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# Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman

"The Best Journal Published by a Dam Site!" Celebrating 70 years of serving the Community

VOL. 13 NO. 48 GRAHAMSVILLE, NY 12740 DECEMBER 14, 2017 FIFTY CENTS

• Local Weather Pg 8 • Mysterious Book Report John D. McKenna Pg 4 • The Olive Jar Carol La Monda Pg 6 •

**REMINDER:** *Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman* will not be published the week of: Thursday, December 28, 2017 in observance of Christmas nor the week of Thursday, January 4, 2017 in observance of New Years

## Guillermo Granados performed in the New York All-State Mixed Chorus at the Eastman School of Music Kodak Theatre



The Fallsburg Central School District is honored that Fallsburg High School senior student Guillermo Granados performed in the New York All-State Mixed Chorus at the Eastman School of Music Kodak Theatre in Rochester, NY on December 3, 2017.

He was selected after receiving a 100 on his level 6 New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) solo at the festival last June. In the photo to the right, outside the Eastman School are Guillermo Granados with Fallsburg High School Choral Director Ms. Colleen O'Toole-Barber.

## NCA Students at All State in Rochester

Several Nesin Cultural Arts (NCA) students performed in the New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) Area All State weekend. Students in Area All State are chosen based on NYSSMA adjudication scores within their respective zone of New York State. Annay Ames, Bella Lovett, Fiona Feltman, Amelia Gleyzer, Chanlyn O'Sullivan and Olivia Hendrickson are all students of David Trombley through the NCA Aspiring Young Musicians program.



Area All State students and NCA Aspiring Young Musicians Bella Lovett, Amelia Gleyzer and Fiona Feltman are students of David Trombley

In addition, Bella Lovett, Edward Spear and Annay Ames participated in rehearsals and concerts from November 30th through December 3rd at the Eastman Theatre in Rochester, New York during the annual NYSSMA Winter Conference. About 6,000 students audition for the 8 All-State performing groups, and fewer than 900 are selected to participate each year.

NYSSMA is the largest state affiliate of The National Association for Music Education, with approximately 6,000 members. The NYSSMA Winter Conference in Rochester attracts almost 4,000 participants and offers about 190 workshops and showcases.

## Santa Express Arrives Early in Fallsburg

Everyone knows that Santa Claus comes but once a year, and this year he came a little bit earlier than usual to the Town of Fallsburg. The huge float containing The Santa Express turned the corner at Route 42 and heading up to the Town Square exactly at 5 PM. With headlights beaming, horn blowing, holiday music blaring, the giant "sleigh" stopped in front of the Court House to the shouts of delight of the couple hundred children, parents and a few barking dogs. (Contd. Pg. 11)



Mrs. Jenny Gagnon, parent and active volunteer in Fallsburg Central School District PTA and Volunteer in Classroom Program, holding on to Comet, her eight-week old golden retriever.

## Way to Go 7th and 8th Grade Students!

On Tuesday, November 21, a special ceremony was held at Tri-Valley Central School for 7th and 8th grade students. The assembly, put on by the 7th and 8th grade teachers, recognized students for achieving Perfect Attendance, Honor Roll, High Honor Roll, and Principal's Honor Roll.



Top row- Linda Jones, Myia Skiff, Ben Smith, Erik Franson; bottom row- Sam Morgan, Julia Moore, David Allison



Top row- Jesse Estrada, Jocelyn Mungeer, Anna Streimer, Gavin Clarke; bottom row- Mark Klein, Cheyenne Bound, Gail McAndrew, Kaylee Poppo

Special awards were also given to students who the 7th and 8th grade teachers selected as going above and beyond expectations inside and outside of the classroom. In the 8th grade, David Allison and Samantha Morgan won awards for Academic Excellence, Linda Jones and Myia Skiff won awards for Outstanding Work Ethic, Julia Moore and Ben Smith won awards for Leadership, and Erik Franson won the award for Most Improved.

In the 7th grade, Gail McAndrew and Anna Streimer won awards for Academic Excellence, Cheyenne Bound and Collin Mentnech won awards for Outstanding Work Ethic, Gavin Clarke and Kaylee Poppo won awards for Leadership, Mark Klein and Jocelyn Mungeer won awards for Most Improved, and Jesse Estrada and Anna Klimiuk won awards for Excellent Participation.



Austin Hartman, Caleb Edwards, and Mr. Dave Moore

Additionally, Mr. Dave Moore was in attendance to congratulate the winners of the Tri-Valley Lions Club "The Future of Peace" Poster Contest! Ms. Leopoldo's 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students participated in this contest, creating beautiful and thoughtful works of art. (Contd. Pg. 3)

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**YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN**  
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**POLICY ON SUBMISSIONS AND LETTERS TO THE EDITORS:**

1. **ALL submissions** should be typewritten or in Microsoft Word.
2. Letters should contain no more than 300 words and must be typewritten. They may be emailed as Microsoft Word documents.
3. Letters should offer worthwhile comments and avoid libel or bad taste.
4. Letters must be signed with the writer's own name. No letter will be published without a signature.
5. The writer must provide his/her full name, address and telephone number (for verification). This information will be kept on file in the YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN office.
6. Copies of letters or third-party letters will not be accepted.

**Opinions expressed in Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman belong to the writers and are not necessarily the viewpoint of Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman or its staff.**

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**PLEASE NOTE: AS OF JUNE 30, 2016 - The Subscription Rate is \$35.00 per year.**

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- 1" Boxed ad (1" x 3") - \$7.20 per week
- Business card ad (2" x 3") \$14.40 per week
- (3" x 4") - \$28.80 per week
- (3" x 6") - \$43.20
- (4" x 6") - \$57.60
- 1/4 pg (5" x 7") - \$84.00
- (6" x 8") - \$115.00
- 1/2 pg (7" x 10") - \$168.00
- Full Page - B/W - \$336.00

Back Page/Centerfold \$4.75/sq in Full Centerfold/Back page \$600

Rates are based on **Camera-ready copy. A Graphic Designer is available at \$35.00/hr.** Call or email us for more information. Guaranteed placement is available for a 25% surcharge on a first-come, first-serve basis on all pages except the front page, page 2 & page 3. **All advertising must be pre-paid** unless other arrangements have been made.

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**Deadline for all submissions is 3:00 p.m. Friday, NO EXCEPTIONS due to recent postal regulation changes - all fliers received after 3:00 pm on Friday will not be inserted until the following week's edition.**

If you are submitting your advertising by email, our email address is: [tvtownsman@yahoo.com](mailto:tvtownsman@yahoo.com) If you do choose to send ad copy via the internet please send it in either PDF (Acrobat) files or high resolution JPG format. All press releases/articles should be sent as **Microsoft Word Documents**

Have a question- please call: Linda Comando (845) 985-0501. As always, thank you for your support.

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**ON THE FRONT BURNER:** A root will rise up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him – the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and fear of the Lord. Isaiah 11:1-2

**OBITUARY**

**Joseph David Murray, Jr** AKA "Junior." of Hurleyville, passed away on Monday, November 27, 2017 at his daughter's home surrounded by his family. He was 86.

He was the son of the late Joseph David Murray, Sr. and Gertrude Marion DeBiasa, born on November 15, 1931 in Ellenville, NY.

Junior was born in Ellenville, NY but was raised in Fallsburg and spent most of his life locally. He left school at a young age to help support his mother and sister, this is when he started his career in the trucking business. He worked his entire life from behind a steering wheel always in a large truck including when he helped build the Neversink Reservoir and then he finally retired at the age of 74 from Miron Ready Mix in Liberty, NY. He wore a lot of hats, and could teach you how to do many different odd jobs. He was incredibly talented with his hands, being a craftsman of sorts, he knew how to "supe up" all sorts of mechanics, making the ordinary the extraordinary with his true "redneck ingenuity". He was a very honest man that never lied and would never accept a lie being told to him, a true straight shooter who said what he meant and nothing less. He truly loved his friends and family and kept his relationships for a lifetime.

He is survived by his children: Robert L., Joseph D. III, Charles E., Matthew J. Murray, CindiJo A. Miller, Theila J. Lorino and Jeneva M. Greffrath; 23 grandchildren; several great-grandchildren; and his sister Alice Murden. He is predeceased by his wife of 46 years Cynthia Iryne Wallace and their son David E. Murray.

Arrangements were under the direction of Colonial Memorial Funeral Home, Woodbourne, NY. Burial is in Hurleyville Cemetery.

**COLLEGE NEWS:**

**News from Wilkes University**

**Ethan Lonstein of Ellenville, N.Y. Presents Research at Inaugural Sidhu Research Day**  
Ethan Lonstein of Ellenville, N.Y., was one of 35 undergraduate students from the Wilkes University Jay S. Sidhu School of Business and Leadership to present at the inaugural Sidhu Research Day on Dec. 1. The event - a first for the Sidhu School - celebrates academic achievement and mentorship. The conference theme, "Value Chain Innovations in Digital, Social Media, and Mobile Commerce," featured research topics as social media advertising, cyber security, women in entrepreneurship, and social networking addiction. Lonstein's research was titled, "Entrepreneurship and Organizational Culture." The study illustrates the types of organizational cultures held by entrepreneurs from eight counties in northeastern Pennsylvania to illuminate support for entrepreneurs.

**DAYS OF YORE....**

**Today's History**

**1947** - The Board of Supervisors of Sullivan County recently adopted a budget of \$793,000 for the coming year of 1948. The budget estimate put revenues at \$345,215.00 and expenditures of \$793,843.00. The difference is to be raised from the towns by taxation. Salaries were raised in the budget for most county officials, but the County Highway Superintendent's salary will remain at \$3,600.

The icy roads which followed the sleet storm on Saturday were indirectly responsible for a serious accident that morning. Mrs. Maude Huson was crossing the road between the Anaple house and the Gillette house when she was struck by a car driven by Emmett alter who was blinded by the glare of the lights of an approaching vehicle as they shone on the pavement. He did not see Mrs. Huson, but felt a thump, stopped the car and got out to see what happened. She had been knocked down and suffered the fracture of both bones in her right leg just below the knee.

**1957** - The bodies of two Air Force Officers were found in a wreckage of their jet on Panther Mountain. Search parties climbed over rough ter-

rain to reach the wreck. Mr. George Erts saw the flaming plane in the sky before it crashed.

General sale of New York vehicle registration plates for 1958 began Monday with the accent on vehicle inspection required. Owners of 1952 and older vehicles will have to show proof that the vehicle has a valid inspection sticker in order to obtain 1958 plates. Everyone will get new plates for 1958.

Al Julian of Ellenville shot one of the biggest bucks reported this year. The eight-pointer weighed 237 pounds.

**1967** - More than 300 people attended the first open house sponsored by the Sullivan county Board of Cooperative Services held at the occupational center.

Names of servicemen in our area are: Robert Akerley, James Bowers, J.R. Boyes, George Carr, Charles Clark, Roy Clark, Doug Coddington, Horace Currey, Howard Davis, Roger Edwards, Ronald Fraley, William Goldsmith, Ray Goode, Danford Graham, Wardell Graham, Willard Graham, James Grey, Steven Hill, Bradley Houghtaling, Carl Houghtaling, Paul Kelley, Paul Lagueux, John McGuire, James Marshall, Tom Matthews, Robert Mentnech, Tom Mitchell, Vernon Morgan, George Nash, C. N. Neilsen, John Nielsen, Gerald Prince, Ernest Smith, Gerald Smith, Henry Sparling and Stephen Warren

**1977** - Robert Many, husband of Elthea Many. Passed away Tuesday afternoon, December 6.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Stratton have announced the engagement of their daughter, Elaine, to Mr. Joseph Iatauro.

The new season, winter hit the area with vengeance Monday with snow, sleet and freezing rain following the sleet storm of Saturday. Many schools were closed yet on Tuesday and counties north of us had roads open only for emergencies.

**Free Emergency Preparedness Training at Fallsburg High School**

New York National Guard troops, in conjunction with the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, will be presenting a free disaster preparedness class at Fallsburg High School on Friday, Dec. 15. The two-hour program begins at 1:20 p.m. The event is opened to any interested citizen and no sign-up in advance is required.

The event is part of Gov. Andrew Cuomo's continuing Citizen Preparedness Corps Training Program, which provides citizens with the knowledge and tools to prepare for emergencies and disasters, respond accordingly, and recover as quickly as possible to pre-disaster conditions.

Working with the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) and local emergency management personnel, troops are conducting these training events across the state.

