is less. For Tupper Lake, this year the cap was actually set at 1.46 percent, Mayor Paul Maroun said.

The dollar amount for the tax cap limit for Tupper Lake is \$1,928,974. The village is \$35,348 below that limit.

A scanned version of the budget proposal will appear at a later date on the village’s website, village Clerk Casagrain said.

Maroun said no services would be cut and that the budget does not represent a major deviation from the previous year.

The tax rate will see an increase of .035 percent, or one-third of 1 percent.

“I think if you look at everything — health insurance, retirement, negotiated pay raises (for village employees),” Maroun said, “I think the trustees and the department heads have done a really great job.”

A public hearing is set for April 12 at the village offices at 53 Park St. Barring an unforeseen outcry from villagers, Maroun said a vote will likely take place the last week of April.

## Tupper house to be demolished

By **BEN GOCKER**  
Staff Writer

TUPPER LAKE — A public hearing was held Wednesday night before the village Board of Trustees concerning proceedings to demolish a long-abandoned house.

The house, at 10 Front St., is co-owned by Natalie Clark of Tupper Lake and Mark Keating of Schenectady. Clark, who was a friend of Keating’s mother, agreed to co-ownership of the property after Keating’s mother died.

“The house has been vacant for at least 17 years, or maybe 20,” village Code Enforcement Officer Peter Edwards said.

Neighbors recently lodged complaints with the village regarding the property. In one instance, roof shingles, brittle from age, were reportedly blowing off the roof and landing on nearby cars.

“The foundation is undermin-

ing. There’s severe mold infestation. It’s completely condemned,” Edwards said.

Clark hired a local contractor to perform a survey of the property, and the contractor concurred with the village that the house needs to be demolished.

Even though the property is abandoned, Clark has kept up to date on taxes as well as water and sewer payments.

Clark was served with an unsafe and dangerous building notice on March 22. From that date, she has 30 days to tell the village her plans for removal, and then an additional 60 days to complete the removal.

If she does not remove the building after those 90 days, the village will bid out the job, remove the building and add the cost to Clark’s property taxes.

“If she doesn’t pay it,” village Clerk Mary Casagrain said, “it gets re-levied to the county, lienied against her property, and

the county guarantees (payment to the village).”

Asked whether she thinks the house will be removed before the 90-day window is up, Casagrain said, “We’re very optimistic.”

Edwards said the cost of tearing the building down could run anywhere between \$10,000 and \$25,000.

Clark has been cooperating with village officials so far in dealing with the removal of the building. She could not be reached to comment for this story.

No members of the public attended the hearing.

The village hasn’t handled the demolition of a single-family home in more than 15 years, Casagrain said. More often the village has to demolish commercial structures that have fallen into disrepair. The last two single-family properties removed by the village were at 14 Hill St. and 6 Second St. The latter is still a vacant lot.



Village of Tupper Lake officials have declared that this house at 10 Front St., co-owned by Natalie Frank of Tupper Lake and Mark Keating of Schenectady, is unsafe and must come down.

(Enterprise photo — Ben Gocker)



**WEATHER** For more, see Page A3

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**Today:** 2-4” snow  
**Tonight:** 2-4” snow  
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# Trump faces questions of interference in investigations

**By JULIE PACE and EILEEN SULLIVAN**  
**Associated Press**  
WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump is facing new questions about political interference in the investigations into Russian election meddling following reports that White House officials secretly funneled material to the chairman of the House intelligence committee.

Trying to fend off the growing criticism, Trump's top lawyer invited lawmakers from both parties to view classified information at the White House. Thursday's invitation came as The New York Times reported that two White House officials — including an aide whose job was recently saved by President Donald Trump — secretly helped House intelligence committee chairman Rep. Devin Nunes examine intelligence information there last week.

Nunes is leading one of three investigations into Russia's attempt to influence the campaign and Trump associates' possible involvement. The Senate intelligence committee, which has thus far taken a strikingly more measured and bipartisan approach to its own Russia probe, tried to keep its distance from the White House and asked that the documents uncovered by Trump aides be given to lawmakers via the appropriate agencies.

The cloud of investigation has hung over Trump's White House since the day he took office. On Thursday, an attorney for Michael Flynn, Trump's ex-national security adviser, said Flynn is in discus-

sions with the congressional committees about speaking to them in exchange for immunity. The talks are preliminary, and no official offers have been made.

"General Flynn certainly has a story to tell, and he very much wants to tell it, should the circumstances permit," Flynn's attorney, Robert Kelner, said in a statement.

Other Trump associates have volunteered to speak with investigators, but have not publicly raised the issue of immunity.

Flynn, a member of the Trump campaign and transition, was fired as national security adviser after it was publicly disclosed that he misled the vice president about a conversation he had with the Russian ambassador to the U.S. Flynn's ties to Russia have been scrutinized by the FBI and are under investigation by the House and Senate intelligence panels.

