



# The Recorder

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## TOWN OF ST. JOHNSVILLE

# Proposed solar project awarded contract

### Tayandene Solar's 19.77 MW proposal would use about 97 acres in an agricultural district

BY ASHLEY ONYON

A nearly 20-megawatt solar project proposed in the town of St. Johnsville is among 23 large-scale renewable energy projects awarded contracts by the New York State Energy and Research Development Authority (NYSERDA).

The projects planned across the state will generate over 2.3 gigawatts of energy combined capable of powering over 700,000 homes. The proposals are expected to create over 2,500 jobs and generate over \$4.7 billion in private investment while contributing to the state's goals of

developing clean energy, grid resiliency and economic development.

"New York continues to foster competitive opportunities for the clean energy industry to thrive," Gov. Kathy Hochul said in a prepared statement. "We are delivering on our commitment to make

New York more prosperous by harnessing the benefits of a growing clean energy economy, increasing family sustaining jobs and spurring private investment within communities across the state while remaining focused on keeping energy affordable for all New Yorkers."

The projects are expected to reduce carbon emissions by 2.3 million metric tons annually, provide public health benefits by reducing exposure

to harmful pollutants and provide over \$249 million in commitments to disadvantaged communities from community benefit funds.

The 19.77-megawatt Tayandene Solar project proposed by Greenbacker Renewable Energy Company in St. Johnsville was among the projects to be awarded contracts by NYSERDA through its Tier 1 Renewable Energy

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## CANAJOHARIE

# Group wraps up schools merger study

### Final report to be released in January

BY ASHLEY ONYON

The advisory committee guiding the merger feasibility study for the Canajoharie and Fort Plain school districts has wrapped up its work with the final report to be released next month.

The report won't provide an actual recommendation, but instead will lay out the opportunities and challenges of a potential merger for the consideration of the boards of education of both districts before they decide whether to pursue consolidation subject to an eventual public vote.

Still, community members and faculty serving on the advisory committee generally seemed supportive of a potential merger while reviewing details in a partial draft report at their final meeting at Canajoharie High School on Thursday.

"I can't see anything but a benefit long term, especially with the idea of just simply getting all of our communities to work more closely together, because we can't compete with larger areas unless we all take the leap of faith," said Edward Watt, a committee member and teacher for Canajoharie.

The draft merger feasibility study led by consultants from Leadership Solutions Advisers has found merging could expand resources and opportunities for students, create a larger tax base, increase building aid and eliminate staffing issues for the competing districts amidst labor shortages.

There would also be the challenges of aligning school cultures, curriculum, programs, academic interventions, class sizes, schedules and codes of conduct. Decisions about staffing, bus routes and other operational matters couldn't be decided until a referendum is passed and a new Board of Education is subsequently elected and appoints a superintendent.

Karlene Peck, a Canajoharie parent, acknowledged not having the exact details of how a merged district would operate could make it a difficult decision.

"There's certain things I want to know and I know that we don't know the

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## Celebrating a century (and more)



PETER R. BARBER

Joyce Beck, left, and Rita Parillo who both turned 100 within a day of each other this week, are pictured together at River Ridge Living Center in Amsterdam on Friday.



Rose Rasile, left, is pictured with her son Philip at The Sentinel of Amsterdam celebrating her 103rd birthday, Tuesday.

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**WEATHER**

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