Since the program's launch in early February 2014, troops have held more than 1,690 events statewide, and taught over 108,000 citizens how to be better prepared for emergencies and disasters.

The program, designed by DHSES, covers a broad range of emergency-preparedness topics, like developing a family emergency plan, stocking up on emergency supplies, and registering for NY-Alert, the free statewide emergency alert system.

The Citizen Preparedness Corps has equipped thousands of New Yorkers to respond better to emergencies and disasters, he stressed.

Emergency preparedness is part and parcel of the New York National Guard's mission and experience, according to New York State Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Anthony German.

"The men and women of the New York Army and Air National Guard, who have responded to help their fellow New Yorkers during floods, hurricanes, and snow storms, know first-hand the value of being prepared for emergencies," German said.

"Our Soldiers and Airmen are proud to be part of Governor Cuomo's effort to help our fellow citizens prepare to cope with disasters and emergencies," German added.

For more information on the program and emergency preparedness, visit: [www.nyprepare.gov](http://www.nyprepare.gov).

**A Round About Tri-Valley**

Carol Furman

Catherine Rose Lewis has arrived! She weighed 5lbs. 9.2 ozs and is the daughter of Sean and April Lewis. She is also the granddaughter of Bonnie and Barry Lewis and the great granddaughter of Irma Mentnech. Congratulations! Congratulation, also, to Tom Byrne who took a buck in Neversink measuring 79.75. I believe he is the current leader in the Democrat's Big Buck Contest.

It was nice to see that four Tri-Valley soccer players were named as 2017 All-Stars by the Sullivan County Democrat. They are: Tom VanSaders, Sam Houghtaling, Jaclyn Musa and Rebecca Reynolds, Kudos to all of you!

Adam Furman, a 7th grader at Tri-Valley, qualified for the National Amateur Athletic Union's Cross Country Race in Charlotte, NC by placing 4th at the qualifying race held in Queens, NY. in November. When he went to Charlotte, Adam placed in the top twenty-five out of approximately 175 runners. Joe and Missy Iatauro drove from Georgia to North Carolina to cheer Adam on. What a nice thing to do! Joe and Missy, now both retired, were long-time teachers, cross country and track coaches at Tri-Valley.

Cub Scout Pack 87 is planning to go Christmas Caroling to Catskill Regional Hospital on Saturday December 16th.

I hear that the Tri-Valley PTO is selling "player's edge" discount cards. A card costs \$20. and offers discounted rates at some businesses in the area. See the PTO page on the Tri-Valley website for more info.

The *Townsmen* staff Christmas Party will be held at the Blue Hill Lodge on Thursday, December 21st. Frank and Linda Comando help to make this a fun gathering and the Blue Hill Lodge always goes out-of-their-way to make us feel so welcome.

A big "THANK YOU" to Frost Valley and their staff for inviting the Tri-Valley community to a very nice holiday smorgasbord dinner on Friday, December 8th. Everything is always done up so nicely, and there is always a large and beautifully decorated tree in the dining hall. Thank you Frost Valley for all you do for our local community!

Those who attended the annual holiday tea at Daniel Pierce Library on December 2nd were able to enjoy a fun and festive afternoon. Bill Richardson was the MC for the program and did a wonderful job. Tri-Valley students performed musical selections and shared holiday recitations and Helen Miller accompanied the holiday sing-along. Thank you to the 4H Puppy Pals and the Library staff and volunteers for a lovely afternoon.

A Defensive Driving Course is being offered at the Claryville Firehouse on Saturday, January 6th at 10:00am. This course is offered to anyone 18 years+ and completion of the course may be used for point reduction or an insurance discount. There is a \$40. charge for the course, (payable in cash or money order only). No need to pre-register for the course, just show up. For additional info, contact Jim Hopkins at 292-0999.

**Words of Wisdom:** Be yourself. No one can ever tell you you're doing it wrong. (James Leo Herlihy) When we put ourselves in the other person's place, we're less likely to want to put him in his place. (Farmer's Digest)

**Way to Go 7th and 8th Grade Students!** (From Pg. 1)

Eighth grade student Caleb Edwards earned the first place award which, according to his art teacher, Ms. Samantha Leopoldo, "Caleb's beautiful poster shows a detailed expression of the theme, including many symbols of peace, flags of different nations, various monuments, and a focal point of a clock." Also, coming in third place was 7th grade student Austin Hartman. Well done, Caleb and Austin!

Congratulations to all of the students who were recognized. We are very, very proud of all of their accomplishments!

**Gingerbread House Making for Kids at SUNY Sullivan**

(Loch Sheldrake, NY): Kids from 8 - 15 years old are invited to learn the creative art of gingerbread house making on Saturday, December 16 at SUNY Sullivan. Attendees will spend some "sweet" time with Chef Mary Magnetico as they each make their own custom gingerbread house.

The class, which will be held from 1 - 4 pm in the college's production bakery lab (Room H031), costs \$50 per person. Each attendee will leave with a fabulous holiday decoration to take home and share with family and friends.

To register, go to [www.sunysullivan.edu/gingerbread-house-making/](http://www.sunysullivan.edu/gingerbread-house-making/). For more information, email Hillary at [hegeland@sunysullivan.edu](mailto:hegeland@sunysullivan.edu) or call 845-434-5750, ext. 4377.

**Wastewater Projects Advance**

Community wastewater projects in the hamlets of West Conesville in Schoharie County, and Halcottsville in Delaware County, are advancing under the guidance of the Catskill Watershed Corporation (CWC) and the coordination of Lamont Engineers.

At the December 5 meeting of the CWC Board of Directors, a block grant of \$8,411,000 was approved for development of a wastewater system for West Conesville, and Lamont was authorized to enter the pre-construction phase of the project. Earlier, on October 4, the Conesville Town Board had agreed to proceed with the pre-construction phase that includes final design, property acquisition, sewer district formation, establishing a sewer use law, bidding the project and development of operation and maintenance plans and contracts.

The project which emerged during the Study Phase is proposed to connect 54 properties to a small diameter gravity system in which solids will be retained in individual on-site septic tanks that will be pumped periodically. Effluent will be carried to a community septic system leach field on property to be acquired about one mile from the hamlet of West Conesville.

A different wastewater solution has been proposed for Halcottsville where the Middletown Town Board held a public hearing December 6 on a plan to pump waste from 53 properties to the Margaretville Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). A block grant of \$8,954,000 has been approved for the project.

At the hearing, CWC and Lamont staff members presented details of the project which will send an estimated 15,000 gallons of wastewater a day to the New York City-owned plant. Four-plus miles of force main will carry the wastewater south along NYS Route 30 to hook up with the existing system on County Route 38 (the Arkville Crossroad). Residential properties will pay \$100 per year for the service; the annual fee for non-residential parcels will be based on water usage.

Lamont first explored whether a community wastewater system like the one proposed for West Conesville would work, but after investigating five sites for a leach field it was determined that none were feasible. Nor would a septic maintenance district be appropriate since only a handful of lots in the hamlet can support adequate on-site treatment systems. With plenty of capacity in the Margaretville WWTP, the most cost-effective option was deemed to be transporting the waste to Margaretville similar to the way Roxbury's sewage is transported to the City-owned WWTP in Grand Gorge. NYC DEP operates both plants.

The Middletown Town Board will consider a resolution to formally enter the pre-construction phase of this project at its regular monthly meeting December 13.

The City-funded Community Wastewater Management Program is a voluntary one. Municipalities can opt out of any project up to the point of entering the Construction Phase.

Since the program's inception, wastewater solutions have been instituted in nine hamlets in the West-of-Hudson New York City Watershed. In addition to the projects under development at West Conesville and Halcottsville, a system is being formulated for the hamlet of Shandaken, Ulster County, and construction is currently underway on a septic maintenance district in Claryville, straddling Sullivan and Ulster Counties. (Contd. Pg. 6)

**Nature Column - Linda Comando**  
A tribute to the memory of all of the *Townsmen* ladies that we have lost and loved so much... Peggy DeWire, Avril Pappa, Joan Hall, Polly Hill, Joyce Lockhart and Jean Helthaler.

**The Winter Scene in the Catskills**

With the background now white, the Catskill landscape is beginning to show off its winter evergreen foliage and red berries. What are some of those red berries that we are seeing now?

The familiar Dog Rose a/k/a Wild Rose or Briar Rose (*Rosa canina*) is that rambling shrub, found in hedgerows, woodland edges, and grasslands. It is the most abundant of our native, wild roses. The dog rose that grows wild in the Catskills has thorns and clusters of sweet-scented five petaled white flowers that appear in June and July. By autumn they produce bright red rosehips that are high in vitamin C and are one of the richest plant sources available. The hips are used for herbal teas, jam, jelly, syrup, rose hip soup, beverages, pies, bread, wine, and marmalade.

Another popular red berry is Winterberry Holly a/k/a Black Elder (*Ilex verticillata*), a deciduous shrub that grows to 6 to 15 feet tall. It is a species of holly native to eastern North America and it decorates our winter scene in the Catskill's swamps, damp thickets, low woods and along ponds and streams.

The Winterberry Holly has abundant clusters of long lasting, bright red fruits and lustrous, thick, dark green leaves. The leaves fall off the shrub in autumn, making the berry display all the more showy in the winter landscape.

The attractive bright red fruit of winterberry is eaten by small mammals and more than 48 species of birds. The leaves and stems of winterberry are a source of food for the whitetail deer, cottontail rabbits, and snowshoe hare, however, the lustrous bright red fruit of this shrub are not for human consumption.

The little red berries on a barberry bush are dangling like tiny ornaments. Japanese Barberry or Prickerbush (*Berberis thunbergii*) which grow from 2 to 8 ft high, is a spiny, deciduous shrub, with arching branches. They have pale yellow, dangling flowers from mid-spring to summer that mature into the edible fruit - a glossy bright red ovoid berry containing a single seed. They mature during late summer and fall and persist through the winter. Japanese barberry is found in old fields, open woods, on flood plains, ledges, along power lines, and on roadsides.

With the snow still not so deep, you might just find the fruit of the Jack-in-the-pulpit peeking out. Now that the leaves are not present, all that is left is the stalk with the fruit, a mass of brilliant red or scarlet berries, each containing 1 to 5 seeds.

You will find the red berries of the Jack-in-the-pulpit throughout open and dense moist woods. You may also find them in wood clearings and occasionally in pastures or at the edges of pastures that were formerly woodland.

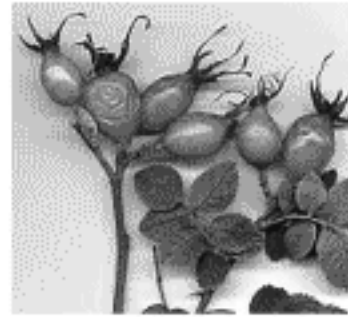
Also low to the ground, and now, under the snow is the deciduous winterberry that sport lustrous dark green leaves through winter as it is an evergreen. The clusters of vibrant red berries are the perfect contrast to its green leaves. The Wintergreen (*Gaultheria Procumbens*) plant was the original source of wintergreen oil. Also known as Checkerberry and Tea Berry, the berries, mature in late summer and last over winter and in early spring, even after the snow melts.

With the variety of evergreens throughout the temperate Catskills and all the plants that produce bright red berries does it make you wonder why the traditional colors of season in northern lands are red and green?

**Household Hints**

**Get Cooked on Food off Glass Ovenware**

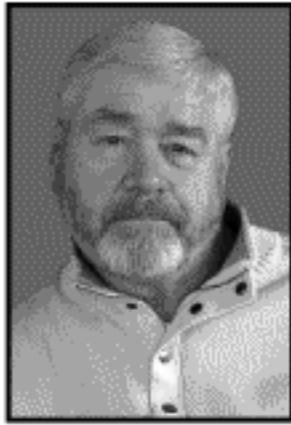
To get cooked-on food off your glass ovenware, fill them with 1 part vinegar and 4 parts water, place in microwave and use high heat for about 3 minutes until liquid is at a boiling point. The stains should come off with some mild scrubbing once the mixture cools.



