



Ye Olde Tri **COVENSAN** Valley



"The Best Journal Published by a Dam Site!"

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Sullivan County Chapter of the Ancient Order of Hibernians Contributes to Sullivan BOCES Efforts to Help Families

Liberty: The Sullivan County Chapter of the Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) recently donated \$500 to Sullivan BOCES to support their school community programs that help families during the year. Michael Williams, AOH Member and Tri-Valley Central School District Superintendent presented the donation on behalf of the Ancient Order of Hibernians to Megan Becker, Executive Principal for the Elementary Program at Sullivan BOCES.

"This year has been exceptionally hard on families," said Williams, "We offered supportive aid to all school districts in the county this year because we wanted to make a difference locally and help those who need assistance."

According to Megan Becker, BOCES will use this money to help fund the school's backpack food program and purchase needed winter clothing for families who may need a little help. "This donation comes at the perfect time for us to help more students and families that have been affected by 2020," said Becker. "We are truly grateful to the Ancient Order of Hibernians and Mr. Michael Williams."

Educating and caring for the students that attend Sullivan BOCES is a top priority for the employees at BOCES. Throughout the year, staff do what they can to help the students and their families and go the extra step to make sure the students' social/emotional needs are met, they have food, clothing, and the tools they need to get a good education.

"We will disperse the funds across all instructional programs at BOCES, which will and help students of all ages," added Becker.



Megan Becker, Executive Principal for the elementary program at Sullivan BOCES and Michael Williams, AOH Member and Superintendent of the Tri-Valley CSD.

Senator Michelle Hinchey and UC Executive Pat Ryan Tour New COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Site in Kingston, Jointly Call For Increased State Support



Kingston, NY...State Senator Michelle Hinchey (SD-46) and Ulster County Executive Pat Ryan today visited the Kate Walton Field House at Kingston High School, which currently serves as the primary vaccine point of distribution (POD) site in Ulster County. Once fully operational, the Kingston POD site will have the capacity to perform up to 45,000 COVID-19 vaccinations per month, ensuring that Ulster County residents are vaccinated in a rapid, safe, and equitable manner. Both leaders strongly urged the Federal and State government to speed up the production and delivery of vaccines to the Ulster County POD site, and to others across the region. Hinchey and Ryan also called on the State to send funding directly to counties and other partners who are operating these resource-intensive vaccination sites. (Contd. Pg. 4)

County Executive Ryan and Senator Hinchey at the Kingston POD site.

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
HER QUIRKY JOURNEY - Marilyn North
FALLSBURG NEWS - Larry Schafman
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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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Deadline for all submissions is 3:00 p.m. Friday for the following week's issue

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 support during these difficult times. Wishing everyone well.

ON THE FRONT BURNER: Praise the Lord; for the Lord is good: sing praises unto his name; for it is pleasant.

Psalm 135:3

OBITUARY

Helen Audrey Goble, a lifelong resident of Liberty, New York, passed away on **Wednesday** January 13, 2021, at the age of 82 years.



Daughter of the late Andrew "Dutch" Rampe and Eula Spencer Rampe, she was born February 6th, 1938.

Helen was a graduate of St. Peter's School and Liberty High School. She retired with 39 years of service from the New York Telephone Company. In that time, she worked in Liberty, Monticello, Binghamton, and Kingston as a supervisor, operator, clerk and trainer of new employees. After retirement, she worked in the office of many local schools.

Helen was an active member of St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church in Liberty, which she attended her entire life, where she was a Eucharistic Minister, Lector and Trustee. She was a life member of the New York Telephone Pioneers and an active member of the Tuesday Pinochle group in Monticello.

Helen was an avid reader, card player, newspaper puzzler and Jeopardy! fan. She loved to travel, departing on many organized trips throughout the years. She enjoyed music, having a sweet spot for Elvis; and the theatre, attending Broadway shows, as well as being a seasonal supporter of the Forestburgh Playhouse. In later life, Helen enjoyed participating in the annual Sullivan County Senior Games. Although she was never the knitter her mother was, she certainly enjoyed it after retirement.

Helen was a strong woman with unwavering faith, who was deeply devoted to her family and cherished any time spent together with them.

Helen was predeceased by her parents; an older brother, Richard; her husband of 49 years, Christopher W. Goble; her oldest son, Christopher Andrew "Andy" Goble; her only daughter, Kelli Ann Vasquez; her youngest child, Michael Joseph Goble; and her granddaughter, Eryn Kathleen Goble.

She is survived by her son William and his wife, Margaret Goble; three grandchildren, Elizabeth Vasquez, Margaret "Meg" Goble, and Christopher J. Goble; one great granddaughter, Jasmine Figuero; one sister, Joan Barnicott and her partner Art Bell of Cortland; one brother, James and his wife Mary Rampe of Lew Beach; as well as several wonderful nieces and nephews, great-nieces and nephews, cousins, and many friends she made throughout her journey in life.

Friends may call at the Harris Funeral Home, West Street at Buckley, Liberty, NY on Tuesday, January 19, 2021 from 2 to 5 PM and 7 to 9 PM. A Mass of Christian burial will be held at St. Peter's Church in Liberty on Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 11:45 AM with Monsignor Edward Straub officiating. Burial will follow the mass at St. Peter's Cemetery, Cold Spring Road, Liberty, NY.

Memorial donations may be made to St. Peter's Church, 264 N. Main Street., Liberty NY 12754.

DAYS OF YORE...**Today's History****January 17, 1951**

Local men included in 78 who took pre-induction physical tests for the Army on Monday in Binghamton were Benjamin Musso, Vincent Quinn, Vernon Osterhout, Joseph Merigliano and Harvey Tillson.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Burch entertained at dinner on Tuesday evening in honor of the 83rd birthday of her father, Mr. Chester Hornbeck. Guests besides the hosts and Mr. Hornbeck were Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hornbeck and family, the Milton Botsfords and the Ralph Slaters.

Fire, which broke out early Saturday morning at the Neversink Dam, caused damage estimated at well over a million dollars to property owned by S.A. Healy Co. A warehouse and its contents were completely destroyed and an adjoining machine shop was damaged. Huge "uke" tires weighing 1,800 pounds and worth \$2,000 apiece, fed the flames.

(Contd. Pg. 3)

DAYS OF YORE...**Today's History** (From Pg. 2)**January 18, 1961**

Roscoe Dobbins, a Grahamsville farmer for 40 years, died in Liberty on January 13th. He was born Sept. 13, 1879 in White Sulphur Springs, the son of Martin and Martha Whitmore Dobbins. He was married to the late Anna Koracik. Among the survivors are Mrs. Anthony Cypert of Woodbourne, Leo Sheeley of Lackawack and William Fenn of Woodbourne.

Oscar D. Banta, operator of a Grahamsville millwork and building materials business, died Saturday at his home. He was 80. He is survived by a son, Roger and a granddaughter, Patsy Ann, both of Grahamsville.

January 20, 1971

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis DePew celebrated their 38th wedding anniversary on Friday the 15th.

Mr. and Mrs. French Harris of Neversink announce the engagement of their daughter, Linda to Barry TerBush, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald TerBush of Grahamsville.

January 15, 1981

Ethel F. Messinger, 67, of South Hill Road, Grahamsville, died Friday, Jan. 9, 1981 at the Ellenville Community Hospital. A lifelong area resident, Mrs. Messinger was born July 27, 1913 in Kingston. Survivors include her husband, Samuel J. Messinger at home; a son, Steven Messinger of Poughkeepsie; a daughter, Karen Provenzone of Nineveh; and three grandchildren.

The Service Committee from the Tri Valley Lionesses recently visited several new families in the area. The ladies served cake, coffee and provided the new-comers with valuable information pertaining to this area.

The Tri-Valley Homemakers held their meeting on Monday. They worked on a quilt.

Bob and Joan Wood entertained George and Maria Smith, Betty and Jim Murray and Bart Murray on New Years Eve with a dinner party.

Betty and Ray McNamara and family enjoyed dinner New Years Day with Richie and Annie Krom. On Saturday evening Betty and Ray McNamara were dinner guests at the Chris Crowfoot home in Sundown.

Many area residents have been the victim of the flu. We are happy to hear that on Sunday evening two-year old Frank Comando returned home from the hospital just in time to celebrate his sister, Janna's 6th birthday on Wednesday, January 14th.

Jacob Frohling from Nanuet and Rocky Hill passed away on January 10th.

Don and Loretta Ackerley had dinner at the Red Barn on Saturday night to celebrate both their birthdays - his on the 5th and hers on the 7th of January.

Household Hints:**Soften your cuticles**

You can soften the cuticles on your fingers and toes before manicuring them by soaking your fingers in a bowl of undiluted white vinegar for five minutes.

Nature Column - Linda Comando

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

The Boisterous Ingenious Blue Jay

We have had an abundance of friendly squirrels in the backyard. Perhaps it is because we throw out a handful of peanuts every now and then. It isn't only the squirrels that like this little treat. Once in a while we will see a flash of blue swooping down and helping themselves to a peanut or two. They are run to watch - that is the occasional Blue Jay with its distinctive enthusiasm and a raucous song!

The Blue Jay, a large songbird, is a species from the Cyanocitta genus. The Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*) is a passerine bird in the family Corvidae, native to the Catskills. They are a very attractive bird; predominately blue with a white chest and underparts, and a blue crest. It has a black U-shaped collar around its neck and a black border behind the crest. Both male and female Blue Jays are similar in size (the males are slightly larger than the females) and plumage, and their plumage does not vary throughout the year. An adult Blue Jays measure 10-12 inches with a wingspan of 13-17 inches. The average adult Blue Jay weighs 2.5-3.5 oz



Blue Jays mainly feeds on nuts and seeds and especially like all the acorns that fall from the oak trees each autumn. Blue Jays have strong black bills which they use for cracking nuts and acorns, usually while holding them with their feet, and for eating corn, grains and seeds. They also will eat soft fruits, arthropods, and occasionally small vertebrates.

Blue Jays begin breeding in late spring or early summer. Breeding pairs make their nests on a thick branch that is relatively flat, or nestled in the corner of a branch. Their nests are typically formed into a cup shape and are a little bulky. The nests are made from grass, moss, twigs, leaves, roots and bark, and are often held together by mud - an example of Blue Jay ingenuity.

The female will lay a clutch of two to seven eggs, which are blueish or light brown with brown spots. After the eggs hatch, eggs will hatch the little birds will remain in an altricial (undeveloped) state and be brooded by the female 8 to 12 days. The male Blue Jay takes care of the mother bird, feeding her and eventually their baby birds.

About three weeks after they are born, the baby birds are ready to fly. Even after they leave the nest, the family stays together for weeks, with parents helping the young birds as they become more independent. The family may even help raise a second brood later in the season.

The bird's name arises from its noisy, garrulous nature, and it sometimes also called a "jaybird".

Blue Jays will often sound an alarm call when hawks or other dangers are near. Occasionally they will impersonate the calls of raptors, especially those of the Red-tailed Hawks. Should you get too close to their next, a Blue Jay can get quite aggressive towards humans.

Blue jays have been recorded to live for more than 26 years in captivity and one wild jay was found to have been to survive to adulthood is around 7 years.

Blue Jays are quite popular with birdwatchers. Their striking appearance and high activity level has also led Blue Jays to be a popular sports team mascot.

Senator Michelle Hinchey and Ulster County Executive Pat Ryan Tour New COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Site in Kingston, Jointly Call For Increased State Support

(From Pg. 1) The most recent federal relief package provided New York State with \$1.6 billion in funding for vaccination and COVID response efforts, but none of these funds have been allocated to counties yet -- even as they continue to operate testing sites, coordinate contact tracing efforts, and stand up vaccine POD sites. In particular, Hinchey and Ryan urged the State to immediately disperse to counties the \$135 million specifically allocated by the federal government for vaccine distribution efforts outside of New York City (the City received a separate, additional allocation for \$135 million for city-specific vaccination efforts).

"A speedy, equitable rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine is critical to ensuring that New Yorkers are protected from the virus, and our upstate economy can reopen and recover from this public health emergency," said Senator Michelle Hinchey. "Ulster County has done a tremendous job assembling the local infrastructure to administer this vaccine as effectively as possible, and I commend County Executive Pat Ryan for his strong leadership on behalf of our Ulster communities. Vaccinating on this scale is a major undertaking that requires a great deal of transparency, planning, and coordination at all levels of government. We want the state to ramp up vaccine distribution and counties like Ulster to get the resources they need to slow the virus's spread. That support to counties should include their share of the \$135 million in federal funding New York State received to fortify our vaccine distribution efforts."

Hinchey continued, "At the same time, we need to prioritize equitable vaccine access in our rural areas where public health systems have long struggled with underfunding and a shortage of workers. There's no getting through this crisis unless we're all accounted for."

"Counties have been on the front lines of responding to the COVID-19 pandemic from Day One, and it is imperative that counties receive direct support now, especially as we ramp up our vaccination efforts," Ulster County Executive Pat Ryan said. "We are calling on New York State to deliver our share of the \$135 million allocated for vaccine distribution in the last federal relief bill immediately, so that we can continue to operate POD vaccination sites for our residents and meet the overwhelming demand."

