



WEATHER

TODAY	TONIGHT	WED
Partly sunny and delightful	Patchy clouds	Nice with clouds and sun
<b>HIGH</b> 79	<b>LOW</b> 59	<b>79</b>
<b>79</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>57</b>

Complete weather, A2

SPORTS



**Storm are champs again**

The Storm defeated the Rattlers 18-10 Sunday afternoon to win their third consecutive title.

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LOCAL



**Trophies on parade**

Trophies are presented to award-winning fire companies at annual Convention Parade

PAGE A3

LOCAL

**Centennial in triplicate**

Celebration marks third resident in Chatham reaching the 100-year-old milestone

PAGE A3

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On the web

www.HudsonValley360.com



## Chief: Hudson shootings connected



BILL WILLIAMS/COLUMBIA-GREENE MEDIA

Multiple police agencies were in Prison Alley in Hudson on Friday night after shots were fired.

By Bill Williams  
Columbia-Greene Media

HUDSON — Police continue to investigate the latest incident of shots fired that occurred on Friday night, Hudson Police Chief L. Edward Moore said Monday.

This is the fifth shooting incident to take place in Hudson since April.

Moore said he believes the shooting incidents in Hudson this year are connected.

At about 6:45 p.m., multiple police agencies responded to the 200 block of Prison Alley after receiving multiple reports of residents hearing gunshots in the area.

Police recovered four shell casings at the scene, but Moore said he believes additional shots were fired.

One building was hit by bullets, but no cars were hit that police are aware of, and there were no reported injuries in the incident, Moore said.

Police tape surrounded the area Friday night. Police were concentrating on an area midway between N. 3rd and N. 2nd streets.

Hudson police, Columbia County Sheriff's Office with its tracking dog and state police responded to the latest incident.

Police searched the

area Friday night, gathering evidence, talking with potential witnesses and checking available security camera video.

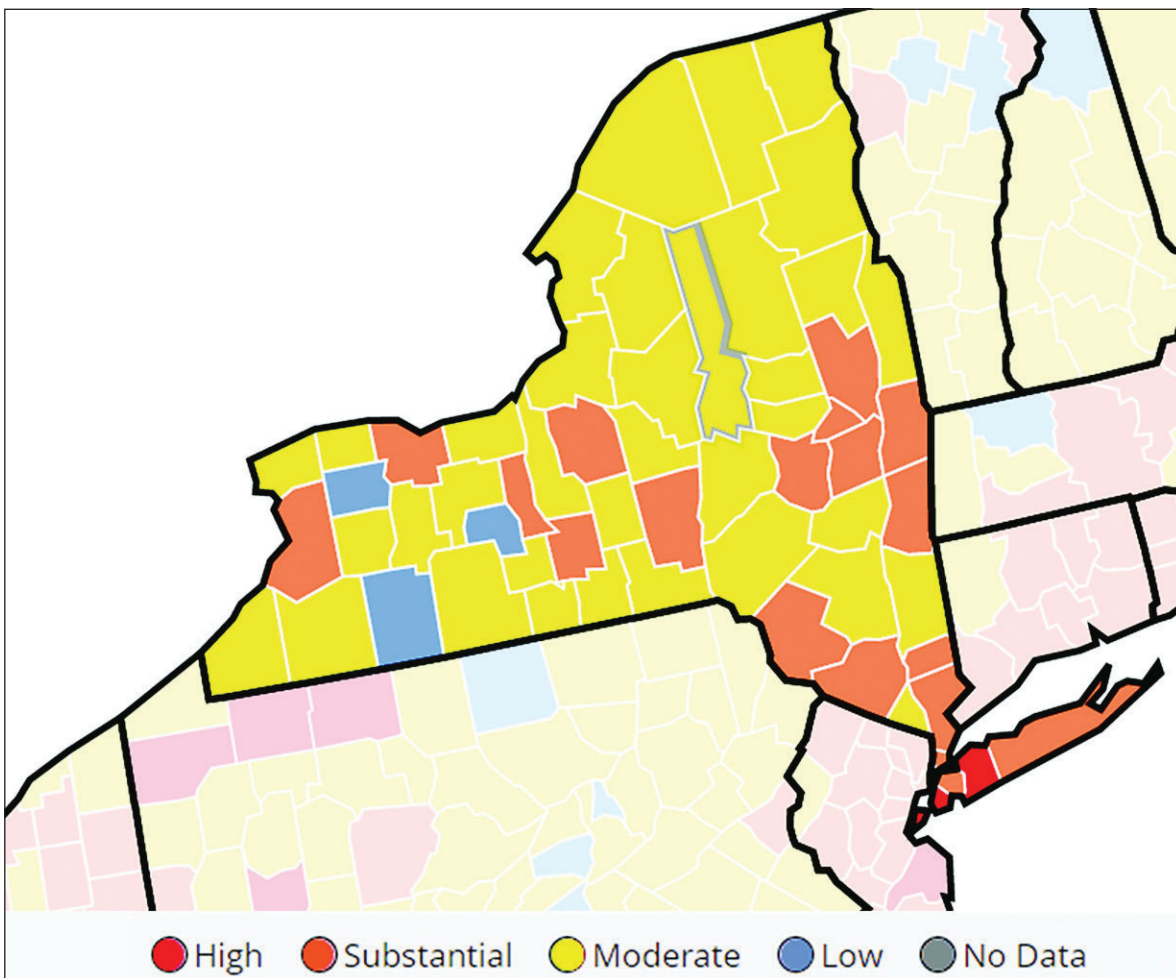
Police remained on the scene for several hours.