**The Smack**

Mysterious Book Report No. 314

by John Dwaine McKenna

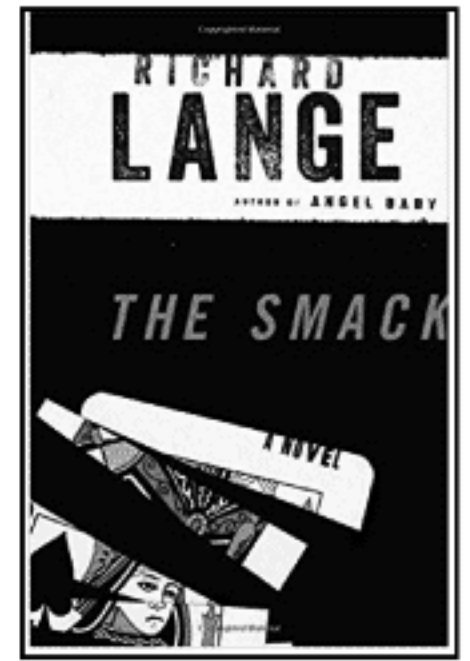


The mean streets of Los Angeles are the setting for a new kind of novel that combines action with the troubles of the real world. It's about people on the hustle, people who swindle others out of their money . . . they're called *grifters*. Grifters have no conscience, no guilt, they're only interested in parting the suckers from their money. Have you ever gotten a telephone call about a free vacation, an inheritance from an unknown relative, or a plea for help from an imaginary grandchild? If so you've been targeted for a scam.

*The Smack*, (Muholland Books, Little Brown & Co, \$26.00, 352 pages, ISBN 978-0-316-32762-6) by Richard Lange is about a grifter named Rowan Petty. He's a con man who's flat broke, living in cheap hotels, wondering how he got there and looking for his next big score. Petty's working as a telephone scammer in Las Vegas when an old acquaintance turns up with a rumor of a huge cash hoard in Los Angeles. And quick as a wink,

Petty and his girlfriend head for the City of Angels. His target is two million bucks that have been squirreled out of Afghanistan by a tough US Army sergeant. He stole the money a few thousand at a time over a period of years from the US and Afghanistan governments, shipped it back to LA where he has it stashed in his old 'hood', and guarded by one of his gang-banger buddies. It's a compelling, fast-paced noirish adventure with a bunch of gun battles and dead bodies in the rear view mirror. Petty is an anti-hero for the ages

. . . tough, smart and utterly despicable. He'll cheat an old woman out of her life savings, while at the same time he'll fascinate any reader of crime fiction. This novel is edgy, smart and timely and, we hope, the first in a series featuring an unlikely antihero . . . and although the author claims it's a standalone, the MBR feels that Petty's just too damn cool to let disappear. I couldn't stop reading . . . it's a rush!



Like the review . . . let your friends know, You saw it in the *Mysterious Book Report* . . .

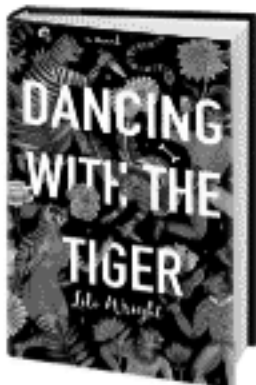
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**John Dwaine McKenna's 2017 Best Books of the Year**

It's the holiday season and Christmas is just two weeks away . . . which means . . . It's time for the **MBRs Best Books of the Year List**. The emphasis this year is on debut novels by exceptional talents. They're presented here in no specific order, the list is not weighted, which means that number ten is equally as significant as number one. So, Merry Christmas to all, we hope you get to read some, or all, of these awesome novels and receive plenty of others under your tree as gifts!

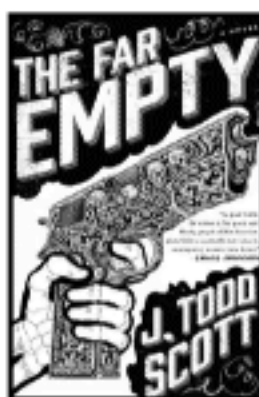
**Best Books of the Year 2017**

MBR # 271 *Dancing With The Tiger*, by Lilli Wright



Art-theft, art forgery, a meth addicted loser, a drug lord collector with a taste for the best, a disgraced professor, his daring daughter and a stone-cold hit man are just a few of the elements in this impressive debut which features the folk art mask carvers of Mexico. They're all competing for a priceless antique mask that's been looted from Montezuma's tomb. It's the most powerful of all the festival masks; *El Jagurao*, the Tiger, who holds the power of life and death over everyone. Lilli Wright's first novel is a literary masterpiece.

MBR # 276 *The Far Empty*, by J. Todd Scott



A gritty crime debut set in the stark Texas borderlands where an unearthed skeleton throws a small town into violent turmoil. Could it be the remains of Caleb Ross's mother, who disappeared without a trace, more than a year ago? Does Caleb's father, the vicious sheriff of Murfee, TX have anything to do with it? An unforgettable border noir from a first-time author we'll be hearing a lot more from.

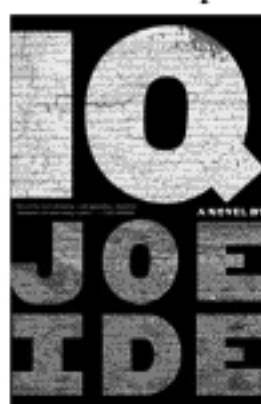
MBR # 280 *Darktown*, by Thomas Mullen



Try to imagine what your life would be like if you were one of the first two black policemen on the 1948 Atlanta, Georgia police department, and your wildest guess won't even come close to what Tommy Smith and Lucas Beebee routinely put up with every day in one of the most talked about novels of the year, from the author of *The Many Deaths of the Firefly Brothers*. An awesome read that has action on every page.

MBR #281 *IQ*, by Joe Ide

Another impressive first novel which takes place in the south Los Angeles ghetto. That's where Isaiah Quintabe, known simply as IQ, uses the techniques of Sherlock Holmes to solve crimes the Los Angeles Police Department simply won't spend any time on. IQ is an entertaining, infectious and endearing character who gets under your skin right away, and one you won't soon forget. And, hey! Stay tuned, his second novel, *Rightous*, will soon be reviewed in the MBR .



MBR # 283 *Revolver*, by Duane Swierczynski

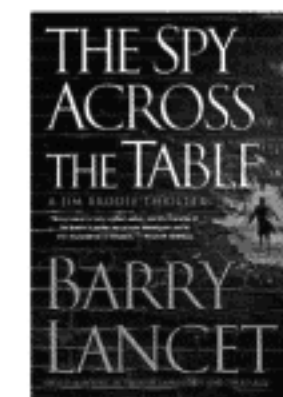
This meticulously plotted and intricate novel takes place at three different times, from three different points of view. The first is Stan Walczak, a Philadelphia cop who's gunned down in a bar in 1965; second is his son Jim Walczak, who follows his father into the Philly Police Department in 1995; and lastly, in 2015 Audrey, Jim's daughter, who's studying for her Master's Degree in forensic science. This is one of the most intriguing and complex reads of the year and one of the most enjoyable.

MBR # 285 *Blue Light Yokohama*, by Nicolas Obregon

A first time author with a mind-bending novel that has folks all around the world taking notice. If you like intense, complex and convoluted plots, this one's for you. In Tokyo, Japan we find police inspector Kosuke Iwata . . . a man with a boatload of personal grief. After an unexplained and long leave of absence, he's transferred into Division 1, the Tokyo Homicide Department. He's given a female partner who has a shakey, unreliable history with the TPD, and tasked with solving a serial murder case that's so disturbing, the first detective who caught the case committed suicide. It involves the ritualistic slaying of an entire family. This one will keep you up all night.



MBR # 290 *The Spy Across The Table*, by Barry Lancet



The fourth, and most electrifying, of his highly-acclaimed international thrillers. Jim Brodie, a San Francisco art dealer, martial-arts master, fluent Japanese speaker and principal of Brodie Investigative Services in Tokyo, is in Washington D.C. attending a Kabuki play at the Kennedy Center, when two murders occur right in front of his eyes. One is his old college roommate and the other is a Japanese designer and longtime friend named Sharon Tanaka. They're killed by a Spanish speaking professional killer who escapes, unknown, undetected and unharmed, leaving Brodie devastated. Shortly afterward he's summoned to the White House and given a directive that puts him in the crosshairs of the most deadly spy in China, as Brodie tries to rescue a hostage whose mind contains NSA coding secrets. Her name is Anna and she's Sharon Tanaka's daughter. The action, tension and mystery begins with the first sentence and expands throughout every chapter thereafter.

MBR # 300 *American Static*, by Tom Pitts

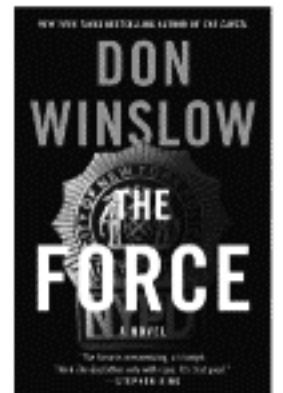
One of the finest noir yarns we've read in years. It opens at warp speed and never slows down, and begins when a young man named Steven gets attacked in a small northern California town. He is beaten senseless and robbed of his backpack, which contains everything he owns.



Everything he owns includes a brick of high grade marijuana he got on credit and planned on selling in San Francisco. But his real trouble begins when he's befriended by a man named Quinn. Apparently a savior, but really the devil in disguise, Quinn is leaving a trail of dead bodies in his wake. This one is what noir is all about: unceasing action, a blood-soaked trail and a breathtaking denouement. One of the best noir yarns ever, according to the MBR.

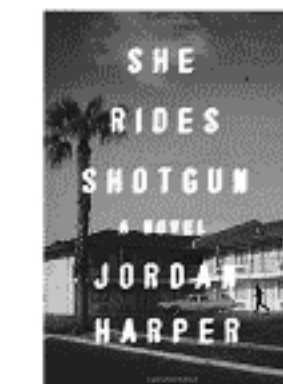
MBR # 301 *The Force*, by Don Winslow

*The Force* has drawn rave reviews from everyone who's seen it, including the MBR, because it could become the defining work of its genre. Danny Malone, NYPD Detective Sergeant, is a highly respected and decorated cop who works a drug, gang and murder infested part of the city as the leader of *Da-Force*. It's an elite unit with unlimited authority to go after gang-bangers, drug-slingers, and gun-runners in Manhattan North. They're the bravest of the brave with more busts, citations and gun fights than any other unit in the NYPD. They're respected and feared wherever they go throughout the city . . . and they're dirty. It's heartbreaking, full of drama and pathos-and it's unforgettable because - *all Danny Malone ever wanted to be was a good cop*. If you only ever read one cop novel in your life, this should be it.



MBR # 305 *She Rides Shotgun*, by Jordan Harper

A man and his eleven year old daughter are on the run. An awesome first novel combining humor, discovery and loss, as well as brute force, gangsters and gun-fights aplenty . . . all of which is overlaid with a growing awareness of the power of love. Nate McClosky has been green-lighted for death by a prison gang known as Aryan Steel. He ran afoul of the president and shot-caller while still incarcerated at the Susanville State Penitentiary, and now his whole family, including his ex-wife and daughter, is under a shoot on sight order. (Contd. Pg. 6)



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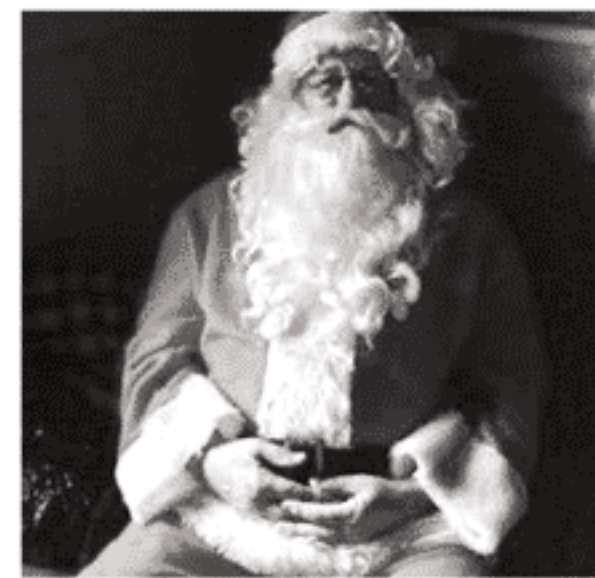
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The Olive Jar - By Carol LaMonda

Naughty or Nice

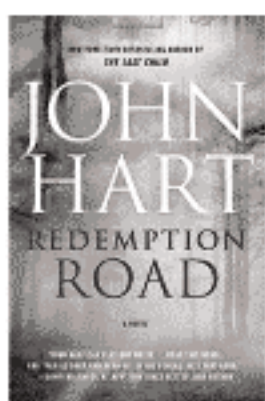
"He sees you when you're sleeping; he knows when you're awake. He knows if you've been bad or good, so be good for goodness sake." Little kids sing this song as Christmas approaches. Parents use it as bribery to elicit good behavior as the holiday draws near. I am convinced that Santa is in cahoots with social media on this naughty and nice deal. Somehow, Amazon Prime nows exactly what items on what websites I have been "window shopping." Honestly, an omniscient Santa is paranoid enough, but we can outgrow that feeling that Santa is making a list and checking it twice. Social media, however, seems to be following my every move on the computer. Not only does it know what I long for, but it is keeping track of my political and social profile by what I "Like" or ignore on posts. I fear that some AI, Artificial Intelligence, will be making a morality call on my posts and tweets. There was a lot of talk about reviving the coal industry during the past election. I think that did not happen. However, Congress seems to be creating an in-house (pardon the pun) demand for coal to go into politicians' stockings. Here is a warning to Washington: "He's making a list; he's checking it twice. He's gonna find out who's naughty or nice. Santa Claus is coming to town." That might be a true statement even if we change the pronoun to its first-person plural form. Coal futures might be on the rise in December's DOW.



