



PROUD TO BE AN AMERICAN



Tri

# Ye Olde TOWNSMAN

Valley

"The Best Journal Published by a Dam Site!"



**VOL. 17 NO. 48 GRAHAMSVILLE, NY 12740 DECEMBER 2, 2021 \$1.00**

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## Holiday Heritage Shop at the Time and the Valleys Museum

[Grahamsville, N.Y.] Find unique holiday gifts at the Time and the Valleys Museum's Holiday Shop on Saturday, December 11th from 11 to 3 p.m. on St. Rt. 55 in Grahamsville, Sullivan County, NY.

The Museum shop is stocked with unique books, gifts, heritage toys, local crafts and more to fill shoppers gift giving needs. All shoppers receive a 10% discount off everything, and Museum members get 20% off! They will also receive a free pair of historic notecards with each purchase. Spend the afternoon shopping, supporting the Museum and visiting the three floors of Museum exhibits.

The Museum's new 70 page Heritage Farm Baking Book will be available for sale, and includes tried-and-true old time treasured recipes for cakes, muffins, pies, cooking and more, all from local bakers of the past. It includes a history of baking and information and photos of many of the early local bakers. The cost of the book is \$15 and \$12 for museum members, and is a fund raiser for the Museum's second phase of the 1930s Lost Catskill Farm. (Contd. Pg. 4)



## FCSD Students Collect and Donate Food



BCES SGA students left to right Jiya Patel, Michael Demondo-Gernant and Samantha Saciolo with Advisor Peter Dworetsky

A wonderful Thanksgiving tradition at Fallsburg Central School District is collecting food and donating to local families directly or through Town of Fallsburg food pantries. On Monday, November 22, Junior/Senior High School Student Government Advisor Ms. Elisa Baum drove a pick-up truck full of boxes and bags of frozen turkeys and non-perishable food to South Fallsburg's St. Andrews Episcopal Church.

Ms. Cynthia Johnston and Ms. Linda Goldstein are two sisters that have administered the church food pantry for the past fifteen plus years. They received the donation with gratitude to the students in the schools. The Covid virus has impacted the distribution of food to needy families because people are not able to get out to the pantry as they did for a one-night a week pick-up. (Contd. Pg. 4)

**YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN**

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER FOR  
THE TOWN OF DENNING AND  
THE TOWN OF NEVERSINK

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THE SCENE TOO - Jane Harrison

OLIVE JAR - Carol La Monda

MYSTERIOUS BOOK REPORT - John McKenna

FALLSBURG NEWS - Larry Schafman

MOVIE TRIVIA - Frank Comando a/k/a Knarf

COMMUNITY NEWS - Sheila Lashinsky

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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 Gnome Home Inc. office. Telephone numbers will not be published.
6. Copies of letters or third-party letters will not be accepted.

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**NO EXCEPTIONS.** All press releases/article sent by email should be sent as **Microsoft Word Documents**. Photos or graphics must be in jpg format

**More than ever, thank you for your continued support.**

**ON THE FRONT BURNER:** For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord will give grace and glory; no good thing will be withheld from them that walk uprightly.  
Psalm 84:11

**OBITUARIES**

**Harold Stangel**, born January 25,



1922 in Woodbourne, New York passed away on November 20, 2021 at Garnet Hospital 2 months short of his 100th birthday. He was the son of Charles and Frances Stangel. As a teen he worked as a carpenter for his father who owned the business Stangel and Jones Construction. He started by building concrete forms and filling them with a wheelbarrow. He was also the "cut man". He got to saw roof rafters all day long with just a hand saw. His dad treated him just like any other employee. After graduating from high school in Fallsburg in 1938, he went into the Air Force and ended up in the Southeast Pacific on the island of Ieshima where he attained the rank of Captain. He was lucky that he made friends with the flight surgeon and was able to live in an ambulance during the monsoon season. The flight surgeon (Ken Steele) also had access to medicinal alcohol. It didn't get much better than a dry bunk to sleep in and something to add to your "bug juice" at night. He flew over 129 combat missions He started flying in the P-47 Thunderbolt and later got to fly the P-51 Mustang with the Rolls Royce engine. He said it was an excellent plane to fly. He was awarded an Air Medal with 2 oak leaf clusters, American Theater Ribbon, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, Philippine Liberation Medal, a Bronze Star and a World War II Victory Medal. Sadly, he lost his brother Walter 2 weeks after the invasion of France on the beaches of Normandy, France. It took a period of time before he found out about Walter's death. It took him over 40 years before he was able to visit Walter's grave in Brittany, France. After he got home from the war, he went to Cornell University. He went on a blind double date with his friend Bob McClay where he met Cornelia Brooks who he was married to for 73 years. After graduating he got a job with the USDA as a farm inspector.

They didn't have much money but always had fresh vegetables to eat. One day Connie ran into a friend of

hers that she had gone to high school with. His name was Harry Resnick and he owned Channel Master in Ellenville, NY. She told Harry that Harold was looking for a job; he told her to have him come see him. Harry hired Harold to be the Personnel Manager, a job he did for 38 years. During this time they had 5 children and sadly lost their 9 year old daughter Kathleen. We, as kids, were lucky to have Harold and Connie as our parents. We always had what we needed and were lucky enough to go to college and pursue our dreams In his retirement, he and Connie traveled the world to see other countries and sample the local food, beer and wine. He always loved fish and even tried sea urchins and percebes, local delicacies in Spain and Portugal. He spent a month in Costa Rica not speaking a word of Spanish, and even went to the Great Wall of China and visited Russia. Known as 'Hesh' by his friends, and 'Cookie' at the hunting camp, he had a wicked sense of humor, and usually came out with a 'zinger' when you least expected it which would have you in stitches for several minutes. Harold was a member of the 341st Fighter Squadron Association, the P-47 Thunderbolt Pilots Association, the Stangel-Bernstein VFW Post 8086 and the White Tail Lodge Hunting Club. He was also a former member and secretary/treasurer at the Woodbourne Fire Department. He also enjoyed hunting and fishing.

Harold was pre-deceased by his sister, Rita Cerato, brothers Walter and Donald, his daughter Kathleen and daughter-in-law Carol. We think that the reason why Harold did not like funerals was because he lost his father and mother at an early age, also his brothers and daughter. Funerals are never a happy occasion and he didn't like to see grieving people. He is survived by his wife of 73 years, Cornelia (Connie) Stangel, daughter Christina Gage (Nick), sons David, Peter (Jing Ji) and Jim (Valerie), sister in law Olive (Dolly) Stangel, grandchildren Caitlin Batchlor (Craig) and Matthew Stangel (Liz). Also, several nieces, nephews, grand nieces and nephews, great grand nieces and nephew and 3 granddogs. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to a charity of one's choice. As per his wishes there will be no funeral but a party in the celebration of his life will be scheduled next year. Arrangements under the care of Colonial Memorial Funeral Home, for further information call 845-434-7363 or visit: [www.colonialfamilyfuneralhomes.com](http://www.colonialfamilyfuneralhomes.com)

## DAYS OF YORE.... Today's History

### December 5, 1951

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Van Wagner are the parents of a son, born Sunday at Hamilton Avenue Hospital in Monticello. He weighed 7 lbs. 3 oz. and has been named Frederick Charles. The grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. John Tillson of Kripplebush and Mr. and Mrs. William Van Wagner.

Early last week a black horse belonging to Anthony Costa of South Hill Road, Grahamsville was shot in the leg by a bullet from a .22 rifle. The accident was discovered on Wednesday and a veterinarian, Dr. Shaeffer, of Ellenville was called in. He treated the wound and the horse is recovering. It is not known whether the horse was the victim of a stray shot, or was mistaken for a bear by a trigger-happy Nimrod.

The wheels of time rolled back on November 20 when four golden wedding couples, with their families and friends, gathered at the Woodbourne Reformed Church Hall to recollect and celebrate their 200 years of wedded life. Those being honored were Mr. and Mrs. Henry Houghtaling, Mr. and Mrs. Charles De Pew, Mr. and Mrs. Thornton Merritt and Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Van Benschoten. Another invited couple, Mr. and Mrs. John Hamilton were unable to attend.

### December 6, 1961

William Gil of Medellin, Columbia, South America is the first exchange student to attend classes at Tri Valley Central School. William is a ninth grader in the Columbus School in Medellin. He is a guest of the Milton Turner family and will be a part of student life at TVCS until the middle of January when he will return home.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew DuBois Jr. are the parents of a son, Christopher Michael born at Kingston Hospital on Saturday, Dec. 2nd. He weighed 8 lbs. Mr. and Mrs. Carl Henderson are the maternal grandparents and Mr. and Mrs. Andrew DuBois Sr. are the paternal grandparents.

Mr. Sherman Brown celebrated his 90th birthday on November 24th. Mr. Brown, who lives with his son in Claryville, was born on Red Hill. At the time of his birthday celebration, Mr. Brown was a patient in the hospital but is now at home.

### December 1, 1971

Mrs. E. Ruth Carpenter of Woodbourne died Friday in Northside Hospital, Atlanta, Ga. She became ill while visiting relatives there. Mrs. Carpenter was 72 years old. She married Lloyd Carpenter on Feb. 22, 1918. She is survived by her husband; a son, Lloyd Jr. of Woodbourne and two daughters from out of the area.

(Contd. Pg. 4)

## Household Hint:

### Stop the Static; Reduce the Dust

Plastic can be cleaned and made anti-static by wiping down with a solution of 1 tablespoon of distilled vinegar to 1 gallon of water. This will cut down on the plastics' tendency to attract dust.

**Nature Column** - *A tribute to the memory of all of the Townsman Ladies that we have loved so much and lost... Peggy DeWire, Avril Pappa, Joan Hall, Polly Hill, Joyce Lockhart, Jean Helthaler, Karen Curry, Barbara Slater and Shirley Davis.*

## Deck the Halls with Boughs of Holly

Its beginning to look a little like Christmas as we begin decorating and getting into the holiday mood, often adding a little holly to a wreath or garland.



Long, long before we went to the dollar store to buy a bouquet of silk holly or planted ornamental holly in the garden, holly was considered to be a sacred plant by many primitive cultures. Perhaps that had to do with history of holly, a very interesting process responsible for the wide geographic distribution of holly's genealogical lineages and cultural myths. Ancestors of our present day holly became isolated from the remaining Ilex (Holm Oak; family that includes holly) when the Earth mass broke away into the supermassive continents of Gondwana (present day South America, Africa, Arabia, Madagascar, India, Australia and Antarctica) and Laurasia (present day North America, Europe and Asia). Current research estimates this happening around 180 million years ago. This resulted in the beginning process of change of the Laurel Forests and Ilex to adapt to new conditions, perhaps just waiting for humans to intercept and integrate the plants into their own cultures and traditions. Early Europeans used holly as ornamentation during their winter solstice celebrations that occurred in late December. In the northern hemisphere, it was the longest night of the year signifying the gradual lengthening of days and coming spring—a reason for celebration. In Norse mythology, holly was associated with Thor, god of thunder. Holly plants grown by the home were thought to prevent lightning strikes. Ancient Romans used holly as decorations during Saturnalia, a festival dedicated to Saturn, god of agriculture and husbandry. Holly's symbolism of the new season made it an appropriate and a colorful ornament for winter festivities. Over time, many customs from pagan celebrations were incorporated by Christians into religious holidays. As holly was a common part of the winter landscape, it provided a free and easy way for even the poorest of families to decorate their homes for the Christmas holidays.

Over time, as survivor species of the holly genus adapted to different ecological niches, we eventually had our very own Holly (*Ilex Aquifolium*) found primarily in North America, Europe and Asia, with hundreds of species of the plant ranging from short shrubs to tall trees. The most common species grown in America is the American holly that is mostly associated with our current Christmas festivities. This type of holly grows up to a height of 15 to 30 feet. The foliage is deep green and the leaves are small and pointed. They bear bright scarlet berries. The leaves, characterized by a waxy texture and serrated edges, are dioecious—having male and female reproductive structures found on separate plants. Both male (staminate) and female (pistillate) hollies bloom in May or June, yielding white flowers. But only the females can produce berries. In order for this production to occur, a male plant must be near a female plant for the process of pollination to take place. Insects, like bees, help cross-pollinate female hollies, transferring pollen from the male to the female plants.



Holly berries are toxic to humans. Not so for some animals. Holly berries are a vital source of food for birds such as thrushes and blackbirds. Holly berries ripen in early winter and typically contain four seeds each. The birds that eat these seeds help scatter them for germination and the growth of new holly plants.

Today, holly is still used in our celebration of modern Christmas and winter holidays. While belief in their mystical powers may have dissipated, our American Christmas holly is just as beautiful as its ancestors, million years ago. We may even say, that alone is magical, or a symbolic of transcending our human understanding, but also giving us something to think about as we 'deck the halls with boughs of holly' this holiday season!

## FCSD Students Collect and Donate Food (From Pg. 1)



*Ms. Cynthia Johnston and on the right Ms. Linda Goldstein with some of the food donated to the Food Pantry at St. Andrews Episcopal Church in South Fallsburg*

Ms. Johnston and Ms. Goldstein have been making special arrangements for people to get food on different days and making food more accessible.

The students collected food from students, families, staff and friends from the community. The SGAs in both buildings coordinated the efforts. Peter Dworetzky is the BCES Advisor. The Custodians transported the food from BCES to the High School.



*FSHS SGA Advisors Ms. Isabel Mejia-Cordero and Ms. Elisa Baum with 11th grade representative Yadhier Tejeda ready to load up*

## Holiday Heritage Shop at the Time and the Valleys Museum

(From Pg. 1) For more information or to set up other shopping times, please call 845 985-7700 or email:

[info@timeandthevalleymuseum.org](mailto:info@timeandthevalleymuseum.org).

**About the Time and the Valleys Museum:** Connecting Water People and the Catskills, the Museum is currently open by appointment and during programs. Located at 332 Main Street in Grahamsville (St. Rt. 55), Sullivan County, admission for adults is a suggested donation of \$5, children under 16 \$2, and children under six are free.

Museum exhibitions are interactive and both fun and educational for all ages:

- o Water and the Valleys, an exhibit on the history of the Rondout and Neversink watershed area from early geological times to the 20th century. This exhibition includes interactives such as a Native American artifact guessing game, grinding corn with a mortar and pestle, videos and more.

- o Tunnels, Toil and Trouble: New York City's Quest for Water and the Rondout-Neversink Story, an interactive exhibit on NYC water supply system and the towns that were removed to build the system, which includes computer interactives, games, puzzles, videos and building a dam and tunnel.

- o 1930s Lost Catskill Farm, a farmhouse, outhouse, barn, electric plant, milk house and working waterwheel help visitors experience life in the 1930s through displays, videos, games and hands on activities.

- o New! One Teacher, Eight Grades, One Room an exhibition on one room schools in the Tri-Valley area.

The Time and the Valleys Museum is proud to be a Blue Star Museum, a collaboration between the National Endowment of the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense and over 1,500 museums across America to provide free admission to active duty military members (with ID) and up to five family members. This free admission for members of the military and their families runs from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

For more information call 845 985-7700, e-mail [info@timeandthevalleymuseum.org](mailto:info@timeandthevalleymuseum.org) or visit [www.timeandthevalleymuseum.org](http://www.timeandthevalleymuseum.org). To schedule a group tour for children or adults, please call 845-985-7700.

## DAYS OF YORE....

### Today's History

(From Pg. 3)

#### December 1, 1971

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Furman of Glade Hill on the birth of a baby girl born November 22nd.

Approximately 300 pounds of food were delivered to the Binghamton Home for Deprived Children by the Tri-Valley Honor Society this past Monday. Members of the Society, accompanied by Mr. Owen Davis, visited the home and met with the officials there. The director of the home expressed his thanks to the students of Tri-Valley and their parents for their generous contribution.

#### December 3, 1981

Children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren of Ora and Raymond George gathered together on Sunday, October 25th to help them celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary. Mrs. George is the former Ora TerBush. She was born in Sundown on May 14th 1902 in the same house where she was later married. Mr. George was born on Red Hill on June 13, 1899.

Wesley "Skip" E. Moshier of South Hill Rd., Grahamsville, a farm manager at the Woodbourne Correctional Facility, died unexpectedly at Ellenville Community Hospital. He was 30. The son of Rita Sheeley Moshier and the late Harold G. Moshier, he was born March 3, 1951 in Ellenville. Survivors include his wife, Lynn Stratton Moshier at home and a son, Christopher Earl Moshier at home.



## The Bone Hunger

### Mysterious Book Report No. 415

by John Dwaine Mc Kenna

All novelists are bright. That's because writing is a craft that demands much, and promises nothing more than thousands of hours of solitary and challenging work, putting together what we hope will be a story with an engaging plot, interesting characters and a few surprises along the way that will entertain and involve our readers, maybe even get them back for more of the same character. *It's a tough row to hoe*, as my old granny used to say . . . but that, I think is what gives writing its allure.

It's hard to do well. Damned hard.

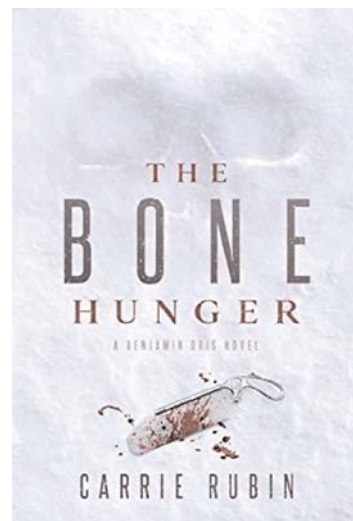
Then, along comes a writer with such talent that she makes the near-impossible look easy . . . which is a mark of genius. Her name is Carrie Rubin. She's a physician-turned author, whose newest, *The Bone Hunger*, (Indigo Dot Press, \$25.99, 305 pages, ISBN 978-1-7328541-4-7) is a genre-bending medical thriller, murder mystery and paranormal hair-raiser, all rolled into one. It features a second year orthopedic surgery resident named Benjamin Oris, who's the star pupil on a knee and hip replacement team under the tutelage of the illustrious Dr. Kent Lock, at Philadelphia's Montgomery Hospital.

The novel—and the trouble—begins when Ben discovers the severed leg of one of his former patients while out for a run in the park. Not only is the leg severed, it shows bite marks, a roadrunner tattoo . . . and the surgical implant Dr. Oris helped install just two weeks earlier. But the patient, who hadn't been following orders to exercise, had died in front of Ben from a blood clot in one of his lungs. The police, the hospital administration, and the surgical team all question Dr. Oris, who's had some problems in the past. Then, more body parts start showing up . . . and the killings and mutilations become more frequent . . . while the tension and suspense ratchets up with every page. Each new revelation deepens the mystery and enlarges the suspect pool in this complex medical thriller. It will leave you feeling as if you're ready to scrub in for the next orthopedic surgery with the same team that recently survived a plane crash in wintertime in Alaska, and five days without food, while on a humanitarian mission. *The Bone Hunger* has more twists and turns than the Iditarod Race. It'll keep you guessing until the end and hollering for more from Carrie Rubin, a woman with a special gift for writing and a serial character you'll admire, if not love, named Dr. Ben Oris!

Like the review? Let your friends know, *You saw it in the Mysterious Book Report*, because the greatest compliment you can give is to share our work with others.

Check out our combined website that's simple to use and easy as pie to leave your comments! We're looking forward to hearing from all of you.

<http://Johndwainemckenna.com> or <http://Mysteriousbookreport.com>



### Carrie Rubin-bio

Is a physician-turned-novelist who writes genre-bending medical thrillers. Her books include *The Bone Hunger*, *The Bone Curse*, *Eating Bull*, and *The Seneca Scourge*. She also has a psychological thriller on submission, represented by Victoria Skurnick of Levine Greenberg Rostan Literary Agency, and a cozy mystery published under the name of Morgan Mayer. She lives in Northeast Ohio.

**John Dwaine McKenna's Books**  
are now available at the  
**NEVERSINK GENERAL STORE**



### Interview With The Author: Carrie Rubin

by  
John Dwaine McKenna

Today's *Mysterious Book Report* Interview is with a physician-turned author named Carrie Rubin, who's penned one of the best medical thrillers to come along since Michael Crichton or Robin Cook last wrote. Ms. Rubin's newest, *The Bone Hunger* is reviewed in MBR No. 415, and comes highly recommended. With our many thanks for taking a short time-out from working on her next Benjamin Oris medical thriller, here's Carrie Rubin . . .

*Why do you write?*

For me, it's about the storytelling. I love creating a world where there wasn't one and filling it up with characters who, hopefully, seem like real people in the reader's mind. The experience of letting my imagination run wild is so enjoyable.