The federal government has stepped up to provide these funds, and now we need the state to do its part so we can keep these sites up and running. I want to thank Senator Hinchey for visiting our Kingston POD site and speaking up on this issue on behalf of our shared constituents. I am looking forward to continuing our work together to ensure we protect the health and safety of our residents."

The COVID-19 vaccine is being distributed to New Yorkers based on need and risk as part of the state's Phased Distribution Plan. The state's vaccine eligibility pool recently expanded to include individuals 65 and older, first responders, teachers, and grocery store workers, among other groups identified under Phase 1b. A full list of vaccine-eligible New Yorkers can be viewed on the state website here. The COVID-19 vaccine is free to all New Yorkers and only those who meet the eligibility criteria can schedule an appointment at this time.

Olive Free Library to Host ARKAI Virtual Concert

Join us on Thursday, February 11 at 7 pm for a live virtual concert by the award-winning string duo ARKAI. This unique program will include a selection of ARKAI's genre-bending original



compositions and arrangements that draw on musical influences worldwide. Following the performance, audiences will have the opportunity to engage in a Q&A with the artists. Advance registration is required. Contact your local library for details.

Ulster County Libraries hosting this event: Olive Free Library, West Hurley Public Library, Woodstock Public Library District, Phoenicia Library, Stone Ridge Library, Kingston Library, Saugerties Public Library, Rosendale Public Library, Elting Memorial Library, Gardiner Library, Wallkill Public Library, Plattekill Public Library, Town of Esopus Library, Town of Ulster Library.

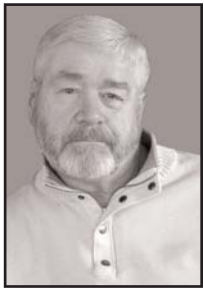
Graduates of The Juilliard School, ARKAI's past engagements have included performances at the MET Breuer, Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, 92nd Street Y, and TED.

Drawing their name from a Greek word meaning "source of action," ARKAI channels the diversity of the world through genre-bending music and sonic exploration. Inspired by a myriad of artistic palettes, ARKAI envisions its music as a vehicle for cultural ambassadorship and understanding through the creative blending of different traditions.

Jonathan Miron's desire to connect with audiences of all cultures has inspired and taken him on an expansive journey to broaden his artistic palate - from collaborating with members of Yo-Yo Ma's Silkroad Ensemble; to appearing with Tony and Grammy Award winner Ben Platt at Clive Davis' famed pre-Grammy party; to impromptu jams with Grammy-nominated Cuban percussionist Pedrito Martinez at NYC's 92nd Street Y. In addition to his work with ARKAI, Jonathan's newest group, The Weeklies, explores and charts new paths for what is possible for 21st-century acoustic concert music.

Cellist Philip Sheegog is a dynamic, collaborative artist who maneuvers within a diverse array of musical personas with ease. Drawing from roots influenced by a myriad of musical styles, Mr. Sheegog has been sought out for projects from all ends of the musical spectrum, working with groups from the New York hip-hop/classical collective ShoutHouse to the International Contemporary Ensemble to the Steve Miller Rock Band. A passionate advocate for collaboration and commissioning, Mr. Sheegog has premiered over seventy new works by living artists, including over thirty direct commissions. Mr. Sheegog holds his B.M. and M.M. from The Juilliard School and is a recipient of the 2017 John Erskine Prize and a Norman Benzaquen Career Advancement Grant.

The Olive Free Library is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 11 am - 4 pm, Tuesday & Thursday, 2 pm - 7 pm and Saturday, 10 am - 3 pm with a maximum of 10 patrons in the building at one time. Visit our website <http://www.olivefreelibrary.org> for more details. All in-person programs, events, and meetings are canceled until further notice.



Divine Justice

Mysterious Book Report No. 431

by John Dwaine McKenna

A group of right wing criminal fanatics, inspired by a crazed evangelist named Heinz Dieter, who's convinced that the end of days are about to commence, and all of them under the control of an utterly ruthless sociopathic killer named Rocco Robano. . . are dynamiting ATM machines all over Cape Town, South Africa in order to finance the building of Aurora, Pastor Dieter's vision of Utopia in the neighboring country of Namibia, where, according to the so-called holy man, they'll be saved from the Apocalypse. So begins *Divine Justice*, (Catalyst Press, PB, \$16.95, 342 pages, ISBN 978-1-946395-42-9), by Joanne Hichens.

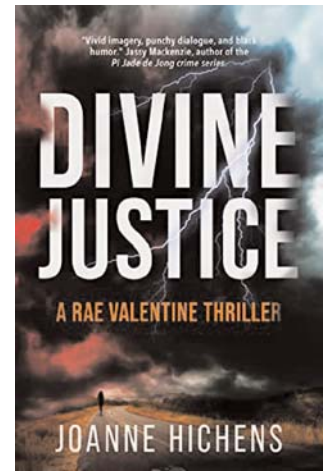
Opposing the band of evil-doers is a young Private Investigator named Rae Valentine. She's a recovering addict who's lost a leg because of drug use, and fights to stay clean while keeping a struggling investigations firm from going bankrupt. Out of desperation, Rae takes on a job her partner, Vince Saldana, calls a sure loser-finding a group of exquisite uncut diamonds-for none other than the domineering mother of the doomsday preacher . . . Heinz Dieter.

The job pitches the newly minted PI headlong into a world she's ill-prepared for and may not survive. It's a violent place of diamond theft, white supremacy and religious zealotry that stretches from Cape Town to the Orange River in neighboring Namibia as the tension ratchets up with each page and the plot unspools toward its rousing, raucous and stunning conclusion!

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.

And Hey! 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.

Johndwainemckenna.com or Mysteriousbookreport.com



The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) announces the launch of the 35th annual Water Resources Art and Poetry Contest

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) announced the launch of the 35th annual Water Resources Art and Poetry Contest. Second through twelfth grade students attending public, independent, charter and parochial schools, and those who are home-schooled, in New York City and in the East and West of Hudson watersheds, are invited to create original art and compose poetry that reflects an appreciation for New York's shared water resources. Entries will be accepted online until March 5, 2021.

Last year, 1,600 New York City and watershed students (grades 2-12) representing nearly 100 schools submitted original poems and artwork about New York's water resources. Although an in-person celebration was cancelled due to COVID-19, participants were honored in a newsletter featuring video messages from DEP staff in the field, and received certificates and gift bags at the program's conclusion. For this year's contest, teachers, parents and students can visit www.nyc.gov/dep/artandpoetry to view the contest guidelines and resource materials, submit entries online, see past winners, and learn more about New York City water. In consideration of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, this year's contest will culminate with a virtual celebration in the spring.

DEP's Water Resources Art and Poetry program helps raise awareness about the importance of clean, high-quality drinking water, and what it takes to maintain New York City's water supply and wastewater treatment systems. Students can create poems and artwork including paintings, collages, three-dimensional models, photography, animation and videos of dance performances, public service announcements and songs. The 2021 contest will focus on five central themes that incorporate STEM and humanities disciplines:

- o Water, A Precious Resource: To recognize the importance of a clean and plentiful supply of water.
- o New York City Water Supply System: To explore the history of the New York City Water Supply System and its present-day source, operation, delivery, protection and maintenance. (Contd. Pg. 7)

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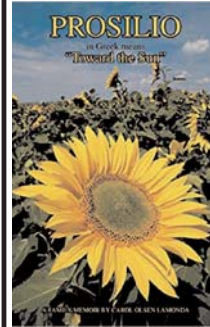
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The FamilyMemoir, PROSILIO...

... 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!**

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The Olive Jar By Carol Olsen LaMonda A Century

Last year at this time, exactly, my brother, sister, and I ate at a seafood restaurant in West Palm Beach and toast-mom's ninety-ninth birthday. Plans to do it again were rudely interrupted by a Pandemic. Today we celebrate mom's would-be one-hundredth birthday sheltered in three separate states.

Today my mom would have been one century old, a century life span which produced the generation of modern women.

She was born just five months after women were granted the right to vote in the Nineteenth Amendment. She, a daughter of Greek immigrants, was the first to go to college, the first woman to work outside the home.

Mom took a job as a Meter Maid in Freeport and bravely, or foolishly, ticketed the mayor, not once but three times.

Her husband got a purple heart in World War I while she raised me, an infant, stateside. Her son fought in Vietnam. Her daughters married veterans. She was blessed with eight grandchildren.

She was the kind of mom who let us keep every critter we brought home. Rabbits, raccoons, snakes, cats, birds, dogs, fish, lizards, all were welcome. The one time she refused was when I brought home an unshaven, race-car driver named Johnny Coy who was living in a parked car by our candy store hangout at Smitty's. She said he couldn't stay, but she did pack him a baloney sandwich lunch to go. She drank beer when she ironed with my Aunt Helen. After permanent press was invented, she repurposed her iron as a boat anchor and switched to Pinot Grigio.

She traveled the world with my dad and her second husband. Widowed twice, she sculpted her life around friends and family. She consumed books like candy, was a Canasta whiz, and ultimate hostess. She effortlessly did the New York Times Crossword Puzzle, in ink!

She was above all, a patriot. I remember when she, Aunt Christine, and buddy Lynn wrapped a Volkswagen Beetle in yellow ribbons, packed a thermos of whiskey sours and tunafish sandwiches, and headed to Stewart Air Force Base to wave flags to welcome home the hostages from Iran.

She smiled and laughed and loved life for almost eighty-five years.

She would not have liked the last year that marked her one-hundred years at all. She would have missed hanging out with Helen, Chris, and Lynn, her 5:00 p.m. cocktail hours, and visiting family.

And last week mom would have cried when ∞Americans± attacked the Capitol.

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The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) announces the launch of the 35th annual Water Resources Art and Poetry Contest

(From Pg. 5)


o New York City Wastewater Treatment System: To understand our sewer infrastructure; the purpose of, and process for, cleaning wastewater in New York City and in the East and West of Hudson Watersheds.

o Harbor Water Quality and Healthy Marine Ecosystems: To discover the richness of our marine life, and opportunities for recreation and commerce on local waterbodies; to understand the work that is being done to monitor and ensure healthy water quality.

o Water Stewardship and Climate Change: What Can We Do To Help? To consider our influence on the environment and how we can address and take action on environmental issues that influence our neighborhoods, our city, and beyond.

Entries will be judged based on creativity in interpreting one or more of the contest themes, accuracy of information, originality, and skill. An impartial panel of judges will review the entries and select art and poetry winners from each category (grades 2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9, and 10-12). Please submit additional requests for information to artandpoetry@dep.nyc.gov.

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(Photo by Don Pollard)

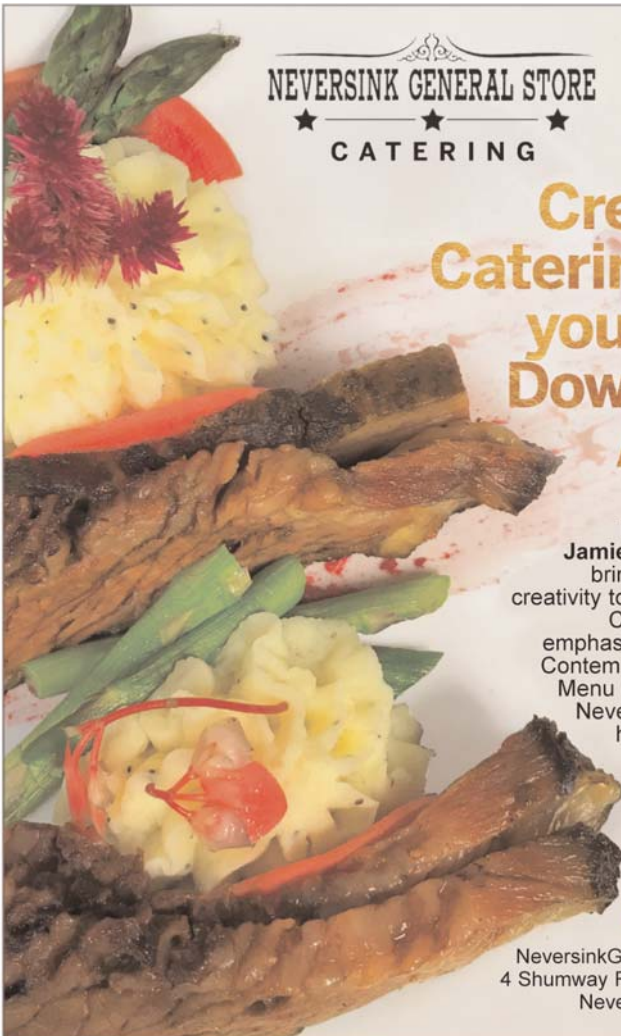
The Javits Center in New York City opened as a mass vaccination site

On January 13th the Jacob K. Javits Center, Westchester County Center and New York State Fair Expo Center opened at 8 a.m. to begin administering vaccines to eligible New Yorkers. These are the first three state-run sites to open. A site at Jones Beach opened January 14th, and a site at SUNY Albany opened on Friday, January 15th. Vaccinations are by appointment only and New Yorkers can determine eligibility and find a provider to receive their first dose through the State's "Am I Eligible" app or call the New York State Vaccination Hotline at 1-833-NYS-4-VAX (1-833-697-4829). And New Yorkers will be able to schedule an appointment to receive the required second dose on site after receiving their first dose. New Yorkers should not attempt to book their second appointment online.

