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Still waiting

Cortland cannabis shop left out of recent license approvals



(<https://beta.creativecirclecdn.com/cortland/original/20231127-191136-11.27.23Lakehouse%20update.jpg>)

Owners of LakeHouse Cannabis, which would be the county's first cannabis shop, hoped to open late in 2023, but have yet to receive final state approval. It's No. 2,026 on a list to be reviewed

JACK LAKOWSKY/FILE PHOTO

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Posted Monday, April 15, 2024 7:00 pm

By JACK LAKOWSKY/Staff Reporter

Paul Suits Jr., filed his application to open LakeHouse Cannabis in Cortland three years ago. His business is No. 2,026 in line, and the state has reviewed, perhaps, 800 applications.

The state announced recently that it has issued 403 adult-use cannabis licenses so far this year.

Suits is still waiting.

“They’ve sped up the review a little bit, it seems,” Suits said Monday. “My optimistic estimate is two to three months. If they keep dragging things out, it could be six months.”

Suits said now that three years have passed since LakeHouse registered with the state, the situation has become frustrating.

“I’m confident things will work in the long run,” Suits said.

Suits said the last he checked, the Office of Cannabis Management, which has been criticized for its handling of the program’s rollout, was working through the 800s.

On Friday Gov. Kathy Hochul said the Cannabis Control Board has issued 403 adult-use cannabis licenses this year, an announcement made about a month after Hochul said the state Office of General Services is auditing the state’s cannabis management agencies.

The audit is expected to be published Thursday, followed by a more in-depth report after another 60 days.

Stores in cities within an hour of Cortland, Syracuse, Ithaca, Binghamton, Johnson City, have received approvals, according to state information.

However, approvals aren’t based on population. An application’s position in the state’s queue order determines the order in which the office will begin the review of each application, says the office’s website.

“The queue’s order does not indicate the order in which licenses will be issued,” the cannabis management office’s website says.

Suits said the delay has two reasons: the fact cannabis is a new industry; and state staffing issues and competence.

“There’s a lot of inefficiency,” Suits said. “I know people who’ve waited a year to get a liquor license.”

Still, Suits said he is optimistic LakeHouse will open its doors some time in 2024.

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'They're our future'

► State Environment competition is coming to Cortland

By NANCY KERRY RELIANTY
Cortland Standard Staff Writer

The program was approved in the state's budget for fiscal year 2024. It will be the first of its kind in the state. The program will be held in Cortland from May 20 to 22. High school students from across the state will compete in the program. The program will be held in Cortland from May 20 to 22. High school students from across the state will compete in the program. The program will be held in Cortland from May 20 to 22. High school students from across the state will compete in the program.

Line the street

Construction workers in hard hats and safety vests are working on a project to rebuild the street and repair sidewalks and street lights that will continue through the summer.

Netanyahu brushes off calls for restraint following attack

► Israel will decide how to respond to Iran's strike, he says

By JESSICA FRANKEL
Cortland Standard Staff Writer

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said he would not be deterred by calls for restraint following the attack on Israel's airbase in Iran. Netanyahu said he would not be deterred by calls for restraint following the attack on Israel's airbase in Iran. Netanyahu said he would not be deterred by calls for restraint following the attack on Israel's airbase in Iran.

NYSERDA explains how it would turn landfill into light

► Solar field site is at Caswell Road in Dryden

By NANCY KERRY RELIANTY
Cortland Standard Staff Writer

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Senate rejects impeachment articles against Mayorkas

By MARY CLARE ZALONICK
Cortland Standard Staff Writer

The Senate rejected two articles of impeachment against DHS Secretary Mayorkas. The Senate rejected two articles of impeachment against DHS Secretary Mayorkas. The Senate rejected two articles of impeachment against DHS Secretary Mayorkas.

INDEX
Agriculture - 10
Business - 12
Community - 12
Criminal - 13
Education - 13
Environment - 13
Health - 13
Local - 13
National - 13
Opinion - 13
Sports - 13
Travel - 13

WATHER
Showers
Tonight's High/Low: 58/42
Tomorrow's High/Low: 62/48
Forecast: Partly cloudy with showers.

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TRENDING STORIES



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Cortland track & field teams fall to Chittenango (/stories/cortland-track-field-teams-fall-to-chittenango,85652)

The Cortland boys and girls track and field teams both fell to Chittenango Wednesday at Cortland Junior-Senior High School, with the boys losing 87-53 and the girls losing 88-51. On the boys ...



(/stories/nyserda-describes-how-it-would-turn-landfill-into-light,85651)

NYSERDA describes how it would turn landfill into light (/stories/nyserda-describes-how-it-would-turn-landfill-into-light,85651)

DRYDEN – Dryden residents and other interested parties got their first official look Wednesday at a project designed to breathe new life into an old landfill. The site, the former Caswell ...

Line in the Street (/stories/line-in-the-street,85638)



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(/stories/cville-more-than-halves-67-million-request-to-congress,85650)

C'ville more than halves \$6.7 million request to Congress (/stories/cville-more-than-halves-67-million-request-to-congress,85650)

The Town of Cortlandville reduced its request for federal money for a “community hub” at Gutchess Lumber Sports Complex by more than half to \$3 million, Supervisor Tom Williams told the ...



(/stories/thrift-warehouse-open-in-dryden,85634)

Thrift warehouse opens in Dryden (/stories/thrift-warehouse-open-in-dryden,85634)

DRYDEN – Two business owners are selling reused goods out of a Dryden warehouse, but their mission is more than just spreading trinkets and decor. They want to provide for low-income families ...

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JOB FAIR

May 2 | 5-7pm
Auburn High School, 250 Lake Ave

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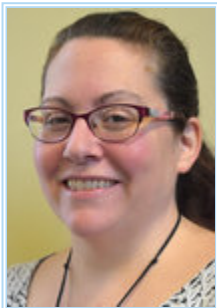
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MEET THE STAFF



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Meet the rest of the staff ▶ (/meet-the-staff/)

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