I also love plotting the details, and that doesn't always happen in front of the computer. Oftentimes, bits and pieces come to writers when we're off doing other things, and then we have to hurry and jot them down before we forget them. It's like working on a puzzle: you have to put all the pieces in the right place if you want a structurally sound novel. (Contd. Pg 7)



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## The FamilyMemoir, 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. **Feel the warmth of "Prosilio" as you read Carol's memoirs cuddled up in your favorite chair. It also makes a great gift!** *Prosilio* 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: <http://amazon.com> or <http://barnesandnoble.com> and type in *Prosilio* in the search to order your copy of *Prosilio*



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# The Olive Jar

## by Carol Olsen LaMonda

### Under-achieving the Holidays

As a child, I remember the year separating into distinct seasons. Fall was school and the World Series. Winter was snow and Christmas. Spring was Easter and flowers. Summer was vacation and the beach. I am sure the calendar is the same. I looked just to make sure, but, it seems to me, the seasons are blurring together and doing so at an alarming rate. I no sooner get a pumpkin carved when a turkey needs carving. Halloween decorations linger

while Christmas Carols are playing.

I feel like I am being saturated with events that demand my attention, but I seem to be in a time warp that can never catch up to NOW. The countdown to the holidays has begun, and I feel like I have entered a race without lacing my sneakers. By the time I reach the finish line, we will be wearing funny hats and wishing each other "Happy New Year!"

The turkey carcass is becoming soup just as we begin Hanukkah on Monday. I think I might put a Santa hat and a beard on my white Halloween pumpkin. Then it is a roller coaster ride until Christmas with everyday becoming Black Friday and Cyber Monday, with Coronavirus updates.

Is it just an aging perspective of time? Did it speed up as I slowed down? I don't think it is that. I think there is just so much going on at once, that one can get bombarded with sensory overload. There are so many guilt-driven responsibilities that have sucked the joy out of the season. I can remember feeling withdrawal symptoms the year I decided to NOT send out Christmas cards. I still feel inadequate as I hang my artificial wreath (I used to make my own!).

There is so much to enjoy this holiday season if we can untangle our lives like we try to untangle those strings of Christmas lights. I picture this holiday season as swimming against a tidal wave of traditions and events. A fearsome ocean wave scares me, so this year, I prefer to float on an inner-tube of calm of love, peace, and joy and enjoy the ride rather than be drawn under the crashing waves of commercialism.

Henry David Thoreau said to keep your accounts on a thumbnail. I plan to follow his advice as we jet away to Aruba and arrive home just before Christmas to eat other people's cookies and see what Santa, AKA Amazon, has delivered to our home and Hudson sitter. The best gifts can't always be wrapped. May you enjoy the essence, not just the trappings, of the season.



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**Interview With The Author:  
Carrie Rubin**

by  
John Dwaine McKenna  
From Pg. 5)  
*What do you write about?*

With my background as a physician, I write medical thrillers- write what you know, right?-but I sometimes blur the genre, like in my Benjamin Oris series where a man of science gets caught up in otherworldly situations. However, I recently published a cozy mystery written under the pen name of Morgan Mayer that had little to do with medicine, so it was fun to color outside the lines a bit.

*Are any of your characters autobiographical?*

Not autobiographical, no, but introverts like me do seem to find their way into my novels quite frequently...

Do you plot-outline or wing it?

I'm definitely an outliner. I like knowing where the pieces need to be and what the purpose of each scene is before I begin writing the first draft. That doesn't mean surprises don't happen- they do-but for me it's a lot easier to make the changes in the first draft than a later one.

*How did your book first get published?*

My writing journey has been a long one with plenty of ups and downs. I finished writing my first book in 2003, but as so often happens between work and family, life got in the way, and it sat hidden in my computer files for years. Then, in 2011, I polished it off, submitted it around, and got an offer from a small press that published it in 2012.

With my next book, I opted to go with a hybrid publisher, one geared more toward my genre and giving me a little more control over my work, but I still desired an agent and a more traditional route, so I kept writing and submitting. Last summer I signed with Victoria Skurnick of Levine Greenberg Rostan Literary Agency, and she currently has a book of mine out on submission. (Contd. Pg. 8)

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## Interview With The Author: Carrie Rubin

From Pg. 7)

*Do you belong to a writers group?*

I don't. I feel like I should devote as much time working on my manuscript as I can, because it's so easy to get sidetracked with other things, but I do have a great pool of beta readers who are invaluable to making sure my story works. I also have some resources to draw from should I need a specialist in a particular field to make sure I get the details right. In fact, a family member of mine, who's a police officer, is probably tired of my questions by now!

*What type of scene is most difficult for you to write?*

Description in general, particularly as relates to nature. Sometimes it can be difficult to find the vocabulary. (Maybe I should have taken a class in botany...) Plus, as a writer, you want to set the scene and anchor the reader in the surroundings, but it's a balance between giving them too much detail and not enough. Finding the right amount can be tricky. You don't want the reader confused as to the setting, but you also don't want them skimming the paragraphs.

*Bonus. Where could you be reached on the World Wide Web?*

Readers can connect with me on my website at [www.carrierubin.com](http://www.carrierubin.com), Twitter, Facebook, and Goodreads.

Thank you so much for taking the time to interview me, John. I enjoyed answering your questions!

*You're welcome . . . and my personal thank you to you for such an outstanding novel. It was a joy to read and review it. And please keep us in the loop about your next project.*



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"If it grows by day, have it cut & split by Knight"

## Fallsburg Jr. HS Honor Roll Students Enjoy "On a Roll" Breakfast



*7th and 8th grade Honor Roll students at Fallsburg Junior High School that enjoyed an "On a Roll" breakfast on November 23, 2021 in the school cafeteria before morning classes. Not all Honor Roll recipients were able to attend.*





## Come Enjoy Holiday Shopping in Sullivan Catskills

After gathering with friends and family for Thansgiving all of us in the Sullivan Catskills hope your hearts are full and grateful for the health, home, family, friends, and food you have. Ours certainly are.

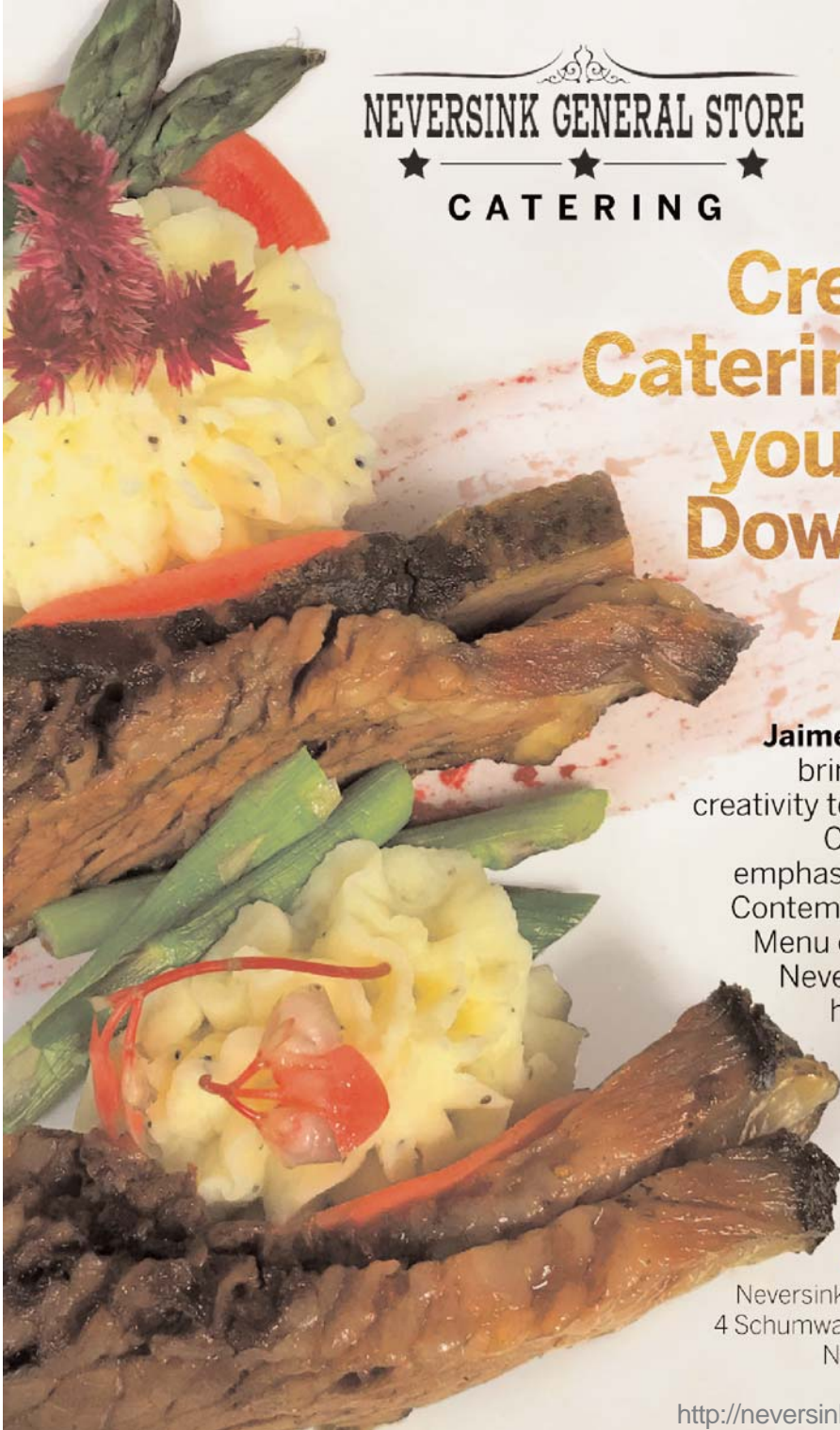
Know what else we're grateful for? Elastic waistbands and a short work week that ended with pie and shopping.

Come spend this week here in our Sullivan Catskills. We've got the pie, holiday shopping markets, parades, and tree lightings to start off the festivities!

We bring holiday shopping to a whole new level here. Come shop small with our talented makers and find the most unique gifts. Bethel Woods Center for the Arts held their first of eight Holiday Markets week-ends starting this past Saturday and they will continue through December 19. Each weekend will include a different lineup of artisans. Over at the Narrowsburg Union, the 2021 Holiday Market features yet another group of regional makers, artisans and craftsmen lining the 4,500 square foot Delaware Hall each weekend Saturday through December 19. Also, worth checking out, The Farmhouse Project's annual Pop-up Shop in Livingston Manor featuring locally made homewares along with in-store only curiosities and vintage pieces. There's lots more shopping to discover. From antiques and flea markets to general stores, gift shops, jewelers, florists, specialty wine shops and more.

After you shop but before you drop, better get some food in you. Our chefs may just be coming off cooking the big feast, but they live for the food- and for you. So, refuel on our Catskill-icious food and our wildly popular Good Taste Beverage Trail before you head out to the evening festivities.

We lit up the night this past weekend. You can bring the crew and get in the spirit at the big drive-through holiday light show- Peace, Love & Lights at Bethel Woods Center for the Arts. It was so popular last year, that this year the route's been expanded. Now it's a 1.7-mile drive and includes new themed areas. Groovy Way has a not-to-be-missed Jimi Hendrix display. You'll want to swing by the Holiday Hub at the Market Sheds and shake your booty by the 30-foot-tall lighted Musical Mega Trees synched to holiday tunes. The show runs through January 2.



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Whew! All that celebrating is enough to make you sleepy. Our hoteliers have a cozy bed that's just right for a sleepover. Choose a full-service resort, hotel, health spa, B&B, or a charming inn.

Before you head home, you might consider a hike in the woods. The late fall air is crisp and clean, and the views are spectacular. We have dozens of trails for every fitness level. And the Upper Delaware Scenic & Recreational River offers a new Take a Hike! Program.

If you just want to drive around and explore our vast 700+ square miles of legendary beauty, tour the Sullivan Catskills Dove Trail. Now, 59 colorful Peter Max-inspired sculptures are perched in every town and village to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the 1969 Woodstock Music and Art Fair.

Your good health and wellbeing are imperative. That's why our businesses all participate in our Catskills Confidence program. Social distancing and other important health and safety protocols are in place everywhere. And for the good of us all, we simply ask please bring and wear a mask if asked. Some of our proprietors may require one, or that you show proof of vaccinations.

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## SCDW Holiday Radio Show

Come and enjoy the warmth and love of the holiday season as the Sullivan County Dramatic Workshop presents our Youth Theatre performing a comedic adaptation of the Holiday classic "A Christmas Carol:" plus offering a few hilarious letters to Santa. Our talented youngsters are directed by Bunny Wolosczcak and Sally Gladden.

The holiday spirit continues with the SCDW's presentation of "Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus."

In 1940, Radio was all the rage - family time together was a special time, as there was no TV... so we harken back to the good old days as we recount the beautiful story of Virginia O'Hanlon - a young girl who writes a letter to the editor of the New York Sun. "Dear Editor, I am eight years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says if you see it in the Sun, it's so. Please tell me the truth. Is there a Santa Claus?" The editor assigns Frank Church - a reporter on the verge of self-destruction - the task of answering Virginia's question. Church's quest and reply have become one of the world's most quoted and beloved editorials. The radio show is skillfully directed by Ellie J.. Performances of "A Christmas Carol" and "Yes Virginia, there is a Santa Claus" are on Friday, December 10 and Saturday, December 11 at 7:00 pm ("Yes Virginia begins at 8:00pm) and Sunday, December 12 at 1:00 pm ("Yes Virginia" begins at 2:00pm). Both presentations will be at the South Fallsburg Senior Center on Laurel Avenue in South Fallsburg. Desserts and refreshment offered during intermission. General admission is \$10. Happy Holidays to All from the SCDW! For more information, call 845-436-5336

## The Scene Too -Jane Harrison

Boy, this Thanksgiving week was just chock full of good news, wasn't it!!! Thanksgiving Day saw 49 of our neighbors testing positive. The Governor declaring A State Of Emergency ahead of yet another offering from our friend. Breaking out one's warmest gear was mandatory. And Sunday, the first of many snowfalls, if the Farmer's Almanac is to be believed.

Still, there really were some extraordinarily good things. Many people I know gathered with friends and family for the first time in ages. Me? I stayed in with a fantastic individual Thanksgiving meal from THE NEVERSINK GENERAL STORE. I've been really busy and this was the perfect day to decompress with Thanksgiving relaxing and my sink free of dishes. So....any plans for Christmas dinner??

You may remember, a few years back, I was thrilled to find my friend's newest book in the Barnes and Noble in Kingston. THE ACID KING was JESSE P. POLLACK's second book and, as with the first, it approached the subject matter with facts and a degree of sensitivity that kept me reading until the end. It examines the true case of Gary Lauwers murder by Ricky Kasso (17 years old) on Long Island, NY in 1984. Kasso was dubbed by the press as 'The Acid King' and the episode fueled the 'Satan-Cult-Mania' that reached all the way to DC which then pointed its finger at heavy metal music. The real story is far more interesting.

And Jesse cares about the real story. Since the book came out in 2018 (Simon True; part of Simon and Schuster), he's been approached by prominent 'true crime' television and film producers. WOO HOO one could say....BUT each was more interested in playing up the sensationalism as opposed to the truth. One by one, the potential deals fell by the wayside. And I remember Jesse saying "I'll make a film myself before I let any of these do it!"

Making a film oneself seemed an insurmountable feat to me, simply because I wouldn't know how to even start. And I also know never to underestimate anyone and certainly not my friend Jesse. Because make the film, he did. THE ACID KING premiered earlier this month on the streaming services ROKU, VUDU, DirectTV and Vios as an Independent Documentary. It would have been on Amazon Prime Videos too, but they are no longer accepting 'Indie' Documentaries on their streaming services. Pretty impressive!

And so is the documentary itself. One is transported back to that time and that place, viewing the two principles through the compelling use of live interviews with childhood friends and authentic tapes and the Satanic cult hysteria that followed as fueled by a press running with the salacious with a few facts thrown in. You may not remember the names, Ricky Kasso or Gary Lauwers. You may not even recollect the moniker The Acid King. But I guarantee you will remember the case where Kasso murdered Lauwers in the woods of Northport and how it was portrayed as a Satanic Cult murder/sacrifice. It is this case that spawned hysteria, having adults seeing Satanic influence in everything from song lyrics, Heavy Metal Music et al to sleeveless t-shirts. All of this is what is explored in this documentary.

Jesse wove it into a piece that grabs one's attention and holds it throughout in a story separating reality from the hype. And this piece is getting rave reviews.

You can find THE ACID KING on any of the streaming services above for \$3.99 (\$4.99 for HD). Make sure you watch the credits as someone from Sullivan County is listed as Associate Producer.

Stay well, stay safe and mask up because it looks like...here we go again!

Until next time.....

## Governor Hochul Launches New "Take Your Shot for an Outdoor Adventure" Vaccine Incentive Sweepstakes for Hunters, Anglers and Outdoor Enthusiasts

Governor Kathy Hochul announced today on Upstate drive time radio a new vaccine incentive to bolster vaccination rates among New Yorkers who enjoy the great outdoors. Beginning Dec. 1 through the end of the year, anyone that receives their first vaccine dose will have the opportunity to enter the 'Take Your Shot for an Outdoor Adventure' sweepstakes and a random drawing to win special prize packages tailored to anglers, hunters, and other outdoor enthusiasts.

"New York State is known for its outdoor gems and rich sporting traditions, and this important vaccine incentive reflects that," Governor Hochul said. "As we pass another milestone with 90 percent of New Yorkers having received their first dose, we need to keep the pace of vaccination going. By getting vaccinated, you can protect yourself whether you're indoors or outdoors. Don't delay."

Five Grand Prize winners will be randomly selected from the pool of 2,000 sweepstakes entrants to receive their choice of deluxe fishing, hunting, and birding packages. Each Grand Prize package will include a lifetime license and the highest quality hunting and fishing gear. The deluxe birding package will include a spotting scope, binoculars, and more.

In addition, 25 entrants will be randomly selected to receive their choice of Second Tier fishing and hunting packages. These packages will include annual licenses and equipment specific to angling, bowhunting, rifle hunting, and turkey hunting. The beginning birder package includes binoculars, birdfeeder, bird seed, and I Bird NY materials.

The first 2,000 people to enter the sweepstakes will all receive a tree seedling from DEC's Colonel William F. Fox Memorial Tree Nursery in Saratoga, NY, and their choice of either a gift card to a major sporting goods retailer, or a free night of camping at a DEC campground. In addition, all sweepstakes entrants will receive a one-year subscription to DEC's Conservationist Magazine, which is currently celebrating its 75th year in publication.

## Monticello Democratic Candidates Endorsed

(Monticello) The Town of Thompson Democratic Committee has endorsed three candidates for the Village of Monticello election coming up in March. The Committee endorses former Mayor and former Police Chief Douglas Solomon to run for a four-year term as Village Justice. Judge Josephine Finn retired recently. The committee believes Mr. Solomon has the experience necessary for the position. The committee also endorses Michael Greco to run for a four-year term as Village Trustee. Mr. Greco is a former Village of Monticello Recreation Director and former Monticello Central School District Baseball Coach. The committee also endorses incumbent Republican Trustee Charles Sabatino to run for re-election. Mr. Sabatino was elected in March of 2019. The endorsements were made at a meeting held on Tuesday, November 23rd. Thompson Democratic Committee Chair Bill James said, "The candidates, committee members and volunteers will be gathering signatures in Monticello from November 29th through January 10th, the last day for filing. Please welcome them as they go door to door." The village election will be held on Tuesday, March 15th.




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# Thanksgiving Musical Bash and Tribute at “Heartbeat Music Hall” in Grahamsville

-Written by William A Brenner

(Grahamsville, NY – Nov. 27, 2021) On the evening before Thanksgiving, November 22nd, starting at 7 pm, there was a non-stop musical consisting of several musical groups and solo artists that had performed at the Heartbeat Music Hall in Grahamsville and throughout New York and Pennsylvania during the 2021 season.

The stage was packed with musicians accommodating and connecting with each other. As the show began to wind down -around 9:30 pm, another group of musicians hailing from Smallwood and Bethel, looking 'pure country' with black beards wearing their working jackets, who had just gotten off from work, took over the stage and starting blasting Rolling Stones, Eagles, Bob Dylan and other wild and rowdy country songs, while the audience jumped, clapped, danced and 'whooped'. Suddenly a saxophone joined the guitars and drums and jammed past 11 pm.

This was a special tribute show dedicated to David and Teresa Trestyn, who miraculously overcame a serious illness, then completely renovated the 3 story blue building on Main Street in Grahamsville, creating the entire main floor for one of the biggest and popular music venues in Sullivan County -hence the name, “Heartbeat Music Hall”.

David is Master of Ceremonies and a fellow guitar player. At every Wednesday Open Mike and Saturday Special Shows. Teresa, sitting quietly with friends at a table by the entrance, meets, greets and welcomes everyone.

What the Trestyn couple have created and added to the county and stage musical community is noteworthy and memorable.

On this special evening the Catskill Hudson Bank parking lot was full with the overflow in the Neversink Town Hall parking lot.

The Heartbeat Music Hall was packed with over 50 people. Of course, much of the audience was fellow musicians.

For this celebration, there was free pizza, cookies and cakes and BYO beer.

