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Chronicle

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After the fire

Clubhouse burns at former GF Tennis & Swim



Photo by Dana Stimpson

By Cathy DeDe
Chronicle Managing Editor

The vacant clubhouse of the former Glens Falls Tennis and Swim Club on East Sanford Street burned to the ground early Saturday morning.

Crockwell Preserve chagrin: What now

The start-up not-for-profit Crockwell Preserve aimed to re-use the building in its environmental park plan. The 922 square foot building dated from 1975, said the City of Glens Falls.

What happens now?

"This was definitely not on the Bingo card," says Doug Thorn, president of the Crockwell Partnership that seeks to convert the 6.5-acre Tennis & Swim Club and adjacent properties into an ambitious wetland preserve and education center.

"We had this thing mapped out, had a really neat concept of what the building could look like," Mr. Thorn says. "I'm sure people are going to get over it, but it's tough. We'll work and figure out a new plan."

The City of Glens Falls purchased the Tennis & Swim property in 2018 from Warren County for $38,000 in back taxes, under then-mayor Dan Hall. The club closed in 2017.

In January, the State awarded a $150,000 matching grant from the Environmental Protection Fund to develop architec-

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Sap not running

By Ben Westcott
Chronicle Staff Writer

Maple syrup making is getting a late start this winter.

"Last year we started producing Feb. 8," **Randy Galusha**, owner of Toad Hill Maple Farm in Athol, told *The Chronicle*.

Frigid winter stalls maple making a month or more

This year is "more like an old-fashioned sugar season we used to have when I was younger," he said.

"It's been a very cold winter and things haven't really broken free to start production yet."

He suspects, "Probably the week before our first Maple Weekend [Thurman Maple Days starts March 14] is when it looks like it will thaw out."

Freezing nights and thawing days are the ideal weather for syrup production.

Matt Rathbun, owner of Rathbun's Maple Sugar House in Whitehall, sounded the same theme. "Nothing yet," he told *The Chronicle* Friday. "Maybe later next week."

Asked if it will be a good maple season, "No way of knowing," Mr. Rathbun said.

"You try to make as much as you can when you can," he said.

Even without sap flowing, producers are busy preparing for when it does.

Toad Hill's Mr. Galusha said, "Pretty much everybody up

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Laughed at GF's 'vertical farm'

Editor,

I read with considerable interest the [Feb. 26] article about vertical farming in downtown Glens Falls.

When this was proposed along with the downtown revitalization grant I had to laugh out loud.

The city has no business being a farmer. Yes, these ventures can work but not by city government, mainly because it always costs the govern-

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Logging history talk drew throng



Chronicle photo/Mark Frost

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