



# **BNNY** **Business**

A Watertown Daily Times/  
Malone Telegram production

Daily updates: [NNY360.com](http://NNY360.com) June 2026

# **20 UNDER 40**

## **NORTHERN NEW YORK'S EMERGING LEADERS**

**Kelsey Blackwell**  
**Shawnea Hull**  
**Nicole Hudson**  
**Isabelle Gates-Shult**  
**Marc Piché**  
**Yen Maine**  
**Lisa Marshall**

**Trenton Macaulay**  
**T. Joseph Murphy Jr.**  
**Jessica Olney**  
**Madison Draper-Perri**  
**Lauren Prentice**  
**Dr. Russell Reeves**  
**Melissa Shova**

**Emma Slate**  
**Dr. Morgan Stevens**  
**Brandon Sparacino**  
**Dr. Nathan Thompson**  
**Meade Piercey Lent**  
**Paige Yousey**

*Professional Connection Page 6*



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# Nicole Hudson, 36

*Practice Manager, Clayton Dental Offices, PLLC.*

**Hometown and where you live currently:** Clayton, and still here!

**Family:** Significant Other: Andrew Patch, **son:** Landon (12), son: Wyatt (8)

**Community involvement:** President- Clayton Youth Commission

**Education:** SUNY Canton- Registered Dental Hygienist, Southern New Hampshire University- Master's In Business Administration.

**What advice do you have for other young professionals in NNY?**

Don't underestimate the value of building strong relationships and be ready and willing to wear multiple hats. In a small community



**Nicole Hudson. Contributed.**

**what you do in your profession and personal life?**

Professionally I am inspired to create an environment where both patients and team members can feel cared for and valued. Dentistry is so much more than teeth. Valuing health as our main priority makes the job fulfilling and creates that environment for deep trust and comfortability that is unmatched in any other place I have been in.

Personally my biggest inspiration is my family. I want my boys to grow up watching what it means to be kind, dedicated and have a great work ethic. I want to show them that you don't have to

reputation matters, people will remember how you treat them. Be dependable, keep your word, and don't be afraid to step out of your comfort zone, that is where the magic happens!

**What inspires you to do**

**See HUDSON T19**

# 20 UNDER 40

**NORTHERN NEW YORK'S EMERGING LEADERS**

# Yen Maine, 35

*CEO and Co-owner, Adirondack Fragrance Farm Parishville NY and Nature's Storehouse (Cafe & Natural Food Store) Canton, NY*

**Hometown and where you live currently:** Originally from Taiwan currently residing in Parishville, NY.

**Family:** Married to my husband and business partner, Clark Maine. We have two children, Jamie age 5 and Mira age 1.

**Community involvement:** Participant in regional business leadership panels and a dedicated advocate for place-based entrepreneurship and supporting the local economy of the North Country.

**Education:** Master of Business Administration (MBA), National Taiwan University

**What advice do you have for other young professionals in NNY?** Find a mission that is rooted in the landscape. When your work honors the heritage and resources of the North Country, you create a sustainable cycle of growth that benefits both your professional journey and the entire community.

**What inspires you to do what you do in your profession and personal life?** I am inspired by the raw beauty of the Adirondack wilderness and the farm-to-product philosophy. In both my personal and professional life, I am driven to create a legacy of natural wellness that reflects the botanical spirit and integrity of our region.



**Yen Maine. Contributed.**

**Who is your mentor, and why?** My mother-in-law, Sandy Maine. She founded Adirondack Fragrance Farm in 1979 in her farmhouse kitchen. She has mentored me in the art of botanical craftsmanship and taught me how to lead with integrity, ensuring our brand journey remains authentic to its handcrafted Adirondack roots.

**What has led you to remain in the North Country to make your mark?** The North Country is a unique place where deep legacy meets future opportunity. Carrying forward a 48-year family brand while expanding our holistic wellness footprint in Canton allows me to bridge the region's history with a modern vision for sustainable local manufacturing and community health.

# Trenton Macaulay, 30

*Owner Macaulay Trucking*

**Hometown and where you live currently:** Brier Hill

**Family:** Fiancé -Kamrie Dandrow and two sons, Greyson Macaulay, 8 and Garhett Macaulay, 3

**Community involvement:** Memeber in Brier Hill fire department

**Education:** High school graduate with Regents diploma

**What advice do you have for other young professionals in NNY?**

Life is what you make it. You only get one go around. Take the chance work hard and put in your all.



**Trenton Macaulay. Contributed.**

**what you do in your profession and personal life?**

Providing for my family, And also providing for my employees and their fam-

ilies. And the trucks. I've loved trucks since I was able to walk and it's really turned

**See MACAULAY T19**



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*Enid Moore - Owner 226 James St., Clayton, NY*

# 20 UNDER 40

## NORTHERN NEW YORK'S EMERGING LEADERS

*Business Specialist for the Child Care Resource Center a Program of Community Action Planning Council Jefferson County*

### Hometown and where you live currently:

Born in Watertown, currently living in Philadelphia NY

### Family:

I have a son Colten who is 16, my daughter Khaleesi who is 12, and my youngest son Westlee who is 4, and my fiancé Kyle.

### Community involvement:

I try to stay actively involved in the community by attending outreach events and advocating for families' needs. In every space I'm in, I make sure people understand that we live in a child care desert and urgently need more high-quality child care programs to open and serve our community.

Education: Bachelors of Science in Human Services from Rasmussen University

### What advice do you have for other young professionals in NNY?

One of the most important things I have learned is to pursue work that genuinely fulfills you, work you would still show up for with passion, dedication, and purpose, even without recognition or reward. When you find a career that aligns with your values and strengths, it becomes meaningful work that inspires you to give your best each day. I have also learned the importance of recognizing the talents and strengths in others, and encouraging them to grow in those areas. There is something incredibly rewarding about creating space for others to succeed, supporting their development, and watching their confidence and abilities flourish. Strong professionals not only focus on their own

success, but also help elevate those around them.

Most importantly, remember that growth takes time. Finding yourself both personally and professionally is a journey, and it is important to give yourself grace along the way. Allow yourself to make mistakes, be curious and ask questions, advocate for your needs, and be brave. Allow yourself to step outside of your comfort zone to try new things. Often, the moments that challenge you are the ones that help you grow the most. When you are given the opportunity to shine, you may be surprised by just how much you are capable of accomplishing.

### What inspires you to do what you do in your professional and personal life?

What inspires me most, both professionally and personally, is the opportunity to make a positive difference in the lives of others and in the community around me. I strongly believe that being present, involved, and willing to help matters more than people sometimes realize. Even small actions can create meaningful change, and often it only takes one person to step forward, advocate for others, or offer support to help improve a situation. I may not be able to change every challenge I encounter, but I always hope that my efforts contribute in some way toward making things better for someone else.

My children are also one of my greatest sources of inspiration. They motivate me to lead with compassion, empathy, and purpose, and they remind me daily of the importance of creating strong, supportive communities for future generations. Because of them, I am driven to continue advocating for others, encouraging growth, and helping create

opportunities that allow individuals and families to thrive. They inspire me to be someone who not only talks about making a difference, but actively works toward it every day.

### Who is your mentor, and why?

Throughout my personal and professional journey, I have been fortunate to be influenced by individuals who have each taught me valuable lessons in leadership, compassion, resilience, communication, and community. I have had individuals that have taught me the importance of advocating for others, some who have taught me how to lead by taking a step back, and some who have encouraged and inspired my creativity. Every person brings a unique knowledge and insight that can broaden our understanding, challenge us to grow, and inspire us to become better versions of ourselves. By learning from a variety of mentors and role models, I have gained a more well-rounded perspective and a deeper appreciation for collaboration, lifelong learning, and the value of diverse experiences. The guidance and example of many individuals have helped shape not only my professional development, but also the way I approach relationships, teamwork, and supporting others. I am grateful for the influence of those who continue to inspire me through their actions, dedication, and willingness to share their knowledge and experiences.

One of the greatest influences in my career has been my previous Director, Cathy Brodeur. Through her leadership, I witnessed what it truly means to advocate passionately and consistently for accessible, affordable, high-quality child

# Shawnea A. Hull, 35



Shawnea Hull. Contributed.

care, as well as for the early childhood professionals and families throughout our community and state. Her passion and dedication left a lasting impact on me. Each day I strive to show a bit of the courage she demonstrated in speaking up for those who deserve to have their voices heard. Cathy was never afraid to take up space, and she always led with compassion, purpose, and authenticity. She taught me the importance of leading by example and encouraged me to recognize and value my own strengths. More importantly, she showed me how meaningful it is to share your passion with others and create space for people to grow and succeed. She consistently made space for me to shine, and her influence continues to shape the choices I make each day as I work to become a better leader and mentor for others.

My son Colten has taught me the importance of being unapologetically yourself, and through him, I've learned the value of authenticity, confidence, and embracing who you are without hesitation. My daughter Khaleesi has taught me what it feels like to have someone truly in your corner, and has shown me the importance of leading with love, support, and purpose. My youngest son Westlee has reminded me of the importance of slowing down and being intentional with the time and energy we give to others. I believe influence exists everywhere, and when we slow down and stay present, we open ourselves to meaningful lessons and truly learn from the people, experiences, and moments around us.

### What has led you to remain

See HULL T18

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# Jessica Olney, 28

## 20 UNDER 40 NORTHERN NEW YORK'S EMERGING LEADERS

**Position and employer:**  
NYS Licensed Real Estate Salesperson

**Hometown and where you live currently:**

I grew up in Evans Mills and I currently live in Watertown.

**Family:**

I am a mother of three children. I have two boys and a girl. I am also married to my high school sweetheart, and we've been together for thirteen years.