At the outside entrance was a welcoming wooden bear playing a banjo. The bear was donated by a craftsman at the Grahamsville Fair.

Outside was freezing cold. Dave, a plumber working for Perma-Fix provided comfortable heat in the music hall.

This Thanksgiving gathering was the final show until the spring.

Dave and Teresa thanked everyone and the community for their support and musical participation.

## Find Your Adventure

### Give Thanks for the Outdoors

#### Accessible Trail at Stony Kill Farm Restored

DEC and partners tour a new accessible trail at Stony Kill Farm Environmental Education Center. An accessible trail at Stony Kill Farm Environmental Education Center in Wappingers Falls, Dutchess County was recently restored and improved thanks to a collaborative effort to make the trail more accessible to people of all ages and abilities. The Woodland Trail was destroyed by a storm in May 2018. This month marked completion of phase one of the project. Phase two, planned for 2022, includes installing interpretive signage and benches.

### Celebrate Native American Heritage Month

Native American Heritage Month -November marked Native American Heritage Month in the United States, a time to commemorate and pay tribute to the rich histories and traditions of our Indigenous neighbors. To celebrate Native American Heritage Month, please check out some of the organizations working to promote Indigenous voices and experiences in the outdoor recreation community. Also visit SUNY's Center for Native Peoples and the Environment to learn about some of the programs that draw on the wisdom of both indigenous and scientific knowledge to support a shared goal of environmental sustainability.

Native Women's Wilderness is a community space for Native women to share, support, and learn from each other as they interact with and celebrate the outdoors. Their mission is to inspire and raise the voices of native women in the outdoor realm, to encourage a healthy lifestyle within the wilderness, and to provide education of the ancestral lands and its people.

Native Like Water prepares Indigenous youth and adults in science, outdoor education, conservation, wellness, and cultural self-exploration. With a particular emphasis on humankind's sacred relationship with water, Native Like Water's program areas include scuba certification, surf and food as medicine, and national unity, in addition to several academic and educational fellowships. The organization also supports several publicly funded scholarships to increase the inclusivity of its programs.

Founded by Jolie Varela, a Paiute woman, Indigenous Women Hike is a collective working to regenerate Indigenous land relationships and to promote healing and healthy lifestyles through nature.

Melanin Basecamp is a movement to increase the visibility of diversity in outdoor adventure sports. In addition to producing weekly, inspirational outdoors content from Black, Latinx, Indigenous, and Queer People of Color, the organization also produces resources such as gear reviews, field guides, survival tips, and best practices to make the outdoors experience even more inclusive for all audiences. Melanin Basecamp also promotes diversity in the outdoor recreation community through its organization coalition, #DiversifyOutdoors, which includes members such as Native Women's Wilderness.

## Time is Running out...



If you have ever considered adopting a dog, have you thought about the perks of adopting an older dog? Older dogs are already housebroken, don't chew up your furniture or slippers like a puppy and you will have a good clue as to what their personality is. Life is tough for all of us when you get older.

This senior Lab/Shepherd mix is presently calling the local dog pound home. It wasn't so bad when it was sunny and warm. Now, the nights are longer and it is starting to get chilly out. The nights at the dog pound are lonely and cold for this female dog who is the only guest at the pound.

While the radio that the Dog Control Officer plays, does break the silence of the long cold nights, this poor lonely pooch is just waiting to lay by someone's feet, for a pat on the head, and to become someone's faithful companion.

Think about it. And... if you are not able to have a dog at this time, maybe you know someone who is.

If you want to make this senior female dog happy and warm for the holidays, why not call the Town of Neversink DCO at 845-985-7281 today and arrange to adopt her. It certainly would become a happy story for the Holidays 2021.

See page 54 for further information.

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# DPL Family Tree

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&  
Go

## Ornament Event

Tuesday, November 30th

Ornament pick up between 10 a.m. & 7 p.m.

It's that time of year again! Please decorate a gnome ornament for our trees at the library!

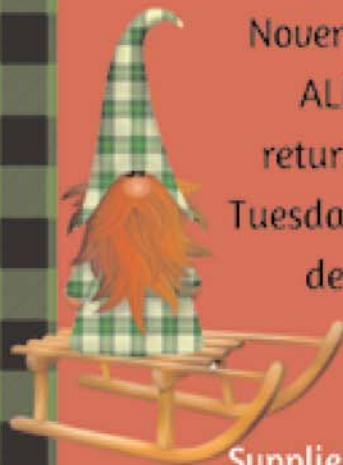
We will supply the wood gnome ornament & permanent markers, YOU supply your creativity!

1 ornament per child.

When decorating, please remember to put your name on the back to insure your ornament will be returned to you after the holidays.

Ornament pick up will be at the library on Tuesday, November 30th from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

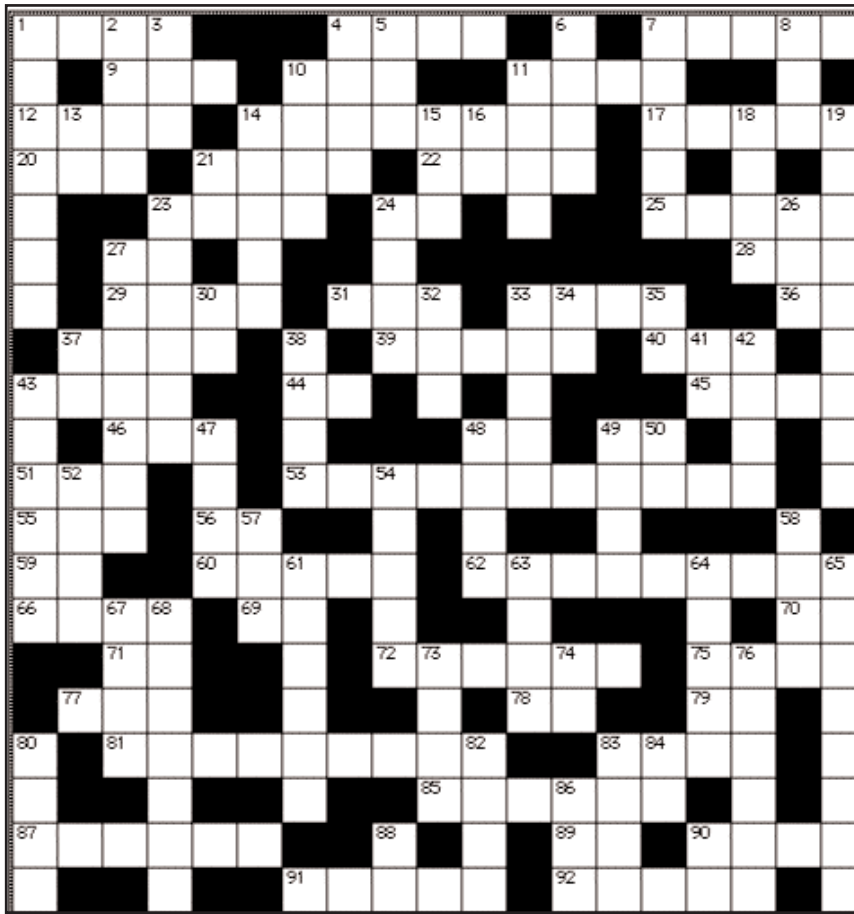
ALL completed ornaments MUST be returned to the library no later than Tuesday, December 7th, so that we may decorate our happy little trees!



*Happy Holidays!*

Supplies are limited. Registration is open to Tri-Valley residents. Please register online at [www.danielpiercelibrary.org](http://www.danielpiercelibrary.org)

Guess Who's Coming to Town? -L. Comando



- ACROSS**  
 1 A gift of Christmas  
 4 Rural road that Santa will travel down  
 7 Third planet from the sun  
 9 Mature female reproductive cell  
 10 Voyage, Good journey  
 11 Persuade  
 12 Mismatch  
 14 American-born of Swedish descent, famous for our present day image of Santa  
 17 Formed for a particular purpose (2 wds)  
 20 Interborough  
 21 Suspend  
 22 Red and white striped candy  
 23 Without  
 24 Southeast  
 25 Black power used in the copying process  
 27 Exclamation of surprise  
 28 Having three parts  
 29 Carbonated soft drink famous for Santa label  
 31 Perform  
 33 Scandinavian Yuletide animal  
 36 The same way  
 37 Past tense of give  
 39 Type of canoe originally used by Eskimos  
 40 Globe  
 43 Highly esteemed green stone  
 44 Mystical syllable  
 45 Santa's reindeer troupe  
 46 Gnome-like creature  
 48 Knock Out!  
 49 Proceed  
 51 Another name for mother  
 53 German Santa Claus  
 55 Holly and  
 56 State of being  
 59 One's mother  
 60 Relating to either Pole  
 62 Custom or belief handed down from one generation to the next  
 66 Expression of concern  
 69 Perform  
 70 She became a princess of the Royal British family in 1981  
 71 Southwest  
 72 Come or goes into  
 75 Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries  
 77 Fasten  
 78 Delaware  
 79 Long Island  
 81 Call to public attention  
 83 Crowd  
 85 Island country off the SE coast of China  
 87 One of the four divisions of the year  
 89 Artificial Intelligence  
 90 Self-referential  
 91 "The Night Before Christmas" author  
 92 Goblet
- DOWN**  
 1 A festive joyous time  
 2 Display in a public place  
 3 The night before Christmas  
 4 Of elongated shape  
 5 Combining conjunction  
 6 Where many go for the holidays  
 7 Acclaim  
 8 Duo  
 10 Small sweetened breads  
 11 Shape of a gnome's hat  
 13 Either  
 14 He will be visiting Bicentennial Park this Saturday  
 15 Before Christian Era  
 16 Louisiana  
 18 Inkling  
 19 Holiday to honor Christ's birthday  
 21 Exclamation of triumph  
 23 Important winter tool  
 24 What Santa carries on his back  
 26 Age  
 27 School for special instruction  
 30 Language Engineering  
 32 Pat  
 33 Short for alligator

- 34 Expressing agreement  
 35 In the direction of  
 37 Georgia (abbrev)  
 38 A child's play things  
 41 Right (abbrev)  
 42 Meeting for communal work  
 43 Icon that adorns well-known pancake syrup label created by Hadden Sundblom  
 47 To turn over  
 48 Retained possession of  
 49 Joyful  
 50 "Overeaters" Anonymous  
 52 Egg-shaped  
 54 Pertaining to ancient Scandinavia  
 57 Earth and grass  
 58 Set of rules  
 61 Art gallery in France  
 63 Tall slender-leaved grass plant  
 64 Device with a function  
 65 4th Century Bishop of Myra and patron saint of children  
 67 Largest continent  
 68 North Germanic language of Sweden  
 73 Artist known for Civil War Santa  
 74 Regarding  
 76 Twelfth sign of the zodiac  
 80 A short examination  
 82 Part of a roof  
 83 Correspondence  
 84 Indefinite article  
 86 Swish  
 88 Santa's call of attention  
 90 A title before a woman's name

**Spritz Christmas Tree Cookies**

- 1 cup butter
- 1 cup white sugar
- 1 egg
- 2 2/3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 4 drops green food coloring

In a large bowl, cream together the butter and white sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in the egg, then stir in the vanilla and food coloring. Combine the flour and salt; stir into the sugar mixture. Cover dough, and chill for at least one hour. Chill cookie sheets. Preheat oven to 400 degrees F (200 degrees C). Press dough out of cookie press using Christmas tree attachment onto ungreased, chilled cookie sheets. Bake for 8 to 10 minutes in the preheated oven, or until lightly golden at the edges. Remove from cookie sheets to cool on wire racks.

数字は単数に限る

9		5		2		3
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8		1		7		5

Answer on page 23

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<https://sudoku.com>

CRYPTOGRAM

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

2 14 26 21 3 10

19 10 3 3 18

2 14 26 21 3 10

19 10 3 3 18

2 14 26 21 3 10

6 3 3

8 24 10

25 6 13

1 24

25 24 6 8

15 16 26

14 8

14 18

8 1

11 14 20 10

14 26

6

1 26 10

24 1 11 18 10

1 5 10 26

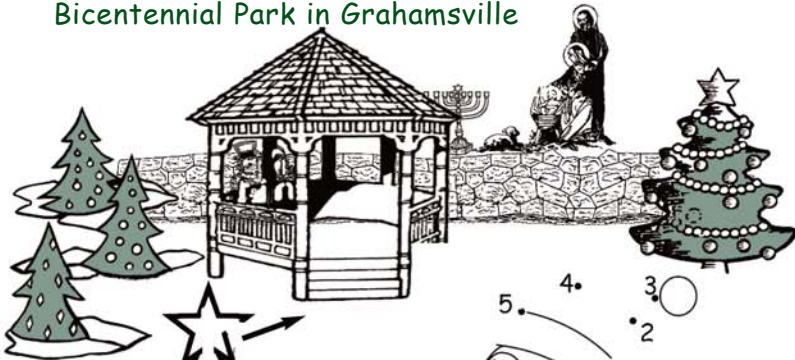
18 3 10 14 21 24

Holiday Wordsearch

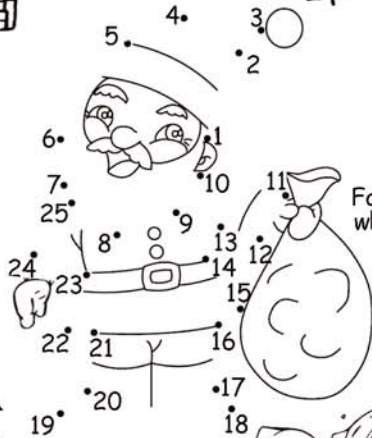
N S W J P K K C A N D L E J G  
 H A A X M U U P I T J J G J I  
 O S N O W F L A K E P W L M N  
 L Y L L O H Z S T O C K I N G  
 I M I S T L E T O E S R Y R E  
 D R E V L I S J I N G L E H R  
 A O N N C T N E M A N R O T B  
 Y D T W X G P E L O N O T A R  
 E E R T A R N B O B H K U E E  
 R B D E T E A R G M O V R A  
 O R S S L N A M E R E H W D  
 A E X L A T A R W R E Y O J  
 C N N S W S O R S C O Z E W H  
 T L D R L N Y Z B H P N Y N U  
 I T H E C H R I S T M A S C G

Kids' Holiday Fun Page - L. Comando

Don't miss the Town of Neversink Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony that will be held on December 5 at 5 pm at Bicentennial Park in Grahamsville



Help the carolers through the maze to the gazebo at Bi-Centennial Square.



Follow the dots to see who will be coming to Town and checking his list to see who is naughty and who is nice.

- CHRISTMAS
- HOLLY
- ORNAMENT
- MISTLETOE
- GREEN
- RED
- SILVER
- BELLS
- JINGLE
- HOOHO
- STAR
- SANTA
- HOLIDAY
- STOCKING
- JOY
- MERRY
- CARD
- PRESENT
- BOW
- SNOW LAKE
- TREE
- GINGERBREAD
- WREATH
- SNOWMAN
- CANDLE



There will be caroling in the square, What are the five differences between the two pictures?



CRYPTOGRAM KEY

4	13	22	25	17	16	8	18	11	23	5	1	26	12	3	7	2	14	24	21	15	10	9	20	6	19
Z	X	W	V	U	T	S	R	Q	P	O	N	M	L	K	J	I	H	G	F	E	D	C	B	A	



# NEW HERITAGE BAKING BOOK

## JUST IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

The new 68-page

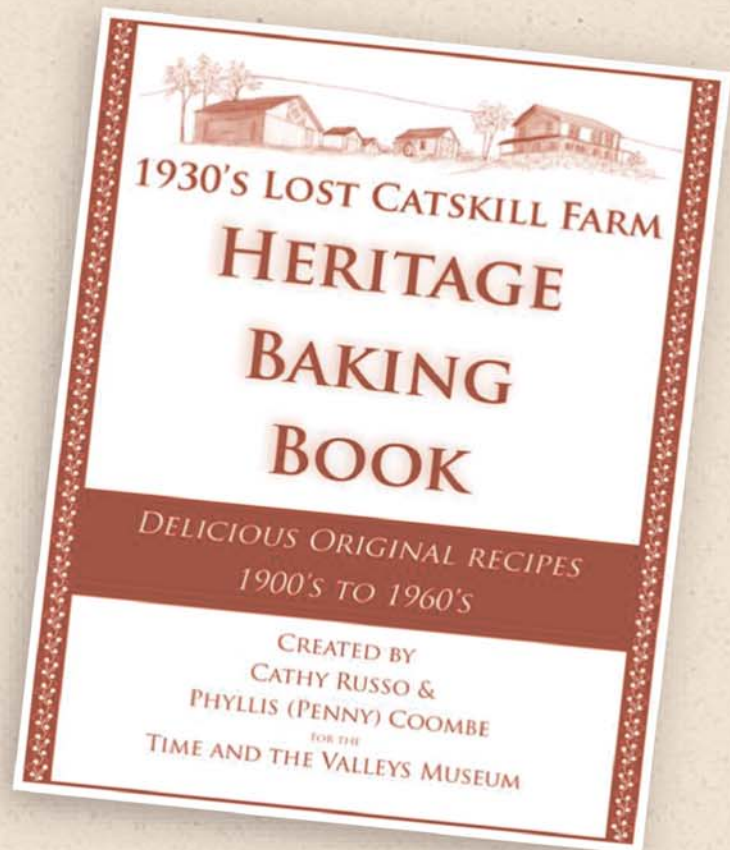
### Heritage Baking Book

has tried-and-true old time treasured recipes for cakes, muffins, pies, cookies and much more, all from local bakers of the past.

It includes a history of baking and information and photos of many of the early local bakers, including bakers from the Smith, Hornbeck, Sheeley and Erath families.

**\$15 Each**

**\$12 for Museum Members**



IT MAKES A UNIQUE GIFT  
AND HELPS FUND PHASE II OF THE 1930S LOST CATSKILL FARM

### Time and the Valleys Museum Baking Book Order Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to: Time and the Valleys Museum, P.O. Box 254, Grahamsville, New York 12740

# of copies: \_\_\_\_\_ Shipping/Handling please add: \$5 for the first book and \$1.00 for each additional book

Total enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ \*\*Books can also be picked up by appointment to eliminate shipping - Just call 845 985 7700 or email [info@timeandthevalleymuseum.org](mailto:info@timeandthevalleymuseum.org)

**ORDER ONLINE AT [WWW.TIMEANDTHEVALLEYSMUSEUM.ORG/SHOP](http://WWW.TIMEANDTHEVALLEYSMUSEUM.ORG/SHOP)**  
MEMBERS USE TATVM20 FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNT

**LEGALS/PUBLIC NOTICES**

December 14, 2021 **Claryville Fire District Election** 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM at the Warren Cole Hall Claryville.

Anne-Marie Kremer/CFD Secretary

12/2

## DMV will be at the Neversink Town Hall on 12/09/2021.



You MUST go on the DMV Website to make a reservation.

Search [sullivancountydmv.com/scheduling](https://www.sullivancountydmv.com/scheduling)

**\* SULLIVAN COUNTY RESIDENTS ONLY \*\***

*Please read all appointment types before selecting one. If you select the wrong appointment type you may have to reschedule due to time constraints.*

### Now doing business at SIX locations:

**Monticello Govt Center - 100 North Street, Monticello, NY (M-F 9-12, 1-4:30pm)**

**\*\*\*Neversink Town Hall - 273 Main Street, Grahamsville, NY (rotating schedule)\*\*\***

**Callicoon Town Hall - 19 Legion Street, Jeffersonville, NY (rotating schedule)**

**Rockland Town Hall - 95 Main Street, Livingston Manor, NY (rotating schedule)**

**Delaware Town Hall - 104 Lower Main Street, Hortonville, NY (rotating schedule)**

**Mamakating Town Hall - 2948 US 209, Wurtsboro, NY (rotating schedule)**

Customers **MUST** have all forms completed **PRIOR** to arriving for their appointment. You can access forms through the NYS DMV website - [dmv.ny.gov](https://dmv.ny.gov)

**\*\*\* IF YOU ARE LATE OR NOT PREPARED YOU WILL BE ASKED TO RESCHEDULE \*\*\***

*ONLY THE PERSON COMPLETING THE TRANSACTION WILL BE PERMITTED TO ENTER THE DMV*

The DMV will continue to take mail-in license renewals with proof of an eye exam and registration renewals to: Sullivan County DMV, 100 North Street, Monticello NY, 12701

For further information please contact us at: 845-794-3872

We reserve the right to cancel multiple appointments or appointments to out of county residents.

## Tri-Valley CSD Board Meetings

- Thursday, December 2, 2021, Regular Meeting #11

- Thursday, December 16, 2021, Regular Meeting #12

All Anticipated Proposed Executive Sessions start at 6:00 p.m., Secondary School Library Upper Level. All Regular Board Meetings start at 7:00 p.m., Secondary School Library Lower Level. The Board Audit Committee Meeting on Thursday, October 14, 2021 is NOT a Board Meeting. All Board Meetings will be broadcast on our YouTube Live Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkI224vKQ8nAWhR6NVao24w/live>

## Fallsburg CSD Board of Education

### December Meetings

**December 1, 2021  
December 15, 2021**



# Holiday Shop

For unique books, gifts,  
heritage toys and local crafts

Saturday, December 11th 11 to 3p.m.

