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WEDNESDAY, August 10, 2011  
Ithaca, N.Y. | Final Edition | \$1.00

# The Ithaca JOURNAL

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## Fed projects economic malaise

### Key interest rate kept near 0 for 2 years

By Martin Cuvingsinger  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Federal Reserve sketched a dim outlook for the economy Tuesday, suggesting it will remain weak for two more years. As a result, the Fed said it expects to keep its key interest rate near zero through mid-2013.

It's the first time the Fed has pegged its "exceptionally low" rate to a specific date. The Fed previously said only that it would keep its key rate at record

low for "an extended period." The Fed's synopsis and its implications for the economy led to a wild afternoon of trading on Wall Street. Stocks plunged after the statement was released, but then shot up shortly after. The Dow Jones industrial average sank more than 176 points, then recovered its losses and closed up 429 points for the day.



It was a hectic day at the New York Stock Exchange on Tuesday as the Dow Jones industrial average sank 176 points, then rallied to close up 429.92. ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Stock market highlights

### TEACHING ENERGY EFFICIENCY

## Course empowers students



Patrick Griffin, center, leads a class on how to do a home energy audit. The class was learning about the operation of the gas-powered hot water boiler for the heating system in Susan Barr's Brooktondale home. SACHS/HELLER (STAFF PHOTO)

### Free course focuses on audits of buildings

By Rachel Stern  
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When Sarah Heath walks into her house, she cannot help but study the furnace — what type is it? Are there flame problems? Is there rust? These are the questions that swirl around the Ithaca High School senior's head.

"I notice a lot of things called Building Science, now and see a lot of things. The course taught students how to assess energy efficiency in a home. She was one of 15 students who participated in the class. The course was run through Cornell Cooperative Extension and TSY-ROCKS and ran from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for five weeks. Heath said she notices these things because of a course she took last week.

## New York ranks last in volunteerism

### Report: NYC's 17.2% pulls rest of state down

By Brian Tamuliy  
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WASHINGTON — New York ranks last among states in volunteerism, according to a report released Tuesday. About 20 percent of New Yorkers volunteered last year for community groups, religious organizations, schools and other non-profits, according to the annual Volunteering in America report by the Corporation for National and Community Service.

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That's less than half the participation rate in Utah, which led the nation with 44.5 percent. Eighteen states had participation rates of 30 percent or more, said the report, which was based on data from the U.S. Census Bureau's current population survey.

The New York City metropolitan area was largely responsible for the state's poor showing. The Big Apple's 17.2 percent volunteer rate was one of the lowest in the nation. The only major city with a lower rate was Miami, at 15.2 percent. Rochester ranked No. 5 among big cities, with a 33.8 volunteer participation rate. It had the highest rate of volunteerism among baby boomers — 41 percent — of any large city in the nation.

Rochester's business leaders, whether big or small, are maybe a bit more advanced when it comes to volunteering, said Carly Layton, director of marketing and volunteer engagement for the United Way of Greater Rochester. "If you're not giving back, people are wondering why."

See VOLUNTEERISM Page 5A

## Ithaca mayoral candidates talk entrepreneurship

### Business ideas discussed at forum

By Alyson Martin  
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Six mayoral candidates spoke before Ithaca city residents with a special focus on sustainability. The forum, held Monday night at the Women's Community Building, brought together about 100 voters eager to meet the candidates. The Sustainable Enterprise and Entrepreneur



Network hosted the event. J.P. Chiarbone, Christopher Kozmir, Pam Mackney, Wade Wystra, Anthony Gufford and Svanie Myrick all answered questions about topics like how to engage the youth of Ithaca and how to mold an ecologically sustainable city. One candidate, Justin Kelly, was absent from the discussion due to a knee injury. "It's not that I didn't care about the forum, it's that I have a torn cartilage in my knee following a bicycle accident," Kelly said. The crowd reflected the topic of the evening, sustainability.

See FORUM Page 4A



### CANDIDATE Q&A

Seven candidates vying for Ithaca mayor discuss what improvements to city areas they would make if elected. Viewpoints, Page 9A

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