**Community involvement:**

I believe community involvement is an important part of both my professional and personal life. I actively participate in community service and outreach opportunities through my local real estate board. Contributing time and support to events and initiatives that positively impact our community. In addition, I volunteer at my children's schools whenever support is needed through PTA activities and school events. Being involved in both my industry and local schools allows

me to stay connected, give back, and support the families and communities I serve.

**Education:**

I attended Jefferson Community College and completed some college coursework. As a young mom, I ultimately decided not to continue pursuing a degree at that time while focusing on my family and finding the career path I was truly passionate about.

From a young age, I knew I wanted to work in real estate. I was always drawn to homes, design, and the real estate industry, often watching HGTV and envisioning a future in the field. Today, I am a Licensed NYS Real Estate Salesperson and hold my Military Relocation Professional (MRP) Certification, allowing me to better serve military members and their families throughout the home buying and selling process.

**What advice do you have for other young professionals in NNY?**



Jessica Olney. Contributed.

My advice to other young professionals in NNY is to stay consistent, work hard, and never let your age make you feel less capable. Northern New York is built on relationships and reputation, so being genuine, dependable, and involved in your community goes a long way. Most importantly, do not be afraid to take opportunities before you feel fully ready. Growth comes with experience. You miss 100% of the opportunities you don't take

**What inspires you to do what you do in your profession**

**and personal life?**

What inspires me most in both my professional and personal life is my family. I became a mom at 18 years old and experienced firsthand what it was like to struggle financially while utilizing programs like Section 8, WIC, and food assistance. Those experiences motivated me to work hard, build a better future for my family, and create a life where my children would never have to worry about stability or opportunity.

Because of my journey, I am passionate about helping others achieve homeownership. I especially enjoy connecting families with local grant and assistance programs that can help make their dream of buying a home become a reality.

**Who is your mentor, and why?**

My broker, Jennifer Flynn, is my mentor. I look up to her tremendously, both professionally and personally. She has shown me that it is possible to be a suc-

cessful businesswoman while also being an incredible mom. Her leadership, work ethic, and ability to balance both family and career have been truly inspiring to me throughout my journey in real estate.

**What has led you to remain in the North Country to make your mark?**

I have remained in the North Country because it has always been home to me. I was born and raised here, and having our family close by means everything to me. The sense of community, support for local businesses, and the people here are truly special. My husband served in the U.S. Air Force, and we spent four years living in Oklahoma. While we enjoyed our time there, our hearts always belonged in Watertown. We moved back three years ago, and it reaffirmed how much we value this community and the life we are building here for our family.



A huge congratulations to one of our very own

# Jessica Olney

on being a winner of the 20 under 40!

Such an exciting and well deserved accomplishment and we are so proud to celebrate this moment with you.

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# PROFESSIONAL CONNECTION


is featured each Wednesday, Saturday as well as in NNY Business. This is found at your local Chamber of Commerce and in the third Thursday of each month's Watertown Daily Times.



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# Jefferson Community College Featured Honors Program Student

Tony Jin of Adams is the featured Jefferson Community College (JCC) Honors Program student for the month of May 2026. He is a dual major pursuing degrees in Mathematics and Natural Sciences at Jefferson. As part of his honors program options, Jin researched natural resources by extracting pectin from fruit to explore how this natural material can strengthen hydrogels used in products such as wound dressings and food gels.

Jin says, "I choose to participate in Jefferson's Honors Program because it allows me to engage in re-



**Tony Jin. Contributed.**

search, dive deeper into my field of chemistry, and make friends along the way."

The Jefferson Community College Honors Program offers students with exceptional academic skills the opportunity to receive enriched instruction within their current program of study. For the Honors Program, students select three courses within their curriculum, and enhance them as Honors Options. The option is based on a project agreed to by the student and a faculty member willing to work closely with the student to provide a unique and re-

warding experience. Students also take the Honors Seminar, a unique interdisciplinary course open only to program participants. The seminar examines a single theme each semester and features guest speakers from a variety of disciplines and often includes some sort of field experience.

Successful program participants earn a prestigious Honors Graduate designation on their academic transcript for each Honors Option course. Students demonstrating excellent academic achievement in high school or who have complet-

ed 12 credit hours of college coursework are invited to apply for admission to the Honors Program.

For more information, visit [www.sunyjefferson.edu](http://www.sunyjefferson.edu) or contact Honors Program coordinator, Dr. Joshua Canale, at [jcanale@sunyjefferson.edu](mailto:jcanale@sunyjefferson.edu).

## Photo Caption

*Tony Jin of Adams is the featured Jefferson Community College (JCC) Honors Program student for the month of May 2026.*

## Pokemon shop opening in downtown Watertown

By Craig Fox  
cfox@wdt.net

WATERTOWN -- A Pokemon and trading card game shop soon will be opening in the Franklin Building.

Three owners, Travis Gebo, Nathan Messina and Matt Gregory, have been involved in the trading card game business online and are now opening The Card Forge in a brick and mortar location in a storefront that housed Rhonda's Footworks dance studio.

The business will specialize in retails and community focused trading cards, offering sealed products, single card sales and accessories for popular games, such as Pokemon and The Gathering.

The shop also provide space for tournaments, organized play and community events.

"The goal of The Card Forge is to create a welcoming environment where players and collectors of all experience levels can gather, compete, trade and connect," the owners said.

The owners will be working at the shop with plans to grow the number of employ-



**A Pokemon and trading card shop is planned for the Franklin Building on Watertown's Public Square. Watertown Daily Times**

ees, according to the Watertown Local Development Corporation, also known as the Watertown Trust.

They think the store will add to downtown's retail environment,

The Watertown Trust

board on Wednesday approved a \$26,000 loan that will be used to purchase retail fixtures, interior improvements and signage. The owners are obtaining a \$26,000 loan from the Watertown Savings Bank.

## Big payouts awaiting anglers at Massena's Big Bass Blowout

By Bob Beckstead  
bbeckstead@wdt.net

MASSENA — Online registration opened Sunday for this year's town of Massena Big Bass Blowout, and there's more money awaiting anglers.

The event, now in its 10th year, is scheduled for Aug. 8 and 9 at the Massena Intake. Early registration at <https://fishmassenany.com> determines two-day launch spots.

Sports-Fishing Promotion Director Donald R. Meissner said there will be \$1,000 hourly payouts for the largest fish caught in that 60-minute period, and a \$10,000 two-day lunger grand prize based on combined Saturday and Sunday weights.

"It's about being able to go out there and catch a bass and bring it in and get paid for that bass," he said. "In the past, we've paid \$500 (for the hourly payout). The biggest total of two fish that you've weighed in over those two days will get a grand prize of \$10,000. If there's a tie in any of the hours, the winner of that hour will be

determined on who registered first."

Twelve teams participated in the inaugural Big Bass Blowout in October 2016, hoping to reel in some big bass and head home with a \$2,500 payout as the first-place winner. The team of Nigel Touhey and Charles Sim reeled in several bass that weighed in at 23.18 pounds total, netting them the first-place \$2,500 check.

It's not just fishing, but also a family affair, Meissner said.

"We started this Big Bass Blowout 10 years ago and when we did, the whole intention was to have something that we could bring people to discover what it was like here in Massena and be able to spend the weekend here. This is a weekend event. This is a fishing tournament where you can enter with your family, your best friends, your kids," he said.

Meissner said the original intent of the tournament was "to bring some attention to

# SUNY Potsdam launches 100% online degree



**SUNY Potsdam has launched a new Master of Science in Teaching degree in inclusive and special education, offered fully online. Ashley Penny '12 & '15, an alumna of the MSED program in special education, works as a special education teacher for BOCES, in addition to serving as the mentor program coordinator at the Sheard Literacy Center. SUNY Potsdam photo**

POTSDAM — SUNY Potsdam is expanding access to careers in special education with the launch of a new fully online Master of Science in Teaching degree in inclusive and special education, designed for individuals from a wide range of academic backgrounds.

Designed for both career changers and recent college graduates, the program allows aspiring educators from any undergraduate background to

work toward their initial New York State teaching certification in Students with Disabilities (All Grades). No GRE scores are needed to apply, and applications are now open.

Adding to SUNY Potsdam's top-ranked and growing selection of virtual programs, the MST can be completed fully online, and students can begin in either the fall or spring. Summer classes

See **POTSDAM T19**

## Bass

From T7

Massena." Now, he said, it's an opportunity for those who live in the area to make some money fishing the St. Lawrence River.

"That's what it really boils down to," he said.

He said businesses make the event successful.

"One of the reasons we can do this is we have some businesses in the area that really believe in the program that we're doing to highlight fishing in this area," Meissner said. "Last year, the sponsors that we had were Blevins RV and Boat Sales. John Blevins has been fantastic in supporting the things that we do."

He said Boutique Air has also been a "huge supporter" of their efforts.

"Urgent Care is another sponsor, and each one of these sponsors will be on hand to meet the public, to let them know that they exist here for the sake of the people that live in this area," he said.

Also supporting them was the Gristmill Brewery.

"Bill and Sue Fiacco that started that are one of the real innovators of our town. We hope that they will be part of this this year," Meissner said.

The Big Bass Blowout has also been buoyed by a \$20,000 donation from Jason Rappaport, the chief executive officer of the Xerox Processing Center, enabling them to offer larger cash prizes this year.