Time and the Valleys Museum

St. Rt. 55, Grahamsville

[info@timeandthevalleymuseum.org](mailto:info@timeandthevalleymuseum.org)

Can't make it?  
Call 845 985-7700  
or email to visit  
another day

10% off  
**EVERYTHING!**  
Members get 20%!  
Get the NEW  
Heritage Baking Book  
only \$15!

**FREE**  
pair of historic  
notecards with  
each purchase



Museum exhibits will be open!



## Congrats to the 2021 I Bird NY Challenge Winners

The 2021 Winner of the I Bird NY challenges standing next to their bird house DEC hosted the popular I Bird NY challenge in 2021. This fun, family-friendly challenge encourages all New Yorkers to enjoy birding no matter where they live and gives them tools to get started. There is an I Bird NY challenge for beginning birders and an experienced challenge for those looking to expand their life list. Completed forms are sent into DEC for a chance to win birding prizes through a random drawing. The 2021 winners were chosen by DEC Commissioner Basil Seggos. The grand prize winner is Elizabeth Netzband, from Oneida. Sandra Rice won the experienced birder category and Ilya Kasproicz was the beginning birder challenge winner.

Don't worry if you missed this year's challenge; DEC will be hosting it again in 2022, and everyone will have an opportunity to see why birding is such a popular activity.

### NYS Birding Trail Coming to a Site Near You

--the NYS Birding Trail sign along the side of a trail

Have you heard about the new Birding Trail? DEC launched the New York State Birding Trail last month to highlight birding opportunities across the state. The trail provides information on places anyone can go to find birds in public spaces across the state. New York City is the first region to be announced, with future announcements coming soon!

## Save the Date: First Day Hikes 2022!

A group of hikers standing at a pond at a First Day Hike First Day Hikes 2022 will be held on Saturday, January 1, 2022 at locations throughout NY. Kick off 2022 by participating in one of many hikes being held at public spaces across the state. Stay tuned to DEC's website, Facebook, or email for more information coming soon.

Visit our website for more info:  
<https://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/112174.html>

## DEC Environmental Conservation Police Officer Highlights Recent ECO Actions

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Police Officers (ECOs) and Investigators enforce the 71 Chapters of NY Environmental Conservation Law (ECL), protecting fish and wildlife and preserving environmental quality across New York. In 1880, the first eight Game Protectors proudly began serving to protect the natural resources and people of New York State. In 2020, the 298 ECOs and Investigators across the state responded to 29,673 calls and worked on cases that resulted in 11,952 tickets or arrests for crimes ranging from deer poaching to solid waste dumping, illegal mining, the black market pet trade, and excessive emissions violations.

"DEC's Environmental Conservation Police Officers are working hard in communities across New York to protect natural resources by upholding our state's stringent laws and regulations and protecting public safety," Commissioner Basil Seggos said. "Our ECOs are expertly trained to perform their duties in every setting-from cities to wilderness-and continue

to adapt to meet new and emerging challenges as they build on their longstanding commitment to protect New York's environment."

If you witness an environmental crime or believe a violation of environmental law occurred, please call the DEC Division of Law Enforcement hotline at 1-844-DEC-ECOS (1-844-332-3267).

## ECO K9 Graduation



Three ECOs standing next to two K9s laying in the grass

On Oct. 29, New York State Environmental Conservation Police graduated two handlers and K9s from the Basic Handler School in Summit. ECOs LaCroix and Schneller completed the three-month handler school with their new K9 partners. This is Officer LaCroix's second K9 partner, named Web, as he retires K9 Diesel after a nine-year career. K9 Web is named after deceased New York State Game Protector, Clarence J. Webster, who was killed in an automobile accident while on patrol on Nov. 16, 1944, in Washington County. ECO LaCroix and K9 Web are certified in wildlife detection, spent shell casing detection, human tracking, and handler protection. The team will be assigned to Clinton County (DEC Region 5).

ECO Schneller will be working with his first K9 partner, Benny. K9 Benny is named after deceased New York State Game Protector Benning W. DeLaMater who drowned while patrolling the Hudson River near the Federal Dam in Troy on June 24, 1961, in Albany County. ECO Schneller and K9 Benny are certified in wildlife detection, spent shell casing detection, human tracking, and handler protection. The K9 team will be assigned to St. Lawrence County (DEC Region 6).

## First Confirmed EHD Survivor

During the late summer and early fall, an outbreak of Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease (EHD) led to the death of a significant number of whitetail deer in parts of New York. On Nov. 2, ECO Palmateer received information from a Catskill family about a youth hunter who arrowed a buck with deformities on its hooves. The family reported that it looked like the hooves were starting to detach from the deer. The ECO spoke with DEC Wildlife Pathologist Kevin Hynes, who advised that these symptoms are historically indicative of deer that has survived the EHD virus. Hynes requested the deer be brought in for testing and the family donated the deer and gut pile to DEC. ECO Palmateer transported the deer to the Wildlife Health Unit in Delmar, where staff tested the spleen and hooves and found the presence of the EHD virus in both. This is the first deer in New York State to be confirmed as an EHD survivor. For more information on EHD, visit the DEC website.

**Saturday, Dec. 4th, 9-3**  
at the United Methodist Church  
83 Canal St., Ellenville 12428  
**Ellenville Regional  
Hospital Auxiliary Gift  
Shop Holiday Fundraiser**

**30% off jewelry-50% off  
seasonal and gift items**

**Participating vendors:**  
Shawangunk Garden Club (poinsettias,  
jams & jellies)  
The Bath Bar (vegan products)  
Pretzel Princess  
Irene's Crocheted Items  
The Little Garden Co. (dried flower  
arrangements)  
Uniquely Yours by Sophia (framed photos  
and handcrafted jewelry)

**There will be something  
for everyone!**

**ST. MARK'S UMC**  
Napanoch  
**INDOOR YARD, CLOTHING AND HOLIDAY SALE**  
Special Holiday Openings  
Fri & Sat 12/3-12/4  
Fri & Sat 12/10-12/11  
Fri & Sat 12/17-12/18  
10 am-3 pm  
Closed 12/24 & 12/31  
Reg. Friday hrs resume 1/7/22  
"Something for Everyone"



# COLONIAL FAMILY of FUNERAL HOMES

**PRE-PLANNING, FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICES  
VETERAN'S CARE, MONUMENTS & ENGRAVING**

LOCATIONS IN WOODBOURNE, LIBERTY,  
MONTICELLO, LIVINGSTON MANOR & KAUNEONGA LAKE

434-7363 292-7160 794-2700 583-5445 439-4333

<http://www.colonialfamilyfuneralhomes.com>

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MONUMENTS INSTALLED IN ALL CEMETERIES  
CREMATION MEMORIALS & BENCHES, MONUMENT LETTERING & CLEANING

**Sundown United Methodist Church**

**Sundown Ladies**

*See you next year!*

*Sundown United Methodist Church Hall*



**ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL MISSION**  
The Little Church with the Big Heart  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**  
**Sunday, 8:00am Service of Holy Communion**  
**Music by Fred VanWagner**

5277 State Rt. 42 • South Fallsburg  
845-436-7539

For information contact:  
**The Reverend Diana Southwick Scheide**  
Canon Missioner of the Delaware Catskill Episcopal Ministry  
PO Box 296 Callicoon, NY  
vicardcem@gmail.com  
845-887-3201 • 717-870-7874 cell

**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 morning 8:50 am; Tuesday morning 8:50 am; Wednesday morning No Mass; Thursday afternoon 3:00 pm; Friday morning 8:50 am and Saturday morning 8:50 am.

**Saturday afternoon confessions:** 3:45 to 4:15 pm  
Rev. Ignas Dhas MMI, Administrator  
(845) 434-7643

**Grahamsville United Methodist Church**

**Thrift Sales will reopen in the Spring**

*See you then*



**Grahamsville & Sundown United Methodist Churches**  
**House Worship Plan**  
**Worship Service & Tuesday Evening Bible Study Zoom Link**

Join Zoom Meeting - Worship Service & Tuesday Evening Bible Study Zoom Link  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2029912673?pwd=R2lJYUhyTVdsQWdMUXZvTEtCeGdLZz09>  
Meeting ID: 202 991 2673 Passcode: 012740  
Dial by your location  
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)  
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

**The Bible Study continues every Tuesday at 7 pm.**  
If you are interested in joining the Bible Study, please feel free to contact the Pastor, Seung Jin Hong. 845-985-2283

*Grahamsville Reformed Church*

*The Church with a friendly welcome*

**Pastor Kenneth Ronk**  
Sunday School 9:30 am  
Worship Service 9:30 am  
P O Box 238 - Route 55  
Grahamsville, NY 12740  
845-985-7480

**Claryville Reformed Church**

Claryville Road  
Claryville, NY 12725  
845-985-2041



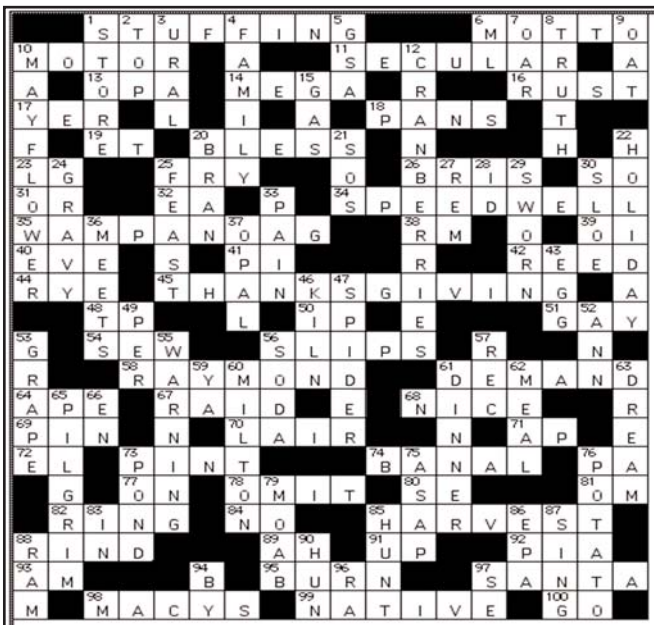
Worship Services @ 10:00 am  
Rev. Ken Tenckinck, Pastor  
Church Hall available for rent  
Call - 845-985-2041 for information

**Loucks Funeral Home**  
**Geoff and Heather Hazzard**  
**"Celebrating Life, One Family at a Time"**

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

**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. Thomas P. Kiely, Pastor

Ans to last week's Crossword



## Town of Neversink Annual House Decorating Contest and Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony

The Town of Neversink is sponsoring its Annual House Decorating Contest, with entries due no later than Thursday, December 2 and judging on Friday, December 3. Winners will be announced at the Tree Lighting Ceremony. Get your entry form for the House Decorating Contest at Town Hall or on the Parks and Rec Facebook page or in your *Townsman*. And check out the flyer on the Tree Lighting Ceremony on December 5 at 5 pm at Bicentennial Park in Grahamsville.

## 2021 Town of Neversink Holiday Hours

The Town of Neversink will observe the following Holiday Hours: Christmas - close at noon on 12/23 and all day on 12/24. New Years - close at noon on 12/30 and all day on 12/31.

The Transfer Station will be CLOSED on Christmas Day - Saturday 12/25. It will be OPEN on Monday 12/27 from 11 am to 7 pm. Wednesday's 12/29 hours will remain as usual.

The Transfer Station will be CLOSED on New Year's Day - Saturday 01/01/2022. No additional hours will be added.

Please plan your Transfer Station and Town Hall business accordingly. The Town of Neversink wishes you a very Joyous Holiday Season and a Healthy and Happy New Year.

**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

SUUJI WA TANSU NI KAGIRU answer

## Grahamsville United Methodist Church

The GUMC held their final 2021 Thrift Sale on November 6th. Even when we are closed we want the community to know that, by appointment, our Thrift items are always available to anyone in case of an emergency by calling 845-985-2283. Because of storage space we are **NOT ABLE** to receive items again until next spring. Please help us by storing your treasures at your house until then.

Thanks to everyone who has helped our church keep this Mission open throughout the uncertain 2021 season.

9	6	7	5	8	4	2	1	3
2	1	8	9	7	3	4	5	6
4	3	5	2	1	6	9	7	8
1	2	9	4	3	8	5	6	7
7	5	4	1	6	9	8	3	2
6	8	3	7	5	2	1	4	9
3	7	2	8	4	5	6	9	1
5	9	6	3	2	1	7	8	4
8	4	1	6	9	7	3	2	5

## Monti Elks Bingo for Veterans



(Monticello) Monticello Elks Lodge #1544 (46 North Street, Monticello) invites you to join us for a special Holiday Bingo on Saturday, December 11th. The doors open at 12:30 and calling starts at 2 PM. There will be over \$1600 in cash prizes, along with 50/50's, pull tabs, door prizes and raffles. Hot food will also be available. This event is sponsored by Belle Reve Senior Living in Milford, PA where they provide quality living for seniors.

All proceeds will be shared by our local Veterans organization and the Elks Lodge. Find out more by calling Past Exalted Ruler Julie LiGreci at: (973) 349-7390. Bingo also continues at the Lodge every Tuesday evening at 7.

**ARTISTS • CRAFTERS**  
Need a place to show and sell your crafts?  
Call us at 845-985-0501  
email: [tvtownsman@yahoo.com](mailto:tvtownsman@yahoo.com)  
or visit our Virtual Mail  
<http://gnomehomeinc.com>

**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

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

**LOCAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

- 12/1/21 Town of Neversink Planning Board 7 pm - App. Submission Date 11/17/21  
 12/5/21 **Town of Neversink Tree Lighting Bicentennial Park** - 5 pm  
 12/7/21 Claryville Fire District -District Elections 6:30 pm Warren Cole Hall in Claryville  
 12/8/21 Town of Neversink Town Board Meeting - Regular  
 12/11/21 **Time and the Valleys Holiday Shop - Saturday, December 11 - 11am to 3pm**  
 12/14/21 Town of Denning Town Board & Business meeting at Denning Town Hall 6:00 pm  
 12/16/21 Town of Denning Planning Board Meeting 6 pm  
 12/21/21 Town of Neversink Zoning Board of Appeals 7:30 pm App. Submission Date 12/7/21

**During these uncertain times - PLEASE CONTACT A MEMBER OF EACH ORGANIZATION for updates & changes**

Town of Denning - <http://www.denning.us>  
 Town of Neversink - <https://townofneversink.org>

***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.

## Ulster County Legislature Weekly Update Week of November 29 - December 3, 2021

Monday, November 29

- o 5:00 PM - Public Health & Social Services Committee, Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 867 7311 8905, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656
- o 6:15 PM (or immediately following the Public Health & Social Services Committee) - Energy & Environment Committee, Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 852 4167 6611, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656 ID: 973 5043 8011
- o 7:30 PM (or immediately following Energy & Environment Committee) - Caucus: Democrats, Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 879 6338 7069, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656

Tuesday, November 30

- o 5:15 PM - Legislative Programs, Education & Community Services Committee, Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 836 5881 2237, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656
- o 6:00 PM (or immediately following Legislative Programs, Education & Community Services Committee) - Economic Development, Tourism, Housing, Planning & Transit Committee, Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 823 7327 3340, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656
- o 7:00 PM (or immediately following Economic Development, Tourism, Housing & Planning Committee) - Caucus: Republicans, Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 859 3761 5653, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656

Wednesday, December 1

- o 5:15 PM - Law Enforcement & Public Safety Committee, Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 847 4907 2694, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656
- o 6:30 PM (or immediately following the Law Enforcement & Public Safety Committee) - Public Works & Capital Projects Committee, Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 841 0493 6578, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656
- o 6:30 PM - Environmental Management Council, Powered by Zoom Meeting. Meeting ID: 974 4254 9615, Password: 278571, Dial In (646) 558-8656
- o 7:00 PM - Ulster County Planning Board, Powered by Zoom Meetings, Webinar ID: 875 6300 3273, Passcode: 834223, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656
- o 7:30 PM - Ulster County Fire Advisory Board, Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 829 1322 1460, Passcode: 795926, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656

Thursday, December 2

- o 5:30 PM - Ways & Means Committee, Powered by Zoom, Meeting ID: 844 0746 1037, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656
- o 6:00 PM - Special Legislative Session: Vote on the Proposed 2022 Budget and Proposed 2022-2027 Capital Program, available via vimeo at <https://livestream.com/accounts/1512750/events/1824203> Public Comment is administered by "Call In Studio": Dial 205-ULSTER-0 or (205) 857-8370 to be connected
- o 6:00 PM - Human Rights Commission, Powered by Zoom Meeting. Meeting ID: 301 339 6875, Attendance by Phone (929) 205-6099
- o 7:00 PM - Special Meeting of the Ulster County Capital Resources Corporation, Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 816 4111 9687, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656

Friday, December 3

- o No Meetings



## Olive Free Library Annual Holiday Crafts Fair

On Saturday, December 11 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, December 12 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. the Olive Free Library will hold its annual holiday crafts fair, 4033 Route 28A, West Shokan, NY 12494. A variety of vendors will sell locally-made goods including plant-based handmade soap, wood benches, felted scarves, holiday decorations, handmade bags, wood bowls, handmade American Girl Doll clothes, decorative stones, aprons, jewelry, pottery, quilts, and much more. The day will include a chance to win a portable generator or numerous other raffle bags, locally made items, music, and a cookie platter sale.

Each year the Olive Free Library holds a festive holiday fair featuring gifts made in the Catskills such as soap, pottery, quilts, knit hats and scarves, jewelry, and many other attractive, handmade, and affordable gifts.

As a safer alternative to the hot luncheon traditionally held, shoppers can purchase homemade cookie platters to take home that are full of tempting treats. These beautifully packaged platters will be sold for \$20 each. The library will raffle a brand new portable 1200 watt generator and several other locally made items. Raffle tickets can be purchased for the generator now through Sunday, December 12. All proceeds from the raffle and cookie platter sale benefit the library. The fair is brimming with holiday spirit at this community gathering place. For more details for this fabulous event please visit our website: [olivefreelibrary.org](http://olivefreelibrary.org)

**COVID-19 Precautions:** All vendors and shoppers will be required to wear masks while in the building, regardless of vaccination status. We have reduced the number of vendors slightly to allow more space for social distancing. The number of shoppers in the building at one time will also be monitored.

For more information please call the Olive Free Library at 845-657-2482, or email [programs@olivefreelibrary.org](mailto:programs@olivefreelibrary.org)

**Help your local  
business grow  
Advertise locally in  
*The Townsman!***

Classified ads - \$6.00  
for the first 20 words/  
20 cents each additional word

1" Boxed ad (1" x 3")  
- \$7.50 per week

Business card ad ( 2" x 3")  
\$15.00 per week

(3" x 4") - \$30.00 per week

(3" x 6") - \$45.00

(4" x 6") - \$60.00

1/4 pg (4" x 5") - \$50.00

(6" x 8") - \$120.00

1/2 pg (4"x8") - \$80.00

Full Page - 8" x10" - \$160

**Low Rates -  
High Visibility!**



CONCERT SERIES  
LIVE & VIRTUAL

**MISU Annual Holiday Concert**

**Featuring David Fiedler & Anastasia Solberg, violin, and James Fitzwilliam, organ  
Live and on Zoom**

**Thursday, December 16 at 7:30 pm**

MISU Community String Ensemble will present their holiday program featuring works from their classical and pop repertoire, after which our Guest artists will perform the Corelli Christmas concerto as well as Albinoni's Adagio. To reserve your space hover your phone's camera over the QR code. Registration is required for in person and Zoom attendance



## *SC Annual Session Date Change*

### **REMINDER: Special Meeting: Budget Vote**

At the direction of Chairman David B. Donaldson, the Annual Session of the Ulster County Legislature scheduled for December 14, 2021 has been rescheduled to December 21, 2021. As covid continues to be an everchanging presence in our communities, further meeting details will be forthcoming. As always, the most accurate, up-to-date information regarding the Legislative schedule can be found at:

<https://www.calendarwiz.com/calendars/calendar.php?crd=ucalendar&&jsenabled=1&winH=883>

Please be reminded the Special Meeting of the Ulster County Legislature to consider several Resolutions pertaining to the Proposed 2022 Ulster County Budget, the Proposed 2022 - 2027 Capital Program, and other tax related matters will be held on Thursday, December 2, 2021 at 6:00 PM. This meeting will be virtual.