We will aggressively act to get New Yorkers vaccinated quickly and efficiently, but lack of supply from the federal government is an enormous issue. Until the federal government provides us with more supply of vaccines, I again ask that New Yorkers be patient.

Three additional cases of the UK variant have been identified in New York. This brings the total to 15 cases in New York. In addition to the new cases, there are four cases in Saratoga County and two other cases in Warren County that have all been identified as part of the Saratoga cluster; two cases in Suffolk County; two cases from Nassau County; and one from Queens. The final case was identified in Manhattan and is not connected to either the Saratoga cluster or the Long Island cluster.

The U.S. announced that a negative COVID test will be required for all international travelers. The new rule goes into effect on January 26th. This decision comes after I and other governors urged the federal government to implement the policy and New York reached an agreement with major airlines to require testing for New York-bound passengers from the UK.



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Too Cute to Miss this Holiday Special Kodak Moment



Most everyone has taken down their Christmas decorations as Christmas Day was over three weeks ago. When Esta Jacobs shared this picture of her canine family decked out in their stylish Christmas sweaters, it was just what I needed to put me back into the happy mood of the holiday season?

Thank you Esta for a little unexpected holiday cheer and not making me feel so remiss – I haven't taken down our tree yet and I am still savoring every morsel and joyful memory of Christmas 2020!

Senator Martucci Sworn into Office for First Term *Freshman Senator Stressed that Elected Office is about Public Service not Self Service*

Goshen, NY (January 16, 2021) - Senator Mike Martucci (R, C, I - New Hampton) today was sworn into his first term in the State Senate during a combined in-person and virtual ceremony that occurred in the auditorium of the Orange County Emergency Services Center.

Senator Martucci was elected in November as one of only two candidates to defeat an incumbent member of the state's upper house. Martucci's term officially began on January 1st and his offices have been open since January 4th. This ceremonial swearing-in was a chance for family, friends, local elected officials, and supporters to honor the Senator's victory as well as the start of his term in the State Senate representing the 42nd District, which includes thirty-seven towns and two cities across four counties in the Hudson Valley and Catskills. Martucci serves as Ranking Member of the Senate Committees on Developmental Disabilities and Small Business, Commerce and Economic Development.

Orange County Court Judge Hyun Chin Kim administered the Oath of Office, and Deputy Orange County Clerk Kelly Eskew

served as Master of Ceremonies. The Senator's pastor, Rev. Peter Rustico of St. John's Lutheran Church, opened the ceremony with an invocation, while Kristyn Vellenga, a young mother and supporter from Orange County, sang our National Anthem. Orange County Sheriff Carl DuBois led those gathered in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The ceremony's speakers included Sullivan County Sheriff Michael A. Schiff, Orange County Executive Steven M. Neuhaus, and Senator Michael R. Martucci.

Sullivan County Sheriff Mike Schiff welcomed everyone, saying, "It feels like I have known Mike Martucci for much longer than this past year because he immediately put himself among the communities of Sullivan County and fit right in here. Once you meet Mike, his compassion and personality win you over and he has an energy that does not quit. His sincerity is truly one of a kind - you know that what he says is what he believes. In addition to regularly speaking with Sullivan County residents, Mike Martucci would always take the time to listen. He wanted to understand the issues facing Sullivan County families and their struggles. That to me is the best measure of any public servant. Senator Martucci and his entire team are true professionals and I look forward to tackling the people's business together moving forward."

Orange County Executive Steve Neuhaus delivered the Keynote Address, stating, "Never have our times called for good men and women to enter public life more than now. With that in mind, Mike Martucci in the State Senate is exactly what we needed. Here locally, I believe it comes down to three key factors: accountability, vision, and leadership. Albany, particularly over the past few years, has been completely out of touch. Whether it was for law enforcement, our seniors, farmers, or working families, Albany has continuously made life more difficult. Mike's experience, as a businessman and a father, is sorely lacking in that environment. Tough decisions will have to be made to get our state back on track, and because of his background, Mike is ready to make those decisions. Beyond his professional resume, Mike Martucci the man is someone you can trust. One of the most important aspects of any leader is recognizing and learning from past failures, and through our conversations, I know Mike has done that. Right now, this country is really torn up and there are a lot of people who need our help. I know the people of Orange County and the 42nd senate district are excited to have Mike Martucci serving us as our State Senator."

Senator Mike Martucci closed by remarking, "When I look back over this past year, I truly could not be more grateful to stand here as your State Senator. I am incredibly honored by the confidence placed in me by the residents of the 42nd senate district. These are challenging times, and it is our duty as elected representatives to rise above the politics of the moment and make our obligations about public service, not self service. Our state, and our Nation, need us to step up now more than ever. Democrats and Republicans alike who feel called to serve know that this job is not easy, but there is a reason we do it - because we can make a difference. What I am looking to do in Albany is not to be someone, but rather to do something. I enter this role with a servant's heart and a deep sense of responsibility. I understand that when you are blessed to be a leader, how important it is to be there to help and support the people who chose you to lead. I look forward to bringing my experience to Albany for the betterment of the people who live here, and they can count on me to work with anyone who has true courage and is there to serve. I hold a tremendous amount of optimism for the future, because above all, what I am confident in is the goodness of our people and our ability to come together." (Contd. Pg. 10)

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Senator Martucci Sworn into Office for First Term *Freshman Senator Stressed that Elected Office is about Public Service not Self Service*

(From Pg. 9) Senator Martucci's swearing-in ceremony comes exactly one year to the day since he announced his candidacy for the 42nd state senate district. The in-person attendance at the ceremony was strictly limited in accordance with the state's gathering guidelines. COVID-19 safety protocols were followed, and all guests were pre-screened. Remaining family, friends, and supporters watched online via the Senator's Facebook page.

Mike Martucci is serving his first term as the Senator for the 42nd NYS Senate District which comprises all of Sullivan County and parts of Orange, Ulster, and Delaware counties. He is the ranking member of the Senate Committees on Developmental Disabilities and Small Business, Commerce and Economic Development. Mike is a small businessman who employed hundreds of people locally at his former company, Quality Bus Service, which was responsible for safely transporting thousands of school children each day in and near the 42nd senate district. Mike and his wife Erin own a family-farm in the Town of Westtown and established a family foundation to support local women and children in need, educational opportunities, job creation, and agriculture initiatives. Mike and Erin have three children and live in the Town of Wawayanda.

The Scene Too

- Jane Harrison

Our sincere condolences to Jane and her family on the passing of her brother.

Schumer, Gillibrand Announce \$16 Million Increase in CDC Lyme Disease and Tick-Borne Disease Funding in FY21 Bipartisan Appropriations Package

Continued Robust Funding is Essential To Combat Tick-Borne Diseases Across Upstate NY, Which has Become the Epicenter For Tick-Borne Disease In Recent Years

Following Fierce Advocacy, Senators Deliver \$2 Million Funding Increase, Their Third Consecutive Increase, For Lyme Disease Research and Prevention

WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. Senators Charles E. Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand announced that following their fierce advocacy, \$16 million in federal funding for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to combat Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases is included in the recently passed bipartisan government funding package. The \$16 million in funding amounts to a \$2 million increase over last year's level. Through their advocacy, Schumer and Gillibrand also delivered \$5 million in new funding for the Kay Hagan Tick Act - co-sponsored by the senators - to require the CDC to enhance surveillance of Lyme and tick-borne diseases and fund the Centers of Excellence for Lyme and tickborne disease. The senators additionally announced that the Department of Defense's Tick Borne Disease Research Program will remain funded at \$7 million. New York State remains the #1 target for tick-related disease in the United States and the FY21 funding will be vital to the continued research, identification and exposure prevention to vector-borne pathogens that cause Lyme disease and other tick-borne illnesses.

"Upstate New York has felt the brutal bite of Lyme disease and tick-borne diseases for years now, and thankfully this sorely-needed increase in CDC funding and the Kay Hagan Tick Act will provide the resources needed to strike back," said Senator Schumer. "New Yorkers and their children shouldn't have to worry that spending time in their backyards will leave them with a debilitating ailment like Lyme disease, and this funding will help prevent that. I was proud to lead the charge in securing the crucial funding to combat the spread of tick-borne diseases throughout New York and will keep fighting until we can stamp out these pernicious diseases."

"Upstate New York is a hotspot for Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases and this funding increase will deliver vital resources for our state to combat them," said Senator Gillibrand. "New Yorkers have felt the impact of tick-borne illness for years. We need to step up our investments in research, surveillance, prevention, and outbreak response to protect our communities. Thankfully, New York institutions - including

Stony Brook, Columbia University, Hunter College, and others in the SUNY system - are at the forefront of this battle. I'm proud to deliver this critical funding for our work to prevent Americans from suffering from the often-devastating and life-altering impacts of tick-borne illness."

The funding for the CDC, secured by Schumer and Gillibrand, will specifically be used to target vector-borne pathogens which cause diseases in humans. The funding will contribute to a better understanding of when, where, and how people become exposed to vector-borne pathogens, as well as boost prevention efforts related to vector-borne pathogens and mitigate potential consequences of infection. Additionally, the funding will be used to help implement vector-borne disease diagnostics, surveillance, control, and prevention programs.

Both Schumer and Gillibrand co-sponsored the bipartisan Kay Hagan Tick Act named in honor of the late Senator Kay Hagan who passed away due to complications from Powassan virus, a rare tick-borne disease. After securing the Kay Hagan Tick Act in last year's yearly government funding package, the senators continued their fight to secure an additional \$5 million in funding to help New York and other states combat tick-related disease. The bill requires HHS to develop a national strategy for vector-borne diseases, including tick-borne diseases, in an effort to coordinate efforts among various government agencies. The bill also reauthorizes the Regional Centers of Excellence in Vector-Borne Disease for five years at \$10 million per year. Schumer and Gillibrand noted that this is especially important for New York State, as Cornell University is home to the Northeast Regional Center for Excellence in Vector Borne Diseases. Lastly, the Kay Hagan Tick Act allows the CDC to make grants to state, local, and tribal health departments in order to improve the ability to identify, report, prevent, and respond to vector-borne diseases and related outbreaks.

Lyme disease is a bacterial infection carried by deer ticks, which can be transmitted through a bite to a human or animal. If left untreated, the bacterium *Borrelia burgdorferi* travels through the bloodstream, manifests itself in body tissues, and causes mild or severe symptoms, depending on the case. Lyme disease begins as a rash at the location of the tick bite and then spreads to the nervous system and joints. Early diagnosis and antibiotic treatment are crucial to recovery, and appropriate antibiotic use in the early stages of Lyme disease typically results in a swift recovery. Untreated and undiagnosed Lyme disease can lead to debilitating effects on a person's health.

Senator Schumer and Gillibrand have long fought for federal funding for the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of tick-borne diseases like Lyme disease, which have contributed to a major spike in cases across New York State. For the past three years, the senators' tireless advocacy has delivered increased funding for Lyme and tick-borne disease research in the yearly government funding package. Schumer and Gillibrand also previously secured a \$2 billion increase in National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding, which can be used to expand and build upon existing NIH-funded Lyme disease research that is already occurring at New York institutions, such as Stony Brook, Columbia University, in the SUNY system, and at Hunter College.



**Blue Mountains trout news
Newsletter of the Ashokan-Pepacton
Watershed Chapter
of Trout Unlimited, #559
P.O. Box 119, Phoenicia, NY 12464
January 2021**

Banner above depicts a foot-long Garden State wild rainbow, caught and released New Year's Day 2021. Let's hope 2021 is a far better year than the one just closed out.

January virtual Zoom meeting: On January 27th, at 7 PM, the chapter plans to host a virtual Zoom meeting. We are trying to arrange for Caroline Shafer of TU National as guest speaker. Caroline has been working with our East Branch Delaware committee, and was introduced to members in our October newsletter. Info to follow in separate electronic mailing.

Christmas 2020 Flood: Christmas 2020 was ushered in with heavy rains and major flood waters as several inches of rain fell on mountain snow pack. Regional stream flows exploded, several local roads were closed and damaged, while there was an avalanche at Belleayre Mountain where a section of it slid into the ski center. FYI: <https://weather.com/news/weather/video/avalanche-damages-ski-lodge-in-new-york> and

FYI: <https://cbs6albany.com/news/local/avalanche-damages-lodge-at-belleayre-mountain-ski-center>

Additionally, storm waters damaged some USGS gaging stations in the Esopus Creek watershed and in some locations changed the stream enough that streamflow estimates based on previous ratings were no longer valid, most notably the Allaben station, USGS 01362200. The USGS Coldbrook gage reported a peak flow of 39,100 cfs, which makes it the twelfth highest flow ever recorded at Coldbrook, a USGS gage that has been in continuous operation since March of 1932, almost ninety years. Even with the Shandaken Tunnel closed due to ongoing repair work, DEP reported flows into the Ashokan Reservoir were the highest and most turbid reported since Hurricane Irene, back in August 2011 when the Coldbrook USGS gage hit an all-time high flow of 75,850 cfs.