## 15th Annual 20 Under 40 Award Recipients

JUNE 2ND 2026 5-7PM @ HISTORIC PADDOCK ARCADE  
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<b>Kelsey Blackwell</b>	Owner, Blackwell Bookkeeping	<b>Trenton Macauley</b>	Owner, Macauley Trucking
<b>Emma Slate</b>	Vice president of training, Jreck Subs; Owner, Clayton location	<b>Jessica Olney</b>	Bridgeview Real Estate
<b>Yen Maine</b>	CEO, Nature's Storehouse	<b>Lauren Prentice</b>	Nutrition manager, Canton-Potsdam Hospital
<b>Meade Piercey Lent</b>	Nurse practitioner, Canton-Potsdam Hospital	<b>Melissa Shova</b>	Children's Home
<b>Dr. Morgan Stevens</b>	Chiropractor, Treating the Root	<b>Isabelle Gates Shult</b>	Village Administrator, Potsdam
<b>Nathan Thompson</b>	Thompson Veterinary Services	<b>Shawnea Hull</b>	Business Specialist, CAPC
<b>Dr. Russell Reeves</b>	Radiologist, Samaritan Medical Center	<b>Nicole Hudson</b>	Clayton Dental Office
<b>Thomas Murphy</b>	Jefferson County Supreme Court Clerk	<b>Marc Piche</b>	Banking officer, Watertown Savings Bank
<b>Madison Perri</b>	Teacher, Watertown City School District; Rhonda's Footworks	<b>Paige Yousey</b>	Manager of Content Development, The Institute
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# Madison Draper-Perri, 28

**Position and Employer:** Teacher, Watertown City School District & Assistant Company/Social Media Director, Rhonda's FooteWorks

**Hometown and Current Residence:**

Watertown, New York

**Family:**

Grandfather Paul, mother Rhonda, husband Anthony, and my dogs, Daisy and Gatsby.

**Community Involvement:**

Children's Miracle Network, Encompass Recreation, Watertown Education Association, Rhonda's FooteWorks Outreach Company, and choreographer for Lyric Theatre.

**Education:** Watertown High School, Hartwick College, and Grand Canyon University.

**What advice do you have for other young professionals in NNY?**

What some people may see as your limitations can ultimately become your greatest strengths. Embrace what makes you different, stay confident in your abilities, and never underestimate the value of perseverance and authenticity.

**What inspires you to do what you do in your profession and personal life?**

I am passionate about sharing my talents and experiences with the next generation. Whether in the classroom or the dance studio, seeing students grow in confidence, skill, and character is what continually fuels my passion and purpose.

**Who is your mentor, and why?**



Madison Draper-Perri. Contributed

My mother, Rhonda, has always been my greatest mentor. She successfully built and managed her own business for over 40 years while raising a medically complex child as a single parent. Her strength, resilience, and unwavering support have taught me the importance of self-advocacy, compassion, and determination.

**What has led you to remain**

**in the North Country to make your mark?**

The strong sense of family, friendship, and community in the North Country has inspired me to stay and contribute to the place that has shaped who I am. I'm grateful for the opportunity to give back to the community that has always supported me.

# 20 UNDER 40

NORTHERN NEW YORK'S  
EMERGING LEADERS

## Lisa Marshall, 37

*Chief Clerk I, Jefferson County Surrogate's Court*

**Hometown and where you live currently:** Antwerp, NY; currently reside in Chaumont, NY

**Family:** Eric (Husband) and Harper (German Shorthaired Pointer)

**Community Involvement:** After taking the time to focus on establishing my professional life, I have recently become involved in our local community.

Zoo New York: Volunteer—maintenance of gardens and landscaping.

Adirondack Mountain Club: As a recent member, I look forward to contributing more directly to our incredible outdoor trail systems in the North Country.

Lyme Food Pantry: As we get settled into our new home in Chaumont, I hope to assist the Lyme Food Pantry in any way I can, especially during the high-demand holiday season, when families rely on those services the most.

**Education:** B.S. in Finance – State University of New York Brockport

A.A. in Liberal Arts Humanities & Social Sciences – Jefferson Community College

**What advice do you have for other young professionals in NNY?** If I could share any advice with young professionals in the North Country, it would be this: Give yourself some grace. There is no universal timeline for figuring out your life, and it is okay to take small steps. However, make sure to challenge yourself and step outside your comfort zone.

Most importantly, surround yourself with people who help build you up and see your potential. My husband, Eric, has been one of my biggest advocates and supporters, always encouraging me to take on new challenges. Keep those kinds of people in your cor-



Lisa Marshall. Contributed.

ner, and you will get where you want to be.

**What inspires you to do what you do in your personal and professional life?** I find inspiration in the drive to do better and keep improving. Since transitioning to Surrogate's Court, my face-to-face interactions with community members have driven me to improve the court user experience and make the process as seamless as possible. I find value in those interactions and learning new ways to improve. Navigating the legal system can be incredibly overwhelming, especially when someone is going through one of the most difficult moments of their life after losing a loved one. Knowing I can help alleviate some of the stress and anxiety for our court users is motivating. I am also fortunate to have a colleague who exemplifies these values. Mary Maunder has been a huge asset during my time at Surrogate's Court and inspires me to continue putting forth my best effort and find avenues to best serve court users.

**Who is your mentor, and why?** Receiving this recognition has given me the opportunity to reflect on my career path and the incredible people who have supported me

See MARSHALL T18

CONGRATULATIONS  
*Miss Madi*  
20 UNDER 40

## 20 UNDER 40

### NORTHERN NEW YORK'S EMERGING LEADERS

*Vice President of Training for Fresh Start Franchising (Parent Company of JRECK Subs) and as of April of this year, I am the Franchisee of the new JRECK Subs in Clayton.*

**Hometown and where you currently live:** Gouverneur, NY

**Family:** My husband, Nate, and I have been married for nearly 20 years. We have a son, Wyatt, 17, and a daughter, Lorelei, 16.

**Community Involvement:** Prior to my current position, I was Manager of JRECK Subs in Gouverneur. In that time, I was able to build a strong relationship with my community, the surrounding schools, and local businesses. We often sponsor sports teams and donate to benefits for local citizens. Throughout the years, JRECK has donated to individuals battling cancer, families that have lost their homes to fire,

teachers/schools, and to local ballparks. I look forward to building that same relationship with my patrons in Clayton.

**Education:** Studied Restaurant Management at Jefferson Community College.

**Advice:** Don't wait for things to be perfect to start. Get started now and learn as you go.

**Inspiration:** My inspiration in all things is God. I strive to live with the mindset of doing everything to bring glory to God, whether it is in business or my personal life.

**Who is your mentor, and why?** Throughout my career I have had many mentors. My first professional mentor was Bruce Lauber, my District Manager during my time in Gouverneur. He taught me many things about business, customer service, and life. His Christian perspective matches mine, and his wis-

# Emma Slate, 36

dom is invaluable to me. I am grateful to have maintained my relationship with Bruce, and he was one of the first people to come visit our new store in Clayton.

My current leader is Bob Piddock. He has helped me advance in my professional development and leadership. His guidance and integrity inspire me daily, and he helps me to see the big picture and not dwell on the details. Without Bob, I wouldn't be where I am in my career today.

**What has led you to remain in the North Country to make your mark?**

I have always had strong ties to my community and wanted to be close to my family. Having been raised in the North Country myself, I know firsthand how amazing the people in it are, and I knew I wanted to work and raise my children here, which has been a wonderful



Emma Slate. Contributed.

experience. Providing a safe and fun workplace for team members over the years has been very rewarding. Getting to do that now in Clayton has been so gratifying, and has already exceeded my expectations.

## Small City Brewing Company breaks ground on new facility

By Matt Curatolo  
mcuratolo@wdt.net

OGDENSBURG — Empire State Development and the city of Ogdensburg announced the groundbreaking of the new Small City Brewing Company at 110 Lake St. Monday.

Small City Brewing Company will transform a vacant 4,700-square-foot building on Lake Street into a craft beer manufacturing facility complete with a taproom, outdoor seating, and a dedicated event space — “bringing new life, new jobs, and a new community gathering place to the heart of the city,” according to a Monday press release from ESD.

Small City Brewing Com-

pany is estimated to be complete in spring/summer of 2027.

“The groundbreaking of Small City Brewing Company is a major step forward in advancing the development of Ogdensburg’s Marina District,” Empire State Development President, CEO & Commissioner Hope Knight said in a press release. “By transforming a long-vacant building into a vibrant destination for craft beer and community events, we are activating the waterfront through the kind of adaptive reuse that welcomes residents and visitors and drives economic growth. Through

See SMALL CITY T17

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# Kelsey Blackwell, 34 **20** UNDER **40** NORTHERN NEW YORK'S EMERGING LEADERS

*Owner of Blackwell Book-keeping & Tax*

**Hometown and where you live currently:** I was born and raised in Lewis County. I went to school at Beaver River, and now live in Watson with my family.

**Family:** My husband, Jimmy and I, have two daughters. And two furbabies - Kova & Buddy

**Community involvement:** I serve as the Treasurer for the Lewis County Humane Society and Secretary for the Lowville Youth Sports Association (LY-SA). I also enjoy supporting local small business owners through education, networking events, and financial guidance with Lewis County.

**Education:** I have a Bachelor's degree in Accounting from Empire State College.

**What advice do you have for other young professionals in NNY?** You will get back what you put into this area. Don't underestimate the value of relationships and consistency. We are built on community, and people remember those who show up, follow through, and genuine-

ly care. Build community, over competition. You don't need to have everything figured out right away. You just keep learning, stay approachable, and be willing to grow alongside the people and businesses you serve. It seems really cliché, but support our local businesses.

**What inspires you to do what you do in your profession and personal life?** Every conversation I have with a small business owner, and that "ah-ha" moment they experience, brings me back to my why. I'm passionate about creating clarity around their finances so they can focus on growing the businesses and lives they've worked so hard to build. Personally, I'm motivated by creating a life and career that allows me to make a meaningful impact in my community, continue growing as a leader, and remain 100% present for my girls.

**Who is your mentor, and why?** My accounting Professor from JCC - Mrs. Denning! The way she taught accounting made me fall in love with the field and the value it brings to each and every

person. No matter the field of work, someone in accounting touches that business - paying the bills, running payroll, or handling the taxes. And the OG group at Naturally Lewis. Those girls were the very first to believe in me. They showed me the importance of integrity, accountability, and building strong client relationships, which heavily influenced my core values.

