

Exploring nature through sound



NICK REYNOLDS / STAFF PHOTO
Bill McQuay, a sound engineer at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, works in his studio. He is collaborating with NPR on a series that starts this week on "Morning Edition" to explore nature through sound.

Cornell Ornithology Lab sound engineer collaborates with NPR on new series

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A heartbeat thumps, a smooth voice speaks over it as Cornell Lab of Ornithology Audio Producer Bill McQuay watches seconds tick by on a computer screen. He listens carefully, thoughtfully, adjusting levels, splicing quotes, employing his hearing into the tedium of editing. He perks up as the sound of a heart murmur comes across the speakers, as do the voices of a doctor and student discussing the subtleties of the sound. But McQuay couldn't make it out.

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G.N. MILLER AP
Joyce Mitchell pleaded guilty Tuesday for her role in a prison escape.

Mitchell pleads guilty in escape

Prison worker faces up to seven years

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ALBANY — A worker in the Clinton Correctional Facility's tailor shop will spend up to seven years behind bars for her role in aiding a pair of convicted murderers in their escape from the northern New York prison last month. Joyce Mitchell, 51, appeared Tuesday in Clinton County Court, where she pleaded guilty to promoting prison contraband, a felony, and misdemeanor criminal facilitation. The Franklin County resident played a key role in helping convicts Richard Matt and David Sweat escape from the maximum-security facility in early June, smuggling screwdriver bits and hacksaw blades to the inmates by hiding them in packages of frozen hamburger meat. Mitchell's plea was part of an agreement with Clinton County District Attorney Andrew Wylie's office, which in turn agreed not to pursue more serious charges related to a plot to have the inmates harm her husband. She will be sentenced Sept. 28, when she will face a fine and between 2½ and 7 years in prison. Bail was set at \$100,000 cash or \$200,000 bond as she

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NICK REYNOLDS / STAFF PHOTO
Bill McQuay explores the sound archive at the Cornell University Lab of Ornithology.

Hillary Clinton scheduled to visit Corning Wednesday



ASSOCIATED PRESS
Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton will return to Corning on Wednesday, the one-year anniversary of her last visit there.

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WASHINGTON — Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton will return to Corning on Wednesday, the one-year anniversary of her last visit there. A year ago, Clinton was paid \$225,500 to address Corning Inc.'s global senior management meeting. This time, Corning CEO Wendell Weeks, his wife, Kim Frock, and Corning Chief Financial Officer James Flaws and his wife, Marcia Weber, are hosting a Hillary For America fundraiser at the Radisson hotel in Corning, according to a local Democrat who received a mailed invitation. A spokesman for Corning Inc. said the executives are hosting the event as individuals, meaning it's not a corporate event.

A Chemung County Democrat, who wished not to be identified, said the event will start at 5:30 p.m., and attendance is by invitation only. Clinton, a former U.S. senator from New York, is seeking the Democratic presidential nomination in 2016. Weeks has contributed \$1,350 to Hillary for America this year. Frock has contributed \$2,700. All four of the hosts have donated large sums to federal office-seekers for a number of years. Flaws has donated \$450,250 to candidates, the Democratic National Committee and the Corning Employees Political Action Committee, according to the Federal Election Commission. His donations date to 1999, when he gave to former Vice President Al Gore's Democratic presi-

dential campaign. His wife has donated \$199,200 to candidates and groups such as Emily's List and the Women's Campaign Fund. Weeks has given a total \$71,700 to both Republicans and Democrats, including Republican Rep. Tom Reed of Corning and former Republican Reps. Amo Houghton and John "Randy" Kuhl. He also donated to the campaigns of Democratic Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand and Clinton when she served in the Senate. Most of the \$7,400 Frock has donated to candidates has gone to Clinton's current campaign and her 2007-2008 presidential campaign.

Follow Brian Tumulty on Twitter @NYinDC. Reporter Jeff Murray contributed to this report.

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