



The Chronicle

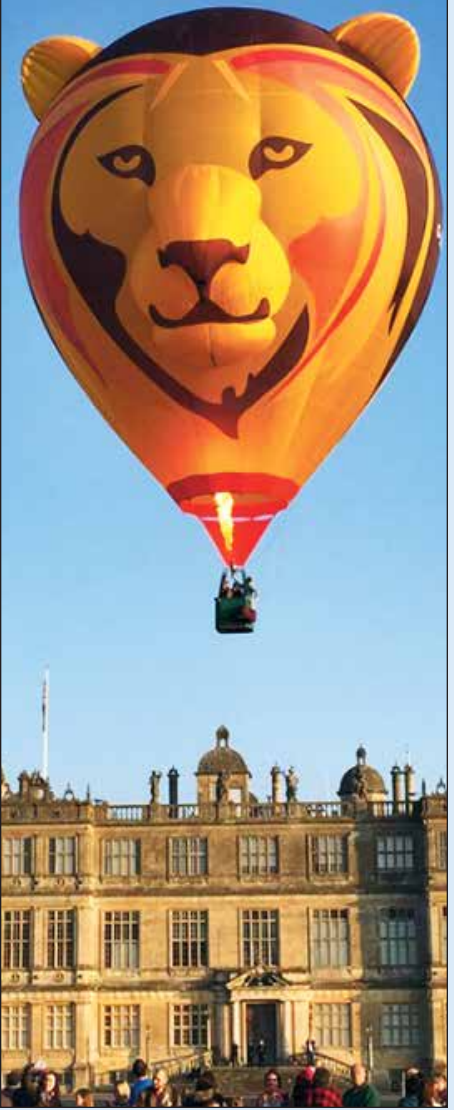
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Events Calendar

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50th Balloon Fest: 'More special shapes than ever'



By Cathy DeDe
Chronicle Managing Editor

The 50th Adirondack Balloon Festival — Wednesday to Sunday, **Sept. 20-24** — **expects 97 hot air balloons including 14 or 15 special shapes.** It's the most balloons in years, and "more special shapes than we ever had before," organizer Mark Donahue tells *The Chronicle*. Among them: three flying **Penguins**, a bathtub-friendly **Rubber Duck**, **Simbala** the lion, a **cheetah**, a flying **Watermelon**, festival regulars "**Sunny Boy**" and the **Snowman**, a black **Koala**, plus a celebratory **Birthday Cake**. Also: A kid-friendly replica of the original **Montgolfier hot air balloon**, complete with flying sheep, duck and rooster, said to have been the passengers in the pioneering balloon flight — by French brothers Joseph-Michel and Jacques-Etienne Montgolfier, on September 19, 1783, according to Wikipedia.

Balloon Fest schedule, p. 3

News-papers are in free fall

By Mark Frost
Chronicle Editor

Big reaction to our front-page article last week about the senior citizen in Lake George who is paying \$765 for *The Post-Star*. (She phoned to thank me for putting it in the paper and said that she cancelled her credit card and got a different one "because I don't trust *The Post-Star*" not to keep charging her. At last count there were 167 comments on our Facebook page with a gamut of opinions. Many people expressed out-

Opinion & analysis

Please turn to page 10



DOT says there's hope to finish Rt. 254 project next month ▶ 7

New at GF Cool Arena

Cool Insuring Arena announced two early 2024 shows.

- **Jeff Dunham: Still Not Canceled.** The ventriloquist/comedian returns **Friday, Jan. 12, 2024.** Tix go on sale Tuesday, Sept. 18, at 10 a.m., online at coolinsuringarena.com or in person at the Box Office. Limited local presale begins Friday, Sept. 15, at 10 a.m., online only using the code "PEANUT."

- **The Harlem Globetrotters** return **Tuesday, Feb. 13** at 7 p.m. Tickets on sale Monday, Sept. 25, at coolinsuringarena.com or the box office. Local presale opens Monday, Sept. 18, 10 a.m., online with code "VENUE."

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