John Dwaine McKenna's 2017 Best Books of the Year

(From Pg. 4) Too late to save his ex-wife, Nate is determined to save his daughter Polly at all costs. He picks her up from school in a stolen car and spirits her away in this dynamic and propulsive chase novel.

MBR #274 *Redemption Road*, by John Hart  
One of last year's brightest and best literate crime novels, it was first published in May 2016. It's the story of a small southern town full of lies, secrets, betrayal, and unbearable tension, but it's also filled with such drama, suspense and understanding of human shortcomings that every page groans with the weight of it all. It begins when an ex-cop named Adrian Wall is released from prison after serving 13 years for homicide and returns to his small town home, where a thirteen year-old boy named Gideon waits with a gun to kill him for murdering his mother. And that's just the first chapter of this dynamic thriller. It's a novel you'll think about long after you've read it.



MBR # 310 *Nothing Short of Dying*, by Eric Storey

One of the most exciting debut novels the MBR seen this year. It introduces a character named Clyde Barr who's part mountain man, part mercenary, and part American hero. After a short jolt in a Mexican prison, Clyde returns to Colorado and is decompressing in the wilderness out by the Colorado-Utah border. He's enjoying a grilled venison steak when he gets a panicked call from his sister Jen, begging him for help. The last thing she says is, *they're going to kill me*, and then the phone goes dead. So begins the first chapter of a desperate and driving search in which *Nothing Short of Dying* will prevent him from rescuing his sister...but first he has to find her. The non-stop action begins on page one and carries through to the stunning conclusion of this electrifying novel. Clyde Barr is a character all crime fiction enthusiasts will want to be in touch with.

That's it. That's our list of Best Books for the year 2017. We hope you get a chance to read some, or all of them, and look forward to 2018, when we've got a whole new and exciting list of crime fiction, thrillers, spy yarns and whodunnits to explore together. Until then **Merry Christmas, Peace on Earth and Goodwill to all.**

John Dwaine McKenna  
Colorado Springs

Loete Photographs on View at CWC

December 6, 2017- Eleven stunning images by Chichester photographer Mark Loete are on view through January 5 at the Catskill Watershed Corporation (CWC) offices, 905 Main Street, Margaretville.

The public is welcome to visit weekdays from 8 to 4:30 (closed December 25 and January 1).

The exhibition, "ReSOURCE," offers a visual connection between the streams of the Catskills and the city that receives the priceless gift of water which those streams provide. Photographs of tumbling creeks in Peck Hollow, Stony Clove, Woodland Valley and other locales hang beside striking images of iconic wooden water towers in New York City. Silhouetted against dramatic skies, the tower photos were taken from a rooftop

in the Hell's Kitchen area of Manhattan. All of the photographs, matted and framed, are for sale. Prints can be ordered in different sizes.

Mark Loete is a professional fine art and corporate photographer with more than 30 years' experience shooting a wide range of subjects, from landscapes and architecture to products and people. Clients have included Sony, IBM, Avon, Harper-Collins, and the United Nations.

In 2002, Loete moved his home, family, and photography business to the Catskill Mountains, settling in the historic hamlet of Chichester, Ulster County. An avid fly fisherman and a New York State licensed guide, he often indulges his passions for photography and angling on the fabled streams and rivers of the Catskills.

Explains Loete, "In this era of action cams, selfies, and social media, I still believe in the primacy of the still image to move human emotion."

The CWC is a non-profit, Local Development Corporation responsible for several environmental protection, economic development and education programs in the New York City Watershed West of the Hudson River. [www.cwconline.org](http://www.cwconline.org)

Wastewater Projects Advance

(From Pg. 3) Preliminary engineering reports for these projects can be found on the CWMP page at [www.cwconline.org](http://www.cwconline.org).

A study of wastewater treatment options is also in progress for the hamlet of New Kingston in Delaware County.

The CWC is a non-profit, Local Development Corporation responsible for several environmental protection, economic development and education programs in the New York City Watershed West of the Hudson River.

Department of Environmental Protection Announces 1,038 Additional Watershed Acres Open for Recreation

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) announced that it has opened access this year to 1,038 additional acres of water supply land where outdoor enthusiasts can enjoy recreation, including hunting. The expanded access includes 411 acres on five new parcels of recreation land, and 627 acres that were added to existing recreation areas throughout the Catskills. During the state's regular big game hunting season that continued through Dec. 10, sportsmen and sportswomen were encouraged to utilize the 94,857 acres of water supply land managed by DEP that are open for hunting. That includes 69,991 acres known as "public access areas" that are open for hiking, hunting, and trapping without the need for a DEP Access Permit. Parcels open for hunting are spread across 344 recreation areas in Delaware, Dutchess, Greene, Putnam, Schoharie, Sullivan, Ulster and Westchester counties.

"DEP has long understood that many types of recreation are compatible with our core mission to protect the water supply for millions of New Yorkers," DEP Commissioner Vincent Sapienza said. "The sportsmen and sportswomen who participate in hunting season are important to the ecological health of our watershed, and we welcome them to make safe and productive use of the properties we've opened in their communities."

The expanded access included new acreage in Delaware, Greene, Schoharie and Ulster counties. Some highlights include:

- Recreation Unit Rec Use County Town Acres Little Dingle Hill Public Access Area Delaware Andes 178
- Roxbury Run Public Access Area Delaware Roxbury 124
- Lower Dingle Hill Public Access Area / Bow only Delaware Andes 33
- Herrick Hill\*\*\* Public Access Area Delaware Masonville 129
- Platner Brook\*\*\* Public Access Area Delaware Delhi 113
- Old Road Public Access Area / Bow only Greene Windham 44
- South Roundtop\*\*\* Public Access Area Greene Hunter 153
- South Jewett\*\*\* Public Access Area Greene Jewett 173
- Beech Ridge\*\*\* Public Access Area




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Greene Lexington 45 Hubbard Hill\*\*\* Public Access Area Schoharie Conesville 13 Ashokan Brook Public Access Area Ulster Olive 32 \*\*\* Denotes land added to an existing recreation unit.

All state hunting regulations - including antler restrictions throughout most of the watershed region - apply on water supply lands. Also, those using water supply lands for recreation and hunting should pay careful attention to posted signs that outline what uses are allowed. Access to some areas may be restricted due to ongoing forestry projects, and entering areas marked as closed will be considered trespassing. Hunters should also pay careful attention to recreation unity boundaries to avoid venturing onto private properties. In addition, some parcels open for recreation require a free DEP access permit, which can be obtained through an online permitting system found at [nyc.gov/recpermitapp/](http://nyc.gov/recpermitapp/)

Deer management is an important aspect of protecting and maintaining water quality because forests, especially those immediately adjacent to New York City's reservoirs, are ideal buffer lands that need to continually regenerate. Dense populations of deer can stunt the regeneration of forest lands that serve as an important natural filter for surface waters before they enter reservoirs or their headwaters.

To help address deer overpopulation, DEP this year issued 225 special tags that allowed additional hunting on lands immediately adjacent to Ashokan, Cannonsville and Neversink reservoirs, along with a recreation unit along the border of Dutchess and Putnam Counties. These permits were made available through New York State's Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP). These special tags were issued for use on buffer lands immediately adjacent to the reservoirs, including areas that were recently managed by DEP foresters to promote the growth of young, vibrant and diverse forests. These tags allow hunters to harvest additional antlerless deer, which is the most efficient method for keeping deer populations in check. Opening these areas to additional hunting will improve the success of those forestry projects by allowing the next generation of trees to take root and grow to a height at which they are no longer vulnerable to deer browsing.

Additional information about hunting on City-owned property in the watersheds can be found by going [nyc.gov/dep/recreation](http://nyc.gov/dep/recreation). More information about each of the recreation units - including directions, printable maps and more - can be found by using DEP's new RecMapper utility. The RecMapper is an interactive tool that allows users to zoom in and click on highlighted parcels to learn about their location, size and what recreation is allowed on them. The RecMapper can be used on any computer or mobile device by visiting [www.nyc.gov/dep/recmap](http://www.nyc.gov/dep/recmap). Hunters who are unclear about what activities are allowed in each unit may also call (800) 575-LAND during regular business hours.

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**PROSILIO**

**The Family Memoir, PROSILIO...**

... in Greek means "Toward the Sun," was written by Carol Olsen LaMonda. Carol writes the column "The Olive Jar" for *Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman*. This local author has been busy guesting at book clubs who have chosen this local memoir as their book choice. As summer approaches, the story of a care-free vacation in the Catskills should be added to your summer "must-read" list. The memoir is available at Amazon or Barnes and Noble on-line as a soft or hard cover or as a downloadable e-book for Nook or Kindle. Go to [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) or [barnesandnoble.com](http://barnesandnoble.com) and type in *Prosilio* in the search to order your copy of *Prosilio*

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**Ellenville Regional Hospital Stops Faxing and Starts Medsending**

Ellenville Regional Hospital is proud to announce our partnership with Medsender, a digital records viewing and sharing platform that was founded Dutchess County, New York. On October 23, 2017, Medsender deployed their software in the hospital's medical records department. Ellenville Regional Hospital is the first hospital to offer this service for its patients. In just one month, the hospital has already saved 1,935 minutes of sharing records as compared to using faxes.

"With Medsender, we've been able to replace all medical record faxing for the first time in history," said Gina Piccirilli, Manager of the Medical Records Department at Ellenville Regional Hospital. "The software is extremely easy to use and requires minimal training for hospital staff."

Medsender's innovative technology ensures patients and Medical Records staff can always see who accessed a health record and when, with

advanced and easy to use audit logs. For senders, Medsender takes less than 4 seconds to install and requires no custom IT integration. Recipients can access medical records without any installation or account signup needed. Per U.S. Department of Health and Human Services guidelines, Medsender implements industry-leading encryption in transit and at rest to keep all communications secure. All information is sent through a HIPAA compliant cloud infrastructure with industry standard firewalls and security.

"With Medsender, medical record sharing is just the beginning. We're really excited about deploying Medsender in even more departments to help our staff take advantage of Medsender's incredible search and categorization functionality," said Steven L. Kelley, FACHE, CEO of Ellenville Regional Hospital, referring to Medsender's ability to turn any medical record into a fully-searchable and automatically categorized experience. This technology helps users find the information they need within seconds, without having to jump through any screens or menus."

Medsender CEO, Zain Qayyum, looks forward to this new partnership. "Medsender works to bring health record sharing and examination into the 21st century," said Qayyum. "With our technology, patients can rest assured that their records are safe and easily accessible to the doctors who are caring for them. For the first time ever, your doctor will know exactly what's going on with your health within seconds- all without patients having to lift a finger."

**A Perfect Holiday Gift that last throughout the New Year!**  
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NAME OF PERSON YOU WISH TO SEND A GIFT SUBSCRIPTION TO: \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Charlie and Iris Breiner Attend Honor Flight Luncheon at Anthony's Pier 9**

On Sunday, December 3, Charlie and Iris Breiner attended the annual Honor Flight Luncheon at Anthony's Pier 9 in New Windsor. The Luncheon is a fund raiser to support the Honor Flight whose mission is to honor American veterans for their sacrifices by transporting these heroes to Washington, DC to visit their memorials. To date 1,400 have been flown on 18 missions.

The local Any Make-Any Model Car Club raised \$2,500 for the Honor Flight at their annual July car show.

The featured speaker was Marine Corps Sergeant and Iranian Hostage and POW, Rodney "Rocky" Sickmann. He spoke of his experiences of being held following



being held by the Iranians who overran our embassy in Tehran for 444 days from November 4, 1979 until January 21, 1981. Entertainment was provided by a 25 piece jazz and swing band.