The House committee's work has been deeply, and perhaps irreparably, undermined by Nunes' apparent coordination with the White House. He told reporters last week that he had seen troubling information about the improper distribution of Trump associates' intercepted communications, and he briefed the president on the material, all before informing Rep. Adam Schiff, the committee's top Democrat.

Speaking on Capitol Hill Thursday, Schiff said he was "more than willing" to accept the White House offer to view new information. But he raised concerns that Trump officials may have used Nunes to "launder information to our committee to avoid the true source."



Donald Trump

"The White House has a lot of questions to answer," he declared.

Instead, the White House continued to sidestep queries about its role in showing Nunes classified information that appears to have included transcripts of foreign officials discussing Trump's transition to the presidency, according to current and former U.S. officials. Intelligence agencies routinely monitor the communications of foreign officials living in the U.S., though the identities of Americans swept up in that collection is supposed to be protected.

In Washington early last week, White House officials privately encouraged reporters to look into whether information about Trump associates had been improperly revealed in the intelligence gathering process. Days later, Nunes announced that he had evidence, via an unnamed source, showing that Trump and his aides' commu-

nications had been collected through legal means but then "widely disseminated" throughout government agencies. He said the collections were not related to the Russia investigation.

Trump spokesman Sean Spicer said Thursday the material the White House wants the House and Senate intelligence leaders to view was discovered by the National Security Council through the course of regular business. He would not say whether it was the same material Nunes had already seen.

A congressional aide said Schiff did not receive the White House letter until after Spicer announced it from the White House briefing room.

Spicer had previously dismissed the notion that the White House had fed information to Nunes, saying the idea that the congressman would come and brief Trump on material the president's team already had "doesn't pass the smell test." The White House quickly embraced Nunes' revelations, saying they vindicated Trump's explosive and unverified claim that President Barack Obama wiretapped his New York skyscraper.

Nunes has said the information he received did not support that allegation, which has also been disputed by Obama and top intelligence officials.

The Times reported that Ezra Cohen-Watnick, the senior director for intelligence at the White House National Security Council, and Michael Ellis, a White House lawyer who previously worked on

the House intelligence committee, played roles in helping Nunes view the materials.

Cohen-Watnick is among about a dozen White House officials who would have access to the types of classified information Nunes says he viewed, according to current and former U.S. officials. He's become a controversial figure in intelligence circles, but Trump decided to keep him on over the objections of the CIA and National Security Adviser H.R. McMaster, according to the officials. They spoke only on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to comment publicly by name.

Cohen-Watnick and Nunes both served on the Trump transition team.

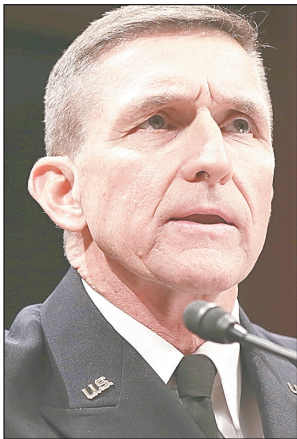
Stephen Slick, a former CIA and NSC official, said it would be "highly unusual and likely unprecedented" for a member of Congress to travel to the White House to view intelligence reports "without prior authorization."

Nunes has repeatedly side-stepped questions about who provided him the intelligence reports, though he pointedly has not denied that his sources were in the White House. House Speaker Paul Ryan, in an interview with "CBS This Morning" that aired Thursday, said Nunes told him a "whistle-blower-type person" provided the information.

A spokesman for Ryan later said the speaker was not aware of Nunes' source and continues to have "full confidence" in the congressman's ability to run the Russia investigation.

# Michael Flynn in talks with Congress, wary of prosecution

**By CHAD DAY, EILEEN SULLIVAN and JULIE PACE**  
**Associated Press**  
WASHINGTON — Former National Security Adviser Michael Flynn is in discussions with the House and Senate intelligence committees on receiving immunity from "unfair prosecution" in exchange for agreeing to be questioned as part of ongoing probes into possible contacts between Donald Trump's presidential campaign and Russia, his attorney says.



Michael Flynn

"General Flynn certainly has a story to tell, and he very much wants to tell it, should the circumstances permit," attorney Robert Kelner said Thursday.

Kelner said no "reasonable person" with legal counsel would answer questions without assurances that he would not be prosecuted, given calls from some members of Congress that the retired lieutenant general should face criminal

charges.

Flynn's ties to Russia have been scrutinized by the FBI and are under investigation by the House and Senate intelligence committees. Both committees are looking into Russia's meddling in the 2016 presidential election and any ties between Trump associates and the Kremlin.

Since July, the FBI has been conducting a counter-

**'No reasonable person, who has the benefit of advice from counsel, would submit to questioning in such a highly politicized, witch hunt environment without assurances against unfair prosecution.'**

Attorney Robert Kelner

intelligence investigation into Russia's interference in the election and possible coordination with Trump associates.