It may take time for conditions in the Esopus Creek watershed to settle down, and who knows how this effected the Schoharie Reservoir and what conditions we might expected when the Shandaken Tunnel eventually reopens later this year. I asked Dany Davis, geologist for NYC DEP, plus Ashokan Watershed Stream Management Program participant and friend of our chapter, for impressions of the December 25th event and received the report below. (Editor's comment: Please note an Annual Peak Flow is the greatest flow recorded in a given water year. A Daily Peak Flow is the greatest flow recorded on a particular day. It is possible a given water year--- defined below--- could have two big Daily Peak Flows for that year larger than an Annual Peak Flow in a different water year; such was the case in 2010.) I updated the annual peak flow hydrograph (see graph on next page) for Esopus Creek at Coldbrook to include the Christmas 2020 flood even though it isn't officially the peak flood for water year 2021 (10/1/20 - 9/30/21) yet since we are only in the beginning of the 2nd quarter of the water year, but chances are it will be the peak flow. (Contd. Pg. 13)

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Blue Mountains trout news

Newsletter of the Ashokan-Pepacton Watershed Chapter of Trout Unlimited, #559

(From Pg. 12) Each point on the line is the largest flood recorded for a given USGS water year. A USGS water year runs from 10/1 of a given calendar year through 9/30 of the following calendar year. For example, water year 2011 ran from 10/1/2010 - 9/30/2011. Some points to note:

- In the annual peak series the Christmas 2020 flood is the 10th highest magnitude flood in the nearly 90 years of record for the Esopus Creek at Coldbrook station.

In the daily peak series it appears to be the 12th highest magnitude flood in the nearly 90 years of record. This is because water year 2011 had three floods bigger than the Christmas 2020 flood. The 10/1/2010 peak flow is 43,600 cfs and occurred on the first day of water year 2011. The 12/1/2010 peak flow is 39,800 cfs.

Both flows were exceeded by the Tropical Storm Irene flood (8/28/2011) peak flow of 75,800 cfs which then became the peak flow for water year 2011. There may be other interannual peaks that exceed the 39,100 cfs value but in my preliminary inspection I have not found them. I'll look into this more later on. I updated the Log Pearson Type III flood frequency analysis to include the latest USGS approved water year annual peak series through water year 2020. The 39,100 cfs peak flow for the Christmas 2020 flood corresponds to a statistical 11-year flood. I also updated the flood frequency estimated 2-year, 10-year and 100-year flood magnitudes for the Coldbrook station and plotted those on the hydrograph for reference.

- This was also an 11-year magnitude flood for the Stony Clove Creek at Chichester station according to the flood frequency analysis of the 23-year period of record. It was the 4th highest in the 23-year record.

- For the other stream monitoring stations for Esopus tributaries that have a period of record sufficient to run a flood frequency analysis (minimum period of 10 years) and recorded the peak flow (some didn't), this event ranged from a low of a 3-year flood for Little Beaver Kill and a high of 8.5-year event for Birch Creek.

- Hollow Tree Brook in the Stony Clove watershed seems to have had the highest relative magnitude with a 15-year statistical recurrence. The Beaver Kill peak flow was not recorded, but indications are that it was definitely greater than a 5-year recurrence. Once USGS is able to provide an estimate of that flow we can compute its recurrence interval.

On the annual peak hydrograph, you can see that 7 of the 10 highest annual peak floods at the Esopus Creek at Coldbrook station are rain/snowmelt events. Using the Esopus Creek at Coldbrook station and the Stony Clove Creek at Chichester station we can say that this event produced the

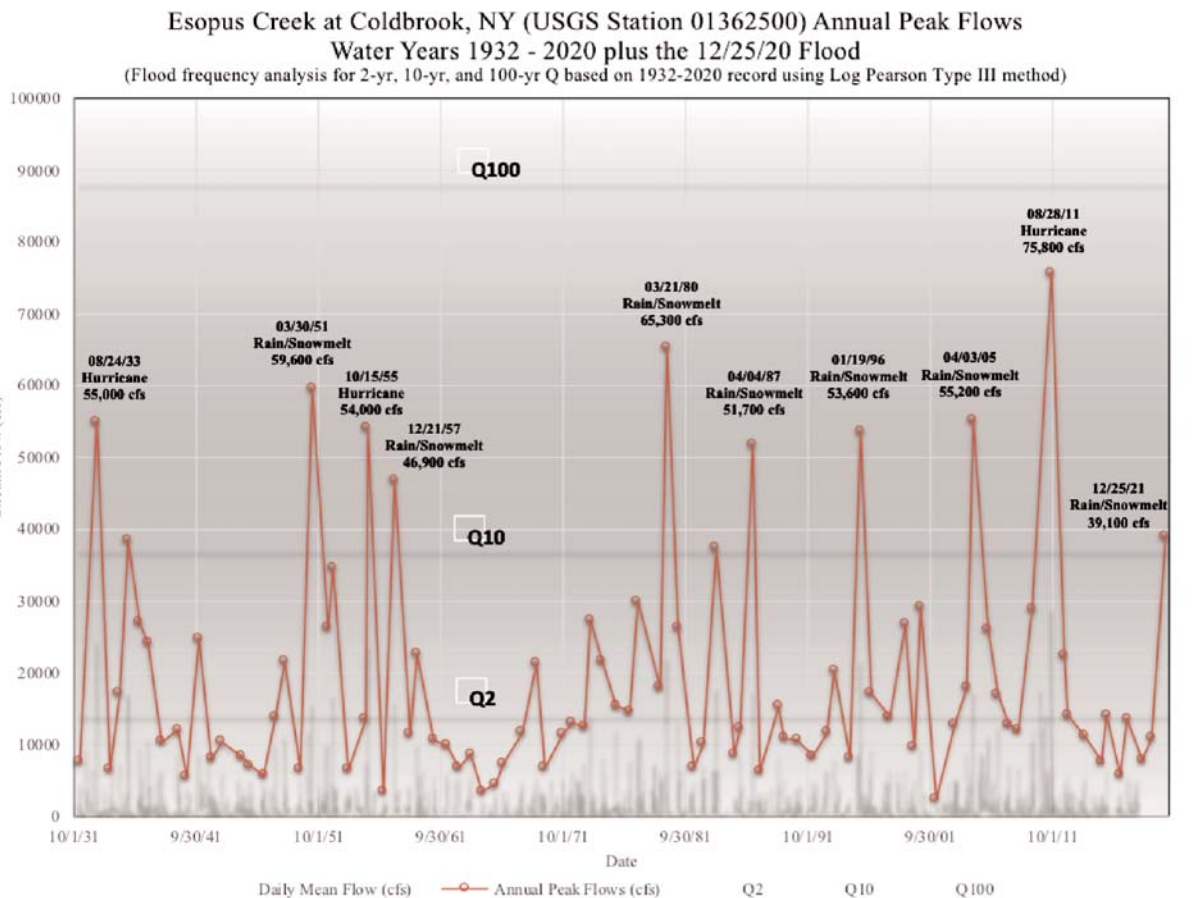
highest sustained monitored turbidity since 2011. This is not unexpected given the magnitude of the streamflow. This was our biggest streambed mobilizing event since TS Irene and the rising limb and peak flow of the event re-suspended the fine sediment (silt and clay) stored in the streambed alluvium throughout the stream network. Anybody that has stood on the Esopus Creek streambed and shuffled their feet can see the temporary plume of turbidity from that stored fine sediment. The sustained turbidity that we are still observing nearly 3-weeks later can be tracked to several tributary streams using our research monitoring stations. Currently turbidity above 10 FNU is being recorded at the following stations:

- Stony Clove Creek @ 55.2 FNU (Hollow Tree Brook and Ox Clove Creek are main sources with last reported turbidity exceeding 100 - 200 FNU)
- o Woodland Creek @ 49.2 FNU
- o Birch Creek @ 36.8 FNU
- o Beaver Kill @ 11.0 FNU
- o Broadstreet Hollow and Bushnellville Creek have elevated turbidity but I cannot get a current value since that data is not provided online in real time.
- o In all these streams, sustained turbidity is mostly coming from erosive contact with glacially-sourced fine sediment and periodically spiking from disturbance due to in-stream work.

Esopus Creek at Coldbrook, NY (USGS Station 01362500) Annual Peak Flows

Water Years 1932 -2020 plus the 12/25/20 Flood (Flood frequency analysis for 2-yr, 10-yr, and 100-yr Q based on 1932-2020 record using Log Pearson Type III method)

The chapter thanks Dany Davis for analyzing and making this data available and on-going efforts on the Esopus Creek watershed. (Contd. Pg. 14)



Blue Mountains trout news

(From Pg. 13) Below are recent images of the turbid Ashokan Reservoir following the storm event.



Acid rain report: Jody Hoyt reported the following rain readings for December, as measured in Boiceville, NY.

There were 11 measureable events with 7.43 inches of liquid precipitation, including 15.3 inches of snow, with a 5.5 weighed pH. By comparison in December 2019 there were 7 such events with a total of 7.14 inches of liquid precipitation, including 17.0 inches of snow and 5.6 weighted pH. Jody noted in 2018 he measured 78.83 inches of liquid precipitation including 69.0 inches of snow, in 2019 those yearly numbers were 62.35 inches of liquid precip including 67.5 inches of snow, while in 2020 he measured 60.65 inches of liquid precip including 38.3 inches of snow. Jody noted historical averages are 52 inches of liquid precipitation including 80 inches of snow. Thank you, Jody, for these ongoing efforts.

NOAA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, just reported 2020 as the second warmest year, globally, ever recorded. FYI: <https://www.noaa.gov/news/2020-was-earth-s-2nd-hottest-year-just-behind>:

2016#:~:text=It's%20official%3A%202020%20ranks%20as,an%20analysis%20by%20NOAA%20scientists.

Climate change is upon us.

As noted above, the USGS Coldbrook gage has been reporting Esopus Creek stream flows since March 1932, just about ninety years. During this period of time, there have been only eleven flood events that exceeded peak daily flows recorded on Christmas Day 2020. Since the start of the 21st Century on January 1st, 2001, five of these total twelve events--- including Christmas 2020--- or roughly 42% of the worst floods recorded at Coldbrook in the last ninety years, have occurred in less than a quarter of that entire time period. Clearly large storm events have become more frequent, significant and intense, consistent with climate change predictions.

Proposed Trout Stream Regulations Comments: As reported in last month's newsletter, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC) has updated and approved their New York Trout Stream Management Plan. DEC is still requesting/accepting comments on proposed regulations associated with the Plan until January 25th, 2021. Proposed regulations are found here: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/regulations/34113.html> under the Amendments to Trout Stream Sport Regulations.

It is suggested the reader ignore 10.3 (b) --- pages 1 through 37--- and focus on 10.3 (e) --- pages 38 forward.

Comment should be email to: regulations.fish@dec.ny.gov or mailed them to: Fred Henson, NYS DEC, 625 Broadway, 5th Fl., Albany, NY 12233-4753. Recently chapter president Mark Loete submitted a letter on behalf of the board of directors, and chapter in general, in support of the Stream Management Plan and classification of the Esopus Creek as a Wild-Quality stream.

Esopus Creek/Shandaken Tunnel: Also, as reported in last month's newsletter New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYC DEP) turned off the Shandaken Tunnel so renovation work could continue on the Tunnel intake without jeopardizing the lives of divers doing this work some one-hundred-eighty feet deep in the shaft. It is not anticipated that the Tunnel will be turned back on before sometime in February.

However, DEP and DEC talk weekly to examine Esopus Creek flows and other conditions. If it is determined project restoration work needs to stop, DEP can return the tunnel to service within forty-eight hours.

East Branch: Six Years on a Catskill Trout Stream by Mitch Keller: Since many of our members are interested, and live near the East Branch

of Delaware River upstream of NYC's Pepacton Reservoir, this book might hold interests to some. It's about an individual's struggle, and fishing, trying to get by living in Margaretville with no steady source of employment. Keller's stories occasionally appeared in the Woodstock Times and Catskill Mountain News. Various opinions of the book can be found here: <http://classicflyrodforum.com/forum/view-topic.php?f=89&t=134245>

Personally, I enjoyed it.

Ashokan Watershed Stream Management Program (AWSMP): Don't forget, AWSMP is seeking contributors to their "Love Your Stream Video and Art Project" featuring videos, photos, and/or artwork of the Esopus Creek watershed through March 17th. Check here for details:

<http://ulster.cce.cornell.edu/events/2021/02/24/love-your-stream-video-and-art-project>

Membership: As of this newsletter, our membership stands at 112 members. This month we welcome Angelo DeCicco of Shandaken and Brian McDonald of Mt. Tremper as new members. Welcome! Just as a reminder, as always new TU members can join for half the "regular" membership fee, or \$17.50, of which the chapter receives a \$15 rebate from National. This might make for as nice Holiday Present for someone you know.