**What has led you to remain in the North Country to make your mark?** I've stayed in Northern New York because this community feels like home. The relationships here are genuine, people truly support one another, and small businesses are the backbone of our communities. Being able to work closely with local business owners and help them succeed makes the work feel personal and meaningful. I've always believed you don't have to leave a small town to build something successful and make a difference.



Kelsey Blackwell. Contributed.

## Are You Still on Track for the Year?

Plans made in January don't always hold by June.

Savings, retirement, debt, and long-term goals can shift more than expected. If that's the case, it may be time to revisit your financial plan.



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# 20 UNDER 40

## NORTHERN NEW YORK'S EMERGING LEADERS

*Village Administrator, Village of Potsdam*

**Hometown and where you live currently:**

Hometown: Potsdam, NY. Currently live in Potsdam as well.

**Family:**

I have been married for 10 years to my husband Corbin, also a longtime North Country resident, and together we have two energetic and joyful children who keep our family life busy, active, and always on the move.

We are fortunate to have strong family support nearby. My parents have called Potsdam home for many years and are former business owners who now enjoy retirement in the area, where they play an active role in helping care for our children. My in-laws also live locally and are closely involved in our lives, providing steady support as we raise our children and pursue both personal and professional goals. The presence and encouragement of both sets of grandparents have been instrumental in giving us the balance and stability needed to fully invest in our family and our careers.

**Community involvement:**

I have been actively involved in the community for several years through both my professional role and volunteer efforts. As Village Administrator, much of my work centers on supporting community use of village spaces by coordinating with vendors, volunteers, and other stakeholders to ensure events are well-organized, properly supported, and set up for success.

Throughout the year, I also participate in community cleanup days, various events in the parks, and other village activities. In addition, I engage with residents daily, whether addressing concerns, helping them connect with resources, or simply listening. A core part of my role is ensuring that residents feel heard, respected, and supported, and that our community spaces and events reflect those values.



**Isabelle Gates Shult.**  
Contributed.

**Education:**

I attended SUNY Canton, where I earned a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Management.

**What advice do you have for other young professionals in NNY?**

If you have the drive and initiative to make a difference in your community, stick with it. There will be days when it feels like your work is not being noticed or your voice is not being heard, but that does not mean it is not making an impact. Often the results show up gradually, in small changes, in relationships built over time, and the way people begin to look at you for support and guidance.

Stay consistent, stay engaged, and keep showing up. You may not always see the immediate results, but over time you will realize your efforts have helped shape outcomes in ways you did not expect, and that others have been paying attention all along.

**What inspires you to do what you do in your profession and personal life?**

What inspires me most is the people I work with every day. I'm continually motivated by those who push through challenges and setbacks while keeping their focus on the bigger picture. Real progress takes time, and I'm inspired by individuals who stay committed to that process and contin-

# Isabelle Gates-Shult, 39

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# Melissa Shova, 35

## 20 UNDER 40 NORTHERN NEW YORK'S EMERGING LEADERS

**Position and employer:** Preventative Services Manager, Children's Home of Jefferson County

**Hometown and where you live currently:** Hometown: Brownville, New York; Currently resides in Adams Center, New York

**Family:** Husband, Nick Shova; Children, Avery and Grace

**Community involvement:** I serve on the THRIVE Foundation Board of Directors and the Northern New York Community Foundation's LEAD Council. I also regularly participate in advocacy efforts in Albany alongside statewide coalitions, working with policymakers to ensure the needs of North Country youth, families, and service providers are represented at the state level. In addition, I serve on the Jefferson and Lewis County Safe Harbour Committees and previously served on the Jefferson, Lewis, and St. Lawrence

County SPOA committees.

**Education:** Bachelor of Arts, Mercyhurst University

**What advice do you have for other young professionals in NNY?**

In the field of human services, where so much attention is often placed on challenges and system gaps, my advice is to strive to find the *silver lining*. Celebrate the small wins because in this work, progress is often incremental, and those moments of success matter deeply to both the people we serve and to our own sustainability as professionals.

I would encourage young professionals to step outside of their comfort zones and actively seek new opportunities. Growth doesn't happen by staying in familiar spaces. Say yes to projects that stretch your skills, volunteer for committees, attend community events, and explore roles that broaden your perspective on

how systems work together. Lastly, networking intentionally and thoughtfully. Build relationships not only with professionals who share similar values or roles, but also with those who challenge your thinking or work in completely different fields. Some of the most valuable insights come from conversations with people whose experiences, disciplines, and viewpoints differ from your own. These connections can spark innovation, deepen understanding, and open doors you might not have considered.

**What inspires you to do what you do in your profession and personal life?**

I believe in being the change you want to see. Since a young age, I have always seen the good in people and lead with compassion, empathy, and understanding.

Helping others comes naturally to me, and I find purpose in supporting individuals,



Melissa Shova. Contributed.

families, and communities through both challenges and successes. I am inspired by resilience, the ability people have to keep moving forward despite obstacles, and by the small victories that often lead to lasting change. Seeing youth and families succeed, grow, and realize their potential is incredibly rewarding and continues to motivate me every day.

As a leader, I am inspired by the young professionals around me. Watching them develop confidence, discover their strengths, and grow into leaders themselves reminds me why mentorship and encouragement matter. Their fresh perspectives, and commitment to growth continually inspire me to keep learning and evolving.

As a mom, seeing my children show empathy and compassion toward others inspires me. Watching them be a bright spot in someone's day reminds me of the importance of leading with love, understanding, and positivity.

**Who is your mentor, and**

**why?**

I do not have one identified mentor. Instead, I have been fortunate to learn from several leaders I have encountered throughout my life. Through observing, collaborating with, and learning alongside them, I have gained valuable insight into different leadership styles and perspectives, all of which have contributed to my personal and professional growth.

I am also blessed to come from a loving, hardworking family. Each member of my family has taught me valuable lessons that have shaped my values, work ethic, and approach to leadership. Their support, guidance, and example have played an important role in who I am today.

**What has led you to remain in the North Country to make your mark?**

The North Country is my home, a place I love. Being able to make a positive impact where I live and raise my family is incredibly meaningful to me, and it continues to inspire the work I do every day.

*Congratulations*

**MELISSA SHOVA**

Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition as a "20 Under 40" honoree! This honor celebrates outstanding leadership, professional excellence, and community impact. We are proud to have Melissa on the CHJC team, where her dedication and passion reflect our mission and values each day.

**CHJC**

# 20 UNDER 40

## NORTHERN NEW YORK'S EMERGING LEADERS

### Lauren Prentice, 36

*St. Lawrence Region Director of Food and Nutrition Services, Rochester Regional Health: St. Lawrence Region*

**Hometown and where you live currently:**

Hometown – Parishville, NY and I currently reside in Potsdam, NY

**Family:**

I reside in Potsdam with my husband, Jared and our three dogs, Sophie, Gin Gin and Chili.

**Community involvement:**

I am very passionate about my community. This is where I grew up and where I have settled with my family.

I have had the privilege to support my community in my current role through providing nutritious and quality meals to patients and visitors. In Fall of 2025, our organization began working directly with local farmers, bakers, and other producers to bring fresh local foods to our



**Lauren Prentice. Contributed.**

coffee shop and cafes. Staying local for these products supports out local economy.

Additionally, since 2023 St. Lawrence Health began divert-

See PRENTICE T18

# Meade Piercey Lent, 39

*Family Nurse Practitioner-Certified (FNP-C) and Lead Advanced Practice Provider at St. Lawrence Health System Emergency Department (full-time). I also work part-time for WellNow Urgent Care and Renewal House as a SANE Nurse.*

**Hometown and Current Residence:** I was raised in Heuvelton and currently reside in Ogdensburg.

**Family:** I live with my husband, Robert Lent, and our two dogs, K-9 Knowlton



**Meade Lent. Contributed.**

and Nash. My parents are Parker and Debby Piercey.

**Community Involvement:** I have been a member of the Morristown Fire Auxiliary for the past four years.

**Education:**

Heuvelton Central School, Class of 2005; Bachelor of Nursing Science (BNS), SUNY Plattsburgh, 2009; Master's Degree, Family Nurse Practitioner, SUNY Polytechnic Insti-

See MEADE T19



**Meade Piercey Lent**

## Congratulations Meade!

NNY Business 2026 20 Under 40 Recipient

You are very deserving of this award. Your hard work, dedication, does not go unnoticed. Please keep serving the North Country, we are lucky to have you in the medical community.

**MEADE TRANSITIONED FROM RN TO NURSE PRACTITIONER**

*Thank You*  
David & Robin Howard

# Congratulations!

Rochester Regional Health's St. Lawrence Region Nurse Practitioner **Meade Lent** and Director of Food and Nutrition Services **Lauren Prentice** have both been named among NNY Business' 2026 Class of 20 Under 40.

Meade goes above and beyond for her patients and their families. Through both her clinical care and personal support, she continually demonstrates the empathy and professionalism that make a lasting impact on those she serves.

Lauren is devoted to improving the wellbeing of the North Country. She advances wellness initiatives, strengthens community partnerships, and leads sustainability efforts while demonstrating collaboration and a people-first approach.



**Meade E. Lent, FNP-C**



**Lauren E. Prentice, RDN, CDN**

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# Russell A. Reeves, 38

## 20 UNDER 40 NORTHERN NEW YORK'S EMERGING LEADERS

**Position and employer:** Interventional Radiologist, Medical Director of Radiology, Samaritan Medical Center

**Hometown and where you live currently:** Hometown- Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania. Currently live- Watertown.

**Family:** Wife- Gabrielle Stevens, Daughter- Emerson, Son- Archer

**Community involvement:** As an interventional radiologist at Samaritan Medical Center in Watertown, NY, I am deeply committed to serving the Northern New York and Fort Drum communities by providing advanced, minimally invasive, image-guided procedures that improve patient outcomes locally. I actively participate in hospital outreach, educational events (such as community health seminars), and initiatives

like Children's Miracle Network to enhance access to specialized care and promote health awareness in our region. This work allows me to combine clinical excellence with meaningful community engagement, ensuring high-quality interventional radiology services remain available close to home.