December 2, 2021 Meeting details are as follows:

5:30 PM - Ways & Means Committee, Powered by Zoom: Meeting ID: 844 0746 1037, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656

6:00 PM - Special Legislative Session: Budget:

This meeting is available via vimeo at:

<https://livestream.com/accounts/1512750/events/1824203>  
Public Comment is administered by "Call In Studio": Dial 205-ULSTER-0 or (205) 857-8370

to be connected

## **First-Time Homebuyer Grants Available in Sullivan County**

Interested in purchasing a home in Sullivan County? RUPCO is administering a homeownership grant program for Sullivan County first-time homebuyers. Up to \$25,000 is available for income eligible households for down payment, closing costs and post closing rehab. Contact Frank Robusto, (845) 331-9860 ext. 320 for an eligibility screen

## **SC Three Bridges Reopened by DPW**

Monticello, NY - The Sullivan County Division of Public Works has reopened three bridges that had been under various repairs.

- o County Bridge 261 on Garden House Road in the Town of Liberty, just west of Hurleyville
- o County Bridge 241 on Dewitt Flats Road in the Town of Callicoon, between Jeffersonville and Youngsville
- o County Bridge 432 on Woods Road in the Town of Highland, near Yulan

Please note that existing weight restrictions have not changed for these bridges.

DANIEL PIERCE LIBRARY

# CURRENT HOURS



MONDAY - 10:00 am - 1:00 pm  
TUESDAY - 10:00 am - 7:00 pm  
WEDNESDAY - 10:00 am - 5:00 pm  
THURSDAY - 10:00 am - 7:00 pm  
FRIDAY - 10:00 am - 5:00 pm  
SATURDAY - 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Curbside pick up will continue to be available every day from 9:00 am until a half hour before closing time.

Click here to see a video of this year's Pumpkin Party

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=32vw2hSI5xg>



## Studio Artists Group

at the Daniel Pierce Library

Now meeting every Wednesday  
9:30 am to 12:30 pm

Come paint with us!

Join this collaborative group as we create and inspire each other.  
Please bring any art supplies that you plan to work with to create your piece.  
Adults only.



Daniel Pierce Library

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Grahamsville, New York 12740-0268 | 845-985-7233  
[www.danielpiercelibrary.org](http://www.danielpiercelibrary.org)



# Gotsch

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November 26, 27, & 28

December 4 & 5

December 11 & 12

December 18 & 19

Closed Christmas Eve

Weekdays by Appointment Only

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**Phone: 845-985-7902**



**COME JOIN YOUR TOWN OF NEVERSINK  
AT ITS  
ANNUAL HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING AND  
FESTIVITIES  
ON  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5th STARTING AT 5 PM.  
AT  
BICENTENNIAL PARK (across from Town Hall)**



**Visit with Family and Friends as you enjoy hot dogs,  
hamburgers, cocoa,  
Cookies, toasted marshmallows and popcorn **ALL FOR FREE!****

**Carol with us as we sing our favorite holiday songs.**

**We will have a special visit from *Santa & Mrs. Claus* escorted by our  
Town of Neversink Fire Departments and Emergency Medical Teams!**

**Come Join the Fun and Help your Town ring in the Holiday Season**



## Catskill Mountainkeeper Webinar on Invasive Jumping Worms

Jumping worms-also known as crazy snake worm, Alabama jumper, and Asian worm-seriously threaten the health of our Catskills forest. The more we learn about this invasive species, the more concerned we are; on December 7th at 6pm Mountainkeeper is pulling together the experts from Colgate University, Columbia Greene Community College, and the Catskills Regional Invasive Species Partnership for a panel discussion to share the latest on what you should know and what you can do. The Zoom webinar is free, but you must register to attend.

To register go to:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/2016373430921/WN\\_f199c5rRXacYpUf58N6eA](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/2016373430921/WN_f199c5rRXacYpUf58N6eA)

Originally introduced from Asia via imported nursery stock, the highly invasive jumping worm is going wild in the Catskills. Because these worms consume such huge amounts of leaf material, they have the potential to change the very landscape of our iconic Catskill forests.

Nearly all earthworms found in the Northeast today are non-native, but jumping worms (*Amyntas* species) are extra concerning because they gobble up organic matter more quickly than their European counterparts, stripping the forest of the layer critical for seedlings and wildflowers. Jumping worms grow twice as fast, reproduce more quickly, and can infest soils at high densities. In areas where there is a heavy infestation, native plants, soil invertebrates, salamanders, birds and other animals may decline.

On December 7th at 6pm, join Mountainkeeper's Kate Hagerman to dig into how the life cycles of jumping worms differ from other common worms, as well as how they impact nutrient cycling, soil health, microhabitats, and our forests. The conversation also will cover measures that we all can take to report jumping worm infestations and help prevent their spread. Our panelists include:

- o Tim McCay, ecologist with Colgate University. Tim

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studies the role of invasive species and other disturbances on the forest floor ecosystem;

- o Rebecca Pinder, Associate Professor of Biological Sciences and the Environmental Studies Program at Columbia-Greene Community College. Rebecca's research focuses on all things living in the leaf litter, particularly along riparian zones (the transition zone from upland to aquatic habitats);

- o John Thompson, Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership (CRISP) Coordinator at the Catskill Center. John works to limit the impact of invasives on the ecosystem and ecology of the Catskills by performing early detection and rapid response and by teaching others to identify and report invasive species, and what they can do to limit their spread.

The webinar will be closed captioned for greater accessibility, but remember, you have to register for your unique link. Please also help us spread the word by forwarding this email-the more people who know about these worms, the better able we'll be to prevent their spread.

## Monti Elks Bingo 7:00 -pm Every Tuesday at the Lodge • 46 North Street • Monticello

**Full payout and a progressive jackpot with weekly door prizes  
• Food is also available in the Bingo kitchen**

*The Lodge supports local veterans, scouts, Little League and the Homeless Federation, as well as providing coats and gloves to elementary school children.*

For information Contact Bingo Chair  
and Past Exalted Ruler Lisa Muller at: 914-799-1831

## Weekly Update from Congressman Delgado

### LOWERING GAS PRICES

Last week, I wrote a letter to President Biden, calling on him to release inventory from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to lower gas and home heating prices for upstate New Yorkers. On Tuesday, the White House announced plans to release oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve.

I am grateful that President Biden heeded my request to help immediately lower gas prices. From the gas pump to the grocery store, I will keep fighting to lower costs for upstate families and small businesses.

### Resources for Residents

#### COVID-19 Booster Shot and Vaccine Update

UPDATE: If you are 18 years and older and received the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna initial vaccine series at least six months ago or the Janssen/Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine at least two months ago, you are eligible for your COVID-19 booster dose. Boosters can help provide additional protection, especially for those over the age of 50 and others with underlying conditions.

<https://covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/booster-doses>

The FDA authorized the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine for children 5 through 11 years old. The CDC approved the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for kids aged five to 11.

Learn more about booster shots & scheduling your vaccine appointment below.

COVID-19 Vaccine | COVID-19 Vaccine (ny.gov)

#### Get Covered

The New York State of Health's Open Enrollment Period for 2022 is NOW going on. Thanks to the American Rescue Plan, which I voted to pass, New Yorkers will be able to browse more plan options from more insurance companies and continue to benefit from lower healthcare costs.

2021 Open Enrollment has been extended through December 31, 2021. 2022 Open Enrollment begins November 16, 2021 and will continue through January 31, 2022. If you are interested in signing up for health insurance, reviewing the options for you and your family, or changing your provider, you can visit <https://nystateofhealth.ny.gov/> to look at your options. If you are currently uninsured, this window is an opportunity to get the coverage you need.

#### Support for Seniors

The Annual Medicare Enrollment Period is open NOW until December 7th. Get started today and see what plan works best for you.

Visit [Medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov) or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) for more information.

Recovering From Extreme Weather

#### Staying Healthy & Safe

As we enter cold and flu season, make sure you keep yourself and your loved ones safe by getting your flu shot. Find out more about where to get the shot and what you should know about the flu in New York State below.

<https://www.health.ny.gov/>

As always it's an honor to represent you in Congress.

Sincerely,  
Antonio



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<http://www.hopenothandcuffshv.com>



# VET 2 VET

Vet 2 Vet is a peer networking program for veterans, by Veterans in Sullivan County. Vet 2 Vet offers Veterans an opportunity to participate in programs and a safe, anonymous, and non-judgmental environment. We also offer advocacy and assistance with navigating the VA System and other services.

---

## CORE SERVICES PROVIDED:

- Veteran Peer Support
- Peer Counseling
- Advocacy
- Financial Literacy
- Benefit Advisement
- Mental Health Support

### For more information contact:

Ryan Fuller at (845) 794-4228

Kevin Coates at (845) 794-4228

Visit our website at [atitoday.org](http://atitoday.org)



Click here for link to visit Vet 2 Vet website: <http://atitoday.org>

Fall 2021

## The Daniel Pierce Library's Children's Programs are about to begin!

Our eight-week children's programs are open to caregivers and their children ages 12 months to five years who are residents of the Tri-Valley School District. These programs are specially designed to encourage early literacy and to foster an early love of learning and reading through stories, crafts, music, and friendship-building! Reading is an essential skill for success in school and later in life. All children will have the opportunity to borrow books. We truly hope you can join us for our in-person fall programs!

### Mother Goose Time (12-23 months) Beginning Wednesday, October 13th

This program is specially designed for very young children. It includes "read together" time (each child has his or her own board book), nursery rhymes, felt stories, playtime, and music for our tiniest patrons. Must be 12 months by 12/1/21.

### Toddler Time (24-35 months) Beginning Thursday, October 14th

Stories, felt stories, crafts, music, and friendship-building geared for wee ones, ages 24-35 months. Must be 24 months by 12/1/21.

### Story Hour (3, 4, and 5 year-olds) Beginning Friday, October 15th

Our classic, beloved program for three, four, and five year-old children, featuring the "Magic Bag," a read-aloud, felt stories, craft projects, and music. Must be 3 years by 12/1/21.

**All programs will begin at 9:30 a.m. and end the week of December 6th.**

Register  
today!

It is very important that we follow the most current CDC guidelines so that we may continue to offer safe programming.

During this time all patrons must wear a mask while inside the library.

These programs are free and are made possible through the generosity of our community.

Registration is open to Tri-Valley residents.

Please register online at [www.danielpiercelibrary.org](http://www.danielpiercelibrary.org) by October 6th.



Daniel Pierce Library

P.O. Box 268 • 328 Main Street • Grahamsville, NY 12740  
845-985-7233 • [dpl@rcds.org](mailto:dpl@rcds.org) • [www.danielpiercelibrary.org](http://www.danielpiercelibrary.org)





## Attorney General James Secures \$5.1 Million Judgment Against NYC Stem Cell Clinic for Scamming Patients Out of Thousands Through False Advertising

NEW YORK - New York Attorney General Letitia James today announced a \$5.1 million judgment secured against Park Avenue Stem Cell - a now-defunct New York City for-profit stem cell clinic - and its managing doctor - Dr. Joel B. Singer, M.D. - for fraudulently and illegally advertising their stem cell procedures. The judgment resolves a 2019 lawsuit by Attorney General James over the defendants' scamming patients out of thousands of dollars each for unproven and potentially harmful medical treatments involving stem cells.

"Misleading New Yorkers who are seeking treatment for serious and potentially life-threatening medical conditions is unlawful and an affront to our societal values," said Attorney General James. "Consumers place a great deal of trust in health care professionals and should receive accurate information when undergoing medical treatments, but Park Avenue Stem Cell and its managing doctor violated that trust in an effort to line their pockets at the expense of patients' health. Today's order makes clear that these deceptive practices will not be tolerated and that bad actors will be held accountable to the fullest extent of the law. My office remains committed to protecting the welfare of all New Yorkers, and we will continue to do everything in our power to end this type of fraud."

The defendants advertised widely, on their website and on social media, as well as in foreign language newspapers and in television commercials, that they could treat a variety of serious medical conditions using patients' own stem cells. The medical conditions that were advertised to be treated with stem cells included urological diseases; erectile dysfunction; cardiac/pulmonary disease; neurological diseases, such as Parkinson's disease and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS); various autoimmune diseases, such as lupus; and orthopedic conditions.

The defendants also claimed, on their website, that stem cells "represent a medical breakthrough in the treatment of many chronic medical conditions;" that there was a "great deal of excitement" about using stem cells to "treat currently incurable diseases," such as those of the nervous system; and that their stem cell treatments could "treat the entire body not just the injured part." In ads placed in Asian and Russian language newspapers, they represented stem cells as "magical" or "miraculous" cells that could help diabetes patients avoid amputation and even help people suffering from rheumatoid arthritis to "throw away crutches and get younger." However, there is currently no adequate scientific substantiation that stem cells can effectively treat any of these conditions. Despite this, the defendants charged consumers nearly \$4,000 per procedure, with several consumers paying over \$20,000 for multiple procedures. Most of the procedures involved adipose stem cells, which are derived from a patient's own fat tissues.

As outlined in Attorney General James' 2019 lawsuit, the defendants misrepresented that their procedures were approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), that their patients were participating in an established research study, and that their procedures had been endorsed by several scientific and medical organizations. They also promoted treatments using testimonials from well-known individuals like Curtis Sliwa, NFL player Darrel Reid, and even Dr. Singer's wife, without disclosing that they did not pay for these treatments and that Dr. Singer's wife had a financial relation-

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ship with the clinic.

The court entered a previously issued order by Judge Andrew Borrok of the New York County Supreme Court, Commercial Division that permanently enjoined Park Avenue Stem Cell Clinic and Dr. Singer from engaging in fraudulent, deceptive, and illegal marketing of their stem cell treatments. In particular, the court enjoined the defendants from representing that their treatments can treat, cure, or mitigate any medical condition until competent and reliable scientific evidence to support the safety and efficacy of such treatments exists, as well as enjoined the defendants from falsely representing that their treatments have FDA approval or that their patients are participating in a study approved by the FDA. The court further enjoined them from representing or implying that they are endorsed by any medical or scientific society or organization and from using misleading patient testimonials.

Finally, the court ordered the defendants to pay \$5.1 million in potential consumer restitution, penalties, and costs.

In the United States, stem cell products are regulated by the FDA. Currently, the only stem cell-based products that have been approved by the FDA are blood-forming stem cells derived from cord-blood, which have been approved for limited use for a narrow range of conditions. The fat stem cells used by the defendants have not been approved by use by the FDA in any way.

Park Avenue Stem Cell Clinic (an assumed name for Image Plastic Surgery, LLC) and Dr. Singer operated from approximately 2015 to June 2019, most recently at 346 E. 51st Street, New York, NY 10022.

For more information on important factors to consider when evaluating stem cell therapies, New Yorkers should visit the FDA's website.

## Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce is promoting **Shop Small Sullivan Holiday 2021**

The Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce is promoting Shop Small Sullivan Holiday 2021 with participating businesses to encourage shopping locally in November and December.

**Download the Shop Small Sullivan Holiday 2021 flyer by clicking on this link:**

[https://growthzonesitesprod.azureedge.net/wp-content/uploads/sites/984/2021/11/2021\\_ShopSmallFlyer\\_2-1.pdf](https://growthzonesitesprod.azureedge.net/wp-content/uploads/sites/984/2021/11/2021_ShopSmallFlyer_2-1.pdf)



The Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce is promoting **Shop Small Sullivan 🎁 Holiday 2021** with participating businesses to encourage shopping locally in November and December.

While shopping tag us on social media using the hashtags:  
**#scnychamber #shopsmallsvillanny**

**Happy Holidays from The Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce!**

# SAVE A LIFE! DONATE! SHARE OUR STORY!



## NICK NEEDS KIDNEY -TYPE O (IN SOME CASES TYPE A BLOOD COULD WORK)

Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) progresses in stages and, if untreated, can lead to complete loss of kidney function. At CKD stage 5, when both kidneys fail completely, the only options for survival are dialysis or a kidney transplant. Nick is at stage 5.

*If interested in donating please contact Westchester Medical Center and speak with a Living Donor Coordinator at 914.493.1990*

### More about our warrior Nick....

Nick was diagnosed with Tuberous Sclerosis Complex (TSC) at birth. TSC is a neurological disorder that produces seizures, tumors, and lesions that effect the organs of the body and can cause Autism. Nick has been battling with seizures his whole life from infantile spasms to adult grand-mal seizures. May 2019 we heard the worst news that Nick's function was under 10% on both kidneys. Since then Nick has had multiple surgeries so he could get the proper dialysis preformed. Nick goes in center for 4 hours 3 times a week. Not what the sweetest, kindest, 31 year old should be going through.

Nick has such a big heart and is loved by so many in our community. We all want Nick to have the best quality of life and going through dialysis does not provide that quality. We hope and pray a kidney comes to us and that Nick will be able to live a happy and healthy life doing what he loves and that is to bicycle all throughout our town making people smile. Nick is a big part of the community, he takes pride with his volunteer work with the EMS and is the Honorary member of the Monticello Fire Department.

Lets all band together for Nick and help him find a kidney so he can live life to the fullest!

*For any other questions*  
845.798.2077 [nickneedsokidney@gmail.com](mailto:nickneedsokidney@gmail.com)

 Follow Nick  
[@nickneedsokidney](https://www.facebook.com/nickneedsokidney)

**IT SEEMS LIKE EVERYONE IS MISSING  
SOMEONE DURING THIS HOLIDAY  
SEASON. ON DECEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup>  
LUMINARIES WILL BE SETUP IN THE  
BIG INDIAN PARK. BE PART OF THIS  
SPECIAL NIGHT BY HAVING A CANDLE  
LIT IN MEMORY OF, OR IN HONOR OF  
SOMEONE DEAR TO YOU. THE NAME OF  
YOUR LOVED ONE WILL BE PLACED ON  
THE LUMINARY, AND YOU ARE  
WELCOME TO ENJOY THIS SPECIAL  
SIGHT. COST PER LUMINARY IS \$5.00  
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TIME: 4PM TO 7PM  
CALL FRANK AT (845) 254-4238**

**4th Annual Luminary event to remember your loved ones, if you  
can't attend you can send a check made out to BIOFC and mail to  
Frank Stapleton at Box 85 Big Indian, NY 12410  
Thank you for supporting our Volunteers**

## Ulster County Executive Pat Ryan Declares a State of Emergency Due to Rising Cases of COVID-19

### With positive cases of COVID-19 and hospitalizations rapidly rising, County Executive Ryan announced that he has declared a State of Emergency

- *The State of Emergency will be in effect for at least 30 days and will allow Ulster County to rapidly procure needed testing and vaccination supplies, bolster available public health staff resources, and redeploy County staff to support COVID operations if necessary*
- *Active cases of COVID-19 have tripled since Halloween, bringing the count to its highest level since April 2021*
- *Ulster County Executive Pat Ryan urges the public to get vaccinated, get their booster shot, and continue to socially distance and wear masks when indoors*

KINGSTON, N.Y. - In response to rapidly rising COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations, and the emergence of the new Omicron (B.1.1.529) variant, Ulster County Executive Pat Ryan announced today that he has declared a State of Emergency. The order, in effect for at least thirty (30) days, will allow Ulster County to more rapidly procure needed testing supplies for local schools, businesses, and families; bolster available public health and medical staff resources across the county; and, if necessary, to redeploy the workforce to support testing, contact tracing, and vaccination efforts.

"With COVID cases and hospitalizations surging, and the emergence of a new and potentially more dangerous variant, we must step up our efforts to ensure the health and safety of all of our residents," County Executive Pat Ryan said. "Informed by real-time data and the advice of our team of public health experts, this emergency order is an important step to allow the County to respond rapidly and effectively in order to combat the virus. We must do everything we can, individually and collectively, to prevent another difficult and deadly winter. I encourage all residents to get vaccinated, get your booster, and continue to socially distance and wear masks when indoors around others."

In the month since Halloween, active cases of COVID-19 have tripled in Ulster County, bringing the count to its highest level since April 2021. Ulster County Executive Pat Ryan is continuing to urge residents to get vaccinated if they have not already, and to get their booster shot if they received their last dose over six months ago. "With the emergence of the Omicron variant, it's even more urgent to get vaccinated and get your booster," County Executive Pat Ryan said. "Vaccines remain our most effective tool to stop the virus and save lives."

Ulster County will continue to hold regular vaccination PODs for residents who need to receive their 1st dose, 2nd dose, or booster dose. Appointments are recommended for the County's vaccination PODs; although walk-ins will be accommodated as capacity

allows. Sign up for an appointment at [VaccinateUlster.com](https://vaccinateulster.com).