Applications:

http://www.apwctu.org/pdfs/TU_membership_brochure2018_web.pdf

For membership questions, contact me at: Tailwaters@Hvc.rr.com

Beyond our watersheds and other news: Here's a YouTube video that might readers---*Autumn on the West Branch Delaware - Fly Fishing Epic Blue Winged Olive Hatch*:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uXqUjN-X5Lw&feature=youtu.be>

And here's a Podcast involving Nick Lyons and Tom Rosenbaum: <https://orvisffguide.libsyn.com/the-godfather-of-modern-fly-fishing-books-nick-lyons> And, don't forget all those great Podcasts available at the Jerry Bartlett Angling Collection of the Phoenicia Library: <http://www.catskillanglingcollection.org/>

A 2020 "Fishing Recap" from NYS DEC: <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/NYSDEC/bulletins/2b37613>

A December 2020/January 2021 digital New York State Conservationist:

<https://cloud.3dissue.com/129417/129610/151833/DEC2020NYSConservationist/index.html>

NYS DEC announced the availability of Ashokan Reservoir Water Release Proposal for Public Review---

NYS releases Draft SPDES Permit Modification and Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Ashokan Reservoir Releases for Public Comment:

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/press/121999.html> This centers on water releases from, and downstream of NYC's Ashokan Reservoir. Readers might be interested, and to the extent downstream releases from the Ashokan Reservoir might impact water diversions from the Shandaken Tunnel, the chapter would be interested in that aspect.

Useful links: Ashokan-Pepacton Watershed Chapter Trout Unlimited: <https://apwctu.org/>

Ashokan Watershed Stream Management Program: <http://ashokanstreams.org/>

CWC Watershed Currents: <https://cwconline.org/watershed-currents-e-news/>

Delaware County Soil and Water Conservation District: <http://www.dcsxcd.org/Stream%20Program.htm>

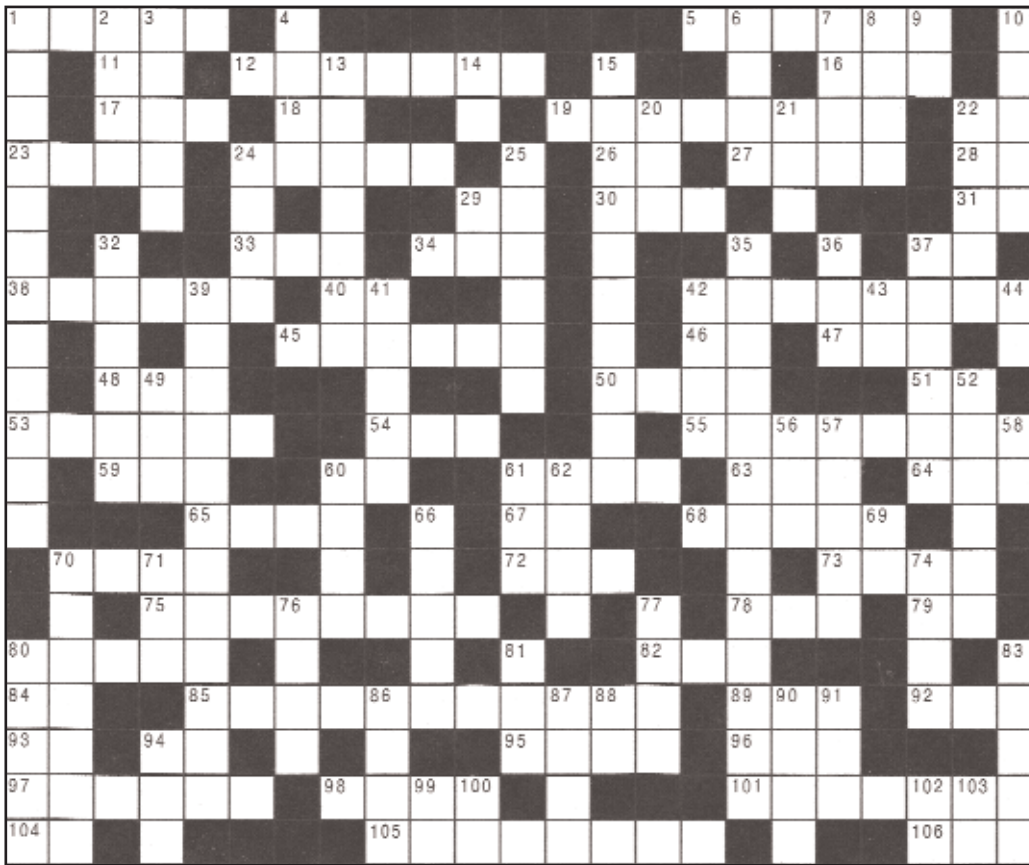
Esopus Creek hatching chart: <http://www.catskillanglingcollection.org/>

NYC DEP Reservoir Levels-Releases: https://www1.nyc.gov/html/dep/html/drinking_water/release_channel_levels.shtml

Rondout Neversink Stream Program: <http://www.rondoutneversink.org/>

Until next time,
Ed Ostapczuk

Fundamental Facts - L. Comando



ACROSS

- 1 Formally constituted political group
- 5 Cope
- 11 Exclamation of sympathy
- 12 Independence
- 16 Read only memory
- 17 Point
- 18 Railroad
- 19 Legal paper
- 22 Express superstition
- 23 Right of possession of property in lieu of a debt
- 24 Revise
- 26 Virginia (abbrev)
- 27 Proficiency
- 28 Either
- 29 Connecticut (abbrev)
- 30 Final part of something
- 31 New Testament
- 33 Swindle
- 34 In accordance with
- 37 Colorado (abbrev.)

- 38 Enhance
- 40 Half an em
- 42 Monument
- 45 Residents of an ancient Greek Island
- 46 Extraterrestrial
- 47 Indefinite long period of time
- 48 Human males
- 50 Tidy
- 51 Doctor
- 53 1940 newspaper publisher who promoted "I Am an American Day"
- 54 Daughters of the American Revolution
- 55 State of supreme power held by the people and their elected representatives
- 59 Mesh-work
- 60 Near

- 61 Seven days
- 63 Faster than a walk
- 64 Gamete
- 65 Part of the Lousianna Purchase located on the west bank of the Mississippi that became a state in 1846
- 66 Advertisement
- 68 Poisonous
- 70 Watercraft
- 72 Sweet potato
- 73 Leave out
- 75 Round and fluffy
- 78 Male child
- 79 Used in comparison
- 80 Ice pellets
- 82 A rabbi
- 84 Father
- 85 Non-transferable
- 89 Behave
- 92 Pole
- 93 Registered Nurse
- 94 Post Office
- 95 Silent
- 96 Deep vocal sound of a cow

- 97 Oak nuts
 - 98 Stopper
 - 101 Planned series of future events
 - 104 A hymn, "Deum"
 - 105 Person living nearby
 - 106 French painter and co-founder of the Dada movement
- DOWN**
- 1 Largest city in PA
 - 2 Assess
 - 3 Archaic form of yours
 - 4 Unyielding
 - 6 Title
 - 7 Tall rounded vases
 - 8 Learn by habit
 - 9 Printer's measure
 - 10 Begin
 - 13 Local Income Tax office
 - 14 Train (abbrev)
 - 15 Manner of governing
 - 20 Preserve

- 21 Hearing organ
- 22 Esteem
- 24 Curve
- 25 Filament
- 29 Christian Era
- 32 33rd President of 'the U.S.A.
- 35 What the Swedes call giant edible puffballs
- 36 Lyric poem
- 37 Taper or votive
- 39 Social code
- 41 Lacking necessities
- 42 One of Shakespeare's legendary kings
- 43 Missouri (abbrev)
- 44 Kentucky (abbrev)
- 49 Poetic form of 'before'
- 52 Authority to perform
- 56 Peace (Latin)
- 57 Merger
- 58 Centigram
- 60 Spike
- 61 Method

- 62 Round Dutch cheese
- 66 Heart-beat
- 69 Centimeter
- 70 Stability
- 71 Primate
- 74 Metrical foot
- 76 Banner
- 77 Not encumbered
- 80 Small marine fish
- 81 Never-

- sink, Rondout or Shokan
- 83 Trudge
- 86 Celebrity
- 87 Under-growth
- 88 Lieutenant (abbrev)
- 90 Center
- 91 Also
- 94 Inquire impertinently
- 99 Regarding
- 100 Circulating life force
- 102 Egyptian deity
- 103 Chem. element Argon

OLD-FASHIONED HOT COCOA

- 1/3 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 3/4 cup white sugar
- 1 pinch salt
- 1/3 cup boiling water
- 3 1/2 cups milk
- 3/4 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup half-and-half cream
- Mini marshmallows for garnish

Combine the cocoa, sugar and pinch of salt in a saucepan. Blend in the boiling water. Bring this mixture to an easy boil while you stir. Simmer and stir for about 2 minutes. Watch that it doesn't scorch. Stir in 3 1/2 cups of milk and heat until very hot, but do not boil! Remove from heat and add vanilla. Divide between 4 mugs. Add the cream to the mugs of cocoa to cool it to drinking temperature.

HOT COCOA MIX

- 10 cups dry milk powder
- 4 3/4 cups sifted confectioners' sugar
- 1 3/4 cups unsweetened cocoa powder

In a large mixing bowl, combine milk powder, confectioner's sugar and cocoa powder. Stir till thoroughly combined. Store cocoa mixture in an airtight container. Makes about 15 cups mix, or enough for about 45 servings. For 1 serving, place 1/3 cup cocoa mixture in a coffee cup or mug, and add 3/4 cup boiling water. Stir to dissolve. Add 1/2 & 1/2 to cool. Top with dollop of whipped cream or a few mini-marshmallows

数字は単数に限る

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

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

26 7 12 25 6 7 24 3 26 10 24 5 16 7 3 16 10 4

15 23 10 12 12 3 6 7 15 12 10 4 26 7 15 23 8



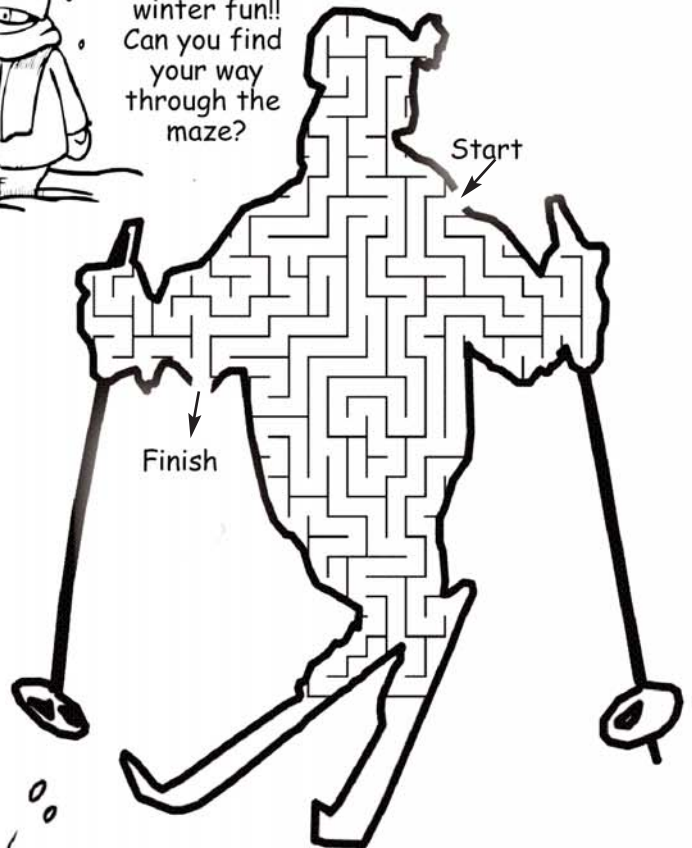
Can you find five differences between the two pictures?



Kids' Winter Fun Page

It's time for winter fun!! Can you find your way through the maze?

L. Comando

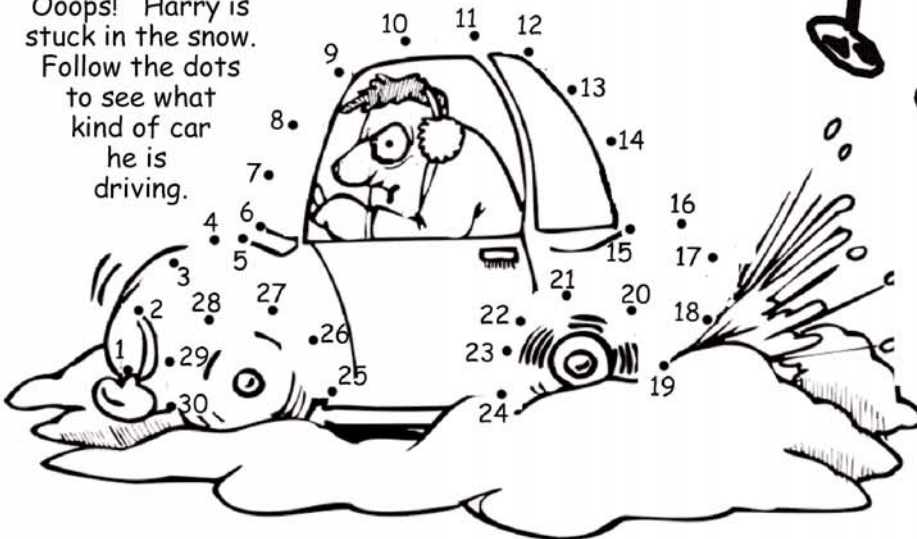


WINTER WORDSEARCH

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

SNOW
 SKIING
 SKATING
 SCARF
 STUCK
 SNOWBALL
 SLEIGH
 SNOWMAN

Oops! Harry is stuck in the snow. Follow the dots to see what kind of car he is driving.



