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**BALLSTON SPA**

## Ross indicted on nine charges, pleads not guilty

BY NATASHA VAUGHN-HOLDRIDGE

**BALLSTON SPA** — The man accused of kidnapping a Greenfield girl at Moreau Lake State Park in September has now been indicted on nine counts, including kidnapping and rape related to the abduction.

Craig N. Ross Jr., 46, pleaded not guilty Friday in Saratoga County Court to all nine counts lodged in the indictment.

Ross was indicted on the top charge of first-degree kidnapping, a Class A felony, for which he could receive up to a life upon conviction.

The other charges include; four counts of predatory sexual assault against a child, class A-II felonies; first-degree sexual abuse, a class-D felony; first-degree sexual abuse, class D felony; second-degree assault, a class D violent felony; and endan-

**'What we're looking to do is do our job. We will do it well, we will do it thoroughly, and completely because of the work that has been done, and continues to be done, by law enforcement to hold this defendant who has committed a heinous, terrible offense against a tender-aged victim. We will hold him accountable and responsible.'**

**KAREN HEGGEN**

Saratoga County district attorney

gering the welfare of a child, a class A misdemeanor.

Ross is accused of abducting the girl Sept. 30 and then attempting to get ransom money for her. She was found alive two days later at a residence connected to Ross, authorities have said.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant Saratoga County District Attorney Jennifer L. Buckley.

Saratoga County District Attorney Karen Heggen spoke with reporters after Ross' appearance Friday, but

See **ROSS**, Page A2



NATASHA VAUGHN-HOLDRIDGE

Craig Ross, center, is pictured in Saratoga County Court on Friday.

## Groundbreaking



PETER R. BARBER

Jennifer Saunders, CEO of Liberty ARC, speaks at a groundbreaking of a new 5,000-square-foot, barrier-free home at 77 2nd Avenue in Amsterdam on Friday. The fully-accessible six-bedroom home for people with disabilities has been designed to provide greater independence for the people who will live there.

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY**

## Majewski wins write-in race for Legislature

BY ASHLEY ONYON

Chad Majewski has been elected to represent District 6 on the Montgomery County Legislature as a write-in candidate, according to unofficial results from the Montgomery County Board of Elections.



**Majewski**

"I'm anxious to get started. I appreciate all the support," Majewski said Friday. "I thank everybody and assure everyone that I will make sure that I satisfy the duties of the job."

Majewski, a registered Democrat, and Patrick Taft, a registered Conservative, each launched write-in bids to fill the unexpired two-year term of John "Duke" Duchessi, Jr. The seat has remained vacant since his death in January. No candidates filed petitions to appear on the ballot.

With over 71% of the vote, Majewski defeated Taft by an unofficial tally of 169 to 50. Election results will likely be certified next week, according to Terry Bieniek, Democratic commissioner on the Board of Elections.

Four votes for "Paul" Taft

were also counted, according to Bieniek, who surmised those voters may have mistakenly written in the wrong first name.

A total of 235 write-in ballots were received in the race for the unexpired seat and counted late this week. Bieniek said additional write-in ballots in the race were deemed "scatterings" or random names with three or fewer votes that could be real or fictional.

"It was definitely nerve wracking waiting for the results to come in," Majewski said over a week after election day. "I was really overwhelmed at the number of people to come out."

Majewski said he "did the work" on his campaign knocking on nearly every door in the district and calling voters to remind them to cast ballots in all races in the lead up to election day when he spent the entire day working the polls. He said his opponent ran a good campaign and wished him the best when the votes were tallied.

An Amsterdam native, Majewski previously served as the city's 3rd Ward alderman and deputy mayor. He owns a

See **VOTE**, Page A2

## UN stops delivery of food and supplies to Gaza

BY WAFAA SHURAF, JACK JEFFERY AND LEE KEATH

DEIR AL-BALAH, Gaza Strip (AP) — The United Nations was forced Friday to stop deliveries of food and other necessities to Gaza and warned of the growing risk of widespread starvation after inter-

net and telephone services collapsed in the besieged enclave because of lack of fuel.

Israel announced that it will allow two tanker trucks of fuel into Gaza each day for the U.N. and communication systems. That amount is half of what the U.N. said it needs for lifesaving functions for hun-

dreds of thousands of people in Gaza, including powering water systems, hospitals, bakeries and the trucks delivering aid.

Israel has barred entry of fuel since the start of the war, saying it would be diverted by Hamas for military means.

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