Next year the 2018 Hudson Valley Honor Flight's Lunch of Honor will be on November 18.

**Parent/Teacher Conferences at BCES**

On November 30 and December 1, 2017 from 1 PM to 4 PM, Benjamin Cosor Elementary School (BCES) was on a half-day schedule to conduct Parent/Teacher Conferences.



Left to right are second grade teacher Mrs. Leah Exner, second grader Carlos Granados Reyes, his mother Mrs. Xenia Reyes, Carlos' cousin third grader Isaac Rubio Granados, and eleventh grader Jessica Martinez Cadena, from the high school Hispanic American Club that provided Spanish translation.

To support the conferences was the Director of After School Kids Club Program Ms. Debbie Jacobsen, who, with the help of the Fallsburg Library, had special activities for children that did not leave the school on the early dismissal buses.

To accommodate the needs for additional Spanish translators for parents that needed it, Fallsburg Jr/Sr High School's Hispanic American Club provided 9 students for nine different classroom teachers. During the conferences the always enterprising BCES Student Government Association (SGA) held a bake sale in the lobby and raised over \$50 that will go towards the sixth grade dance and field trip in the spring.

The afternoon sessions went smoothly and dozens of parents took time to spend with their child's teachers and learn what they were studying and how they could offer them needed extra support at home.

**Chef Mary Joins in the Fun and Celebration of the 2nd Annual Hudson Valley Gingerbread Competition at Mohonk**

Chef Mary Magnifico has been busy 'building' a festive gingerbread house. On Sunday she was among 67 entrants in this year's competition.



Although she didn't win, Mary tells us, "I did get to meet a hero of mine! Rose Levy Beranbaum, the author of *The Cake Bible*. That really

made my day!"

Chef Mary is the owner of Chestnut Creek Baked Goods.

Chef Mary will be teaching a class at SUNY Sullivan for kids from 8 - 15 years old on Saturday, December 16 - and guess what she will be teaching? How to make a custom gingerbread house. To register your child for this class go to: [www.sunysullivan.edu/gingerbread-house-making](http://www.sunysullivan.edu/gingerbread-house-making) or call 845-434-5750, ext. 4377.



Chef Mary with Rose Levy Beranbaum, the author of "The Cake Bible"

**Weather FORECAST**

SUNRISE: 7:14 AM SUNSET: 4:27 PM

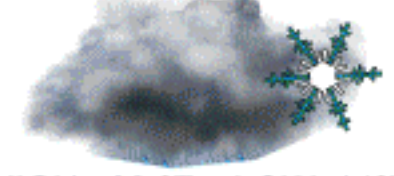
AVERAGE HIGH: 37°F  
AVERAGE LOW: 22°F

**THURSDAY**



HIGH: 26°F LOW: 11°F

**FRIDAY**



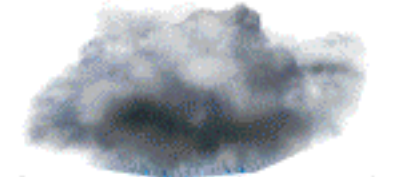
HIGH: 28°F LOW: 14°F

**SATURDAY**



HIGH: 31°F LOW: 21°F

**SUNDAY**



HIGH: 39°F LOW: 36°F

**MONDAY**



HIGH: 40°F LOW: 26°F

**TUESDAY**



HIGH: 40°F LOW: 18°F

**SEND YOUR HOLIDAY GREETINGS TO FAMILY, FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS**

Each year *Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman* publishes holiday greetings for family friends and neighbors.

Our Christmas holiday issue will be published on December 21st. Please make sure we have your greeting by this Friday, December 15, 2017.

Businesses are welcome to send greetings too!

Please use our "Holiday Greeting" order blank when ordering your greeting. Each published greeting will be approximately 2" x 3". Please circle the greeting you want and then write the holiday message you wish to include in your greeting:

Send this form along with your check for \$8.00 for each holiday greeting to: *Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman*, P O Box 232, Grahamsville, NY 12740.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_



1



2



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4



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8



9



**Holiday Community Dinner and Gathering**

The holidays are a wonderful time of the year, spent with family and friends, enjoying each other's company and plenty of delicious food. This is also the time for giving, which is important to all of us as members of this wonderful community.

It has always been a priority for Frost Valley YMCA that every person in this community comes together, and the holiday season is the perfect time to do so. Frost Valley hosted its annual Holiday Community Dinner and Gathering on December 8th. It was a night for families from the local area to get together and share a nutritious dinner while enjoying games, crafts and other fun festivities.

In addition to Frost Valley organizing the event, several vendors contributed donations for the night. This year, Riviera Produce generously contributed 100lbs of chef potatoes, 40lbs of sweet potatoes, a case of fresh green beans, and a case of brussel sprouts. The staff at Chartwells Food Service donated their time to prepare and execute the event. (Contd. Pg. 11)



**Blue Hill Lodge & Cafe**

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**Holiday Schedule:**

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Dec. 31 - 8 am to 3 pm • Jan 1 - Jan 16, 2018 Closed

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*Barbara Barkley Fran Fuller*

*Barbara Purcell Carolyn Coombe*

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• **Crumb Cake** (8" square) - \$12

• **Chocolate Éclair Pie** (8" square) - \$15

• **Classic 10" Cheesecake**

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**Holiday Community Dinner and Gathering** (From Pg. 9) The evening was a wonderful success and over 250 local families and friends enjoyed the delicious buffet-style dinner, winter-themed arts and crafts for all ages, mingling by the fireplace, and so much more! The free event provided a great opportunity for our neighbors to get to know one another and spend time together, celebrating the holidays and experiencing a festive night with the kids. It also allowed everyone to enjoy a holiday feast, some of who may not have had the opportunity otherwise. Frost Valley wishes to thank everyone who made the night a special way to get into the true spirit of the holidays! Don't forget: Winter Break Day Camp takes place December 26-29, 2017 for kids and teens. They'll enjoy winter activities such as snow tubing, cross-country skiing, sleigh riding, broomball and arts & crafts, plus daily transportation and lunch are provided at no additional fee. Learn more at frostvalley.org

**Santa Express Arrives Early in Fallsburg**

(From Pg. 1) Thanks to Mrs. Valerie Sitz for organizing this annual event with the full support of the Town of Fallsburg, The Fire, Police and Parks Departments, the School District, PartyMaster's Perry Gips, and many wonderful volunteers who served donated hot chocolate from the SYDA Foundation, cookies provided by parents, and gloves donated by Fidelis Care.

Fallsburg's Pop Warner Cheerleaders, dressed as reindeer and coached by Mrs. Andrea Hook and Ms. Kierra Miller-Ector, warmed up the crowd. Unfortunately the early arrival of the Express prevented Superintendent of Schools Dr. Ivan Katz from the traditional reading of "The Night Before Christmas."

The main event of the evening was Santa, Mrs. Claus, the elves, the gingerbread people, the reindeer and princesses that streamed down from the sleigh into the waiting arms and cheers of the children, young and old alike. When Buddy the Elf forgot to bring the Christmas Tree, Santa directed his staff to decorate Buddy with dozens of feet of bright lights and ornaments.

After an hour of revelry, Santa and Mrs. Claus boarded the sleigh, shouting Merry Xmas and waving as the Express drove off into the night leaving a very happy group of Fallsburg residents in its wake.



Mrs. Andrea Hook, also a parent, volunteer in the FCSD and coach of the Pop Warner cheerleaders. In the photo left to right are Mrs. Hook, daughter Kaitlyn Cross, father Kevin Cross with son Kaleb Cross on his shoulders, and son Evin Cross.

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**Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol playing at Shadowland Stages now through December 17th**

Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol is an all-new holiday play, based on the classic story by Charles Dickens, playing at Shadowland Stages now through December 17th.

Jonathan Charles Fox from *The River Reporter* exclaims, "while the art deco theatre is stunning and comfortable, the real magic of the season is occurring on stage!" *Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol* "will be forever seared into my consciousness, and all thoughts of Mr. Magoo and Tiny Tim have been banished forever."

In Lori Schneider's *Aisle Seat*, she praises the show's "imaginative flair" and the actors' "intense range" as "imaginative" and "full of fun!"

Bring the kids and enjoy a free special preview of the amazing foley sound effects! 15 minutes before showtime, actors will demonstrate live sound in a hands-on experience, where children can try out the effects themselves and listen for them during the show! *Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol* is an all-new holiday play, based on the classic story by Charles Dickens, playing at Shadowland Stages now through December 17th.

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Charles Dickens' classic tale of greed redeemed into hope, kindness, and love is now told from a very unusual point-of-view in *Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol*, a charming seasonal classic with a signature Shadowland twist!

Find out just what happened to Scrooge's wicked business partner as he takes his own theatrical voyage, with an imaginative cast of actors creating a wintry, magical world. Brought to life with a soundscape of music and foley live on stage, this immortal tale stands out from the crowd as an epic journey that the whole family can enjoy.

**The Greater Liberty Chamber of Commerce to Host Winter Mixer**

The Greater Liberty Chamber of Commerce will be hosting its Winter Mixer on Thurs., Jan. 18, 2018, 5:30pm-8:30pm at the Liberty Elks Lodge. Some new surprises will be announced so mark the calendar and don't miss it!

**Governor Cuomo Announces 2017 New York State Historic Preservation Awards – Projects Show How Historic Preservation Can Strengthen Economies and Promote New York's Rich Culture**

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced five outstanding projects from around state received 2017 New York State Historic Preservation Awards to honor excellence in the protection and rejuvenation of New York's historic landmarks. This year's awards also give special recognition to the New York State Women's Suffrage 100th Anniversary Commemoration Commission.

"These businesses and organizations make it clear that honoring the past is critical to revitalizing communities, preserving our culture and growing local economies," Governor Cuomo said. "I encourage New Yorkers to get out and explore these historic jewels and I congratulate this year's recipients for their work to preserve the unique character of our state."

"Historic preservation helps encourage reinvestment and revitalization in our cities, towns and neighborhoods," State Parks Commissioner Rose Harvey said. "This year's awards demonstrate the extraordinary commitments, hard work and strong partnerships that have made preservation an important tool for community renewal, economic development and job growth in New York. This year, we are also recognizing the Women's Suffrage 100th Anniversary Commemoration Commission. The Commission's dedication to articulating the history of the women's rights movement and expanding the voices of women in government and our democratic process is essential to the progress of our state."

Established in 1980, the state preservation awards are given by New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation each year to honor excellence in the protection and rejuvenation of New York's historic and cultural resources. This year's awards were presented at a ceremony held at the New York State Museum in downtown Albany, which just unveiled the exhibit Votes for Women: Celebrating New York's Suffrage Centennial. This year's award recipients include:

**The Residences at PS 186/Boys & Girls Club of Harlem, Manhattan, New York County**

PS 186, designed in the Italian Renaissance Revival style in 1903, was a centerpiece of its Hamilton Heights community. After the school closed in the 1975, the building became a community eyesore. With the assistance of state and federal historic tax credits, the development team and the Boys & Girls Club have completely rehabilitated the building and created 78 units of mixed income residential housing that are co-located with a new 11,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art clubhouse.

**Poughkeepsie Underwear Factory, Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County**

The Poughkeepsie Underwear Factory was constructed in 1874 and has long stood as a beacon of industry in Poughkeepsie, serving as the location for several manufacturing enterprises. By the late 20th century the brick factory was vacant and in desperate need of rehabilitation and reuse. Thanks to the outstanding commitment and cooperation of Hudson River Housing, Inc. and its state and local partners, the former factory has been transformed into a vibrant community hub. Using state and federal historic tax credits, the project is a vital blend of commercial and residential space in the downtown Middle Main neighborhood with a growing food and arts scene. The Poughkeepsie Underwear Factory aligns the many facets of Hudson River Housing's work, providing affordable housing, training and employment opportunities, and accessible community spaces that bring people together.

**Beaverkill Covered Bridge Rehabilitation, Town of Rockland, Sullivan County**

The Beaverkill Covered Bridge was built in 1865 to span the upper Beaverkill Creek and helped provide access to a region that was nearly unpassable until its construction. In the 1990s, the Friends of the Beaverkill Community formed to advocate for the preservation of several threatened historic sites in the Beaverkill Valley. The covered bridge, a critical element of the community's identity, was the group's top priority. A detailed inspection in 2013 revealed major structural problems and the bridge was closed to traffic. At that point, an extraordinary team came together, led by the Friends, the Open Space Institute, and the Catskill Riverkeeper, which together provided essential support and coordination, assisted by Sullivan County and the town of

Rockland, and supported by the Departments of Environmental Conservation and Transportation, all of whom worked with the State Historic Preservation Office to implement a preservation plan for the bridge. The newly restored bridge preserves one of the town's most beloved landmarks, and shows the value of multiple public and private partners working together for the public good.