Trump weighed in Friday, tweeting that Flynn "should ask for immunity in that this is a witch hunt (excuse for big election loss), by media & Dems, of historic proportion!"

Kelner released a state-

ment after The Wall Street Journal first reported that Flynn's negotiations with the committee included discussions of immunity. The lawyer described the talks as ongoing and said he would not comment on the details.

A congressional aide confirmed that discussions with the Senate intelligence committee involved immunity.

The aide was not authorized to discuss private conversations and spoke on condition of anonymity.

House intelligence committee spokesman Jack Langer said Flynn has not offered to testify to the panel in exchange for immunity.

Four other Trump associates have come forward in recent weeks, saying they would talk to the committees. As of Wednesday, the Senate intelligence committee had asked to interview 20 people as part of the probe.

In his statement, Kelner said the political climate in which Flynn is facing "claims of treason and vicious innuendo" is factoring into his negotiations with the committees.

"No reasonable person, who has the benefit of advice from counsel, would submit to questioning in such a highly politicized, witch hunt environment without assurances against unfair prosecution," Kelner said.

In September, Flynn weighed in on the implications of immunity on NBC's

"Meet the Press," criticizing Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton and her associates in the FBI's investigation into her use of a private email server.

"When you are given immunity, that means that you have probably committed a crime," Flynn said during the interview.

Flynn was fired from his job as Trump's first national security adviser after it was disclosed that he misled Vice President Mike Pence about a conversation he had with the Russian ambassador to the U.S. during the transition.

In the weeks after he resigned, Flynn and his business registered with the Justice Department as foreign agents for \$530,000 worth of lobbying work that could have benefited the Turkish government.

The lobbying occurred while Flynn was a top Trump campaign adviser. The Turkish businessman who hired Flynn, Ekim Alptekin, has told the AP that Flynn's firm registered under pressure from the Justice Department.

## Cuts put Trudeau grants at risk

**(Continued from Page A1)**

institute's original mission in Saranac Lake, a pioneering TB curing destination.

"Our core capability is tremendous," Kuki said. "What we needed was to build new programs that would be well targeted to these new funding sources."

"And these funding sources are really about high-priority public health emerging diseases," he continued, "which are fundamentally about having New York state be responsive to these emerging health crises. It's a very different business model."

Kuki said most of Trudeau's funding still comes from the state and added that Empire State Development, the state's economic development agency, has been "incredibly pivotal" recently. He stressed, however, that the institute's planned "phases of transformation" won't be possible without other funding sources, especially philanthropy.

Between 2010 and 2016, Trudeau lost nearly all its well-funded faculty in the wake of failed attempt to relocate the institute and a shift in the federal research funding climate toward applied research, developing drugs to treat diseases. The institute had 130 employees about seven years

ago; today its workforce totals 48.

In 2007, the institute's researchers were awarded \$11.4 million in National Institute of Health grant funds for 34 projects. In 2016, the institute had just one active NIH grant, totaling \$243,000. And since 2013, Trudeau's operations have been propped up by millions of dollars from state taxpayers, handed out by Gov. Andrew Cuomo as part of a partnership with Clarkson University that's still in its early stages.

"Everything is in flux," Kuki said Thursday. "We have nice NIH support. The dominant funding right now comes from New York state in order for us to make this transformation."

Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced the Trudeau-Clarkson partnership in November 2013, billing it as a "world-class" biotechnology research and development collaboration. The state committed \$35 million to it over five years, \$25 million of which was to stabilize Trudeau's operations.

The institute's 2015 financial report shows state funding accounted for more than 70 percent of its revenue. It received \$7.7 million last year from Empire State Development and had overall revenue of \$10.6 million. The rest

came largely from government and private research grants.

Kuki said Trump's proposal has prompted "a major coming together" of professional science organizations. He named

the American Association for the Advancement of Science as one of the most vocal entities.

"And this voice is very important," he said.

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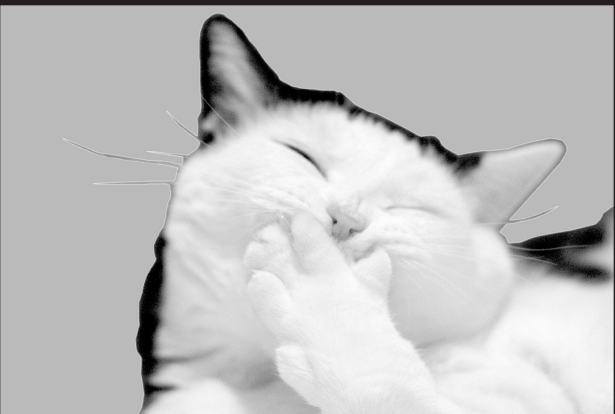
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