**Education:**

Medical Doctorate – Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth in 2017

Masters of Business Administration – Thomas Jefferson University in 2023

Masters of Bioengineering – Clemson University 2018

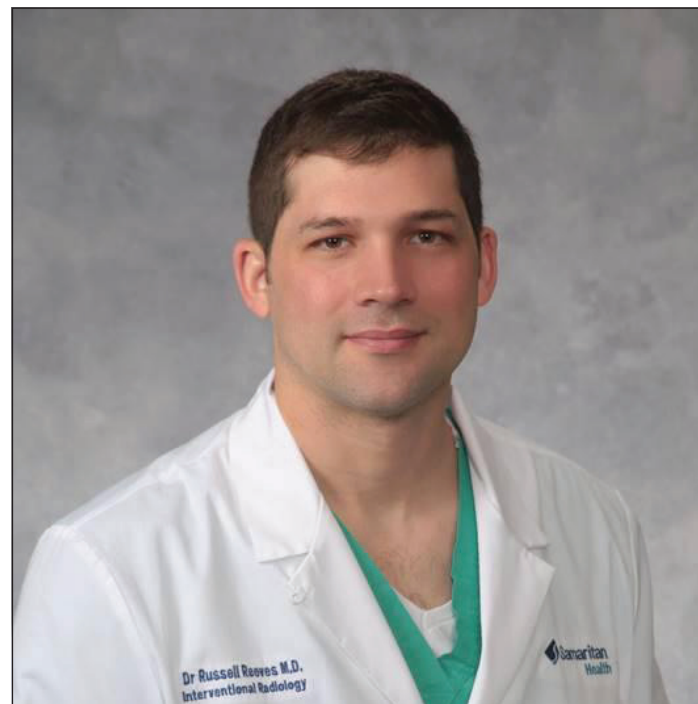
**What advice do you have for other young professionals in NNY?**

Build deep roots where you are. The North Country rewards those who show up consistently—for their work, their patients or cli-

ents, and their neighbors. Focus on solving real local problems with excellence; don't wait for permission or a bigger platform. Get involved in community organizations, mentor others, and be willing to innovate within your field. Most importantly, remember that leadership here isn't about titles—it's about reliability, integrity, and genuine care for the people around you. The relationships you build and the quiet, consistent impact you make are what truly matter and what this region values most.

**What inspires you to do what you do in your profession and personal life?**

I'm inspired every day by the opportunity to make a tangible difference in people's lives when they're facing some of their most challenging health moments. As an interventional



Dr. Russell Reeves. Contributed.

radiologist, I get to use advanced, minimally invasive techniques to treat complex conditions—often avoiding major surgery and getting patients home faster. On a personal level, living and working in the North Country keeps me grounded. Knowing that my work helps keep highly specialized care accessible right here in our communities—rather than forcing patients to travel to bigger cities—drives both my professional dedication and my community involvement through hospital outreach, educational seminars, and supporting local initiatives.

**Who is your mentor, and why?**

I've been fortunate to have several mentors throughout my training and early career, particularly the attending physicians who emphasized both innovation and compassionate service. What they all shared was a deep belief that interventional radiology can bridge the gap between medicine and surgery through cutting-edge innovation and impeccable technique. Their example

solidified my commitment to delivering the highest level of minimally invasive care right here in the North Country.

**What has led you to remain in the North Country to make your mark?**

I chose to stay and build my career at Samaritan Medical Center because this region offers the perfect balance of meaningful impact and quality of life. Patients here deserve access to the same advanced, minimally invasive procedures available in major cities, and I'm proud to help provide that. The tight-knit communities, the opportunity to truly know my patients and colleagues, and the chance to give back through outreach and leadership initiatives make staying here incredibly rewarding. Winning the 20 Under 40 award is humbling because it recognizes the work we're doing to strengthen healthcare and opportunity right here in Northern New York.

## Congratulations

to all of this year's 20 Under 40 Honorees!

It is humbling to have such exceptional people in our community.

Samaritan is especially proud of

**Dr. Russell Reeves,**

Samaritan's Interventional Radiologist.

He is part of the team that provides exceptional care –

*care that's as exceptional as you.*



Dr. Russell Reeves  
Interventional Radiologist



# 20 UNDER 40

## NORTHERN NEW YORK'S EMERGING LEADERS



**Brandon Sparacino. Contributed.**

**Position and employer:** Associate/Civil Engineer at BCA Architects and Engineers

**Hometown and where**

**you live currently:** Hometown: Watertown NY, Currently live in Watertown NY.

**Family:** Wife: Lindsay  
Sons: Ethan & Landon

# Brandon Sparacino, 39

**Community involvement:** IHC boys grade 1/2 lacrosse coach, Thousand Islands boys grade 3/4 assistant lacrosse coach, IHC Buildings and Grounds Consolidation Committee, Town of Montague cemetery cleanup, Jefferson Leadership Institute class of 2026

**Education:** Associates in Engineering Science - Jefferson Community College, Bachelors in Civil Engineering - Clarkson University

**What advice do you have for other young professionals in NNY?** One piece of advice I would give young professionals is don't be afraid to make mistakes. Mistakes keep us grounded and most importantly, allow us to learn and grow to our full potential. We're all human and its inevitable, so don't be afraid to jump in head first!

**What inspires you to do what you do in your profes-**

**sion and personal life?**At BCA, I am able to work with several local communities and help them improve their infrastructure through engineering and funding assistance. I've been fortunate to work on water and wastewater projects, bridges, culverts, historic building preservation, recreational parks, and local sports fields to name a few. Working at BCA has allowed me to play a part in improving the lives of not just my family and friends but also people who live, work, and visit our communities.

**Who is your mentor, and why?** I've been fortunate to have had several mentors throughout my life who have helped shape me into the person who I am today. Personally, my parents instilled within me a hard-work ethic that set me on the right path from a young age. Professionally, I consider my BCA

colleagues to be my mentors because we are like a family who challenge and support each other. My co-workers are always offering guidance, both personally and professionally, to help me become the best version of myself.

**What has led you to remain in the North Country to make your mark?** Family is very important to me and I've always wanted to remain here, close to my immediate and extended family. I believe that the North Country is a great place to grow up and my wife and I wanted to share that experience with our sons. Staying here has allowed my wife and I to build a life centered around family, community, and the values that make the North Country such a special place to call home.



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# T. Joseph Murphy Jr., 36

## 20 UNDER 40 NORTHERN NEW YORK'S

*Principal Law Clerk to the Honorable William F. Ramseier, Jefferson County Supreme Court; Town Justice, Town of Brownville*

**Hometown and where you live currently:** I grew up in Binghamton, NY and currently reside on Pillar Point in Dexter with my family.

**Family:** I am married to my wife, Kathleen, and we have a two-year old daughter, Margaret (Maggie) and a newborn son Thomas.

**Community involvement:** Public service has been the cornerstone of my career and my greatest form of community involvement. I spent nearly two years prosecuting cases in Jefferson County as an Assistant District Attorney, working to keep our local community safe. I now continue that commitment in a new capacity as the Town Justice for the Town of Brownville, where I am honored to serve the residents of our community from the bench.

**Education:** I earned my Juris Doctor from Syracuse University College of Law in 2015 and a Bachelor of Science in Finance and Entrepreneurship, *cum laude*, from Syracuse University's Whitman School of Management in 2012.

**What advice do you have for other young professionals in NNY?** Embrace the opportunities that the North Country offers. It is easy to feel pulled toward larger cities, but this region offers something rare — the chance to make a meaningful, visible impact in your community early in your career. One of the most underappreciated strengths of Northern New York is its people and the network they form. This is a community where people genuinely look out for one another and are willing to open doors, share advice, and invest in the success of those around them. Lean into that. Introduce yourself, build relationships, and don't be afraid to ask for guidance — you may be surprised by how willing people are to help.

**What inspires you to do what you do in your profession and personal life?** At its core, my career has always been about public service and keeping people safe. Whether I was prosecuting criminal cases as an Assistant District Attorney, assisting litigants as a law clerk, or now serving as Town Justice, the common thread is a commitment to justice and community. On a personal level, becoming a father has deepened that commitment.

I want our children to grow up in a community that is safe, fair, and full of opportunity.

**Who is your mentor, and why?** The Honorable William F. Ramseier has been an extraordinary mentor. Working closely with a sitting Supreme Court Justice has given me a perspective on the law and the judiciary that few attorneys are fortunate enough to gain so early in their careers. Judge Ramseier has modeled what it means to approach every case with fairness, diligence, and integrity. His guidance has been invaluable as I transition into my role as Town Justice.

**What has led you to remain in the North Country to make your mark?** What truly attracted us to the North Country is the community. It is a place where you can raise your children with strong values, where your neighbors know your name, and where the pace of life allows you to be truly present for the moments that matter most. My wife Kathleen and I are proud to call the North Country home and look forward to raising our family and building a life here, there is no better place to do that than Northern New York. We particularly enjoy the access to the out-



T. Joseph Murphy. Contributed.

doors, which is second to none, especially spending time boating on the Lake and the River with

family and friends. This region offers a quality of life that is hard to match anywhere else.

## Small City

From T10

the Restore New York program, Empire State Development is proud to support the City's efforts to eliminate blight and create new opportunities."

The nearly \$1.4 million project will include a manufacturing facility with a commercial grade five-barrel brewing system and the addition of a 400-square-foot grain room. SCBC plans to wholesale to restaurants and bars and open a retail tasting room on-site with a commercial kitchen and event space.