In addition, County Executive Ryan reiterated the continued need for residents to volunteer to staff and support the county's COVID-19 vaccination efforts. The Ulster County Department of Health is still accepting volunteers, particularly medical volunteers to be vaccinators, and screeners. Vaccinators need both an active license and current CPR certificate, or can be basic and advanced EMTs with current CPR certificate. Screeners create the record of vaccination for each patient, so should be computer literate, have attention to detail, and good customer service and communication skills. Both of these medical volunteers will receive a stipend. Sign up to volunteer at <https://covid19.ulstercountyny.gov/vaccine-volunteer/>

## Attorney General James Releases Charities Report Finding More Than Two-Thirds of Charitable Campaign Donations Went to Charities While Professional Fundraisers Retained the Rest

- *New "Pennies for Charity" Report Looks Back at 2020 Fundraising Campaigns,*
- *Shows Professional Fundraisers Earned Over \$380 Million*
- *Despite Pandemic-Related Closures and Postponements,*
- *Charitable Giving Rose to Over \$1.4 Billion in 2020*

### *Ahead of Giving Tuesday, Report Lays Out Tips to Protect Donors' Wallets from Sham Charities*

NEW YORK - In time for Giving Tuesday and the holiday season, New York Attorney General Letitia James today released her annual "Pennies for Charity: Fundraising by Professional Fundraisers" report, which found that charities that retained professional fundraisers received about two-thirds of every dollar donated in 2020. Professional fundraisers retained the remainder - earning more than \$380 million. Analyzing 718 campaigns conducted by professional fundraisers in 2020, the report concludes that charities earned 73 percent of donations from those campaigns, a small increase from the previous year and in line with the last four years' results.

"As New Yorkers get ready to give to their favorite charities tomorrow on Giving Tuesday, they deserve to know where their money is going," said Attorney General James. "My duty is to protect New Yorkers' wallets and ensure that what they donate reaches the charity of their choice. My office will continue to crack down on misleading fundraising practices, so New Yorkers don't have to worry the next time they give generously to a cause they support. With the holiday season upon us, I encourage all New Yorkers to use our tips as a guide to make informed contributions and ensure that their money is going to a trustworthy source." (Contd. Pg. 38)

# Attorney General James Releases Charities Report Finding More Than Two-Thirds of Charitable Campaign Donations Went to Charities While Professional Fundraisers Retained the Rest

(From Pg. 37)

New York is home to a large and diverse number of charitable organizations. As did all sectors of our society, charities faced many challenges during the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. However, despite a significant decrease in in-person fundraising and pandemic-related closures and postponements, charitable giving in response to fundraising campaigns in New York jumped to over \$1.4 billion in 2020 - an increase of more than \$179 million from 2019 pre-pandemic campaign revenues. Other report findings include:

- o In 339 campaigns, or 47 percent of campaigns, charities received less than 50 percent of funds raised, with professional fundraisers retaining the rest.

- o In 150 campaigns, or 21 percent of the campaigns, fundraising expenses exceeded revenue, costing charities more than \$10 million.

This year's "Pennies for Charity" aggregates information from reports filed with the Office of the Attorney General's (OAG) Charities Bureau by professional fundraisers for campaigns conducted on behalf of charities in 2020. Professional fundraisers must register with the OAG and their financial reports must break down the revenue raised, as well as the expenses generated by the campaign. The report and the searchable Pennies for Charity database containing data from those reports is posted on the Charities Bureau website.

This year's report lays out tips for donors to follow before donating over the phone, through the mail, or online to ensure that their contributions reach the causes they intend to support. Important tips to keep in mind include:

- o If you're contacted by a telemarketer, ask questions to make an informed decision: New York law requires telemarketers soliciting for charities to make certain disclosures to potential donors and prohibits them from making false, misleading, or deceptive statements when soliciting contributions. Telemarketers are required to tell potential donors their names, which professional fundraiser employs them, and if the telemarketer is getting paid. Donors may also ask what percentage of their donation will be paid to the fundraiser for fees and expenses.

- o If you receive a direct mail charitable appeal, verify the soliciting organization: Does the organization have a name that sounds like a well-known charity? Doublecheck - is it the one you think it is? Does the mailing claim to follow up on a pledge that you do not remember making? Does it clearly describe t

he programs that the charity plans to fund with your donation?

- o If you're donating online, do your research first: Donating online or via an app is convenient for donors and can be cost effective for a charity. But before hitting "Send," donors should check whether a campaign is legitimate. Below are steps

to take before donating online:

- o Some online platforms that host groups and individuals soliciting for causes do not obtain permission from charities, or vet those charities who use their service. Donors should only give to campaigns conducted by people whom they know. Donors also should check what fees they will be charged and make sure that the charity has given its permission for the use of its name or logo. The site or the charity should confirm that the charity has approved the campaign.

- o When donating online, make sure the website is secure: The web address should start with "https." Unless the charity uses a separate payment site, the web address should match that of the organization that will receive the donation.

- o Be wary of email solicitations that ask you to click a link or open attachments. These could be phishing scams that try to trick you into giving out your credit card number, Social Security number, or other confidential information.

More information about the OAG's Charities Bureau and organizations regulated by it may be found online. If you believe an organization is misrepresenting its work or that a scam is taking place, please contact the OAG's Charities Bureau at [Charities.Bureau@ag.ny.gov](mailto:Charities.Bureau@ag.ny.gov) or (212) 416-8401.

## Gillibrand Bill Modernizes WIC Program and Makes Families First Coronavirus Response Act Waivers Permanent

***MODERN WIC Act Would Invest \$60 Million to Modernize and Increase Access to Critical Safety Net Program; Remote Services Implemented During Pandemic Removed Barriers to WIC Benefits and Helped Increase Child Retention; Bill Would Make Changes Permanent***

WASHINGTON, DC - Today, U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, along with Senator Roger Marshall, introduced the bipartisan More Options to Develop and Enhance Remote Nutrition in WIC Act (MODERN WIC) to make WIC more accessible to low-income families and help ensure more applicants receive needed benefits by allowing them to certify and recertify for WIC services remotely. In the first year of the pandemic alone, WIC providers reported a 2.5% increase in WIC participation and more low-income households continue relying on this social safety net to feed themselves and their families. To keep up with the growing need, Gillibrand's bill would invest \$60 million to modernize the critical safety net program and codify two waivers granted through the Families First Coronavirus Response Act that simplified user access to WIC benefits throughout the pandemic by offering remote services. Currently, the two waivers are in place until the Public Health Emergency status is set to expire on January 16, 2022.

"Bringing the WIC program into the 21st century will make these essential benefits more accessible than ever before," said Senator Gillibrand. "Something as simple as loading a WIC EBT card should be easy and flexible, and should never be a roadblock that keeps families from putting food on the table. The MODERN WIC Act would provide the investments and upgrades needed so that all children and infants can have a healthy start to life."

## If You're Struggling With Paying Bills on Your Home, There Is Help Coming Aid Available for Taxes, Mortgages, Contracts & Fees

Monticello, NY - Sullivan County Treasurer Nancy Buck wants local homeowners to know they may qualify for State assistance in paying delinquent taxes and other charges.

"My office has recently been made aware of important news concerning potential relief," she said, "and I'm urging people to take advantage of this offer, as it could mean the difference between keeping or losing their home."

The New York State Homeowner Assistance Fund has been approved by the United States Treasury to provide financial assistance to homeowners with financial hardships associated with the coronavirus pandemic.

The State of New York has advised that a homeowner may be eligible for assistance if they are delinquent with any of the following items due to hardship caused by the COVID-19 pandemic:

- o Mortgage payments
- o Property taxes, water or insurance charges
- o Homeowners' association or maintenance fees
- o Manufactured home loan or retail installment contracts.

A homeowner is defined as a New York State resident who owns a home and occupies that home as their primary residence (meaning it is where they live for the majority of every calendar year).

Types of eligible homeowners include:

- o Mortgaged homeowners who are in a forbearance plan or were offered a forbearance plan that has expired; this may be a first and/or a second mortgage.
- o Mortgaged homeowners who were not offered a forbearance plan, or missed the option to apply for one, and are considered delinquent on their first or second mortgage.
- o Homeowners who are behind on payments for property taxes, water bills, or sewage bills.
- o Co-op or condo homeowners who are behind on monthly carrying charges such as maintenance fees or homeowner association payments.
- o Homeowners who live in manufactured homes and who are behind on home loans or retail installment contracts used to purchase their homes.

Homeowners whose household income is equal to or less than 100% of the Area Median Income (AMI) and who are at risk of foreclosure and/or displacement due to financial hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic are eligible to apply. The AMI for Sullivan County is \$79,900 for a household of one to five people, \$83,300 for a six-person household, \$89,050 for a seven-person household and \$94,800 for a household with eight or more.

This is a State program that does not involve the Sullivan County Treasurer's Office, so those who are interested should visit <https://www.nyhomeownerfund.org> for eligibility and application information.

### Mortgage and Foreclosure Assistance Available

Help is available through the NYS Office of the Attorney General's Homeowner Protection Program (HOPP) at no cost to you.

If you are a NYS homeowner struggling to make payments, or in a forbearance agreement with your servicer, know your options. You may qualify for new federal assistance.

Beware of scams and of companies asking for payment to help with your mortgage.

Before you give up your home, have your mortgage checked by a qualified NYS professional for free.

Call the NYS HOPP Toll-Free Hotline at 1-855-HOME-456 (1-855-466-3456) or go to [HomeownerHelpNY.org](https://www.HomeownerHelpNY.org) to get connected with a non-profit in your area.



# DEC Announces First-Ever Adirondack and Catskill Parks 'Coordinators' to Promote Sustainable Use Planning and Implementation for Forest Preserves

## *New DEC Coordinators for Adirondack and Catskill Parks to Work with Forest Preserve Communities and Other Stakeholders to Help Protect Natural Resources and Public Safety*

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos today announced the creation of new coordinator positions to help lead DEC's ongoing and collaborative efforts to promote sustainable use of public lands in the Adirondack and Catskill Forest Preserves. Proposed by the High Peaks Strategic Advisory Group (HPAG) and aligned with Catskills Advisory Group (CAG) discussions to date, these new DEC staff positions will help coordinate efforts proposed and undertaken with the multiple communities and regions that comprise the Adirondack and Catskill Parks to better guide efforts to address the unique problems caused by the uptick in visitors to the two Forest Preserves. Both longtime staffers from DEC's Division of Lands and Forests, McCrea Burnham will serve as the Catskill Coordinator and Josh Clague will serve as the Adirondack Coordinator. In these new coordinator roles, the two will be instrumental in helping to implement the recommendations of each advisory group and advancing actions to address increased visitation in each region.

"As more New Yorkers discover the beauty of the Adirondacks and Catskills, DEC continues to build upon our ongoing efforts to protect these unique natural resources by working with our partners to address the increase in visitation we've seen over the last year and the last decade," Commissioner Seggos said. "As our new Forest Preserve coordinators, Josh Clague and McCrea Burnham bring decades of experience collaborating with local stakeholders to help address the environmental, economic, and public safety challenges affecting Forest Preserve communities. I am excited to see their work get underway."

Josh Clague, Adirondacks Coordinator, said, "Since joining DEC's Forest Preserve Management program 14 years ago, I've gained a deep appreciation for the Adirondack Park and all it has to offer those who live, work, and visit there. I'm honored to have this opportunity to serve the Adirondacks in this new capacity, and to work with our partners in finding balanced solutions to the challenges that lie ahead."

McCrea Burnham, Catskills Coordinator, said, "Having grown up in the Catskills, this is an exciting opportunity for me. The Catskills and the natural resources of New York helped to create the person I am today, and I look forward to working with our partners to shape the future of the Catskills together."

The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the importance of public lands to New Yorkers as visitors flocked in high numbers to State Parks and lands in search of respite outdoors. However, even before this latest rise in use, the last several years have seen significantly increased visitation to destinations in both the Adirondack and Catskill Parks, spurred in part by social media and an increased appreciation of the outdoors. DEC and local partners recognized the need to preserve the Adirondack and

Catskill Forest Preserves for future generations and to develop a framework to balance public use needs. DEC launched HPAG in 2019, and CAG in 2020. Each of the advisory groups is comprised of stakeholders with expertise in local government, recreation, natural resource protection, business, tourism, and other priority areas.

The coordinator position fulfills a recommendation included in the final HPAG report issued earlier this year and is aligned with CAG discussions, as this group works to finalize its own interim report of recommendations. The coordinators will help organize the implementation of management plans, develop consensus, oversee common resources, coordinate shared challenges that cross jurisdictional boundaries, and help incorporate diversity, equity, inclusivity, and justice into educational efforts and operational frameworks. In these roles, Burnham and Clague will enhance coordination among relevant state agencies, local governments, businesses, marketing, environmental, and other non-government organizations. This will ensure focused attention on construction and maintenance of recreation infrastructure, providing safe situations for users while minimizing impacts to the environment, and fostering partnerships to help implement stewardship responsibilities.

The naming of the coordinators expands upon efforts already underway to ensure the protection of natural resources and public safety, particularly in the Route 23 corridor of the Catskills and the Route 73 corridor of the Adirondack High Peaks. Working with local governments, agency partners including the Department of Transportation, New York State Police, and other stakeholders, measures have included: variable electronic message boards and additional signage; the pilot parking reservation system at the Adirondack Mountain Reserve; updated regulations for the Peekamoose Blue Hole; bolstered social media outreach and education through the Love Our New York Lands campaign; the new Route 73 hiker shuttle; and increased law enforcement presence and parking enforcement, among other steps consistent with recommendations in HPAG's final report (PDF) on promoting sustainable recreation in the Adirondack Park.

## Governor Hochul Announces Start of Winter at the Plaza Event Season

- **Rink Opening on December 3 with first "Hannaford Free Skate Rental Saturday" of the Season on December 4**
  - **NYS Holiday Tree Lighting & Fireworks Festival Presented by Highmark Blue Shield of Northeastern New York on December 5**
- **OGS & NYPA to Unveil New Energy-Efficient Lighting System by Lighting Up the Empire State Plaza in Seasonal Colors**

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced the official opening of the Winter at the Plaza events season.

Beginning Friday, December 3, the Empire "Skate" Plaza ice rink will open at noon, weather permitting. The annual holiday tree lighting ceremony presented by Highmark Blue Shield of Northeastern New York will be held from noon to 8 p.m. on Sunday, December 5.

"Winter at the Plaza is a great way to celebrate the holiday season," Governor Hochul said. "With 'Hannaford's Free Skate Rental Saturdays' and energy efficient lighting, these events are accessible to everyone and planet friendly - so get out into the community and have some winter fun."

This year's tree lighting will also feature the unveiling of a new energy-efficient lighting system that will illuminate the Empire State Plaza in seasonal colors. (Contd. Pg. 41)



## Governor Hochul Announces Start of Winter at the Plaza Event Season

(From Pg. 40) OGS, in partnership with the New York Power Authority (NYPA), is in the process of replacing existing lighting at multiple OGS facilities across New York State with LED lights. The LED improvement project at the Empire State Plaza includes replacing 95,000 interior fixtures. It also involves replacing more than 360 exterior lights with new color-changing LED technology that will transform the Plaza's unique architecture into an eye-catching display while meeting the State's energy goals. OGS partnered with NYPA in 2019 to start the LED lighting project, with NYPA responsible for providing project financing, design, and construction management.

New York State's "I Love NY" logo will appear in the center of the rink as it has in previous years.

The Plaza rink will once again play a major role in a series of free events and activities planned for the season, which will kick off with the opening day at the Plaza ice rink on Friday, December 3 with music provided from 6 to 8 p.m. by DJ T.G.I.F. The New York State Holiday Tree Lighting, presented by Highmark Blue Shield of Northeastern New York, will take place on Sunday, December 5. The first Learn to Skate clinic of the season, also presented by Highmark Blue Shield of Northeastern New York, will be on Saturday, December 11.

The Empire State Plaza ice rink will feature free skate rentals each Saturday of the 2021-22 season, courtesy of Hannaford Supermarkets. The first Hannaford Free Skate Rental Saturday will be held on December 4.

### Schedule of Events:

- o Empire State Plaza Ice Rink Opening Day, Friday, December 3, noon - 8 p.m., with DJ T.G.I.F performing from 6 to 8 p.m.
- o First Hannaford Free Skate Rental Saturday of the season, December 4.
- o New York State Holiday Tree Lighting presented Highmark Blue Shield of Northeastern New York, Sunday, December 5, noon - 8 p.m. Celebrate the season with outdoor activities the family is sure to love, including a rock-and-skate with Skeeter Creek, skating demonstrations by the Hudson Mohawk Figure Skating Club, performances by Tuba Christmas, and photo opportunities with Santa at Cornerstone at the Plaza. Stewart's Shop will offer samples of eggnog and holiday-flavored coffee while supplies last. Refreshments will also be available for purchase at B-Rad's Express and Cornerstone at the Plaza. The official tree lighting and fireworks ceremony, hosted by the News 10 ABC Morning Team, will start at 5:15 p.m.
- o The Great Train Extravaganza, Sunday, December 5, 10 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Empire State Plaza Convention Center. New York's largest model railroad and toy train hobby show featuring dozens of vendors offering new and used trains for sale, plus parts, clothing, memorabilia, photographs, and accessories. The ticketed event will also include railroad history and artifacts and a Roaming Railroad for rides on the Empire State Plaza Concourse. Tickets are \$7 for adults and free for children under 12.
- o First Learn to Skate Clinic of the season presented by Highmark Blue Shield of Northeastern New York and hosted by the Hudson Mohawk Figure Skating Club. Saturday, December 11, 10 a.m. - noon. Additional clinics will be offered on January 8, February 5, and March 5. Online pre-registration is required at [empirestateplaza.ny.gov](http://empirestateplaza.ny.gov). Please remember to dress the young skaters up in warm clothes, hats, gloves, and socks.

### Ice Rink Information:

o Hours: Noon to 8 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday, weather permitting. Closed 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. on weekdays and both 2 - 3 p.m. and 5 - 6 p.m. on weekends for maintenance. The rink will be open on three Mondays: December 27, January 17, and February 21.

o Cost to skate: Free

o Skate Rentals: \$4 for adults, \$3 for children 12 and under. A photo ID is required to rent skates. Every Saturday is Hannaford Free Skate Rental Saturday.

o Amenities: Lockers, skate rentals, and refreshments are available in the glass pavilion adjacent to the rink. Children's helmets and ice walkers/trainers for beginning skaters are also available free of charge.

For rink status updates and additional information on Winter at the Plaza events and activities, visit [empirestateplaza.ny.gov](http://empirestateplaza.ny.gov), @EmpireStatePlaza on Facebook, and @PlazaEvents on Twitter, or call (518) 474-4759.

For event information, including parking, directions, and ground rules, visit [empirestateplaza.ny.gov](http://empirestateplaza.ny.gov).

Sponsors of Winter at the Plaza events include Highmark Blue Shield of Northeastern NY, Hannaford Supermarkets, MVP Health Care, I Love NY, Hudson Mohawk Figure Skating Club, CDTA, SEFCU, Stewart's Shops, Times Union, PYX 106, 99.5 The River, 98.3 TRY, and News 10 ABC.

## Actions to Increase Access to Food Assistance for Older Adults and Disabled NY'rs –Changes Include Simplifying Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Application and Extending Window For Receiving Benefits Effort Aimed at Helping Eligible Older Adults Avoid Food Insecurity

Governor Kathy Hochul announced changes aimed at encouraging more food-insecure older adults and disabled individuals to enroll in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. The changes include simplifying the SNAP application, extending the duration these households can receive benefits before needing to recertify, and eliminating the need for them to complete an interview during the recertification process.

"New York's senior and disabled communities were hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic, leading to food insecurity in some cases and exacerbating it in others," Governor Hochul said. "Allowing easier access to SNAP benefits for these groups will help alleviate this stress. No one should have to wonder when their next meal will be and I am proud to take these steps to remove barriers that prevented older adults and disabled individuals on fixed incomes from accessing the food benefits that can help them to put food on the table."

The U.S. Department of Agriculture approved the state Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, which administers SNAP in New York, to offer a simplified application. (Contd. Pg. 43)

# FESTIVE FUN FOR ALL



## FROST VALLEY YMCA COMMUNITY EVENTS



### DEC 10, 2021 5:00 – 8:00PM Annual FREE Community Holiday Family-Style Dinner

We welcome local families and friends to join us for a delicious holiday dinner (served family style) accompanied by holiday crafts and cookie decorating your whole family will enjoy. Join us for this FREE event in the Thomas Lodge Dining Hall from 5-8pm for family fun, with family-style dinner served at 5:30pm sharp.

Please bring a government issued photo ID and a mask to wear when not seated with your party. Social distancing and mask-wearing safety protocols will be required regardless of vaccination status.

#### Shuttle Service:

For those without transportation, there will be limited busing available. Limited space available. Advanced registration is required!

Bus Pick-Up/Drop-Off Times:  
Neversink Town Hall – 4:45pm/8:15pm

#### RSVP TODAY!

While this is a FREE event, reservations are required as space is limited. Families wishing to sit together must make 1 combined reservation.

#### To Register:

CALL: 845-985-2291 x 450  
EMAIL: [reservations@frostvalley.org](mailto:reservations@frostvalley.org)  
VISIT: <http://www.frostvalley.org/community-dinner>

### DEC 27-31, 2021 8:30AM – 5:30PM Winter Break Day Camp

Looking for something for your kids to do when they are on break from school? Frost Valley offers engaging, stimulating activities for children during their winter break. Daily activities include archery, snow adventures (weather permitting), broomball, arts & crafts, and more! Parents will be responsible for providing a bagged lunch for their camper as Frost Valley will not be providing lunch this year.