**Richardson Olmsted Campus/Hotel Henry, Buffalo, Erie County**

The Richardson Olmsted Campus redevelopment is a towering success story of adaptive reuse for one of the State's most recognized and challenged buildings. Constructed as the Buffalo State Asylum for the Insane, the iconic copper towers of the signature central building were built as a testament to the influence of Buffalo in the late 1800s. After the facility went out of use in 1974, the deteriorating H. H. Richardson designed buildings and abandoned Frederick Law Olmsted grounds loomed large for decades. Today, this National Historic Landmark is one of the largest historic preservation projects in the nation, and is part of the Buffalo-Niagara region's resurgence as an arts and culture destination and mecca for architecture enthusiasts. The first redevelopment project was completed this year with Hotel Henry Urban Resort Conference Center opening in April 2017 and the anticipated opening of the Lipsey Buffalo Architecture Center later this year.

**Crown Heights North Association, Brooklyn, Kings County**

In 2002, a group of neighbors on Sterling Place in Brooklyn met to discuss housing in their community. The neighborhood of fine rowhouses, apartment buildings, free-standing former mansions and large churches was now seeing intense development pressure from outside of their predominantly African and Caribbean American community. The group organized as the Crown Heights North Association and began the process of attaining New York City and National Register of historic Places status. With the assistance of the New York City-based Historic Districts Council and the Preservation League of New York, the Crown Heights North Association was able to designate and protect more than 1600 historic properties in their neighborhood. The association aids the community with workshops on predatory lending, landmarking regulations, grant and tax information, as well as community outreach events such as an annual Town Hall meeting, house and walking tours and a holiday lighting contest. Due to their service working and prompting tools for sustainable community planning, the Crown Heights North neighborhood is now the leader in all of New York City in the use of the Historic Homeowner Tax Credit program.

**New York State Women's Suffrage 100th Anniversary Commemoration Commission**

The New York State Women's Suffrage 100th Anniversary Commemoration Commission was created to develop statewide programs that celebrate women's suffrage in New York State. Chaired by Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul, the 14-member commission is working to promote the anniversary of women's suffrage between 2017, marking 100 years from when women won the right to vote in New York State and 2020, a century after the 19th Amendment was ratified. Legislation establishing the commission the New York State Women's Suffrage 100th Anniversary Commemoration Commission was sponsored by Sen. Betty Little and Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther and signed into law by Governor Cuomo.

New York's State Historic Preservation Office, a division of State Parks, helps communities identify, evaluate, preserve and revitalize their historic, archeological, and cultural resources. The SHPO works with governments, the public, and educational and not-for-profit organizations to raise historic preservation awareness, to instill in New Yorkers a sense of pride in the state's unique history and to encourage heritage tourism and community revitalization

**Federal Funding Will Be Used To Support Agricultural Economic Development in the Hudson Valley and Capital District**

Washington, DC - U.S. Senate Minority Leader Charles E. Schumer and U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand today announced \$100,000 in federal funding for the Hudson Valley AgriBusiness Development Corporation (HVADC). HVADC is a non-profit organization that works to enhance the agricultural sector in the Hudson

Valley and Capital District.

The federal funding was allocated through the U.S. Economic Development Administration, and will be used to provide technical assistance for the HVADC's Farm & Food Funding Accelerator program. The program is designed to help farmers and food entrepreneurs develop the skills to scale their business through a program of intensive mentoring and training. These regional and national expert mentors help producers expand their capacity to meet the high consumer demand for local foods in places like the New York City metropolitan region.

"New York is home to some of the finest farmers and growers in the nation, and sustaining our vital agricultural sector is one of my top priorities," said Senator Schumer. "This important federal investment will help plant the seeds for a long, prosperous future for the state's agricultural industry by increasing access to locally-sourced food and products. Increased access to locally-sourced food benefits both our local farmers and our residents- making it a win-win for New York's agricultural industry and the community as a whole."

"One of the best ways to support economic development in New York is by helping local farmers and agricultural companies take advantage of market opportunities to sell their products and grow their existing businesses, said Senator Gillibrand, a member of the Senate Agriculture Committee. "We all benefit from having more locally sourced food and more local products, and I am proud to have fought for this funding to support programs that foster the development of the agricultural sectors in the Hudson Valley and the Capitol District."

"Our first Farm and Food Business Accelerator Program allowed us to provide intensive technical and business training to a varied group of food and agricultural businesses, including producers of value-added agricultural products," said Todd Erling, Executive Director of the Hudson Valley Agribusiness Development Corporation. "The make-up of the group reflected the wide variety of market opportunities for agribusiness here in the Hudson Valley. However, along with the opportunities, there are challenges, most specifically, preparing a business to grow and accessing the capital necessary to achieve scale. The FFBA program has been successful in cultivating its participants to develop their business models to meet those challenges. The EDA funding will enable us to expand into the Farm and Food Finance Accelerator program in terms of the type of businesses we help, and in attracting a wider group of instructors, mentors and potential capital sources for our FFA Peers to access."

The U.S. Economic Development Administration provided this grant through its Local Technical Assistance Program, which assists eligible recipients in developing economic development plans and studies designed to build capacity and guide the economic prosperity and resiliency of an area or region.

**Bereavement Series Starting December 17-Woodbourne**

For those who grieve the death of a loved one, the holidays can be a difficult time. Understanding grief, your emotions, and knowing you're not alone can provide solace and clarity. Starting Sunday, December 17, at 6 p.m., a four-week Bereavement Series facilitated by Anthony Perito will be offered at the Father Maher Center, Immaculate Conception Church in Woodbourne. All are welcome, regardless of the circumstances of your loss or how recent or long ago your loss occurred. Childcare is provided for those who require it. Pre-registration is suggested. For information or to register, please contact Jennifer Edwards at 845-866-1689, jenhenedwards@gmail.com, or on Facebook.

**Federation Hosts 21st Annual Christmas Eve Dinner**

The Sullivan County Federation for the Homeless will be hosting its annual Christmas Eve Dinner on Sunday, December 24th at their 9 Monticello St location in Monticello. There will be two seatings - 3-4pm & 4:30 -5:30pm. All are welcome, but seats must be reserved in advance.

Continuing his longstanding dedication & commitment to the Federation, Mr. Bill Sipos and his staff of Mr. Willy's catering will once again be assisting in the preparation & service of this bountiful holiday feast. Santa Claus will also be on hand with a gift for kids under 12 and a free picture keepsake.

The Sullivan County Federation for the Homeless is committed to developing individualized and community wide plans for disadvantaged people to break the cycles of poverty that cause homelessness and hunger. For more information on the dinner and to reserve your seat, please come in to the Federation or call Esther at 845-794-2604.

**Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church Christmas Bazaar**

Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church at 211 Foordmore Rd (off Rte.209 at the Heritage Energy tank), Kerhonkson, is holding its Christmas Bazaar Saturday, December 16, 2017 10am to 2pm. Featured are the usual home-baked goodies, Ukrainian foods from a Ukrainian meat market in NYC (kobasa, kabanos, kishka, back-bacon, etc), pyrogies and gift items. Also, join us at 10:30am when our Ukrainian school children welcome St. Nicholas and members of Plast Scouting share the Bethlehem Peace Light (candles will be available or bring your own lanterns/candles to take the Light home)"

All are welcome, free admission. For additional information call Oleh Maczaj (845) 647-6911.

**Immaculate Conception Church**

Woodbourne  
Rev. John J. Lynch, Administrator  
Telephone (845) 434-7643  
Parish website: www.icwoodbourne.com

**Archdiocesan Confession Day**

The annual pre-Christmas Reconciliation Monday, conducted throughout the Archdiocese with extended confession hours, is this year on December 18th, here from 4:00 to 5:00 pm and from 7:00 to 8:00 pm.

**Confessions**

Saturday, December 23rd 3:45 - 4:15 pm

**Masses**

4th Sunday of Advent  
Saturday, December 23rd 4:30 pm  
Sunday, December 24th 10:00 am

**Christmas Eve**

Sunday, December 24th  
4:30 pm & 10:00 pm

**Christmas Day**

Monday, December 25th 10:00 am

**Feast of Mary, Mother of God**

Sunday, January 1st  
10:00 am

**St. Mark's UM Church**  
68 Church St., Napanoch  
**YARD and CLOTHING SALE**

Every Friday: 10 am-2:00 pm  
Comics, dolls, household items,  
Christmas items, Children's  
Clothes, Adult Clothing, vintage  
items, much more.

**Join the Thrift Ministry Team at Grahamsville United Methodist Church**

**Volunteers Needed!**  
Please call the church  
(985-2283)  
for further information.

**CrossWay Assembly of God**

**Service Times**  
Sunday Worship  
Service 10:30 am



**Meet the new Pastor, Camille Regolec**

Thursday  
Prayer 7 pm

P. O. Box 480  
507 Hasbrouck Drive  
Woodbourne, NY 12788  
845-434-8263

Email: [Crosswayag@jesusanswers.com](mailto:Crosswayag@jesusanswers.com)

**Sundown United Methodist Church**

Peekamoose Rd., Sundown  
Sunday Worship Service - 8:30 a.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study - 6:45 p.m.  
Pastor: Rev. Peggy Ann Sauerhoff  
845-985-2283  
e-mail: [Sundownumc@gmail.com](mailto:Sundownumc@gmail.com)

**Grahamsville United Methodist Church**

Rte. 55, Grahamsville  
Sunday Worship Service - 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday School for grades k-7 - 10:30a.m.  
Mid-week Bible Study opportunities available!  
For information contact Rev. Peggy Ann Sauerhoff 845-985-2283  
e-mail: [Grahamsvilleumc@gmail.com](mailto:Grahamsvilleumc@gmail.com)

**Loucks Funeral Home**  
Geoff and Heather Hazzard  
& Anthony Perito

79 North Main Street  
Ellenville, New York  
(845) 647-4343

**RAMSAY'S FUNERAL HOMES, INC**

Serving Sullivan County Since 1896  
66 John Street, Monticello, New York (845) 794-2700  
275 S Main Street, Liberty, New York (845) 292-7100  
Route 55, Kauneonga Lake, New York (845) 583-5445

**ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL MISSION**  
The Little Church with the Big Heart  
**Sunday, 8 am Service of Holy Communion, except:  
Second Saturday of each month, 5:00 pm**  
Music by Fred VanWagner  
Coffee hour follows service  
All are welcome!  
5277 State Rt. 42• South Fallsburg  
845-436-7539  
[www.standrewsepiscopalmission.org](http://www.standrewsepiscopalmission.org)

**Claryville Reformed Church**

Claryville Road  
Claryville, NY 12725  
845-985-2041  
Bible Class 9:00 am  
Worship Services @ 10:00 am  
**Rev. Paul Nulton**  
John Bult, Organist

**CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**  
(Embraces Fallsburg, Neversink, Sundown and Ulster Heights)  
**6317 Rte. 42, Woodbourne, NY**  
Weekend Mass schedule:  
Saturday afternoon: 4:30 pm  
Sunday morning: 9:00 am and 11:30 am  
Daily Mass schedule:  
Monday afternoon: 5:45 pm (Holy Rosary at 5:30 pm);  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday mornings: (includes Morning Prayer) - 8:50 am  
Saturday afternoon confessions: 3:45 to 4:15 pm  
**Rev. John J. Lynch, Ph.D., Pastor. 434-7643.**

**COLONIAL MONUMENTS**  
888-856-8619 845-434-7363  
MONUMENTS INSTALLED IN ALL  
CEMETERIES  
CREMATION MEMORIALS  
AND BENCHES  
MONUMENT LETTERING  
AND CLEANING  
[WWW.COLONIAL-MONUMENT.COM](http://WWW.COLONIAL-MONUMENT.COM)

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*Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!*  
**Jan. 6, 2018  
5:30 pm  
Covered  
Dish Supper**  
**Sundown  
United Methodist  
Church Hall**

*Wishing you a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!*

**St. Augustine's Chapel**  
Watson Hollow Rd. • West Shokan, NY  
Sunday Mass - 9:30 am  
Holy Days 5:30 pm  
Penance 9:00 am, 2nd Sunday of the month  
**Rev. George W. Hommel, Pastor**

*Grahamsville Reformed Church*  
Sunday School 9:30 A.M.  
Worship Service 9:30 A.M.  
Rev. Paul Z. Ruter, Pastor  
845-985-7480

**LEGALS/PUBLIC NOTICES:**

The Catskill Watershed Corporation (CWC) is seeking to retain an engineering firm to provide professional services to assist with design, permit applications and approvals, preparation of construction bid documents and construction inspection for the Mt. Pleasant Bridge (BIN 3347070) Removal, a bridge owned by Ulster County in the Town of Shandaken. Responses must be received at CWC by 4:00 PM, December 28, 2017. For bid documents please contact John Mathiesen or Timothy Cox at 845-586-1400. EOE 12/7; 12/14; 12/21-24/72

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:**

The Claryville Fire District will hold its organizational meeting on Thursday January 4h, 2017 at the Claryville Volunteer Fire Department Community Hall, 1500 Denning Road, Claryville, NY 12725 scheduled to begin at 6:30 pm.