"We're very excited to partner on this project as we continue to redevelop the City of Ogdensburg's Marina District. We hope this investment enhances the community and drives tourism to a city that is on the rise, and in position to grow. We are thankful for the state for helping to make this project a reality with the Restore

grant investment!" said Small City Brewing Company Partner Bill Hosmer.

ESD provided the City of Ogdensburg with \$914,335 in Restore New York IX grant funding for this project.

"This is another exciting day for the City of Ogdensburg as we celebrate the groundbreaking of Small City Brewing Company. Bill Hosmer and his family continue to play a significant role in the development of the city's Marina District into a tourism destination benefiting our economy. The city appreciates and recognizes New York State for its investments in the city. The Restore New York grant supporting Small City Brewing Company's venture, and the recent \$10 million DRI award by Governor Hochul,

demonstrates the state's confidence that the City of Ogdensburg is a community on the rise and heading to a prosperous future," Ogdensburg Mayor Michael Tooley said.

According to the press release, the facility will feature a 1,400-square-foot manufacturing hub, though the heart of the cement-block building is dedicated to the guest experience. This expansive retail space will house a taproom complete with a tasting bar, communal seating, a lounge area and a space for SCBC merchandise and locally sourced goods. Additionally, a 400-square-foot expansion on the north end will provide a dedicated grain room and storage to support increased production.

CONGRATULATIONS

*Thomas Murphy esq.*

on being chosen for 20 under 40! Your hard work and commitment to the north country community is recognized and appreciated!

# Hull

From T4

## in the North Country to make your mark?

The North Country is a beautiful place filled with incredible people who are deeply committed to the well-being of their communities. What makes this region so special is the shared sense of purpose that connects us all. We truly are an ecosystem of individ-

# Marshall

From T9

along the way. From my first job working at a gift shop in Alexandria Bay to my current role in the court system, I have always been fortunate to have supervisors and colleagues who inspired me and encouraged me to challenge myself.

Most recently, within the court system, Surrogate Court Judge Timothy L. Virkler and Court Attorney Referee James K. Eby have been incredibly influential. Both saw my potential and encouraged me to continue to grow in the courts and take on more responsibility. Each has played an important role in the path I have

# Gates-Shult

From T12

ue showing up even when the work is not easy.

I also value the power of collaboration. In my experience, the best outcomes rarely come from working in isolation, but from strong teams that support one another and stay aligned toward a shared goal. The people and partnerships around me are a constant reminder of what can be accomplished when everyone shows up, stays engaged, and works together.

## Who is your mentor, and why?

I don't have one specific mentor, but I have been fortunate to work with many people

uals, organizations, and leaders working together to create meaningful change.

It is incredibly inspiring to live and work in a community where people from many different professional backgrounds and life experiences come together with intention, strategy, compassion, and courage. Whether they are serving families, supporting local businesses, advocating for children, or strengthening community resources, there is a collective commitment to

taken within the courts and in serving as mentors.

At Jefferson County Family Court, I was fortunate to work under the guidance of Family Court Chief Clerks, Valerie Boyle and Melissa Stuber, as well as the late Hon. Eugene J. Langone, Jr. All have played an important part in my advancement and supported me in applying for the Family Court Deputy Chief Clerk position. My role in Family Court built the foundation for where I am today as Chief Clerk of the Surrogate's Court. Presently and in the future, I aspire to encourage others in both my professional and personal life.

**What has led you to remain in the North Country to make your mark?** The North Country is home. My husband and I

across different roles and professions who I have learned from along the way. I really value those who are generous with their knowledge, take the time to invest in others, and understand the importance of building strong teams rather than focusing only on individual success.

The people who stand out most to me lead with collaboration, respect, and humility. They recognize that open communication, teamwork, and lifting others up often take you further than working alone. I also appreciate those who lead by example, stay grounded in their work, and remain committed to learning and improving. Those are the qualities that have stayed with me and continue to influence how I approach my own work and relationships.

**What has led you to remain in the North Country to make**

## NNY Business

making the North Country a better place for everyone.

Being surrounded by people who are passionate about service and driven to make a difference motivates me to continue growing both personally and professionally. The collaboration, resilience, and dedication I see every day remind me how powerful a community can be when people unite around a common goal.

knew we wanted to return here to build our lives and keep our family close. We are incredibly fortunate to be surrounded by a community of people who support us, and my goal is to always return that support in kind.

Beyond the community of people we have here, we live in an exceptionally beautiful and diverse region. From Lake Ontario to the St. Lawrence River and the Adirondack Mountains, the North Country offers so many opportunities to enjoy the outdoors. I find it important to pause and truly appreciate the community and natural landscape we have available to us.

## your mark?

I have been part of the North Country for over 30 years, and it has always felt like home. What makes this area so meaningful is the strength of its communities and the way people consistently show up for one another. That sense of connection is what makes this area so special.

Potsdam is where I chose to build my life and raise my family. Staying here has given me the opportunity to grow both personally and professionally while remaining connected to the place and people that have helped shape who I am.

Over time, that connection has only grown stronger. My roots here continue to grow, and so does my commitment to giving back to a community that has given so much to me.

# Prentice

From T14

ing food waste to local farms to be composted, developing nutrition rich soil to support the growth of the veggies we later purchase. I have had the opportunity to share this great work through my involvement with the Potsdam Climate Smart Communities task force.

Along with local purchasing and food waste diversion, the St. Lawrence Region Employee Well-being Committee has worked with local businesses to offer discounts and sponsorships to employees and their families.

One example is our Community Supported Agriculture Share and Membership program. Employees are eligible for \$100 off a local CSA or Food Membership with participating farms, and the committee covers the sponsorship to ensure the farm receives the full amount of the share.

A second example, several gyms and fitness centers from across the county participating in our discount program, offering discounted rates to employees.

As co-chair of this committee, I feel truly honored to support the well-being of my colleagues and my community through these initiatives.

## Education:

BS in Food and Nutrition from SUNY Plattsburgh, MS in Applied Nutrition from Sage Graduate School. Registered Dietitian Nutritionist since 2013

## What advice do you have for other young professionals in NNY?

Leadership does not start with a title. It starts with a passion.

Leading is about helping the others around you thrive and grow. Helping to motivate and elevate your team to reach a goal together.

One of my biggest pieces of advice for new leaders is to lead with authenticity. Being true to who you are will help build trust and respect with your team. In return, your team will be engaged, gain a sense of belonging and be true to who they are.

## What inspires you to do what you do in your profession and personal life?

I like to call this my "why".

I grew up about ten minutes from Canton Potsdam Hospital. It is where I was born, where I went as a child for my appointments, and who I trust today to provide care to myself and my family.

When I wake up and come to work, I know I am supporting the community I grew up in, my friends, family, and colleagues. This is my home and it feels great to give back to community that supported my growth.

The community also inspires me personally. There are many great initiatives, artists, musicians and more right in our backyard.

Last year it inspired me to open my ceramics business Wild Earth Wheel Works. Much of my work is inspired by nature, including the beautiful Adirondacks.

## Who is your mentor, and why?

I have been fortunate to have many mentors through the various seasons of my life.

My first mentor was coach Evan Harper. Outside of teaching me how to control my speed while dribbling a soccer ball, he taught me what it truly meant to be part of a team. He taught me how to work under pressure, how to celebrate success and learn from opportunities.

Most recently, I have been mentored by many leaders within my own organization.

I have learned that good leadership is not just about meeting deadlines and staying within budget, but also taking the time to learn everyone's name and say hello in the hall, to highlight a team member's strengths and encourage them to expand their comfort zones, and to take them time to listen and learn from those around them.

## What has led you to remain in the North Country to make your mark?

This ties back to my "why".

This is my community and my home. It is truly a privilege to work in my community and support my family, friends, colleagues and neighbors.

There is something very special about the North Country.

I have now been with my organization for over 10 years. It has been great to grow alongside Rochester Regional Health: St. Lawrence Region and I look forward to what the future holds.

# St. Lawrence Leadership Institute Graduates

The St. Lawrence Leadership Institute graduated an amazing group of emerging leaders from its 2026 program. The graduates are:

- Kathryn Allen from St. Lawrence University
- Emma Blaiklock from Clarkson University
- Nichelle Burnett from SUNY Potsdam
- Kathryn Favraro from Hospice of St. Lawrence Valley
- Darcie Fregoe from PAL — Massena
- Brenda Gallagher from The ARC Jefferson-St. Lawrence County
- Michelle Garrow from

Town of Potsdam Recreation

- Nicole Gibbons from Planned Parenthood
- Amanda Gordon from STLC Chamber of Commerce
- Audrey Heatherly from Rochester Regional
- Marie Klobucar from Summit SHRED Lab & Storage
- Amanda McCaffrey from Children's Home of Jefferson County
- Taylor McGill from the Office for the Aging
- Dawn Robinson from SUNY Canton
- Andrea Robinson from SUNY Canton
- Corina Weems from St.

Lawrence Health System

- Viviana Wilmot from SLV Renewal House

Please join us in congratulating these remarkable leaders!!

The mission of the St. Lawrence Leadership Institute is to foster the development of emerging and existing leaders for the advancement of St. Lawrence County and its communities. SLLI cultivates individuals willing and capable of being inspiring leaders by offering issues education, leadership skills development and networking opportunities

# Potsdam

From T8

are also offered as part of the degree.

"Our program provides the unique blend of an evidence-based system for preparing each of our students for personal growth and professional success, while creating opportunities for individualized and personalized instruction from our instructors, who each bring a depth and breadth of real-world classroom experiences. With a focus on the individual, we pride ourselves on creating a flexible and adaptable learning environment for every learner," said Assistant Professor Dr. Donald Wheeler, who coordinates the program.

The nationally accredited graduate program can be completed in four, five or six semesters, allowing flexibility for teacher candidates to study full- or part-time, while balancing career aspirations with other responsibilities. Upon completion, graduates are prepared to seek initial New York State teacher certification in Students with Disabilities (All Grades).

