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TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2024 | poststar.com | 2009 Pulitzer Prize winner

LOCAL WWII VET HONORED



Veteran Robert Lee received recognition from Sen. Dan Stec.

NATASHA HOLDRIDGE, NHOLDRIDGE@POSTSTAR.COM

Day includes staff celebration and radio show reenactment

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QUEENSBURY - Warren Center celebrated National Skilled Nursing Care Week Friday with a unique party, and recognized a local World War II veteran.

The National Skilled Nursing Care Week theme this year is "Radiant Memories - A Tribute to the Golden Age of Radio."

The theme inspired the Warren Center in Queensbury to hold a unique celebration which included an alien spaceship crash (which was faux-investigated by the Warren County Sheriff's Office), and recognized Robert Lee, a Glens Falls veteran who served in the U.S. Coast Guard during World War II.

"It's national Nursing Home Week,

and we found a gem. He's a World War II veteran, which is very hard to find at this time," said Holly Desnoyers, Recreation Director at Warren Center.

Warren Center played the classic recorded version of the War of the World radio story from 1938 on a 1940 Zenith radio earlier this week, and played a variety of different games and activities relating to the radio tale.

The Warren Center then used aliens and the military from War of the Worlds as the theme of Friday's event.

Sen. Dan Stec, a Republican from Queensbury, recognized Lee at Warren Center Friday.

A Navy Veteran and a member of the

Please see **VETERAN**, Page A3

Stefanik criticizes Biden's arms holdup

TEL AVIV, Israel (AP) - Elise Stefanik, a House Republican leader seen as a candidate to be Donald Trump's running mate, delivered a speech before Israel's parliament on Sunday in which she criticized President Joe Biden's approach to the war in Gaza.

Stefanik, the fourth highest-ranked Republican in the House of Representatives, is the latest of several U.S. politicians from both sides of the aisle to visit Israel since Hamas' Oct. 7 attack ignited the war in Gaza. But it's rare for such visitors to address Israel's parliament, Stefanik known as the Knesset.

Speaking at a session dedicated to combating antisemitism worldwide, Stefanik vowed to help with "crushing antisemitism at home and providing Israel what it needs when it needs it, without conditions."

She was referring to Biden's decision to hold up the delivery of some 3,500 bombs of up to 2,000 pounds each, and his refusal to provide offensive weapons for a long-promised Israeli invasion of the southern city of Rafah. The administration fears such an operation would plunge Gaza into an even more severe humanitarian catastrophe.

"There is no excuse for an American president to block aid to Israel that was duly passed by the Congress, and there was no excuse to ease sanctions on Iran," she said.

Please see **ARMS**, Page A3

Amtrak, CN Rail announce agreement to repair rails to Montreal

ALEX GAULT
 Johnson papers

The north country's only full-service passenger rail line has been temporarily suspended while Amtrak and Canadian National Rail work to repair the 30 miles of track directly north of the border crossing point.

It's a major investment that's been years in the making - the rails between Rouses Point in upstate New York and Montreal's Central Station have long been in a state of serious disrepair, forcing trains to travel at a maximum of 10 miles-per-hour along the route.

Extreme heat pushed Canadian National to suspend service on the rails in the summer of 2023, forcing Amtrak to stop running the Adirondack line north of Albany for months during the summer travel season. The hot weather heated the rails to the point they buckled, and what is an already-rough ride

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Rail

From A1

became nearly impossible to safety travel at any speed.

The Adirondack line was suspended for most of 2020 and all of 2021 and 2022 because of COVID-19 pandemic border restrictions that blocked all but essential travel over the border. The service was briefly restored in the spring of 2023 before it was suspended again.

From May 20 to June 30 of this year, the line will run from New York City to Saratoga Springs - where this year's Belmont Stakes race, a part of the Triple Crown horse racing tournament, will be held.

In a statement shared on Friday, Amtrak and Canadian National Rail officials said they were "pleased to have resolved the service issues," for the Adirondack line.

Under the terms of their agreement, Amtrak will pay CN rail a currently-undisclosed amount of money as a "settlement payment," to repair the tracks north of Rouses Point for Amtrak's benefit. The company statement says this work will "help mitigate, but not eliminate, heat slow order speed limits going forward."

The companies gave special thanks to the local stakeholders and the NY Congressional delegation for their work to resolve the ongoing track issues and summer travel stoppages.

The Adirondack Line runs through a number of Congressional districts in New York, but the areas experiencing service cuts are always in NY-21, represented by Congresswoman Elise M. Stefanik.

In a statement shared shortly after the announcement, Stefanik's said she was proud to announce the news. "This result will allow tourism to flourish through the summer months, strengthening economic development in the region and our partnership with our Canadian neighbors," she said.

Senate Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer, D-N.Y., also lauded the news in a statement Friday afternoon.

"From Plattsburgh to Poughkeepsie and into Penn Station, the Adirondack Line is the economic engine which connects some of the most beautiful parts of upstate New York, and resumption of this service will help pump vital tourism dollars into Main Streets across upstate New York," he said.

North country Assemblyman D. Billy Jones, D-Chateaugay Lake, said he was happy to see the development, which for years has damaged communities in his district with transit gaps.

"The closures in past years have been detrimental to our communities and I am pleased that they

are finally addressing this issue so that we can keep the train operating in the future," he said.

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MATASHA HOLDRIDGE, NHOLDRIDGE@POSTSTAR.COM
Members of the Warren County Sheriff's Office investigate an alien invasion at the Warren Center in Queensbury

Veteran

From A1

crew of the Newell received the Bronze Star for their work.

"Thank you for your service," Stec said.

In going along with the event's theme, Warren Center had several classic vintage cars on-site, and Lee selected a blue Chevy Belair that he and Stec took for a ride.

The "Radiant Mem-

ories" theme is a call to honor the enduring legacy of skilled nursing care centers. In these centers, residents and staff contribute to the creation of radiant memories, akin to the cherished moments shared through music and stories over the radio waves.

Radio broadcasts have played a pivotal role in American life, from presidential fireside chats and war updates to old-time radio dramas and Amer-

ican Top 40 hits. Families and friends gathered around the radio to hear the latest music and tune into their favorite shows.

Established by AHCA in 1967, the skilled nursing week, starts each year on Mother's Day and encourages skilled nursing care centers around the country to host a variety of events that shine a light on the individuals who reside, work, and volunteer at the various centers.

Arms

From A1

Stefanik, a representative from upstate New York and a strong supporter of Trump, is believed to be on the short list of his possible running mates.

In December, she grilled university presidents at a five-hour congressional hearing about antisemitism on campus. Two of the university presidents, from Harvard and the University of Pennsylvania, resigned soon after.



J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE-STAFF, ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE- Chair of the House Republican Conference Rep. Elise Stefanik, R-N.Y., talks to reporters about their plans to respond to student protests over the Israel-Hamas war, at the Capitol in Washington, Tuesday, April 30, 2024. Elise Stefanik, a House Republican leader seen as a candidate to be Donald Trump's running mate, delivered a speech before Israel's parliament on Sunday, May 19, 2024, in which she slammed President Joe Biden's approach to the war in Gaza.

"Total victory is not just physical self-defense, but ideological self-defense," Stefanik said during the session, referring to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's frequent claim against Hamas.

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