By order of the Board of Commissioners  
Jim Tisch  
Secretary  
December 8, 2017 2/14;

**Third Round of Grant Program to Help Farms Reduce Environmental Impact and Better Prepare for and Recover After Severe Weather Events - A Total of \$2.9 Million Provided Through the Program to 37 Farms Since 2015**

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today announced \$2 million is available through round three of the Climate Resilient Farming grant program to help farms reduce their operational impact on the environment and better prepare for, and recover even stronger after, severe weather events. Since the launch of the program in 2015, a total of \$2.9 million has been provided to 37 farms across the State to implement critical projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, promote energy savings, mitigate water and soil quality concerns, and increase on-farm resiliency to climate change.

"Extreme storms and severe weather are new normal in New York and across the nation, and this funding will continue to protect our farms from some of the unpredictable ramifications of climate change," Governor Cuomo said. "By reducing greenhouse gas emissions, increasing efficiency to promote energy savings, and protecting the health of our natural resources, these projects are valuable additions to New York's efforts to become cleaner, greener and more sustainable for the next generation."

Through the Climate Resilient Farming grant program, County Soil and Water Conservation Districts apply for the competitive grants on behalf of farmers. The funding will support agricultural projects which aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions as well as help agricultural producers prepare for and better manage impacts of climate change: increased heavy storm events and periods of drought. Applications must be for one of the following project categories: agricultural waste storage cover and methane capture systems, water management systems, and soil health systems.

Funding will be directed through the 2017-18 Environmental Protection Fund, which thanks to Governor Cuomo's leadership, is once again funded at a historic \$300 million.

The Request for Proposals for the Climate Resilient Farming grant program is located on the Department of Agriculture and Markets website under Funding Opportunities. Proposals are due by 4:30 p.m., February 26, 2018.

State Agriculture Commissioner Richard A. Ball said, "New York State's farmers have faced two challenging years—a record drought in 2016 and this past year, an extraordinary amount of rainfall in the early summer. The Climate Resilient Farming grant program is helping farmers better manage what mother

nature sends our way, while also increasing their ability to be even stronger stewards of the environment."

Senate Agriculture Committee Chair Senator Patti Ritchie said, "From drought to flooding, one of the biggest challenges our state's hard-working farmers face is the uncertainty of weather. Through this funding, farmers can receive the vital support they need to not only help them more easily adapt to weather, but also to continue to be good stewards of the land that they work. I would like to thank Governor Cuomo and Commissioner Ball for recognizing how important it is to support our farmers and in turn, continue to grow New York's leading industry."

Assembly Agriculture Committee Chair Assemblyman Bill Magee said, "Today's farmers are facing extraordinary challenges from factors related to drought, floods, heat stress, and pests due to climate shift and other environmental factors. This important program funding helps our farmers to mitigate losses and adapt to the risks, while reducing their impact on the environment."

Chairman of the New York State Soil and Water Conservation Committee Dale Stein said, "This grant program is helping many New York farmers become better stewards of the land and proactively prepare for the unpredictability of our climate. In the past several years, both drought and excessive rain have had significant impacts on crops. Soil and Water Conservation Districts across the State are proud to work with farmers to implement these projects and improve environmental sustainability in their communities."

The New York Department of Agriculture and Markets administers the Climate Resilient Farming grant program through its Land and Water Division, which works to protect New York's land and water resources through farmland protection, farmland conservation, and proactive environmental stewardship.

**Free Emergency Preparedness Training in at Cornell Cooperative Extension in Liberty**

New York National Guard troops, in conjunction with the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, will be presenting a free disaster preparedness class at the Cornell Cooperative Extension office in Liberty on Thursday, Dec. 14. The two-hour program begins at 6 p.m. The Cornell Cooperative Extension Office for Sullivan County is located at 64 Ferndale-Loomis Rd.

The event is opened to any interested citizen and no sign-up in advance is required.

The event is part of Gov. Andrew Cuomo's continuing Citizen Preparedness Corps Training Program, which provides citizens with the knowledge and tools to prepare for emergencies and disasters, respond accordingly, and recover as quickly as possible to pre-disaster conditions. Working with the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) and local emergency management personnel, troops are conducting these training events across the state.

Since the program's launch in early February 2014, troops have held more than 1,690 events statewide, and taught over 108,000 citizens how to be better prepared for emergencies and disasters.

The program, designed by DHSES, covers a broad range of emergency-preparedness topics, like developing a family emergency plan, stocking up on emergency supplies, and registering for NY-Alert, the free statewide emergency alert system.

The Citizen Preparedness Corps has equipped thousands of New Yorkers to respond better to emergencies and disasters, he stressed. Emergency preparedness is part and parcel of the New York National Guard's mission and experience, according to New York State Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Anthony German.

"The men and women of the New York Army and Air National Guard, who have responded to help their fellow New Yorkers during floods, hurricanes, and snow storms, know first-hand the value of being prepared for emergencies," German said.

"Our Soldiers and Airmen are proud to be part of Governor Cuomo's effort to help our fellow citizens prepare to cope with disasters and emergencies," German added.

For more information on the program and emergency preparedness, visit: [www.nyprepare.gov](http://www.nyprepare.gov).

View Online: <http://readme.readmedia.com/Free-Emergency-Preparedness-Training-in-at-Cornell-Cooperative-Extension-in-Liberty-on-Dec-14/15179389>

**Town of Neversink Planning Board Holds Public Hearing on Application of Primax Properties for a Site Plan Review of a Proposed Retail Store (Dollar General) to be Located in Hamlet District on State Route 55 in Neversink, NY**

- Written by William A. Brenner

On Wednesday, December 6, 2017, at 7p.m. the Town of Neversink Planning Board held a public hearing on the application of Primax Properties for a site plan review of a proposed retail store ("Dollar General") to be located in the Hamlet District on State Route 55 in Neversink, New York (SBL #25.-1-33.14).

The hearing took place at the theater in the Tri-Valley High School. The public notice stated "at which time all interested parties will be given an opportunity to be heard" and "Individuals can speak once for up to 3 minutes during the public hearing" and "20 seconds before time is up, the time keeper motions to the speaker."

Presumably, the public hearing was moved to the Tri-Valley High School theater because of the crowded turnout at the Planning Board's last hearing on the application of Primax Properties for the purpose of a Site Plan Review of a proposed retail store (Dollar General) to be located in Neversink, New York.

There was a sign-in sheet at the entrance. By this writers headcount, there were about 40 people seated in the audience - exclusive of the Planning Board members, counsel and a few others sitting at a table on the stage.

Speaking from the podium with a microphone on stage, Planning Board Chairman James Stangel said the public hearing was now open and explained the speaking rules. The clock was a hand held 12 inch round clock used, I think, for athletic events at the school. Also a hand would be held up 20 seconds before the end.

For the speakers convenience, a standing microphone was placed in the front of the audience about 20 feet from the front of the raised stage.

There were between 7-10 speakers. Each speaker, except the last, had hand written notes, or a small speech, which explained, by carefully researched, analysis, facts and figures, comparisons about what and how a nationwide franchise store like "Dollar General" would affect the rural neighborhood and character of the Town of Neversink.

They spoke of their fears of the billionaire owners bragging that they were going to open Dollar General stores miles apart throughout Sullivan County, throughout New York and throughout the United States.

Despite the Dollar General beautiful building sketches with the big yellow and black signs, surrounded by pretty bushes, with pictures on display in the entrance to the Theater, one speaker begged us to look at the dilapidated gaudy unkempt Dollar General Stores in nearby Liberty, Fallsburg and springing up in other nearby towns. And the chain stores that inevitably will open alongside them in the neighborhood.

But most of all, each speaker spoke about the beautiful rural character, country settings and the tranquil, aesthetic beauty of our Town of Neversink. That we must protect our unique beautiful waters, streams, reservoirs, mountain views, school, library, museums, pools, fairgrounds that attract so many that come to visit and ultimately reside and retire to.

Speakers repeatedly referred to the Town of Neversink Code Section 50.2 which empowers us to protect our rural character. This in contrast to uncontrolled growth and expansion.

All the speakers, mostly long time residents and homeowners (especially those drawn to this area to settle down and buy homes and retire), and environmentalists, spoke from the heart, pleading with emotion, some with tears.

One speaker noted that Town of Neversink has won beautiful area and project awards for the last 17 years from the Renaissance Contests. A Dollar General Store would have a negative impact.

Another speaker affectionately called Neversink a "Poke Plum." She explained, "you poke your head in one store, then you're plum out of town."

Every speaker spoke against Dollar General. No one spoke in favor of permitting a Dollar General store here.

The speakers faced various difficulties. The microphone on the stand made it hard for the speakers to read and look up into the microphone. Speakers had to decide whether to face the Planning Board and turn their back on the audience or face the audience with their back to the Planning Board. Without a podium, many times it was hard to hear the fast-talking nervous speaker.

The clock frequently malfunctioned, and distracted, going off at the wrong time. One speaker complained that she had timed her speech at 3 minutes and the clock timer went off in the middle.

Worse of all was the 3-minute speaking time limit. In the Planning Board's defense, it did have a lot of other work to cover.

But there were complains that it was not quite right to limit our concerned friends, neighbors and interested parties, who took their time to research and in orderly fashion present their views and intelligent and emotional objections, both environmentally, economically, health-wise, and concerning the neighborhood we all live in, love and are proud of, to limit their speech to just 3 minutes.

These speakers had something important to say at this public hearing - and should be allowed to be respectfully and reasonably heard.

The last speaker, a gentleman, walked to the microphone and said: "I won't take up your 3 minutes, I didn't write a speech. I just come to listen. I didn't even intend to talk. But I just wondered, 'Is there anyone here from Primax Properties and Dollar General Tonight?' If you are, please raise your hand. Thank you. Nuf said."

As I looked around, nobody had raised their hand.