How many words can you make from SNOWSTORM

CRYPTOGRAM KEY

16	1	5	24	12	18	17	23	6	21	25	11	4	7	26	13	14	10	8	15	19	9	3	22	20	2
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

The Daniel Pierce Library

offers

{Coding from Home}

Start Anytime!



Calling ALL Techies Grades 5th and Up

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Learn to upload photos, illustrations, videos and audio - and manipulate them
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Skills learned can be applied anywhere.

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Emails will be sent out once registered with link to join.



Open to Tri-Valley residents. Online registration is required at www.danielpiercelibrary.org

LEGALS/PUBLIC NOTICES

**TOWN OF NEVERSINK
NOTICE: ALTERNATE MEMBER POSI-
TION(S) AVAILABLE ON THE PLANNING
BOARD AND/OR ZONING BOARD OF
APPEALS**

The Town of Neversink announces an Alternate Member position(s) available on the Planning Board and/or ZBA. The alternate members will serve when a regular member is unable to participate on a matter before their Board. Regular attendance at meeting is required.

Please send a letter of interest to: Chris Mathews, Supervisor, Town of Neversink, PO Box 307, Grahamsville, NY 12740 or drop it off at the Town Hall. Letters of interest should be received by January 29, 2021. Please address any questions to Chris Mathews, Supervisor at (845)985-2262, ext. 301. 1/21

Be advised that Tri-Valley Central School will have the BOCES Fire Inspector perform our Annual Fire & Safety Inspection of February 2, 2021. JB/am 1/21

Please Be Advised:

The Village of Monticello Planning Board will be having a meeting by video conference pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order 202.1, and applicable COVID guidelines, Executive Orders of the State and Resolutions of the Village, the public will not be permitted to attend in person, on Wednesday, January 20th, 2021 at 7:00pm. The meeting will be available to the Public via the ZOOM app and the following information will be needed to access the meeting:

Topic: Village of Monticello Planning Board Meeting

Time: Jan 20, 2021 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83918793178?pwd=NUI6V0VBOGNtb0s4a0ZWd0RhdEtOdz09>

Meeting ID: 839 1879 3178

Passcode: 222079

One tap mobile

+16465588656,, 83918793178#,,,,*222079#
US (New York)

+13017158592,, 83918793178#,,,,*222079#
US (Washington D.C)

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

Meeting ID: 839 1879 3178

Passcode: 222079

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kdrxzAlhzm>

All are welcomed to view.

Village of Monticello

Janine Gandy-McKinney, Village Clerk

**Tri-Valley CSD
Board Meeting**

Thursday, January 21, 2021

February 4, 2021

February 18, 2021

Anticipated proposed Executive Session 6:00 p.m.,
Regular Meetings Begin at 7:00 p.m.

Meetings will be conducted on YouTube Live

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DEC Announces Release of Draft Sunfish and Crappie Management Plan

Proposed Plan Reflects Current Angler Views and Science to Provide Sustainable and Unique Fishing Opportunities for Popular Panfish Public Comments Accepted through Feb. 15, 2021

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos today announced the release of a draft Sunfish and Crappie Management Plan for public review and comment. The draft plan proposes more conservative statewide fishing regulations and establishes the "Big Panfish Initiative" that aims to provide unique opportunities by managing for larger-sized crappie and sunfish in certain waters. The draft plan is available on DEC's website and public comments will be accepted through Feb. 15, 2021. "Sunfish and crappie are some of New York's most popular panfish species and with this plan, DEC is balancing conservation and fishing opportunities for more sustainable fisheries in waters across the state," Commissioner Seggos said. "DEC encourages New York's anglers to share their input on this draft management plan and the Big Panfish Initiative to help develop destination fisheries for sunfish and crappie and complement our ongoing efforts to expand and diversify New York State's freshwater angling opportunities."

In the draft plan, fishery managers propose management objectives after considering both the current science on sunfish (bluegill, pumpkinseed, and redbreast) and crappie management and the opinions of New York anglers. Results from an online angler survey (PDF) indicate support for more conservative sunfish fishing regulations. Recent research on the impacts of sunfish and crappie harvest regulations indicates that lowering daily harvest limits or increasing minimum size limits can result in improvements to population size structure, which is likely to improve fishing quality and sustainability for these species.

Elements of the draft plan include:

- o Reducing the sunfish statewide daily harvest limit from 50 to 25 fish;
- o Increasing the crappie statewide minimum size limit from nine to 10 inches;

Establishing the Big Panfish Initiative, which includes:

- o Implementing an eight-inch minimum size limit and a daily harvest limit of 15 for sunfish in the following waters:
 - o Blydenburgh Lake (DEC Region 1);
 - o Lake Welch (Region 3);
 - o Canadarago Lake and Goodyear Lake (Region 4);
 - o Saratoga Lake (Region 5);
 - o Sixtown Pond and Red Lake (Region 6);
 - o Cazenovia Lake and Otisco Lake (Region 7);
 - o Honeoye Lake (Region 8); and
 - o Silver Lake (Region 9)
- o Implementing a 12-inch minimum size limit and a daily harvest limit of 10 for crappie in the following waters:
 - o Muscote Reservoir (Region 3);
 - o Saratoga Lake (Region 5);
 - o Delta Lake (Region 6);
 - o Cazenovia Lake and Otisco Lake (Region 7);



William A. Brenner ESQ.

Attorney-At-Law

157 Main Street, (Route 55 at Route 42) P.O. Box 369
Grahamsville, NY 12740

Very Important

Have you made a "Simple Will"?

- 1) Spouse with children or
- 2) Couples living together
- 3) Second marriages

[must personally meet and discuss your ideas, plans & options]

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- o Waneta/Lamoka lakes and Honeoye Lake (Region 8); and
- o Bear Lake (Region 9)
- o Evaluating the impacts of these fishing regulation changes to sunfish and crappie population structure and through periodic checks of angler satisfaction.

Comments on the draft plan should be submitted via e-mail to fishplans@dec.ny.gov or via mail to Jeff Loukmas, NYSDEC, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-4753; include the subject line "Sunfish and Crappie Management Plan." Comments will be accepted through Feb. 15, 2021.

Metzger Deletes Constituents Former senator scrubbed constituent information in midst of COVID-19 pandemic

Middletown, NY - On her way out the door, former state Senator Jen Metzger did one final favor for her constituents - she deleted them. Tens of thousands of constituent records, concerns, and requests housed in the Senate constituent management system were purged on Metzger's orders.

"While we had a vigorous campaign, I fully expected Jen Metzger to act professionally and do what was right for her constituents during the transition," said Senator Mike Martucci (R, C, I - New Hampton). "We are in the midst of a global pandemic and I know that she had requests from everyday citizens looking for information about accessing the life-saving vaccine. Stuningly, the former Senator deleted all their concerns and requests. She may have been trying to hurt me, but instead she injured her former constituents. It's unfortunate and sad."

Records of calls, emails, letters, and other constituent contacts are tracked by Senate offices via a program called Bluebird. This allows offices to maintain notes about requests that come in and make sure that residents get the feedback and follow up they deserve. Presumably, Metzger dealt with tens of thousands of constituent issues over her two years. Judging by the lack of information she handed over to her successor that was either not true or, on her orders, those records vanished.

"I would encourage anyone who had an outstanding issue pending with the former Senator, or those with a new concern, to contact our office immediately. You can be sure we will remember to hit save because, unlike my predecessor, I plan to put people before politics," Martucci concluded.

If you wish to download this week's Church bulletin from St. Peter's, Liberty, NY please go to: stpeters/bulletin

As New York begins to open allowing churches to once have services, we encourage our readers to contact their individual church or parish for updated information.

St. Mark's UM Church
68 Clinton St., Napanoch

**YARD AND CLOTHING SALE
CLOSED
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**



Sundown United Methodist Church

Covered Dish Supper

5:30 pm

To be Announced

Sundown United Methodist Church Hall



Grahamsville United Methodist Church

Saturday Thrift Sale

9:00 am to 12 noon
To be Announced

Thrift Sale
9am-12 noon
Luncheon
11 am - 12:30 pm
To be Announced



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Sunday, 8 am Service of Holy Communion, except: Second Saturday of each month, 12:00 noon

Music by Fred VanWagner
Coffee hour follows service
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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 5:45 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



Sundown United Methodist Church
Peakamoose Rd., Sundown
Sunday Worship Service - 8:30 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study - 6:45 p.m.
Pastor Seung Jin Hong
845-985-2283
e-mail: Sundownumc@gmail.com

Grahamsville United Methodist Church
Rte. 55, Grahamsville
Sunday Worship Service - 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School for grades k-7 - 10:30 a.m.
Mid-week Bible Study opportunities available!

Regular Office Hours
Wednesday 9 am - Noon
Friday 3 pm to 6 pm

If you wish to make an appointment to talk to Pastor Seung Jin Hong please call 845-985-2283

For all other information contact Pastor Seung Jin Hong.
845-985-2283 • e-mail: Grahamsvilleumc@gmail.com

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

Church Hall available for rent
Call - 845-985-2041 for information

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**

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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., Hurleyville, NY. For information call 845-434-8044.

Ans to last week's Crossword



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

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

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Gillibrand, Murray, DeLauro, Pressley Call on Biden Administration and Congressional Leadership to Extend and Expand Emergency Paid Leave Provisions

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Today, U.S. Senators Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) and Patty Murray (D-WA), top Democrat on the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee, and U.S. Representatives Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) and Ayanna Pressley (D-MA) sent a letter urging the incoming Biden administration and congressional leadership to extend and expand the COVID-19 emergency paid leave provisions that expired at the end of last year. The bipartisan paid leave sick day and family leave provisions passed under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) are critical to the public health response and economic recovery. Despite excluding many workers, previous provisions gave an estimated 22 million workers nationwide the ability to stay home when sick, helping to slow the spread of coronavirus. The provisions also prevented workers from having to choose between their paycheck or their health when they needed to stay home to care for themselves or a loved one. As coronavirus cases continue to surge across the country, Gillibrand, Murray, DeLauro, and Pressley are fighting to include emergency paid leave provisions in the next coronavirus relief package that would close previous loopholes that left out millions of workers and provide all employees with 14 emergency paid sick days and 12 weeks emergency paid family and medical leave.

“As your incoming administration and Congress outline new plans to fully respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting economic crisis, we urge you to reinstate the emergency COVID paid leave that expired at the end of last year,” wrote the lawmakers. “The United States is among the few developed countries that do not have a national paid sick days and paid family and medical leave policy. Over eight in ten working Americans lack access to comprehensive paid leave. The dire effects have never been more pronounced than they are now. We need people who are sick to be able to afford to stay home in order to curb the spread of the virus, and to keep their jobs to stem the tide of job loss.” The lawmakers continued, “The success of the emergency paid leave program can easily be increased in scale by closing the loopholes - including those for the largest corporations in the world - that left 75% of workers unable to access emergency leave. If we don't extend emergency paid leave to all workers and towards a permanent national paid leave program, even more working parents will be forced, once again, to make impossible choices between caring for their family and earning a paycheck.”

Recent data on job loss revealed that employers cut 140,000 jobs in December - and each of those jobs lost belonged to a woman. In particular, Black women and Latinas lost their jobs, while White women made significant gains. These women of color not only work in some of the hardest hit sectors of our economy, they are also more likely to be employed in roles that lack paid sick leave and the ability to work from home. Without emergency paid sick leave, more women of color are at risk of losing their livelihoods.

Virtual Family Caregiver Support Groups Continue

SULLIVAN COUNTY, NY - Family caregiver support groups are offered several times a month, providing guidance, community resources and educational materials to individuals assisting an aging or ill family member or friend. Hosted virtually until further notice, Caring for Caregivers support groups are facilitated by Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) Sullivan County's Caregiver Resource Center, in partnership with Office for the Aging of Sullivan County.

Caregivers who care for a person with a dementia, such as Alzheimer's disease, can join meetings on the third Tuesday of the month at 5pm.

Family caregivers can join weekly meetings on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. These meetings are open to all types of caregiving (not specific to any disease).

Registration is required to participate in all support group meetings. To register, contact CCE Sullivan County Dependent Care Educator Bonnie Lewis, RN at 845-292-6180 ext. 122 or register online at <http://sullivanccce.org/events>. Meetings can be joined by computer or phone.

The AARP curriculum “Caring for Those You Care About” and other NYS Area Agency on Aging materials will be used as a resource during meetings.

This co-partnered program between Cornell Cooperative Extension and Office for the Aging of Sullivan County is supported by a grant from the NYS Office for the Aging.

CCE prioritizes the health, safety, and well-being of the communities we serve. CCE offers technical assistance by appointment, email or phone, and many programs and meetings have transitioned to online or outdoor spaces. CCE phone and email lines of communication are OPEN, and offerings can be found online at www.sullivanccce.org

Gillibrand, Maloney Announce Signing of Margaret Corbin Bill into Law *Manhattan VA is the First in the Country to be Named After a Woman Veteran*

Washington, D.C. --- Today, U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, incoming Chair of the Senate Armed Services Personnel Subcommittee, and U.S. Representative Carolyn B. Maloney, announced the signing of H.R. 1925 into law. The bill renames the Manhattan VA the "Margaret Cochran Corbin Campus of the New York Harbor Health Care System."