"As a former superintendent, I experienced firsthand the growing challenge school districts face in finding certified special education teachers. The need has never been greater for compassionate, highly skilled educators who can support diverse learners and help every child reach their potential," said Interim Dean of the School of Education and Professional Studies Jaime Cruikshank '92 & '97.

"This new program creates an important pathway to special education certification for individuals who already hold a bachelor's degree in another field and are ready to make a meaningful difference in the lives of students. SUNY Potsdam is proud to respond to this urgent need by preparing the next generation of special education professionals."

The program meets New York State's Students with Disabilities (All Grades) initial certification requirements and aligns with national Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) accreditation standards. Coursework covers key areas, including autism foundations, cultural linguistic responsiveness, and inter-

disciplinary content methods.

The new MST degree complements SUNY Potsdam's existing Master of Science in Education (MSED) degree in special education, leading to initial or professional certification in either early childhood (birth-Grade 2), childhood (Grades 1 to 6) or adolescence (Grades 7 to 12, generalist).

"One of the things I appreciated most was that the program was fully asynchronous, which allowed me to balance graduate school while working full-time in the classroom. I never felt overwhelmed or rushed, and the workload always felt manageable and meaningful," said MSED program graduate Faith Griffin '26. "What really made the program special, though, was the support from the professors and staff. Every professor I had was knowledgeable, understanding, and genuinely invested in student success. The program not only helped me grow professionally as an educator, but it also made me feel confident and prepared entering the field."

SUNY Potsdam offers highly regarded programs at the undergraduate and graduate level across education disciplines, from baccalaureate programs to new flexible online graduate programs and advanced certificates leading to initial or professional certification. The College is nationally accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP).

Student teaching field work and the culminating student teaching internship requirements are coordinated by the SUNY Potsdam Center for School Partnerships and Teacher Certification, which works with candidates to find appropriate placements with schools wherever they are located.

The School of Education and Professional Studies at SUNY Potsdam has been preparing educators for more than 200 years. Today, that legacy of educational excellence also stretches to undergraduate and graduate programs in business administration, public health and human performance, to help students prepare for professions in the global economy. For more information, visit [www.potsdam.edu/academics/SOEPS](http://www.potsdam.edu/academics/SOEPS).

# Hudson

From T3

choose between a career and a family. That if you align yourself with the right people you can have both.

**Who is your mentor, and why?**

Scott Laclair, for seeing my potential and allowing

me the room to grow. For the daily reminders that sometimes growth is disguised as failures. That your worth is not defined by the tasks that you completed, but rather by the leaders you create. His support and guidance has helped me to grow into the leader I am today.

**What has led you to remain in the North Country to make your mark?**

That's easy, Family! My roots are deep in the north country and I couldn't imagine raising my boys anywhere else. Growing up in this community and seeing the way people show up for each other made my mind up early that this is where I wanted to grow my career and raise my family.

# Macaulay

From T3

into my whole life in a way.

**Who is your mentor, and why?**

My father Shawn Macaulay and his close friend Dave Stout. They are both hard-working, driven individuals that have started with With not a lot and have shown what can be done with hard work and dedica-

tion.

**What has led you to remain in the North Country to make your mark?**

Hometown living, Everyone knows everybody everybody helps everybody.

# Meade

From T14

tute, 2019

**What advice do you have for other young professionals in NNY?** I would encourage other young professionals to travel and experience different places and perspectives. Traveling helps you appreciate how special the North Country truly is. You can explore the world, but there is something unique about coming home to this community.

**What inspires you to do**

**what you do in your profession and personal life?** The patients I care for are my greatest inspiration. Bedside care continues to motivate me every day. Even during the most difficult shifts, I strive to make a positive difference in someone's life and provide compassionate care when it is needed most.

**Who is your mentor, and why?** My mentor is Dr. Justin MacKinnon. I have worked alongside him in the emergency department for more than 10 years, and he now serves as our director. He leads by example, demonstrates strong leadership,

and continually encourages me to grow and become the best nurse practitioner I can be.

**What has led you to remain in the North Country to make your mark?** My co-workers, family, and friends are what keep me rooted in the North Country. I am fortunate to work with incredibly supportive and hard-working colleagues, and my family continues to call this area home. It is meaningful to me to care for the people in my community, including friends and loved ones, during their times of need.

# 20 UNDER 40

## NORTHERN NEW YORK'S EMERGING LEADERS

NNY Business

# Marc Piché, 33



**Marc Piché. Contributed.**

*Banking Officer at Watertown Savings Bank.*

**Hometown and where you live currently:** Hometown is Adams Center, lives in Watertown.

**Family:** Fiancé, Olivia Kolb, parents Fred & Kathy Piché, brother, Ryan Piché

**Community involvement:** Sunrise Rotary member

CHJC board member  
Thrive Wellness Foundation Board Member

Downtown Business Development Corporation board member

NNYCF Lead Council & NNYCF Investment / Audit committee

Member of The American

Heart Association Executive Leadership Team

**Education:**

MBA from Seton Hill University and a diploma from the ABA Stonier Graduate School of Banking at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania

**What advice do you have for other young professionals in NNY?**

Hazard Yet Forward. To me, this is more than a motto; it is a philosophy for navigating life. Challenges, uncertainty, and setbacks are inevitable, but they should never become deterrents. Growth requires risk, resilience, and the willingness to continue moving forward even when the path is unclear. Take chances, bet on yourself, learn from failure, and keep going.

**At the same time,** remember that although grit gets you off the starting line, nothing meaningful is ever accomplished alone. Your family, mentors, peers, and community are what ultimately get you across the finish line. You are only as capable as the people you surround yourself with.

**What inspires you to do what you do in your profession and personal life?**

Professionally, I am inspired by work that is both challenging and meaningful. Banking

demands perseverance, problem-solving, and adaptability, but what makes it rewarding is the opportunity to create a lasting impact on individuals, families, local businesses, and the broader community. Whether it is helping a family purchase a home or supporting the growth of a local business, I value being part of work that contributes to long-term stability and success of our community.

Personally, I am driven by my family and my fiancé. They set an incredibly high bar for what it means to work hard and lead with purpose. Their constant encouragement and their own commitment to the grind inspire me to keep pushing. I am fortunate to be surrounded by people who not only support my goals but challenge me to exceed them every day.

**Who is your mentor, and why?**

While I owe a debt of gratitude to my parents, coaches, teammates, and colleagues for their investment in my life, my brother, Ryan, serves as my North Star. Ryan has been instrumental in both my personal and professional development, consistently instilling the confidence I need to expand my vision and think bigger. He is a leader of true integrity who navigates challenges and relationships

with a steady hand, thoughtful perspective, and wisdom beyond his years. I am profoundly grateful for his patient mentorship and the example he continues to set as both a leader and a brother.

**What has led you to remain in the North Country to make your mark?**

The decision to remain in the North Country is a simple one: family. There is an irreplaceable value in building a life surrounded by my parents, my brother, my fiancé's family, extended family, and the lifelong relationships I've built here over the years. Many of those relationships may not be blood, but they feel like family all the same. That kind of support system is something I could never replicate anywhere else.

I also feel a strong responsibility to build on the foundation my family has created. I want the Piché name to be known throughout the North Country in a way that reflects integrity, hard work, and a genuine commitment to the community. The North Country has given so much to me and my family, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to continue building a life and career here because this has always been, and always will be, home.

## Bank backs vision that new Thousand Islands Arts Center building will foster



**Meredith Fox, left, Business Development Officer at Watertown Savings Bank, presents the donation to Thousand Islands Arts Center Executive Director Mia Ramseier. Submitted photo**

Times staff report

Islands Arts Center has received a

CLAYTON — The Thousand “significant” donation from Wa-

tertown Savings Bank in support of the center's campus expansion project.

The bank's \$50,000 contribution will help fund the interior build-out and final phase of construction for the new Thousand Islands Arts Center at 321 James St., scheduled to open in late June. The new facility will meaningfully increase the center's capacity to serve residents and visitors through exhibitions, educational programming, artist workshops and community events.

"We are incredibly grateful for the support of Watertown Sav-

ings Bank and their commitment to investing in the future of our community," Thousand Islands Arts Center Executive Director Mia Ramseier said in a news release. "This project is about more than a building; it is about creating a welcoming space where creativity, education, and culture can take root for generations to come. Partnerships like this make that vision possible."

The new building establishes a permanent home for the Handweaving Museum while expanding gallery space and educational offerings. It includes three classrooms compliant with

the Americans with Disabilities Act, one dedicated to children's programming, as well as a third-floor weaving and artist studio overlooking the St. Lawrence River. Upon completion, the center's campus will connect the historic location on John Street with the new James Street building, creating an arts destination that brings together pottery studios, green spaces, and expanded parking.

The center will celebrate the grand opening of the 321 James St. facility on June 27 during its annual Summer Arts Kick-Off event.

# Paige Yousey, 30

## 20 UNDER 40 NORTHERN NEW YORK'S EMERGING LEADERS

*Manager of Content Development, Enterprise Education at The Institutes*

**Hometown and where you live currently:**

I grew up in the tiny village of Castorland, New York, and now live just outside of Sackets Harbor in the North Country.

**Family:** My family's roots in the North Country go back to at least the early 1800s, and I take a lot of pride in that connection to the region and its history. Today, I enjoy building a life here with my husband, Jacob, our son, Callum, and our two herding-mix dogs.

**Community involvement:** I support professional development and leadership initiatives throughout the region through speaking engagements, mentorship, and collaboration with local organizations. I have worked with the Watertown Chamber of Commerce on leader-

ship and workforce development initiatives and regularly contribute to conversations around learning, professional growth, and workplace culture. I also mentor emerging professionals and am exploring ways to support local businesses and startups through leadership and learning strategy consulting.