**Town of Neversink Parks & Recreation**  
 Call for info: (845) 985-2262 extension 312  
[www.townofneversink.org](http://www.townofneversink.org)

**2018 Upcoming Events**

- Jan 7 - Mar 4 **Sundays** Discounted Passes Skiing & Snowboarding at Holiday Mt.
- 1/19 Free Snow tubing Trip to Holiday Mt.
- 2/9 Free Roller Skating Trip to Skaters World
- 2/10 Great American OUTdoor Show
- 4/13 Free Animal Embassy Presentation
- 4/30 May 4 Screen Free Week
- 5/15 Tour of Bethel Woods Museum & Lunch
- 6/1 *Sister Act* Westchester Broadway Dinner Theatre
- 6/10 Wine, Food, Music Bounty of the Hudson
- 7/4 Decorated Bicycle Parade & Albi Concert
- 7/13 Free Water Fun @Grahamsville Fairgrounds
- 8/4 NY Renaissance Fair
- 9/15 Community Yard Sale, Craft & Vendor Fair
- 9/29 Garlic Festival
- 10/13 Jack O Lantern Blaze
- 10/27 Look for our Trunk at the PTO Trunk or Treat
- 11/3-11/4 Indoor Water Park Sleepover
- 12/1 Transportation to NYC
- 12/2 Elf Workshop & Tree Lighting
- 12/15 Disney on Ice

- 12/13/17 Town of Neversink Board Meeting 7:30 pm
- 12/14/17 Town of Denning Planning Board Meeting 6:00 pm - Denning Town Hall
- 12/18/17 Grahamsville Fire District Meeting 7 pm Grahamsville Firehouse
- 12/19/17 Town of Neversink Zoning Board of Appeals - 7:30 pm
- 12/20/17 Neversink-Rondout Antique Machinery Association Meeting - 7:30 pm
- 12/21/17 Neversink Fire District Commissioners Meeting 7 pm - Public Meeting at 7:30 pm
- 12/22/17 Town of Neversink Holiday - 1/2 Day Christmas
- 12/25/17 Town of Neversink Holiday - CHRISTMAS DAY
- 12/29/17 Town of Neversink Holiday - 1/2 Day New Years
- 1/1/18 Town of Neversink Holiday - NEW YEAR'S DAY
- 1/6/18 **Covered Dish Supper** - Sundown Methodist Church Hall 5:30 pm

**REMINDER:** To all municipalities and local organizations please send us a copy of your 2018 Calendar of Events to: The Townsman, P O Box 232, Grahamsville, NY 12740 - so that we can continue to post your meetings and events on our calendar each week in the coming year. **THANK YOU and have a very MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Please note that the agenda for the upcoming Tri-Valley Central School District Board of Education Meetings can be viewed at <http://www.boarddocs.com/ny/trivc/Board.nsf/Public>

*Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman* is available at the following places of business in Sullivan and Ulster Counties

**TRI-VALLEY AREA**  
 SUNDOWN CAMP & BAIT SHOP  
 GRAHAMSVILLE DELI  
 NEVERSINK GENERAL STORE  
 BLUE HILL LODGE  
 3 GOLDEN'S CONVENIENCE STORE

**LOCH SHELDRAKE** • VALERO MINI MALL • SC COMMUNITY COLLEGE LIBRARY  
**FALLSBURG** • FALLSBURG TOWN HALL  
**WOODBOURNE** - CITGO STATION • MO'S GAS STATION • P.D. SMITH ENTERPRISE  
**LIBERTY** - LIBERTY FITNESS • CHARLIE'S PIZZA • AGWAY (Both Stores)  
 CLAUDIA'S BEAUTY SALON • SHOPRITE • IDEAL FOOD

**ELLENVILLE/NAPANOCH**  
 JAMES NAPANOCH GROCERY  
 MATTHEW'S PHARMACY  
 EWCOG  
 ELLENVILLE CITGO  
 ELLENVILLE REG HOSPITAL  
 PETER'S MARKET  
 THORTON HARDWARE  
 SHOPRITE  
 IL PARIDSO

**TOWN OF OLIVE MEETINGS ARE AS FOLLOWS:**

Unless otherwise noted, all **Town Board meetings** are held at the Town Meeting Hall, Bostock Road, Shokan at **7:00 pm**. Town Board Meetings are the **second Tuesday of each month** with the **audit/workshop meetings** being held the **Monday preceding the second Tuesday**.  
**Town of Olive Planning Board** meets the **first and third Tuesdays of each month**. Meetings start at 7:30 PM at the Town Hall on Bostock Road, Shokan, NY. You can contact the Town Building & Zoning Department to confirm a meeting date if you would like to attend at 657-2015. If there is nothing on their agenda, they will cancel meetings.



**Daniel Pierce Library**

hours of operation  
 Tuesday: 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
 Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
 Thursday: 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
 Friday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
 Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
 Sunday and Monday: Closed  
 If you have any questions, please call the library at 985-7233.

The Library Board of Trustees meets at 7:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month. On occasion, a meeting date is changed. Please call ahead to confirm.

**2017 Town of Neversink Motor Vehicle Schedule**  
 10 am - 2:30 pm  
 Dec 14

**VETERANS** always **Free** search of the Archives for family or history of Sullivan County at the **Sullivan County Museum**, 265 Main St., Hurleyville, NY. For information call 845-434-8044.

**AL-ANON MEETINGS-**  
<http://www.al-anon.alateen.org>  
 Mon- 7:00 p.m. United Methodist Church, 170 N. Main Street, Liberty  
 Thurs- 7:00 p.m. Immaculate Conception Church Annex, 6317 Rt 42, Woodbourne  
 Sat- 8:00 p.m. United Methodist Church, 170 N. Main Street, Liberty

**New Public Safety Commissioner Joins County**



Monticello, NY - Sullivan County Manager Josh Potosek announces the appointment of Rick Sauer as Sullivan County's Commissioner of Public Safety.

A Liberty resident and former NYS Trooper, Sauer comes to the County with more than 30 years of public safety, law enforcement and emergency response experience. He retired in 2016 as a sergeant with New York

State Police Emergency Management at Troop F Headquarters in Middletown, where he helped create and command the Contaminated Crime Scene Emergency Response Team (CCSERT) and provided emergency response, planning, evaluation and instruction services throughout the state. Sauer also served on Troop F's Counterterrorism Intelligence Unit, as an investigator with the Bureau of Criminal Investigation, and as a Trooper and training officer, receiving a number of awards and commendations for his 29-year service with the State Police. In addition to 19 years stationed in Sullivan County, Sauer assisted in the massive police responses to the upstate Dannemora Prison break, Hurricane Harvey in Texas, and Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico.

Sauer began his law enforcement career in 1984 with the Greece Police Department in Rochester and then with the police department in his hometown of Olean. But he became involved in emergency services even earlier, serving as an EMT at age 16 and with the campus rescue team while in college.

"I like being part of a team and helping people in their time of need," he affirms. "And I enjoy giving back to the community."

He possesses a bachelor's in criminal justice from SUNY Brockport and a master's in public administration from Marist College, and Sauer himself has taught state-certification and college-level emergency response, police/community relations and criminal justice courses since 1993. He remains an adjunct professor of criminal justice at SUNY Sullivan and a NYS Fire Instructor.

Sauer began his new position with Sullivan County on November 20, overseeing the E-911 Center, Bureau of Fire, Emergency Training Facility, Bureau of EMS, and Emergency Management. While still acclimating to the role, Sauer hopes to move forward soon with a variety of public safety initiatives.

"This County is my home, and I'm always looking for a challenge," he says. "I enjoy the adrenaline, the teamwork, and trying different approaches."

"I look forward to working closely with Rick to protect the public we serve and enhance their safety," affirms Potosek, who served as the acting commissioner since January. "He is an extremely competent, dedicated and intelligent professional of integrity who is already an asset to Sullivan County."

"I am thrilled to welcome to County government someone with the experience and drive of Rick Sauer," adds District 5 Legislator Terri Ward, who chairs the Public Safety Committee of the Sullivan County Legislature. "Time and again, he has demonstrated his commitment to his community and the highest ideals of law enforcement, and I am confident he will compassionately and capably serve the citizens of Sullivan County to his utmost ability."

A married father of three grown children, Sauer is a longtime resident of Liberty, where he is active as the Liberty Fire Department's assistant chief and an EMT, along with serving on the Liberty Central School District's Safety Team. He can be reached at [Richard.sauer@co.sullivan.ny.us](mailto:Richard.sauer@co.sullivan.ny.us) or 845-807-0132.

**NOTICE CLARYVILLE VOL. FIRE DEPT. IS SPONSORING A DEFENSIVE DRIVING CLASS ON SATURDAY JANUARY 6TH 2018**  
 10:00 AM SHARP

Cost is \$40.00 per person made out to the Claryville Fire Department upon entrance to the class. Please try to sign up prior to the date by contacting Chief Glenn Vandenberg at 845-985-2943 or e-mail at [bungst01@gmail.com](mailto:bungst01@gmail.com) so we may get a head count for the class.

**Chabad of Ulster County Celebrates Chanukah**

**Chanukah chocolate gelt factory for kids**  
 Dinner will be served. \$8 pp.

Wednesday, Dec. 13 4:15 pm - 6:00 pm

Chabad of Ulster County  
 254 Lucas Av Kingston, NY 12401  
 For more info & to RSVP contact Binie @ 331-1176 or [Binie@ChabadUlsterCounty.org](mailto:Binie@ChabadUlsterCounty.org)

**Public Menorah Lighting & Chanukah Party**

Chocolate Gelt, gifts for all children, arts 'n' crafts, music and smiles!  
 Hot dairy buffet will be served.

Congregation Agudas Achim

254 Lucas Ave Kingston, NY 12401

Saturday Night, Dec. 16 @ 6:15 pm

For more info and reservations 845-331-1176

**Outdoor Public Menorah Lighting**

The Village Green in Woodstock

Sunday, December 17 @ 3:30 pm

Latkes, Doughnuts, Apple cider, Music and Fun for all!

**Outdoor Public Menorah Lighting**

Corner of Wall St. & N. Front St. in uptown Kingston

Monday, December 18 @ 12:30 pm

Latkes, Doughnuts, Apple cider, Music and Fun for all!

**Chanukah doughnut decorating competition for teens**

Dinner will be served. \$8 pp.

Tuesday Dec. 19 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

Chabad of Ulster County

254 Lucas Av Kingston, NY 12401

For more info & to RSVP contact Binie @ 331-1176 or [Binie@ChabadUlsterCounty.org](mailto:Binie@ChabadUlsterCounty.org)

**All Aboard!**  
 Join the Fun!  
**Play Mexican Train**  
 FREE FUN every FRIDAY 1-4 pm  
 in the upstairs meeting room at the Neversink Town Hall

Also **WANTED** People to play cards

SULUJI WA TANSU NI KAGIRU answer

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2	8	1	7	3	4	5	6	9
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**GRAHAMSVILLE REALTY**  
 New York State Licensed Real Estate Broker  
 135 Peekamoose Road  
 Sundown, NY 12740  
 grahamsvillerealty@yahoo.com  
 http://www.grahamsvillerealty.com  
 845-985-0501 • 845-798-9853

**REAL ESTATE FOR SALE**

**Three bedroom home on 1 acre** in quiet residential neighborhood needs some TLC. Tri-Valley School Dist. Low Taxes. \$169,000 Call 845-985-0501.

**RENTALS**

**Cabin on Route 55** - \$500 per month plus utilities. 985-2731

**One plus bedrooms.** Route 55 on creek. \$700 month plus security and utilities. David 985-2731

**2 Bedroom Apartment;** large living room; large kitchen. Tri-Valley School District. 845-985-0107.

**HELP WANTED**

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**Knarf's Classic Movie Trivia**

December 18th, on TCM, **Doctor Dolittle**, at 8:00 PM, Comedy 1967. Set in 1840s England, this is the story of Dr. John Dolittle, a physician who has lost interest in his human patients and decides to devote his life to animals instead. Trained A veterinarian who can communicate with animals travels abroad to search for a giant sea snail. Directed by Richard Fleischer Starring, **Rex Harrison, Samantha Eggar, Anthony Newley.**

At 10:45 PM, **My Fair Lady** (Musical, 1964) A phonetics instructor bets that he can pass a street urchin off as a lady. Directed by George Cukor Starring, Audrey Hepburn, Rex Harrison, Stanley Holloway. At one time the longest-running Broadway musical, **My Fair Lady** was adapted by Alan Jay Lerner and Frederick Loewe from the George Bernard Shaw comedy Pygmalion. **STARTING** at 8:00 PM Monday evening December 18, 2017 CC, Rated G, BW/Color.

**Quiz:**  
 1. In "My Fair Lady," who played Alfred Doolittle?  
 2. Who played Mrs. Higgins?

**What's Going on in The Gnome Neighborhood™**

**SUNDOWN**  
**Jan 6 -Covered Dish Supper - Sundown Methodist Church Hall 5:30 pm**

**GRAHAMSVILLE**  
 Neversink Parks and Recreation is now offering **Sunday Discounted Passes for Skiing and Snowboarding** at Holiday Mountain - Jan 7 thru March 4. - **A great Stocking Suffer!** Call for info: (845) 985-2262 extension 312 or visit our website: [www.townofneversink.org](http://www.townofneversink.org)

**LOCH SHELDRAKE**

**Gingerbread House Making for Kids** at SUNY Sullivan Kids from 8 - 15 years old - Saturday, December 16 from 1 - 4 pm at SUNY Sullivan. (Room H031), costs \$50 per person. Attendees will spend some "sweet" time with **Chef Mary Magnetico** as they each make their own custom gingerbread house. Each attendee will leave with a fabulous holiday decoration to take home and share with family and friends. To register, go to [www.sunysullivan.edu/gingerbread-house-making/](http://www.sunysullivan.edu/gingerbread-house-making/). For more information, email Hillary at [hegeland@sunysullivan.edu](mailto:hegeland@sunysullivan.edu) or call 845-434-5750, ext. 4377.

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**ANSWERS TO KNARF'S MOVIE TRIVIA**

1. Stanley Holloway  
 2. Gladys Cooper