The bill was introduced in the Senate by Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) and in the House by Congresswoman Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY).

"I am proud to bring this win home for New York, and for women veterans like Corbin, who fought in the revolutionary war," said Senator Gillibrand.

"While we must continue working to ensure women vets get the same care and benefits their male counterparts receive, this VA renaming is an important gesture to making sure that all who serve get the highest quality care possible once they come home. This would never have gotten done without Congresswoman Maloney and I thank her for her tireless work."

"I am thrilled that New York City will be home to the first VA hospital named for a woman veteran," said Congresswoman Maloney. "Although women have fought for our nation since its founding, women service members rarely receive the same recognition as their male counterparts. Margaret Corbin's legacy of service endures in the tradition of empowering all veterans, regardless of gender. I'm proud to have partnered with Senator Gillibrand to bring this win home to New York."

"We are so proud to have advocated for this VA campus designation honoring Margaret Cochran Corbin, highlighting her service and sacrifice back in 1776, and echoing the service of so many other women who have served throughout our nation's history. NYC Veterans Alliance will continue to advocate for all veterans to see their own service reflected in the institutions that serve us. We thank Senator Gillibrand, Rep. Carolyn Maloney, and all of the bill's co-sponsors for their leadership in prioritizing representation of women veterans here at our VA hospital in Manhattan," said James Fitzgerald, Deputy Director, NYC Veterans Alliance.

"IAVA applauds the leadership of Senator Gillibrand and Rep. Maloney in bringing overdue recognition to this trailblazing local New York Revolutionary War veteran," said IAVA CEO Jeremy Butler. "Their legislation rightly underscores women's service on the front lines, fighting America's wars since before our independence."

"Women veterans' needs and contributions have historically, and for too long, been underrepresented in the VA. In 2017, the New York Legal Assistance Group opened the nation's first legal clinics to serve exclusively women veterans at the Manhattan VA Medical Center. In doing so, NYLAG hoped to help shift the VA's male-dominated atmosphere and create a more supportive space for women. Renaming the Manhattan VA after Margaret Corbin is not only a huge milestone, but important validation to the many women veterans who have served our country that their service and contributions mattered. We applaud all those involved for making this tremendous step forward possible. NYLAG will continue to advocate on behalf of our women veteran clients in their fight for greater justice and

recognition." said Beth Goldman, Executive Director, New York Legal Assistance Group.

"Women have always borne the battle, even if not recognized for their valiant efforts, so it is encouraging to finally see VA medical centers being named for them. The people we choose to honor speaks to who we are as a community and a country. Veteran Advocacy Project celebrates the Margaret Cochran Corbin Campus in New York and all of the women who have served and sacrificed for our democracy." said Coco Culhane, Executive Director, Veteran Advocacy Project

Margaret Corbin was born in Pennsylvania on November 12, 1751. She accompanied her husband when he joined the Revolutionary Army and supported the Army's efforts by caring for injured and sick soldiers, cooking, cleaning, and helping her husband load his cannon. On November 16, 1776, Corbin took her husband's place at the battle of Fort Mifflin in Philadelphia after he was fatally wounded, where she was then shot by enemy fire and severely wounded. In recognition of her service and injuries, Corbin was awarded a lifelong pension, making her the first woman to receive a pension from the United States through military service. Corbin passed away in 1789 in Highland Falls, New York, and she is honored nearby at West Point as a hero of the Revolutionary War

Gillibrand Applauds Biden's American Rescue Plan, Inclusion of Emergency Paid Leave, Health Force and State and Local Funding

Washington, D.C. - U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand applauded President-elect Biden's American Rescue Plan, which includes among its provisions emergency paid sick and family leave, a Health Force proposal, and direct state and local funding. Gillibrand has spent months fighting for these critical measures, which will help American families recover from the unprecedented public health and economic crisis caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.

"I applaud President-elect Biden's American Rescue Plan, which will help working families recover from this unprecedented public health and economic crisis. While every aspect of this plan is critical, I'm proud that it contains several of my key priorities, including emergency paid leave, a Health Force proposal and direct funding for state and local governments.

"Paid leave is one of the single most impactful policies we can enact to help working families survive the public health and economic crisis. The emergency paid leave provision will ensure that no one has to choose between a paycheck and safeguarding the health of their family."

Gillibrand, the foremost champion of paid leave in the U.S. Senate, has long pushed for emergency paid sick and family leave in Covid relief legislation. In March, she helped craft the PAID Leave Act, and on January 13, sent a letter to President-elect Biden and congressional leadership calling for emergency paid leave in the upcoming aid package.

Gillibrand continued, "The public health jobs program closely mirrors my Health Force proposal, and will put one hundred thousand public health workers into communities to aid vaccine outreach and contact tracing, creating jobs in the hardest hit communities." (Contd. Pg 23)

Gillibrand Applauds Biden's American Rescue Plan, Inclusion of Emergency Paid Leave, Health Force and State and Local Funding

(From Pg. 22) In April 2020, Gillibrand and Senator Michael Bennet (D-CO) released their proposal to provide jobs for thousands of recently unemployed Americans and directly support the nation's efforts to recover from the current crisis through vaccine distribution and contact tracing. In January 2021, Gillibrand announced that she would introduce Health Force legislation as her first bill in the new Congress.

Gillibrand concluded, "For months, I have worked to get funding for our state and local governments and helped write the framework to deliver it. This is funding for firefighters, nurses and teachers, and it will ensure we aren't forced to cut these vital services in the midst of a pandemic.

The American Rescue Plan demonstrates that President-elect Biden's administration understands the urgency of this crisis. I am looking forward to helping pass the American Rescue Plan to deliver much-needed relief to the American people and to put our country on the path to recovery."

Throughout 2020, Gillibrand traveled across New York State to stand with state and local officials and call for direct funding for state and local governments. Along with Senator Schumer and Senate colleagues, Gillibrand also authored the Direct Support for Communities Act, which would create a local relief fund to help cities, towns, villages, and counties address costs associated with lost revenues, and would help avoid cuts to essential services or local

SC Launching Large-Scale Vaccination Effort End of January

Liberty, NY - Following the initial rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine with local healthcare organizations and the subsequent major expansion of those eligible to receive the vaccine, Sullivan County Public Health Services will undertake mass COVID-19 vaccinations as early as the week of January 25 at SUNY Sullivan in Loch Sheldrake, supplies permitting.

"As a key leader in the response to coronavirus, we plan to order 1,000 doses of the vaccine so that we can significantly increase inoculations," Public Health Director Nancy McGraw affirmed. "We are eager to do what we've long planned to do: vaccinate every Sullivan County resident that we can."

As of this week, Governor Andrew Cuomo announced that a wide range of New Yorkers - from those aged 65 and older to firefighters and teachers - are eligible to get either the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine for COVID-19. However, supplies have been extremely limited, and currently local providers are awaiting shipments before additional doses can be given out.

"Sullivan County government is determined to make the vaccine as widely available as possible, and so we're carrying out our plan to offer convenient, safe and efficient Point-Of-Dispensing (POD) sites, within the parameters set by the State and Federal governments," explained District 2 Legislator Nadia Rajs, chair of the Legislature's Health & Family Services Committee. "We will do this in concert with a wide range of community partners."

SUNY Sullivan's Paul Gerry Fieldhouse will be the first large POD site, with other locations added as vaccine becomes more available. Registration information will be provided once vaccine shipment is confirmed.

"In the meantime, we are looking forward to vaccinating eligible community members through smaller weekly public health clinics starting January 20," McGraw added. "We plan to increase that to twice-weekly beginning mid-February by registration/appointment-only for the first group needing their sec-

ond shot. We will have more information regarding the registration process once we hear about our vaccine shipments."

More information will be posted as soon as it's available at the County's vaccine information page: <https://sullivanny.us/Departments/Publichealth/COVIDvaccines>. A recorded voice message with the latest updates is also available at 845-513-2268.

The County's dashboard for updates on the number of active cases locally can be found at <https://sullivanny.us/Departments/Publichealth/Coronavirus>

"Updates will be provided as new information becomes available for Sullivan County residents," McGraw affirmed. "In the meantime, we ask the public to be patient, please stay safe, wear your mask, social distance, and wash your hands."

For more information, you can also contact the State at 1-833-NYS-4-VAX (1-833-697-4829).



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.

- 1/13/21 Town of Neversink Town Board Meeting - Regular
 1/19/21 Town of Neversink Zoning Board of Appeals 7:30 pm
 1/24/21 Time and the Valleys Museum- Virtual Program – **Mysterious Stone Sites in the Hudson Valley** 2 p.m
 Email the Museum at info@timeandthevalleymuseum.org to register,
 2/3/21 Town of Neversink Planning Board Meeting 7 pm (App submission Dt. 1/20/21)
 2/9/21 Town of Denning Town Board and Business meeting at Denning Town Hall 6:00 pm (Please note: 2nd Tuesday)
 2/10/21 Town of Neversink Town Board Meeting - Regular
 2/15/21 **Town of Neversink Holiday - President's Day**
 2/16/21 Town of Neversink Zoning Board of Appeals 7:30 pm

Save the Date!

Matthew Bertholf's 10th Anniversary Memorial Horseshoe Tournament Sunday, July 11, 2021
 Neversink Fire Department Pavilion.

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.

PLEASE CONTACT A MEMBER OF EACH ORGANIZATION FOR UPDATES ON OPENINGS

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

Ulster County Legislature
Weekly Update For The Week Of
January 18 - January 22, 2021

Monday, January 18

- o Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - County Offices Closed

Tuesday, January 19

- o No Meetings

Wednesday, January 20

- o 9:00 AM - Ulster County Industrial Development Agency Board of Directors Powered by Zoom Meetings. Meeting ID: 816 4111 9687, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656
- o 11:00 AM (or immediately following UC IDA) Ulster County Capital Resources Corporation Powered by Zoom Meetings. Meeting ID: 816 4111 9687, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656

Thursday, January 21

- o 5:30 PM - Youth Board Powered by Zoom Meetings. Meeting ID: 962 9215 3563, Passcode: 258534, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656

Friday, January 22

- o 12 Noon - Resolution Deadline

Regards,
 Jay Mahler, Deputy Clerk
 Ulster County Legislature

Claryville FD
Volunteers Needed
for Associate and
Active Members

Please contact
 Chief VanDenberg at
claryvillefd@gmail.com
 for any questions

Tri-Valley Elementary School
WANTED:
Local establishments to display
student KINDNESS artwork

Contact Penny Hennessey in the Main Office at 985-2296 ext. 5306 or pennyhennessey@trivalleycsd.org. All artwork and frames will be provided by the District and refreshed bi-annually.

Help your local business grow
Advertise locally in the
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!

SC to Begin Vaccination Clinics Jan 20

Liberty, NY - "Sullivan County Public Health Services (SCPHS) is very excited by the Governor's announcement regarding the vaccination of Priority Group 1A and now, Priority Group 1B," announced Public Health Director Nancy McGraw today.

"We have been partnering with Garnet Health and coordinating planning efforts Countywide, providing staffing and logistical support for the ongoing vaccination efforts," she explained. "At the same time, our Epidemiology staff remain extremely busy, conducting COVID-19 case investigations and contact-tracing efforts."

The County's dashboard for updates on the number of active cases locally can be found at:

<https://sullivanny.us/Departments/Publichealth/Coronavirus>.

"In addition, we are looking forward to vaccinating eligible community members through public health clinics once we receive vaccine from New York State and appointments become available," McGraw added. "We have scheduled weekly vaccination clinics starting Jan. 20, and then twice-weekly beginning

mid-February by registration/appointment-only for the first group needing their second shot. We will have more information regarding the registration process once we hear about our vaccine shipments."

Sullivan County Public Health Services is also planning a large Point-Of-Dispensing (POD) clinic for the near future when additional vaccine becomes more widely available and more of the public becomes eligible to receive vaccine, so please check back at the County's vaccine information page: <https://sullivanny.us/Departments/Publichealth/COVIDvaccines>

In the meantime, Garnet Health's website details their plans for continuing vaccination efforts at <https://crmcny.org/coronavirus>. Garnet also has a 24/7 phone line with a regularly updated recording at 845-333-8978 (messages cannot be left at this number).

"Updates will be provided as new information becomes available for Sullivan County residents," McGraw affirmed. "In the meantime, we ask the public to be patient, please stay safe, wear your mask, social distance, and wash your hands."

Who can get a COVID-19 vaccine in NYS?