Social distancing and mask-wearing will be required. A brief health questionnaire will be conducted, as well as daily temperature checks at drop off.

#### What to Bring:

Please send the following items with your child: bagged lunch, snow clothes, extra warm clothes, water bottle, sturdy laced shoes and snow boots, hats and gloves.

#### Times/Transportation:

Winter Break Day Camp will run from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Parents will be responsible for transportation to and from camp as we will not be offering busing this year.

#### Ages/Rates:

For ages 5-12  
\$195 - 4 days, \$225 - 5 days

#### To Register:

CALL: 845-985-2291 x 203  
EMAIL: [daycamp@frostvalley.org](mailto:daycamp@frostvalley.org)  
VISIT: <http://www.frostvalley.org/winter-break-camp>

## **Actions to Increase Access to Food Assistance for Older Adults and Disabled NY'rs –Changes Include Simplifying Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Application and Extending Window For Receiving Benefits**

(From Pg. 41) This shortened application form can be used for both applying and recertifying for SNAP-easing and simplifying the process for qualified older and disabled adults. Households need only to complete a single sheet application, front and back, which greatly reduces the amount of time and effort required to apply or recertify for benefits

Starting in December, eligible older New Yorkers can also now recertify their benefits for 36 months-12 months longer than the previous timeline for recertification. Additionally, applicants will no longer be required to complete an interview to recertify their benefits-frequently one of the greatest impediments to successful recertification.

Although New York leads the nation in SNAP participation among adults age 60 or older, the rate is still lower than the state's overall average. About 70 percent of eligible older adults and disabled individuals are enrolled to receive benefits, which is significantly lower than the statewide participation rate estimate of roughly 89 percent.

One leading reason proposed for this lower participation is the length and complexity of the form to apply for SNAP. The regular application includes nine pages of questions and information geared at determining a household's eligibility. Because many older individuals and disabled individuals live on fixed incomes and generally experience far fewer household changes, much less information is required to verify their eligibility and calculate benefits.

Additionally, studies show that providing SNAP benefits for those 65 and older results in better health outcomes. There is a direct link between SNAP and decreased long term care placement, health costs, and emergency visits. Receiving SNAP benefits also enables those aged 65 and older to focus their limited resources on paying for other basic needs such as prescriptions and rent.

Office of Temporary and Disability Executive Deputy Commissioner Barbara C. Guinn said, "By making it easier to apply for and maintain their SNAP benefits, we can encourage a greater number of vulnerable New Yorkers put healthy, nutritious food on the table. I applaud Governor Hochul's leadership in continuing to help even more households in the state access critical SNAP benefits."

Office for the Aging Director Greg Olsen said, "For older adults, food insecurity is associated with worsening chronic disease, illness, and debility, which is why nutrition has been a core focus of our pandemic response effort. Under the leadership of Governor Hochul, we've greatly expanded home-delivered models to overcome food access barriers. The Governor has also been a leader in maximizing SNAP benefits and supplemental emergency assistance for all New Yorkers facing hunger. The pandemic continues to demand that we remain nimble in getting help to those who need it most. I am proud to join Governor Hochul in delivering these important program changes to simplify the application process and ensure continuity of food assistance for older adults."

## **Telehealth Capital Program Will Support Deployment of Innovative Telehealth Tools and Improve Access to Quality Health Care in Underserved Urban and Rural Communities**

Governor Kathy Hochul announced a \$3 million grant program to invest in new technologies that will improve access and adoption of telehealth in underserved communities. This program will support community health providers to purchase audiovisual and remote monitoring devices and work with other community partners to establish physical telehealth spaces in places such as libraries, homeless shelters, pharmacies and other locations. \$150,000 will be awarded to each of ten regions of the State. The grants will be matched by private philanthropic support a sponsored project of Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, established through the generosity of Eric and Wendy Schmidt at the recommendation of Schmidt Futures, in partnership with the New York State Health Foundation. The grants are intended to provide public-private support for innovations in health care delivery. The grants are intended to provide public-private support for innovations in health care delivery. Applications will open January 4th, 2022 and more information can be found here.

"Every New Yorker should have access to high-quality health care no matter where they live," Governor Hochul said. "Telehealth is an important tool that brings health care to underserved communities and saves New Yorkers both time and money. Through these investments, we are working to make sure that everyone has access to high-quality health care and can see their doctor."

The COVID-19 pandemic showed that telehealth is a critical tool to expand access for low-income communities. Throughout the crisis, New Yorkers enthusiastically embraced telehealth not only because of the need to socially distance but also because telehealth made it easier to access high-quality care without the time and cost of traveling to a doctor. This is especially true to meet the need for continuous care in mental health and substance abuse treatment.

The COVID-19 pandemic accelerated the adoption of telehealth. These grants will ensure that all New Yorkers benefit from these innovations and that no one is left behind. This grant program is one part of the State's broader effort to expand and improve access to telehealth. In the FY 2022 budget, New York eliminated obsolete location requirements and allowed more mental health and substance use disorder providers to provide remote care. New York also launched a series of online training programs to help providers learn best practices in adopting telehealth.

New York State is leading on telehealth innovations, which has the potential to change the ways New Yorkers access quality health care.

Department of Health Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner Kristin Proud said, "Telehealth is a critical component to the future of health care in New York State. By expanding access to telehealth, we are removing barriers that will help expand the care and treatment New Yorkers need and deserve in a timely manner. These investments will also provide high quality and reliable care to historically underserved communities, increasing equity and helping to close the gaps in health care."

Co-Founder of Schmidt Futures and former CEO of Google Eric Schmidt said, "The pandemic has shown us that telehealth is an indispensable part of an effective healthcare system. We need to empower patients with the devices and infrastructure necessary to take full advantage of telehealth. This initiative underscores New York's firm commitment to innovative solutions that keep all New Yorkers safe and healthy."

## UC NOW TRENDING... DECEMBER 2021

### MAIN EVENTS

**Dec. 12 38th Annual YMCA of Kingston & Ulster County REINDEER RAMBLE 5K:** Rain, Snow, Sunshine. Run/Walk 5K.anytime between 11/28/21 and 12/12/21. Everyone registered will receive a Reindeer Ramble long sleeve shirt. NEW: the First 75 registered will receive an adorable reindeer ornament. Sign up with five friends and enter our Santa-Pede contest. Each winner of the three winning teams will win a \$20 DoorDash gift card. Noon. YMCA of Kingston and Ulster County, 507 Broadway, Kingston.845-338-3810; ymcaulster.org

**Nov. 26-Dec. 23 The Catskill Mountain Railroad Christmas Express,** Kingston

**Nov. 26-Dec. 19 A Frosty Fest,** Ulster Park

**Dec. 3 Ninth Annual Snowflake Festival,** Kingston  
Dec. 3-4, 10-13, 17-19 Shadowland Stages presents **"HANDLE WITH CARE,"** Ellenville

**Dec. 4 Bardovan Presents "EN VOGUE,"** UPAC, Kingston

**Dec. 4 The Wawarsing Wassail Featuring Joshua R. Peters Memorial Electric Fire Truck Parade,** Ellenville, Napanoch and Wawarsing

**Dec. 4, 11, 18 Annual Made In Kingston, Kingston**

**Dec. 5 Saugerties Holiday in the Village,** Saugerties

**Dec. 10 Light Up the Hamlet, Highland**

**Dec. 11 Second Annual Holiday Hoopla Parade and Winter Carnival,** New Paltz

**Through Jan. 9 Fieldfield + Supply @ Little Village: A Modern Makers Pop-Up:** Over 40 makers and designers. Gifts for home decor, kitchen, pantry, accessories and more. Wed.-Sun., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. 17 Railroad Ave Kingston. fieldandsupply.com

**Nov. 24-Dec. 19** Ulster County's First Holiday Tree Hunt: Scavenger hunt, holiday tree viewing and shopping local. Holiday Tree Hunters will visit locations listed within their Holiday Tree Hunt Guide and ask the business to "stamp" their corresponding business space on the guide. Once the required corresponding stamps are collected, drop off the Holiday Tree Hunt Guide at People's Place to be entered to win one of the donated gift certificates. People's Place, 17 St. James Street, Kingston. 845-338-4030; peoplesplace.org

**Dec 11, 18 Immuneschein Tea Haus Holiday Pop Up Market:** Saturdays, Nov 27, Dec 11, Dec 18 11-5 p.m. Featuring jewelry, pottery, textile art, leather bags, crafts and more. Immuneschein Tea Haus, 1776 NY-212, Saugerties. 845-684-5136; immuneschein.com

**Dec 2 Ole Savannah ice skating:** New outdoor ice rink opening day. Perfect for families, friends, private parties and corporate events. Food, beverages and skate rentals available. Weekdays 4-9 p.m., Saturday-Sunday 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Ole Savanna Southern Table & Bar, 100 Rondout Landing, Kingston. 845-331-4283; olesavannah.com

**Dec 3 Ninth Annual Snowflake Festival,** Kingston: The Kingston Uptown Business Association presents the annual Snowflake Festival in Uptown Kingston. Fun events for the whole family. Featuring main stage performances, fire twirlers, juggler, ice carving, stilt band, fiddlers, dancers, singers, Christmas tree lighting and a visit from Santa Claus. 6 p.m.-8 p.m.; Visit website: kuba.network/

**Dec 3 Christmas Wishes Ulster County:** Crafts, cookies and cocoa. Meet, greet, and hear a story from Mrs. Claus herself. 7-8:30 p.m. Admission fee. Reformed Church-Fairbrother Hall, 160 Salem Street, Port Ewen. 845-331-2782; facebook.com/christmaswishesUC

**Dec 3 Woodstock Holiday Open House:** Festive evening of holiday shopping and dining. Enjoy the beautiful window displays, support local shops and immerse yourself in the magic of the holidays in Woodstock. 4-9 p.m. Town of Woodstock. facebook.com/woodstock.brick.and.mortar

**Dec 3 Saugerties First Friday:** Every month in the village of Saugerties, businesses stay open late and offer special activities and discounts to visitors. 5-10 p.m. Partition, Market and Main streets, Saugerties; destinationsaugerties.org/events

**Dec 3 Bearsville Theater Presents- "John Sebastian's Jug Band Village"** A Look Back at Jug Band Music in Greenwich Village with Visits to Fred Neil and Tim Hardin with Steve Boone (Lovin' Spoonful), Paul Rishell and Annie Raines, Cindy Cashdollar, Jimmy Vivino and James Wormworth. Visit website for complete schedule. 291 Tinker St, Woodstock. 845-684-7133; bearsvilletheater.com

**Dec 3 Big Blue Returns-Huguenot Holiday:** Join us for an evening of big band music celebrating the holidays. Family-friendly. 7:30-8:30 p.m. Reformed Church of New Paltz, 92 Huguenot St, New Paltz. 845-389-8758 ; bigbluebigband.com

**Dec 3-4, 10-13, 17-19 "HANDLE WITH CARE"**- A young Israeli woman is on holiday in the U.S. when tragedy strikes on Christmas Eve. She needs to make her way through it with Josh, a young American handicapped in both Hebrew and romance in this heartwarming holiday comedy. Friday-Saturday 7 p.m. Saturday and Sundays 2 p.m. The Main Stage at SHADOWLAND STAGES, 157 Canal Street, Ellenville. 845-647- 5511; shadowlandstages.org

**Dec 3-5 "Stop Kiss" at SUNY New Paltz:** After Callie meets Sara, the two unexpectedly fall in love. Their first kiss provokes a violent attack that transforms their lives in a way they could never anticipate. McKenna Theatre, 1 Hawk Drive, New Paltz. Box office: 845-257-3880; newpaltz.edu/fpa/theatre/productions/mainstage/

**Dec 3-5, 10-12, 17-19 A Frosty Fest: Holiday Nights – Spectacular Lights – Over One Million Lights.** North Pole with Santa. A drive-thru experience enjoyed in the comfort of your own vehicle. New for 2021: Watch Santa's Magical Mansion Choreographed Musical Light Show. Additional attractions can be found on our website. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings. Visit website for tickets and hours. Reservations required. A Frosty Fest, 778 Broadway (Route 9W), Ulster Park. 845-339-2666; afrostyfest.com

(Contd. Pg. 45)

## UC NOW TRENDING... DECEMBER 2021 —(From Pg. 44)

### **Dec 3-5, 10-12, 17- 19, 22, 23 The Catskill Christmas Express**

Enjoy a 60 minute wonderous trip through the Catskill Forest to Santa's Workshop at the North Pole. See website for details. Westbrook Lane Station, 55 Plaza Road, Kingston. 845-332-4854; catskillmountainrailroad.com

**Dec 4 Woodstock Holiday Open House:** Join us for a festive evening of holiday shopping and dining. Come and see the beautiful window displays, support local shops and enjoy the magic of the holidays in Woodstock. 4-9 p.m. facebook.com/woodstock.brick.and.mortar

**4 Marbletown Animal Hospital presents "Pet Photos with Santa:"** 9 a.m.-2 p.m. \$5 suggested donation. Proceeds will benefit the Saugerties Animal Shelter. 3056 Route 213, Stone Ridge. 845-687-7800; marbletownanimalhospital.com

**Dec 4 Bardavon Presents EN VOGUE:"** Together for more than 30 years, En Vogue is literally soaring as Terry Ellis, Cindy Herron-Braggs and Rhona Bennett take the group to even greater heights. 8 p.m. Tickets: ticketmaster.com. email boxoffice@bardavon.org Ulster Performing Arts Center, 601 Broadway, Kingston, 845-339-6088;. bardavon.org/show/en-vogue/

**Dec 4 Art Yard Sale:** Come by The D.R.A.W. Studio between noon-5 p.m. to rummage and be inspired. Donations of various art-making materials collected over the year will be available for purchase by donation. Proceeds go to The D.R.A.W. Noon-5 p.m. The D.R.A.W., 24 Iwo Jima Lane (at 20 Cedar St.), Kingston. 845-802-0097; drawkingston.org

**Dec 4, 5 Saugerties Annual Christmas Jingle:** Jingle with friends and family. Indoor event. Local vendors, music and more. Noon-6 p.m. Frank Greco Senior Center, 207 Market Street, Saugerties. Facebook: Saugerties Annual Christmas Jingle

**Dec 4-5, 11-12, 18-19 BornWild Adventures—"The Secret Ruin Hike:"** Certified NY State hiking guide. Explore the ruins of the Overlook Mountain House. Climb to the summit of the Mountain Fire Tower to enjoy breathtaking views. Perfect for beginner to intermediate hikers. All welcome. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Overlook Mountain Trailhead, 353 Meads Mountain Rd, Woodstock. 765-314-6181; bornwild.rocks

**Dec 5 Josh Gilbert Band Holiday Tour:** Join us 4 p.m. to enjoy a holiday concert for the whole family performed by the Josh Gilbert Band. Unison Arts, 68 Mountain Rest Road, New Paltz. 845-255-1559; unisonarts.org

**Dec 5 Saugerties Holiday in the Village:** Community Holiday Celebration throughout the Village. Market, Main and Partition streets. Noon-5 p.m. 119 Main St., Saugerties. 845-246-1337; discoversaugerties.com

**Dec Dec 5, 19 Pete Levin Trio:** Join us for Jazz Brunch with live music. No cover. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Pearl Moon Woodstock, 52 Mill Hill Road, Woodstock. 845-684-5537; pearlmoonwoodstock.com

**Dec 5 The Wawarsing Wassail** Featuring the Joshua R. Peters Memorial Electric Fire Truck Parade: Bring your fire department, rescue squad, local business, sports team or organization to participate. Walkers can do the entire route this year. At the conclusion,

join us in Liberty Square for the return of the tree lighting. Family-friendly. 5-7 p.m. Call 647-7800 ext. 129 to participate in the parade. For map and details visit: Facebook: The-Wawarsing-Wassail; ewcoc.com.

**Dec 8 A Christmas Carol Dinner Theater Show-** THE VENUE UPTOWN presents Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," an interactive dinner theatre experience. Kick off the holiday season with song, laughter and nostalgia as actors and carolers bring scenes from "A Christmas Carol" to life. \$55. 7-9 p.m. Best Western Plus Hotel and Conference Center, 503 Washington Ave, Kingston. 845-802-7007;

facebook.com/events/271070281623065.

**Dec 10 Light Up the Hamlet of Highland:** 6-8 p.m. Vineyard and Main Streets, Highland. 845-691-2050; townoflloyd.com/pages/lloydny\_bcomm/events/index

**Dec 10-Jan. 3 Town of Saugerties Christmas Light Trail:** Family-friendly. Safe event to celebrate the holidays. Information and locations: 845-246- 2800; facebook.com/saugerties.NY.US

**Dec 11 Second Annual Holiday Hoopla Parade and Winter Carnival:** Parade will kick-off at noon from the New Paltz Middle School and process to Hasbrouck Park located at 15 Mohonk Avenue in New Paltz. The Winter Carnival will have lots of good food, family fun, and festivities for all. Noon-3 p.m. Please contact Phoenix at pkawamoto@townofnewpaltz.org or 845-256-5014 for any questions. New Paltz Middle School, 196 Main Street, New Paltz. townofnewpaltz.org

**Dec 11 High Falls Tree and Menorah Lighting:** Sponsored by the High Falls Civic Association. A program of holiday songs, poetry and readings. Tree and menorah lighting at 5:30 p.m. Santa will help usher in the season. Volunteers welcome. Route 213 and Second Street, High Falls. Check to confirm event: facebook.com/highfallscivicassociation

**Dec 11 Paige Turner's Holiday Cabaret—"CHRISTMAS is a Drag:"** NYC's own Showbiz Spitfire is back to make your holiday season merry and bright with an evening full of jokes, songs, and yuletide cheer. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Old Dutch Church, 272 Wall St, Kingston, biggayhudsonvalley.com/events/paigeturners-christmas-is-a-drag-catch-3-performances-this-december/

**Dec 11 "Winter Star Gazing:** A Nature Walk with Ethnoecologist Justin Wexler." Learn the meaning of the constellations to indigenous people of the region. Historic Huguenot Street, 81 Huguenot St., New Paltz. 845-255-1889; huguenot-street.org

**Dec 11 Santa at High Falls District:** Santa will tour High Falls District. 9:00 a.m.-noon. Dec. 12: Holiday Food and Toy Drive, noon-4 p.m. Hot cocoa, coffee, prewrapped baked cookies. High Falls Fire District, 333 Firehouse Rd, High Falls, 845-687-0222. highfallsfd.org

**Dec 11-12 Olive Free Library Holiday Craft Fair:** Do your holiday shopping right in the town of Olive. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. 4033 Route 28-A, West Shokan. 845-657-2482; olivefreelibrary.org

**Dec 3-5, 8-12, 15-19, 22, 23, 26, 29, 30, 31 Magnanini Winery: Brunch,** lunch and dinner events. Dec. 31: Special New Year's Eve Dinner. Magnanini Winery, Restaurant & Distillery, 172 Strawridge Rd., Wallkill. 845-895-2767; magwine.com

(Contd. Pg. 46)

## UC NOW TRENDING... DECEMBER 2021 —(From Pg. 45)

**Dec. 12 Hudson River Maritime Museum Nautical Rope Wreath:** Learn how to create a nautical rope wreath. Each student will craft a beautiful piece to add some sea-themed flair to their holiday decor. Registration required. Deadline December 4. HRMM Wooden Boat School, 86 Rondout Landing, Kingston. 845-338-0071; hrmm.org

**Dec.12 Woodstock Symphony Orchestra: "A Baroque Christmas:"** 5 p.m. Snow date: Dec. 19, 5 p.m. WSO: 845-266-3517; woodstocksymphony.org. Woodstock Playhouse, 103 Mill Hill Road, Woodstock. 845-679-6900; woodstock-playhouse.org

**Dec.17 "Nightmare Before Christmas:"** From producer Tim Burton. Jack Skellington, the leader of Halloweentown, schemes to celebrate a very different Christmas. 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$6. Ulster Performing Arts Center, 6-01 Broadway, Kingston. 845-339-6088; bardavon.org

**Dec.17, 18 "A Christmas Carol" Live Theatre Event:** Interactive retelling of the classic Dickens' masterpiece. Live original music, puppetry, visiting professional actors, local actors and volunteer "cast" members from the audience. 7 p.m. Matinee: Dec. 18 2 p.m. Purchase tickets online \$20; children \$15. Rosendale Theatre, 408 Main Street, Rosendale. 845-658-8989; rosendaletheatre.org

**Dec. 18 A Holiday Concert to Benefit the Washbourne House:** Featuring Amy Helm, Kate Pierson, Emily King, Catherine Russell, Alecia Chakour, Mikaela Davis, Josh Kaufman & Annie Nero, Simi Stone, Reggie Earls, Marco Benevento and more. \$75/\$45. Purchase tickets online. Levon Helm Studios, 160 Plochmann Lane, Woodstock. 845-679-2744; levonhelm.com

**Dec. 31 Fourth Annual New Year's Eve Event:** The Haunted Shanley Hotel invites you to celebrate the New Year with our kind of spirits. Great Gatsby Themed. Ghost Hunt & Psychic Event featuring Scotty the NJ Medium. Visit website for details. The Haunted Shanley Hotel, 56 Main St., Napanoch. 845-2107-3112; thehauntedshanleyhotel.com

## Wayne County Arts Alliance 5th Annual Holiday Art Sale

The Wayne County Arts Alliance (WCAA) announces their fifth annual holiday art sale, Art Under \$100. The expanded sale features two different shopping opportunities. ArtUnder100 ONLINE will begin the day after Thanksgiving on Friday, November 26 and run through December 18 with shopping 24/7 on the organization's WCAA Online Shop at waynecountyartsalliance.org. ArtUnder100 INSTORE Shopping will take place at the Dorflinger Factory Museum in White Mills, PA for eight days in conjunction with Hawley Winterfest held from December 3-12. An evening reception is planned for December 3rd.