**Education:** I am a graduate of Beaver River Central School. I earned a bachelor's degree in English Education from Utica University in 2018 and a Master's in Education from SUNY Oneonta in 2021. Most recently, I completed a certification in Project Management Essentials through the University of Virginia Darden School of Business.

**What advice do you have for other young professionals in NNY?** Do not be afraid to be the person who reaches out first. If there is someone in your community whose work inspires you, send the

email, introduce yourself, or ask to grab coffee. So many opportunities and relationships begin with a simple conversation. I think a lot of doors stay closed simply because we are too nervous to knock on them, but more often than not, people are willing to connect, share advice, and help you grow if you take that first step.

**What inspires you to do what you do in your profession and personal life?** I am inspired by the potential for growth. I enjoy helping people gain confidence, develop new skills, and see possibilities they may not have recognized before. Whether through education, mentorship, or professional development, I find purpose in creating experiences that help others move forward. Personally, I am also inspired by the idea that positive change often starts with small, intentional actions



Paige Yousey. Contributed.

that build over time.

**Who is your mentor, and why?** I have been fortunate to learn from many mentors throughout my life and career, but two people in particular have had a lasting impact on me. My manager, Brian Timmerman, helped shape the way I think about leadership by showing me the importance of trusting people, encouraging growth, and creating an environment where others can reach their full potential.

I have also been deeply inspired by my sister, Kristen Aucter. Through her work in the tourism industry, she has had the opportunity to work and learn in many different places beyond the North Country, gaining new perspectives along the way. What has always stood out to me is the way she brought those experiences back home to help our own community grow and prosper. Watch-

ing that inspired me to think about how I could do the same thing through my own work in learning and development by bringing fresh perspectives and new ways of thinking back to the North Country.

**What has led you to remain in the North Country to make your mark?** The North Country shaped who I am. I grew up here, my family's roots are here, and many of the values that guide my life and work came from the people and communities around me. Even as my work has connected me with people and ideas far beyond this region, I have always felt drawn to build something meaningful here at home. There is a strong sense of authenticity in the North Country that I value deeply, and I think there is a great deal of potential here when people are willing to invest in and believe in their communities.

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# 20 UNDER 40

## NORTHERN NEW YORK'S EMERGING LEADERS



Morgan E. Stevens. Contributed.

*Chiropractor - Self-Employed located inside Treating the Root*

**Hometown and where you live currently:** From Croghan, live in Watertown

**Family:** Not married and no kids but 2 amazing dogs - Ollie my chocolate lab and Lincoln my golden retriever. My immediate family lives throughout Lewis County.

**Community involvement:** Advisory Board member for the Salvation Army. I am also on their executive board and PR board; Chair of the Irish Festival Parade; Board Member of The Compassionate Care Foundation; I host workshops at Treating the Root to educate people about common areas that can be painful and how to manage the symptoms themselves.

**Education:** Beaver River Central School - 2010; Health Sciences Certificate from North Country Community College - 2012;

Bachelor of Science Degree from SUNY Brockport - 2014; Doctorate of Chiropractic Degree from D'Youville University - 2019; Currently enrolled at the Institute of Functional Medicine to become a certified Functional Medicine Professional - estimated 2027

**What advice do you have for other young professionals in NNY?**

You don't have to go fast, you just have to keep going. During my first triathlon I kept reminding myself of that and that phrase has carried over into my every-day life. The only person you are fighting is you and it is okay to slow down sometimes, as long as you aren't giving up on yourself.

**What inspires you to do what you do in your profession and personal life?**

Being able to help people and being able to move are what keep me going. Luckily, I found a career that I can

do both of those things in. I believe movement is medicine and when you move better, you feel stronger and that shows up in other areas of your life, too.

I like to practice what I preach and being able to move has helped me to understand what physical, emotional and mental limitations can feel like and that has helped me to connect and better support my patients as well as myself.

**Who is your mentor, and why?**

My patients, honestly. They challenge me every day to be better. I listen to their stories and experiences, and I just want to be a safe space for them to feel comfortable and supported. I have listened to many of my patients talk about subpar experiences they have had with other providers, and I want to help change

that for them. I want to give them hope that someone cares and listens.

Every patient has something to teach me, whether it be about compassion, perspective, empathy, movement or trust - I try to take those wisdom pearls as opportunities to grow as a chiropractor and a person.

**What has led you to remain in the North Country to make your mark?**

My family is here so it has been nice being able to

see them more frequently. I love outdoorsy things - hiking, camping, skiing, golfing, paddle-boarding, adventuring with my boys, the list goes on. This is the best area to be able to explore in - it's also ideal for triathlon training!

Watertown is tough for providers because it is small, so being able to bring quality care to a deserving area has been very rewarding.

CONGRATULATIONS

*Dr. Morgan Stevens*

on your 2026 20 under 40 accomplishment!

*Best of luck with your future endeavours*

Noelle Polniak, WHNP

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 **Community Health Center**  
of the North Country [chcnorthcountry.org](http://chcnorthcountry.org)

# Dr. Nathan Thompson, 38

*Owner/ Manager of Thompson Veterinary Services, PLLC – predominantly large animal/ dairy practice*

**Hometown and where you live currently:** Grew up in Rodman, NY, currently reside in Belfort, NY.

**Family:** Tari (Wife), Adah (stepdaughter), Avery (stepdaughter), Ashton (son)

**Community involvement:** Nothing structured but I provide regular monetary donations to the Lewis County Humane Society, Croghan Fire Department, our local chapters of FFA, Beaver River Little League, Beaver River Theatre Club, Beaver River Musical, Lewis County Holstein Club to name a few. I also routinely volunteer to take students in my truck to spend time with me out on the job so they can gain some exposure to a career as a large animal veterinarian.

**Education:** Cornell University – B.S. in Biology; St. George’s University – Doctor of Veterinary Medicine

**What advice do you have for**

**other young professionals in NNY?**

A career as a professional and/or business owner can be incredibly taxing and stressful but also extremely rewarding! I’ve found the single most important thing for me is to always remember my “why.” Why did I decide to become a veterinarian? I have always loved the variety that this career path can offer and that you can shape it to be whatever you want it to be. I have developed a practice that focuses almost exclusively on dairy farms and supporting dairy businesses across the north country. I absolutely love what I do, and I can comfortably say that I have never had a boring day out on the road since I started practicing 11 years ago. I think it is extremely important for anyone to find their passion and trust in themselves enough to just get out there and go for it. Once you get to your destination, don’t become complacent. You should always strive to continue learning and improve on your skill set. Become

confident in yourself but don’t be afraid to sprinkle in some humility from time to time. It makes life far more interesting, and it is one of the best ways to learn valuable lessons that you’ll never forget. Don’t be afraid to be selfish and give yourself some time away from work. It can be challenging but it is so important to make time for your family and for yourself. You only get a finite amount of time while your kids are growing up to show them all that this world has to offer so don’t let those moments pass you by.

What inspires you to do what you do in your profession and personal life?

I have always been inspired by dairy farmers and how diligent and extremely hard-working they are. I live and work by that same principle. I strive to stay current in the professional knowledge required in my career path by attending conferences and meetings throughout the year, listening to lectures online or reading scientific articles. I work hard but I also do

## 20 UNDER 40 NORTHERN NEW YORK’S EMERGING LEADERS



Dr. Nathan Thompson. Contributed.

try to have some fun when I can be home on the weekends with the family. I enjoy hunting, fishing, cycling, four-wheeling and skiing, to name a few. The north country offers the perfect landscape for all those activities, and I couldn’t think of a better place to raise my kids and share these passions with each of them.

**Who is your mentor, and why?**

I have several people that inspire me on a regular basis. This list would include many of my professors from college as well as a few of my dairy farm owners that I work with on a weekly basis. If I could only name one, however, the most influential mentor that helped to shape me into who I am today is my late stepfather, Tom Robinson. Tom was an extremely hard-working man who taught me to value my work and inspired me to believe in myself from a very young age. He was always so proud of my accomplishments and was always there for me if I needed someone to bounce ideas or to ask for advice. He lived his life with integrity and compassion and had such a unique way of helping anyone to find their answers, even if he didn’t really say much. I miss him dearly, but I live my life in honor of his

memory, and I will never forget all of the important life lessons he has taught me.

**What has led you to remain in the North Country to make your mark?**

The primary reason that drove me to come back to the North Country was to be back home around all my immediate family and because I knew that everything that I needed in life was already here. I have always felt like the North Country has so much to offer anyone with a variety of interests, so long as you can tolerate the snow and the cold winters. There is no shortage of dairy farms to service my professional interests, but the seasonal variety of outdoor activities allows me to indulge in several extracurricular activities in my down time that really make this place one of a kind. I love our small community in Croghan, and the Beaver River School District has been a great place for our kids to learn and grow. Our home is out in the country far away from grocery stores and gas stations, and I routinely must drive an hour away or further to get to the first job site of the day, but I wouldn’t trade it for anything!

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<b>Intermediate Sailing</b>	June 29 – July 3   12:30 – 4:30 pm July 13 – 17   8 am – 12 pm July 20 – 24   12:30 – 4:30 pm	<b>Bird House Building</b>	July 11   10 am - 2 pm
<b>Advanced Sailing</b>	July 8 – 10 & 13- 15   12 – 4:30pm August 5–7 & 10–12   12–4:30pm	<b>Canvas Boat Bucket/Ditty Bag Making</b>	August 11 & 13   5 pm - 7 pm
<b>Adult &amp; Family Sailing</b>	July 8 – 10   5:00 – 7:30 pm July 13 – 15   5:00 – 7:30 pm July 22 – 24   5:00 – 7:30 pm July 27 – 29   5:00 – 7:30 pm	<b>Bronze Casting</b>	September 26 - 30   8 am - 4 pm
		<b>Staining &amp; Brightwork</b>	October 3-4   9 am - 5 pm

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