Detectives are continuing to gather information in the cases and Moore said he is happy with the evidence they have been able to put together so far.

The first incident this year took place on April 17, when more than a dozen shots were fired in the area of 234 Robinson Street. There were no

See SHOOTINGS A8

## Cuomo urges businesses to go vaccine-only



By Kate Lisa

Johnson Newspaper Corp.

NEW YORK — Gov. Andrew Cuomo pressed local businesses and the private sector to only accept customers fully vaccinated against COVID-19, he announced Monday morning.

State officials have started to express concern as the delta COVID variant, which spreads more easily and rapidly than the original strain of the upper respiratory illness, causes a surge of new coronavirus infections,

hospitalizations and deaths across the state and nation.

Nearly all new COVID-19 cases are tied to the delta variant. The state's infection rate jumped to 2.96% Monday, up from 1.88% one week ago.

"We have a situation, as they say, and it's a serious situation," Cuomo said Monday during a coronavirus briefing in Manhattan. "Private businesses, bars, restaurants — I am asking them and suggesting them to

See CUOMO A8

## Columbia County raised to high-risk of COVID transmission

By Natasha Vaughn  
Columbia-Greene Media

HUDSON — Columbia County is now considered to be at a high-risk level of community transmission for COVID-19, according to data from the Centers for Disease Control.

The CDC recently updated its recommended guidance for fully vaccinated people. It recommends fully vaccinated people to wear a mask in public indoor settings in areas of substantial or high transmission, which now includes Columbia County.

"The designation happened because our numbers are up," Department of Health Director Jack Mabb said. "We had a pretty busy week last week. We had 11 this morning."

The Columbia County Department of Health reported nine cases Friday, four on Thursday, four on Wednesday and nine last Tuesday.

A number of other nearby counties are also considered to have reached a substantial level of community transmission, including Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Sullivan, Orange and Schoharie. Last week the CDC classified Greene County at a substantial level of community risk. The current level of community transmission in Greene County has been reduced to moderate by the CDC.

"Positive vaccinated people can still pass the virus on," Mabb said. "That's why there is the recommendation to wear the masks. It's a prudent thing to do at this point."

Gov. Andrew Cuomo urged local officials and government leaders Monday to impose COVID vaccine mandates and requirements in municipalities across the state's 62 counties as virus cases spike.

The state's COVID-related state of emergency, and the governor's expanded authority, ended June 25 — terminating Cuomo's ability to enact statewide coronavirus mandates, including

See HIGH-RISK A8

## Cigar shop called to comply with health law



ALIYA SCHNEIDER/COLUMBIA-GREENE MEDIA

Roy Brown's cigar shop is currently located at 22 South Seventh St. in Hudson, pictured. Brown is moving his shop to 93 10 Broeck Ave. in Greenport.

By Aliya Schneider  
Columbia-Greene Media

GREENPORT — The town planning board approved a proposed cigar shop and deli under the condition the cigar shop comply with a public health law.

The state public health law in question prohibits tobacco advertisements within 1,500 feet of a school.

The proposed cigar shop and lounge for 93 Ten Broeck Ave. would be 1,056 feet away from the Questar III BOCES Columbia-Greene Educational Center, 131 Union Turnpike.

The law prohibits the public display of tobacco and vaping

product advertisements and the display of smoking paraphernalia within 500 feet of a school in New York City and within 1,500 feet in the rest of the state. The public health law is a little more than a year old. Under the law, businesses cannot have smoking advertisements in a storefront, exterior window or door used for public entry, or a structure, within 1,500 feet of a school.

In 2019, 7.6% of students in grades 9 through 12 were cigar smokers in the United States and 2.3% in grades 6 through 8, according to the CDC.

Roy Brown, who co-owns


the building and plans to open the cigar shop and lounge, said he was aware of the law and is not worried about it. He said he does not display the products referenced in the law.

"I don't do Juul," he said on Thursday. "I don't do vape. All I do is premium cigars."

Brown added the law is focused on those e-cigarette products, not his products.

"Basically, the law is focused on those things," Brown said. "They don't want school-age children to be exposed to tobacco products. If you were to drive

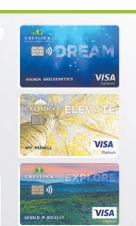
See LAW A8



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