ArtUnder100 showcases artworks by Wayne County Arts Alliance's member artists and is a benefit of membership in the organization. The project provides retail opportunities and support for their member artists. Different artwork will be available online and instore

ArtUnder100 artwork is priced \$99 and under, and offers a perfect opportunity to choose original and unique artwork for holiday gift-giving and year-round enjoyment. INSTORE Shopping features artwork different than online. ArtUnder100 provides a varied shopping experience for buyers as well as a broader selling opportunity for the artists. Choosing art for your holiday gifts this year is a win-win-win: selecting unique and one-of-a-kind gifts, shopping local, and supporting talented artists and the Wayne County Arts Alliance. Both the Online and Instore opportunities make it easy to check someone off your list, and give the gift of Art this holiday season!

ArtUnder100 includes a wide variety of choices in painting, ceramics, collage, jewelry, mixed media, photography, sculpture, and more, and last year featured the artwork of over thirty member artists of the Wayne County Arts Alliance Participating artists include Rita Argiros, Norma Bernstock, Austin Burke, Barbara Carpenito, Elizabeth Castellano, Phyllis Chekenian, Helen Diehl, Elaine Flynn, Chip Forelli, Mary Jasch, Bozena Janiszewski, Mitzi Kielar, Louis Marquette, Stephanie Marquette, Leslie Mears, Francis Minien, Paul Plumadore, Joan Polishook, Matt Povse, Amanda Rowe, Nan Siegmund, Ellen Silberlicht, Julian Sparacino, Sally Talaga, Trevor Taylor, Edwin Vera. Many of the artists participate in both opportunities.

When and Where:

24/7 ONLINE SHOPPING begins Friday, November 26 on the organization's WCAA Online Shop at waynecountyartsalliance.org and runs through December 18. Depending on each artist's preference, sold work may be picked up directly from the artist, shipped for a fee, or picked-up locally in Honesdale on December 21st at the organization's WCAA Main Street Gallery.

INSTORE SHOPPING will be held for eight days at Dorflinger Factory Museum in the Blue Room (ground floor), 8 Elizabeth Street, (off Route 6), White Mills, PA 18424: December 3/4/5 (F/S/S) and December 8/9/10/11/12 (W/TH/F/S/S). Hours: Wed-Sat 10 AM - 5 PM and Sundays 1-5 PM. An evening reception is planned for December 3rd.

The Wayne County Arts Alliance is a not-for-profit organization governed by volunteer members of artists and people interested in the beneficial effects of the arts. WCAA is committed to developing a dynamic, art-friendly atmosphere in the community, one that enhances and enriches the lives of its citizens. ArtUnder100 is one of many events and programs that WCAA hosts, promotes, and sponsors throughout the year including the popular "Artists' Studio Tour" in July.

For further information visit: waynecountyartsalliance.org  
Wayne County Arts Alliance; Phone: 570-729-5740; PO Box 645. Honesdale, PA 18431

## Olive Free Library – The Craft Fair is coming!

Please note that during the Craft Fair, masks will be required for everyone while in the library

We're planning a Holiday Cookie sale for the Holiday Craft Fair!

Due to COVID restrictions, we've cancelled the usual craft fair luncheon in favor of a homemade cookie sale! Can you help?

We're looking for volunteers to bake 2-3 dozen-or more!-of their special homemade holiday cookies. We are looking for homemade, and for varieties beyond chocolate chip.

Deliver your homemade cookies to the library. on Thursday, December 9th from noon - 7pm OR Friday, December 10th between 9 - 11am.

Can't make those times? Let us know so we can help you make alternative arrangements. HOW: SIGN UP HERE to bake!

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSesjzif0eXcWFZ0wkOzP09oR7WDWp14HbQFsb7NyLHqvElyAQ/viewform>

## Statement from Gov Kathy Hochul on New COVID Variant

"We are closely monitoring the emergence of the SARS-CoV-2 variant B.1.1.529, also known as the Omicron variant. The Department of Health's Wadsworth Center Laboratory will continue to actively monitor COVID-19 virus samples selected from throughout New York State to compare sequences and identify circulating and new variants. While we have not yet identified any Omicron cases, we are not surprised that new variants are emerging and may likely end up in New York. We will continue to monitor WHO actions and work with our partners at the CDC to keep a close eye on developments."

"I want to remind New Yorkers to continue taking the precautionary steps we know reduce the spread of this deadly virus: wear a mask in indoor public places, use proper hand hygiene, get tested, and stay home when sick. The vaccine also remains one of our greatest weapons in fighting the pandemic, and this news further emphasizes the need for each of us to get vaccinated and get the booster if you're fully vaccinated."

## Governor Hochul Announces Urgent Action to Boost Hospital Capacity and Address Staffing Shortages

- *State of Emergency to Trigger Use of Surge and Flex System and Expand Purchasing Ability*
- *Department of Health Will Be Permitted to Limit Non-Essential, Non-Urgent Scheduled Hospital Procedures If Necessary to Ensure Capacity*
- *New Omicron Variant Not Detected in New York State Yet, but Hochul Warns: 'It's Coming'*

Governor Kathy Hochul announced urgent action to boost hospital capacity and address staffing shortages ahead of potential spikes in COVID-19 cases this upcoming winter. Through an Executive Order signed by Governor Hochul, the Department of Health will be allowed to limit non-essential, non-urgent procedures for in-hospitals or systems with limited capacity to protect access to critical health care services. Limited capacity is defined as below 10% staffed bed capacity, or as determined by the Department of Health based on regional and health care utilization factors.

The new protocols will begin on Friday, December 3, and will be re-assessed based on the latest COVID-19 data on January 15. The Executive Order will also enable New York State to acquire more quickly any critical supplies to combat the pandemic.

"We've taken extraordinary action to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and combat this pandemic. However, we continue to see warning signs of spikes this upcoming winter, and while the new Omicron variant has yet to be detected in New York State, it's coming," Governor Hochul said. "In preparation, I am announcing urgent steps today to expand hospital capacity and help ensure our hospital systems can tackle any challenges posed by the pandemic as we head into the winter months. The vaccine remains one of our greatest weapons in fighting the pandemic, and I encourage every New Yorker to get vaccinated, and get the booster if you're fully vaccinated."

The Hochul Administration continues to take comprehensive steps to prevent the spread of COVID-19, including mask protocols in health care and P-12 school settings, correctional facilities and detentions centers, public transportation and at transportation hubs, and implementation of the HERO Act which requires all employers to implement workplace safety plans in response to COVID-19.

The Administration continues to focus on boosting vaccination rates among New Yorkers, including bolstering the State's network of vaccine access points, and working to expand testing supplies. That also includes acting on our comprehensive plan to vaccinate school-aged children 5-17, provide incentive programs, combat vaccine misinformation campaigns, increase vaccine awareness, deploy pop-up vaccines in targeted low-vaccination areas, and implement vaccine requirements for health care workers. On August 24, the vaccination rate among adults with one dose was 78.8%. Today, it is 90.2%.

Further, the Administration continues to ramp up booster shots and urges all New Yorkers to get the booster dose once fully vaccinated. As of November 24, over 2.2 million boosters and/or additional doses have been administered. Nearly 4,500 locations across are administering booster shots.

The Administration will continue to partner with local leaders to make vaccines, boosters and testing more widely available.

Please Wear  
a Face Mask



Help Stop the Spread

### Why wear a mask?

Out of respect.

When you wear a mask you are saying,  
I respect my neighbors.

When you wear a mask you are saying,  
I respect nurses and doctors.

When you wear a mask you are saying,  
I respect other people.

We all need to show respect to one another in difficult times.

Wearing a face covering is a small inconvenience to protect others. We have gotten through this crisis by standing together and doing the right thing. The right thing - the respectful thing - is to wear a mask.

**2021 HOLIDAY HOUSE DECORATING CONTEST**



The Town of Neversink Parks & Rec is once again sponsoring the  
**ANNUAL HOLIDAY HOUSE DECORATING CONTEST**

The rules are simple:

*Any residence in the Town of Neversink is eligible for entry*

And

*Use as many lights and decorations as you want! Light up the skies with your house!*

Judging will occur on Friday Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Prizes will be given for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

Winners will be announced at our Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>. Festivities will start at 5 pm at Bicentennial Park



**TOWN OF NEVERSINK**  
 Parks and Recreation

Please submit your entry on this form to Parks & Rec dept. at  
 Town Hall no later than Thursday, Dec. 2

Address of entry: \_\_\_\_\_

Family: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_



# PLEASE DON'T FORGET ABOUT ME!



**I am ready to be adopted  
and waiting for a warm home**

**SWEET FEMALE SENIOR LAB/SHEP MIX. WOULD DO BEST AS AN ONLY DOG. UNSURE ABOUT OTHER ANIMALS. LOVES TO GO FOR WALKS AND CAR RIDES AND AFFECTION. SHE WILL MAKE SOMEONE A GREAT COMPANION.**

**ANY QUESTIONS OR IF INTERESTED IN ADOPTING PLEASE CALL  
DCO (845)985-7281**

# Thanksgiving with Congresswoman Claudia Tenney

## Five Things I'm Thankful for this Thanksgiving

"As we celebrate Thanksgiving today, I wanted to send a special early edition of my weekly e-newsletter reflecting on all that I am thankful for as a mother, New Yorker, small business owner, and your representative in Congress."

"Since being sworn in to the 117th Congress in February, my office has hit the ground running to serve you. We've assisted nearly 1,000 individuals resolve issues with federal agencies, we've introduced several bipartisan bills to support our community, and we've held countless town hall events, roundtable discussions, and mobile office hours. Making sure your voice is heard in Washington remains my top priority. As you gather around the table with family and friends today to reflect on life's many blessings, I wish you a Happy Thanksgiving and wanted share five things I'm especially grateful for this year."

### #1: Our Veterans and Service Members

I'm thankful for America's patriots, including those who have served and those who continue to serve. New York's 22nd Congressional District is home to more than 50,000 veterans as well as world-class military institutions like Rome Lab and the Eastern Air Defense Sector. Throughout the year, I have had the distinct privilege of presenting military medals to veterans and to families of veterans who have passed in recognition of their service, sacrifice, and courage.

In the picture is Mr. Kenneth Thayer (2nd from right). Earlier this year, I presented this 95-year-old US Army National Guard



veteran with the Presidential Unit Citation Medal in recognition of his valorous service during World War II as a member of K-Company, 3rd Battalion, 119th Regiment, 30th

Infantry Division, also known as "Old Hickory. Thayer's unit helped liberate Maastricht, a small town in The Netherlands, during World War II. It was the first major city in Holland liberated by the Allies. In recognition of his contributions to these victories, Thayer was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, two Bronze stars and three Purple Hearts. Between June 1944 through May 1945, Thayer's unit, the 30th Infantry division, served in every major European Theater of Operations. Until this year, the 30th Infantry Division had not received the distinct honor of a Presidential Unit Citation.

### #2: Frontline Workers and First Responders

The last two years have been extremely challenging. We've all been impacted by COVID-19. Many of us have lost family and friends. During the worst days of the pandemic, it was our honorable frontline workers and first responders who lifted our communities up. I am grateful to these heroes and thank them for their dedication, courage, sacrifice and continued service to our communities today.



This includes our brave law enforcement officers. This year, I have been focused on ensuring that we stand with the men and women in Blue and I will continue leading that fight in Congress. Just this year, I've hosted roundtable discussions with law enforcement, introduced the Local Law

Enforcement Protection Act to safeguard qualified immunity, and even joined the Utica Police Department for a an insightful ride-along. I remain eternally grateful to our law enforcement officers, who run toward the dangers most other people run away from.

### #3: Essential Caregivers Across America

Nursing and group home residents have the right under federal law to access caregivers. Sadly, this right was taken away from residents and families for more than a year during the pandemic. For some, it remains curtailed. It is an absolute injustice, leading many residents in long-term care facilities to suffer in isolation. This Thanksgiving, I am grateful to all the essential caregivers in our community and around the country who fought to bring attention to this problem and change our laws for the better to make sure it never happens again.



One of the first actions I took this Congress was to introduce the Essential Caregivers Act to support nursing home residents. This bill fixes a loophole in current federal law to better protect the rights of seniors and those with disabilities during any future public health emergency. Individuals residing in long-term care facilities have rights, and it is up to Congress to make sure they are protected. I want to thank Utica resident Karla Abraham-Conley (pictured above) and caregivers across the country for their courage and tenacity.

### #4: Our Hardworking Small Businesses

Small businesses are the bedrock of our region's economy. I am so grateful for the resiliency and determination they've displayed over the last two years. As a member of the Small Business Committee, I have been fighting to bring the voices of the small businesses in our community straight to Washington.



One of the first things I did after taking office was launch my Small Business Outreach Tour. Through so many great roundtable meetings, small business visits, and committee hearings, I have fought to deliver bills that empower our small businesses and ensure they have the resources needed to not only keep their doors open, but to grow and thrive right here in upstate New York.

I was honored to support the bipartisan PPP Extension Act, which extended the vitally important Paycheck Protection Program for small businesses. I am also a cosponsor of H.R. 4568, the Entree Act, which would replenish the Restaurant Revitalization Fund to help struggling restaurants in our community. Earlier this year, I also introduced the AIM Act, a bipartisan bill that would increase access to capital and investment for small manufacturers in communities like ours.

### #5: My Family and Our Community

Upstate New York is my home, and I wouldn't have it any other way. I was born here, attended college here, raised my son here, and ran my family's business here. It is the honor of a lifetime to represent you and our region in Congress.



Today and every day, I am thankful for the opportunity to serve, which you have given me. I am also thankful for my son Trey (pictured above) as well as for my family and friends across our region, who have brought me so much joy in life. I hope you and your loved ones are able to spend some quality time together this Thanksgiving holiday. From my family to yours, Happy Thanksgiving!



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**Bob 845-551-8081 or**  
**Don 845-807-1036**

**FOR SALE**

**Sundown Camp and Bait Shop!**  
 Thank you all for your many years of support for  
 Sundown Camp and Bait!!  
 We will continue to have  
 firewood for sale

**TWO LITTLE KITTENS LOOKING FOR A GOOD HOME**

Two adorable little female kittens are looking for a home. Grey and black stripes. Just in time to make someone happy for upcoming holidays and Christmas! Call 845-428-5476.

Seeking classical piano teacher for adult beginner. In-person only. Vaccinated. Please leave a message at 845-554-8818.



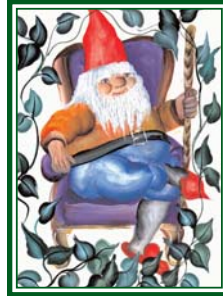
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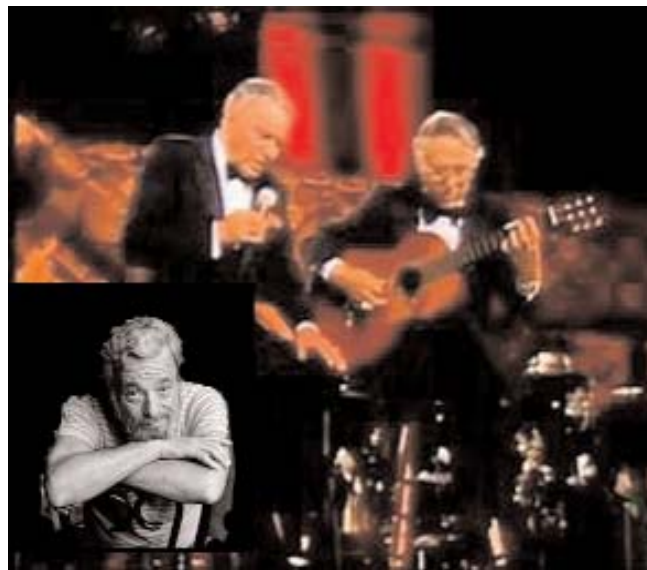
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**“KNARF’S CLASSIC MOVIE”  
 ON AMAZON, NETFLIX, ROKU  
 SIX BY SONDHEIM**

Steven Sondheim influenced several generations of theater songwriters, particularly with such landmark musicals as “Company,” “Follies,” “Sweeney Todd,” and “Camp” which are considered among his best work.

His most famous ballad, “Send in the Clowns,” has been recorded hundreds of times, including by Frank Sinatra. Six of Sondheim’s musicals won Tony Awards for best score, and he also received a Pulitzer Prize for “Sunday in the Park”; an Academy Award for the song “Sooner or Later” from the film “Dick Tracy”; five Olivier Awards; and the Presidential Medal of Honor. In 2008, he received a Tony Award for lifetime achievement.



Sondheim’s music and lyrics gave his shows a dark, dramatic edge, whereas before him, the dominant tone of musicals was frothy and comic. He was sometimes criticized as a *composer of unhumable songs*, a badge that didn’t

bother Sondheim.

Frank Sinatra, who had a hit with Sondheim’s “Send in the Clowns,” once complained, “He could make me a lot happier if he’d write more songs for saloon singers like me.”

Behind every great performance are hours of dedicated work of such was the task of Steven Sondheim when creating wonderful musical scores for all of our pleasures. Steven Sondheim is on to a new learning level at 91—no more—RIP the soul is immortal.

Enjoy.

(Contd. Pg. 52)



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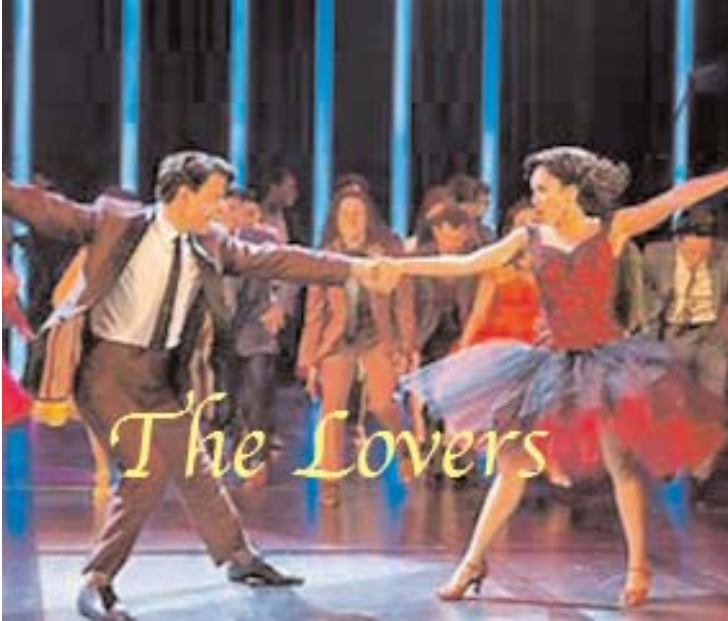
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Get the service you need and keep your dollar local

*(From Pg. 51*

**“KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE II ”  
ON AMAZON PRIME**

**WEST SIDE STORY**  
A STEVEN SONDHEIM MUSICAL



*West Side Story* is a musical from a book by **Arthur Laurents**, music by **Leonard Bernstein**, and lyrics by **Stephen Sondheim**. It was inspired by William Shakespeare's play *Romeo and Juliet*.

The story is set in the mid 1950s in the Upper West Side of New York City —then a multiracial, blue-collar neighborhood. The musical explores the rivalry between the Jets and multiple instigators with fighting that is led by an unwilling Tony and the Sharks, led by Bernado, who is steeped in deteriorated Spanish traditions of fighting for your family, now extended to gangs and foolish wars because of cultural disfferences. How foolish! All souls are the same, the only differences are our choices.

**“KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE”  
STREAMING NOW! ON AMAZON PRIME**  
**A STEVEN SONDHEIM MUSICAL**  
**SWEENEY TODD:**  
**THE DEMON BARBER OF**  
**FLEET STREET**

RATED: NR / 4.8 STARS



*"Amazon's Choice — "Sweeney Todd 1982"*

*Sweeney Todd* is originally a Stephen Sondheim musical which Tim Burton used as a base for his 2007 film.

Benjamin Barker has been exiled and imprisoned for 15 years in Australia. He manages to escape and is rescued from the sea by Anthony Hope, a sailor on the Bountiful from Plymouth.

*Stay safe, and stay well*  
*Knarf Odnamoc*  
*Gnome*