



Photo provided

The redesigned Tidepool Touch Tank features a more diverse collection of creatures from the coast of Maine.

## Sciencenter Opens New Tidepool Tank

Visitors can explore ocean life up close at the Sciencenter's enhanced, redesigned hands-on Tidepool Touch Tank. This revitalized Tidepool Touch Tank is part of the new Ocean Science gallery that will see even more additions throughout the Sciencenter's recently launched capital campaign, "Curious. Confident. Inspired."

Guests will gain a new appreciation for ocean life by encountering animals they are connected to through our local watershed. The new Tidepool Touch Tank features a more diverse assortment of animals all hailing from the coast of Maine. Creatures include flat clawed hermit crabs, horseshoe crabs, sea stars, and channeled whelks, with even more coming soon.

Designed and created by Sciencenter staff, the Tidepool Touch Tank structure includes an open top for guided, hands-on exploration and large glass viewing windows so guests of all ages can gain access to this amazing

wildlife. The new tank also features realistic, intricate concrete rock work by Chris Wojcik of Ionature, to help guests fully immerse themselves in the environment.

Wojcik designed the tank's rock façade from molds taken at tidepools along the southern coast of Maine. He then created and affixed mussel and barnacle clusters as well as algae mats to enhance the experience for both guests and the resident animals. Keeping in line with the Sciencenter's ongoing sustainability initiatives, museum staff fabricated, constructed, and installed a geothermal temperature control system to maintain appropriate water temperatures in the 400-plus gallon tank.

Sciencenter staff and volunteers will host hands-on interactive hours daily from noon to 2 p.m. throughout the month of August. Fall hours will be posted to the Sciencenter's website. For membership information, current programs and activities, visit [www.sciencenter.org](http://www.sciencenter.org).

## Medicaid

*Continued from page 6*

since 2011. That figure in and of itself hints at how much is being lost, as well as at how much the investigations to recoup losses cost.

I wrote earlier this year about the state being in the process of awarding a \$500-million contract to Xerox to construct New York's next Medicaid management system. The effectiveness, integrity and quality of this new management system is vitally important to taxpayers.

Last time around the state paid Computer Sciences Corporation

(CSC) roughly \$1 billion to build the current system, which became operational in 2005. The CSC-built system was supposed to cost \$357 million. It ended up costing three times that much. It was completed three years late.

CSC and another Xerox competitor for the new Medicaid management contract, Hewlett-Packard, have protested and questioned Xerox's ability to do the job. Xerox, of course, begs to differ. The point is that none of it has inspired confidence that New York is on the verge of putting an end to Medicaid fraud. We'll see.

# Street Beat

The word on the street from around Tompkins County.

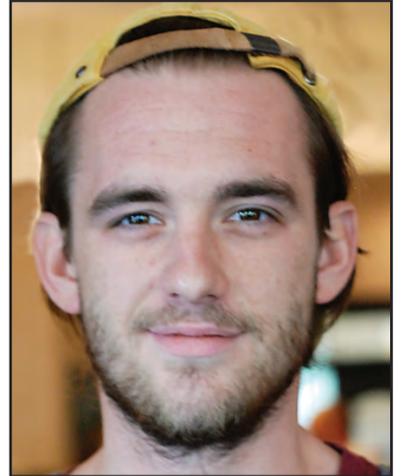
By Kathy Morris

Question: Why do people read murder mysteries?



"They're bored, excited by the unknown, or non-conversationalists."

- Blake Wilson, Freeville



"People are drawn to a sense of drama and danger, but they don't really want drama and danger in their own personal life."

- Drew Kellogg, Ithaca



"My doctor told me to stop reading them because they cause too much stress. (Some of them are real nail-biters.)"

- Nancy Rudert, Ithaca



"I like the suspense, seeing if I can figure out 'who dunnit.' If I can't figure it out, that tells me it was well-written."

- Sheri Whitley, Newfield

Send your question to **Street Beat**. If we choose your question, you'll receive a gift certificate to GreenStar Natural Foods Market. Go to [www.tompkinsweekly.com](http://www.tompkinsweekly.com) and click on **Street Beat** to enter.

## Ithaca Storage Solutions

*Ithaca's Premier Full Service Storage Facility*



- Self Storage Units
- Commercial & Household Storage
- Document Storage & Shredding
- Student Specials



Located on the Corner of Rt. 13 and Lower Creek Rd., in Ithaca

Please call 607-257-0411 for more info

[www.ithacastoragesolutions.com](http://www.ithacastoragesolutions.com)

**NEW @ GreenStar**  
Natural Foods Market

**MEMBER DEALS**

- New Member Only Benefit
- Deep Discounts On Regular Prices
- Approximately 100 Member Deals Sales at any given time

[www.greenstar.coop](http://www.greenstar.coop)