As of 1/13/21

Health Care and other High Risk Workers

- High-risk hospital workers (emergency room workers, ICU staff and Pulmonary Department staff)
- Residents and staff at nursing homes and other congregate care facilities
- Federally Qualified Health Center employees
- EMS workers
- Coroners, medical examiners and certain funeral workers
- Staff and residents at OP-WDD, OMH and OASAS facilities
- Urgent Care providers
- Individuals administering COVID-19 vaccines, including local health department staff
- All Outpatient/Ambulatory front-line, high-risk health care workers of any age who provide direct in-person patient care
- All staff who are in direct contact with patients (i.e., intake staff)
- Staff of nursing homes/skilled nursing facilities who did not receive COVID vaccination through the Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care Program
- All front-line, high-risk public health workers who have direct contact with patients, including those conducting COVID-19 tests, handling specimens and vaccinations
- This includes, but is not limited to,
 - ◊ Doctors who work in private medical practices and their staff
 - ◊ Doctors who work in hospital-affiliated medical practices and their staff
 - ◊ Doctors who work in public health clinics and their staff
 - ◊ Registered Nurses
 - ◊ Specialty medical practices of all types
 - ◊ Dentists and Orthodontists and their staff
 - ◊ Psychiatrists and Psychologists and their staff
 - ◊ Physical Therapists and their staff
 - ◊ Optometrists and their staff
 - ◊ Pharmacists and Pharmacy Aides
 - ◊ Home care workers
 - ◊ Hospice workers

Seniors and Essential Workers

- People 65 and older
- Certain front-line essential workers
- First responders
- Individuals residing/working in homeless shelters
- Public facing grocery store workers
- Public transit workers
- Public safety workers
- Adult care givers of adult/children with high-risk chronic medical conditions
- Teachers, education workers, and in-person college faculty

For more information, visit
www.covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov

All those currently eligible should schedule appointments, remembering that the currently eligible population may take up to 14 weeks to vaccinate.

Those not currently eligible will be added as federal allocations of vaccine increase.

Please use the NYS "Am I Eligible" Tool if you are uncertain about your eligibility for vaccine.



NYSAC
NEW YORK STATE
ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES



https://www.nysac.org/files/1_13_21%20Vaccination%20Timeline%20One%20Pager.pdf

Call hospital to get on their list: 794 3300

Sunset Lake Local Development Corporation Delivers Recommendations to Legislature Three Companies Under Consideration to Operate Care Center

Monticello, NY - The Sunset Lake Local Development Corporation (LDC) Board today sent the Sullivan County Legislature a list of three recommended companies to operate the Care Center at Sunset Lake (the Sullivan County Adult Care Center) and the Certified Home Health Agency (CHHA), both based in Liberty.

By unanimous vote on Monday, the five-member LDC Board has recommended the following three firms, listed in no particular order:

- o Infinite Care Management, headquartered in Brooklyn and operator of 18 nursing facilities in New York State and Florida, www.infinitecare.com

- o VestraCare/The McGuire Group/Absolut, headquartered in Buffalo and operator of 19 nursing facilities in New York State and Michigan, www.mcguiregroup.com

- o The Grand Healthcare System, headquartered in Valley Stream and operator of 17 nursing facilities in New York State, www.thegrandhealthcare.com

“The LDC has undertaken the appropriate due diligence in reviewing the six responses received to our request for proposals, researching the backgrounds of the applicants and the care provided by their facilities, and meeting personally with the four finalists to question them directly, ultimately selecting three firms for the Legislature to interview,” Board Chairman Lowell Feldman noted. “I thank my fellow board members for the time and care they’ve devoted to this important effort.”

“After meeting and interviewing four potential management groups, we came to an agreement for the three candidates we felt would suit the needs of the County and the affected employees and residents,” explained board member Nadia Rajs, the District 2 Legislator who chairs the Legislature’s Health & Family Services Committee. “After presenting these recommendations to my fellow legislators, we will continue our discussions to reach consensus on the management group that will best serve the people of Sullivan County.”

“The LDC worked diligently, thoroughly researching those we recommended,” affirmed board member Albee Bockman. “I am pleased with the process thus far and am honored to work alongside a very fine group of professionals. I have no doubt the Care Center will be managed pro-

fessionally and will offer the utmost in care to our residents.”

Added Board Vice Chair William Chellis, “I’m hopeful that as we move forward in this process, both the Legislature and the people of Sullivan County will be confident that the Care Center has a bright future.”

“The LDC Board recognized at the very beginning of its work that the Care Center and CHHA are vital resources in Sullivan County, and we intend for them to remain that way,” board member Michelle Huck stated. “Our recommendations to the Legislature reflect our belief that any of these candidates could provide a high level of care for anyone who needs the short-term and/or long-term services available through the Care Center.”

The LDC will continue to vet the operations of these companies via personal visits in the weeks to come, and the Legislature will be scheduling public presentations from all three in the near future. Once the Legislature chooses an operator, the LDC will enter into contract negotiations with the chosen firm. It is the intent of the Legislature to ensure the Care Center and CHHA remain in operation via the new operator.

About the LDC

The Sunset Lake LDC is a nonprofit corporation created by the Sullivan County Legislature in 2020 to handle the leasing of the Care Center at Sunset Lake and the operation of the Certified Home Health Agency (CHHA), subject to approval by the Legislature. Overseen by a five-member board, the LDC currently owns the Care Center and associated property. Its mandate from the Legislature is to recommend three potential operators of the Care Center and CHHA, based (in no particular order) on price, experience with the operation of long- and short-term care facilities, demonstrated quality of care in those facilities, and plans to sustain and enhance these services.

About the Care Center

The Care Center at Sunset Lake, formally known as the Sullivan County Adult Care Center, is a 146-bed, 24/7 facility located on Sunset Lake Road in Liberty. Operated by the County of Sullivan since 1990, the Care Center’s approximately 150 employees offer long-term nursing care and short-term rehabilitation services.

About the Certified Home Health Agency

The Certified Home Health Agency (CHHA), operated through Sullivan County Public Health Services, provides a range of medical, social, assistive and other services in an individual’s home when a person needs follow-up care after a hospital visit or requires long-term care. These services are provided by nurses, the rapists, home health aides and other direct-care staff under the direction of a physician’s order. The focus includes prevention, recuperation, and/or an alternative to higher-cost institutional care that would otherwise be provided in a hospital or nursing facility.

Sen. Gillibrand Discussion with HuffPost: Pinpoints the Key to COVID-19 Relief and Her Insight on the Inauguration and Impeachment of President Trump

WASHINGTON, D.C. - In case you missed it, U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, champion of paid medical and family leave in the U.S. Senate, today spoke with HuffPost about her latest push to pass emergency paid leave provisions in the new Congress. Senator Gillibrand today sent a letter alongside U.S. Senator Patty Murray (D-WA) and U.S. Representatives Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) and Ayanna Pressley (D-MA) urging the incoming Biden administration and congressional leadership to extend and expand the COVID-19 emergency paid leave provisions that expired at the end of last year. The members called paid sick and family leave "an idea whose time has not only come, but one that is an elegant solution to the epidemic we're in right now."

There's one key step Congress could take to help the millions of women struggling to care for children at home due to school and day care closures, Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.) told HuffPost: pass paid sick and family leave in the next COVID-19 relief package.

Millions of women have left the workforce since the start of the pandemic, and this could stem the tide.

"This is an idea whose time has not only come, but one that is an elegant solution to the epidemic we're in right now," said Gillibrand, who has long advocated for paid leave.

Gillibrand, along with Sen. Patty Murray (D-Wash.) and Reps. Rosa DeLauro (D-Conn.) and Ayanna Pressley (D-Mass.), sent a letter to the incoming Biden administration and congressional leaders on Wednesday, urging them to prioritize paid leave.

Emergency paid leave provisions passed in Congress with bipartisan support in March, but the benefits expired at the end of the year. And those measures only covered workers at some small businesses. The U.S. is among the few developed countries that do not mandate paid time off to sick workers.

In their letter, the lawmakers pressed President-elect Joe Biden, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) and incoming Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) to extend that leave and expand it to cover more workers.

"We need people who are sick to be able to afford to stay home in order to curb the spread of the virus, and to keep their jobs to be able to provide for their families," they wrote.

HuffPost spoke with Gillibrand about paid leave, how the Senate can balance COVID-19 relief and impeachment, and various other crises facing the new administration.

Does it feel like an uphill battle around paid leave at a time like this, when there's just so much going on?

I think it will feel less like an uphill battle after the inauguration. I'm going to work very hard next week, to make sure it is included in the next COVID package.

Why prioritize paid leave? There's also vaccine rollout, state and local aid and extending unemployment.

Obviously, they're all extremely high priorities. But one of the most significant facts is that last month there were 140,000 jobs lost in the United States. And that job loss was 100% women. Most were women of color.

So we are in a crisis in this country, where women wage earners are losing their jobs, losing their ability to provide for their family, and losing their long term earning potential.

One of the best ways to fix that issue is to offer universal paid leave to all workers.

COVID and this epidemic and the economic collapse have really fallen on the shoulders of a lot of women. Because when children aren't allowed to go to school because of COVID,

[women are] often designated immediately as the caregiver who has to stay home.

How do you envision the Senate balancing this COVID relief package with an impeachment trial?

Well, the impeachment trial is necessary because of the crimes and misdemeanors committed by President Trump. You certainly can walk and chew gum at the same time.

I believe you can absolutely complete our work on this COVID package. At the same time, we can start a trial to convict President Trump of inciting violence, of inciting a riot, inciting sedition, as well as the efforts he made to undermine the electoral results in Georgia.

It's not that difficult to write the COVID bill now. We've been working on this bill since May, since the House introduced a robust COVID package. The Senate has been trying to perfect those ideas.

Why did pay leave expire in the first place? It's such a no-brainer.

First of all, [it's] something that Mitch McConnell has never cared about. And we've been unable to convince Senate Republicans to care about. Second, there's not enough women in Congress. That is an impediment, because, again, not all members of Congress understand the disproportionate impact COVID's placed onto the shoulders of women and caregivers.

What would this paid leave look like?

First of all, it would apply to all workers. It wouldn't just be limited to small businesses. Secondly, it would apply to all life events. So whether you have to stay home because of COVID or you have a family member who has to stay home because of COVID or a child who has to stay home because schools are closed or you're sick yourself, you are entitled to up to three months paid at 66% of your wage to meet those needs. And it would extend to the end of the pandemic.

Do you envision a more permanent paid leave law happening now that Democrats have the Senate? If the impediment was basically Mitch McConnell as majority leader, now that's gone.

Correct. Now the bill can be authored in part by Chuck Schumer and Patty Murray, two people who deeply care about national paid leave. And the tiebreaker will be Kamala Harris, who equally is passionate about paid leave, as is President Biden.

What else do you want to see in a relief package?

Oh, I want to see a great deal of resources for cities and states. I want to make sure there's provisions for food stamps and food assistance, because there's a lot of hunger in my state and in the country right now. I want to make sure we fund the Health Force to implement a vaccination program around the country, because the pace for getting vaccines out is unacceptable. And if we can hire hundreds of thousands more workers, and train them to support our nurses, and doctors and do these vaccinations, through centralized locations, we can get more vaccines.

With regard to vaccine roll out, it seems like it's a mess.

It's an absolute mess, it is inadequate, it is too slow. It was poorly planned. And these are all failings of the Trump administration.

I'm curious about other priorities of the Senate and the Biden administration after COVID relief. And one thing I've heard is that universal pre-K is on the agenda.

I hope so. Mothers and fathers cannot go back to work if you don't restore day care. We've lost so many day care centers because of the epidemic. As small businesses, they've been unable to survive. They didn't get resources for the additional PPE or the additional [social distancing] needs. Before the pandemic, for every four children looking for day care spots, there was only one spot. Now, for every eight children that are looking for a spot, there's only one spot. So the need has exponentially grown. (Cont. Pg 28)

Sen. Gillibrand Discussion with HuffPost: Pinpoints the Key to COVID-19 Relief and Her Insight on the Inauguration and Impeachment of President Trump

(From Pg. 27)

And so the care economy needs to be addressed directly. And we need to pay our caregivers more. We need to pay people who are full time caregivers, and we need to make sure our daycare workers are paid above the minimum wage and have real careers. It seems like every policy you were banging the drum about before COVID, COVID has made it clear just how necessary they are.

So necessary. It's very frustrating. If they would just listen.

On a separate note: How scared are you about members of Congress being attacked – or worse – at the inauguration? What's your level of fear? What was it last week? And what is it now?

I'm not afraid. I was not afraid last week for my own safety, but I have deep concerns that we will be attacked again. And I have voiced those concerns. Our national security team is far more prepared for the next set of protests and possible violence and riots than they were on the sixth. So I'm grateful for that work and effort.

But I'm still very concerned that there will be further violence, which is one of the reasons why I support not only impeachment, but Article 25, as well as for prosecution of President Trump. He continues to show no contrition. And he continues to not see that he is the instigator of this violence.

Governor Cuomo Outlines 2021 Agenda

• The Governor's Agenda is Focused on Defeating COVID-19 and Reopening the State Safely; Jumpstarting the Economy; Creating a Fairer, More Just State; Leading the Development of the Green Energy Economy; and Building and Strengthening the State's Infrastructure

• Proposals Include the Largest Off-Shore Wind Program in the Nation; Five Dedicated Port Facilities to make New York a Global Wind Energy Manufacturing Powerhouse; Building a Green Energy Transmission Superhighway; Creating a new 1,000 person Public Health Corps; Safely Reopening Businesses and Bringing Back the Arts; Legalizing Adult-Use Cannabis and Online Sports Betting; First-in-the-Nation Affordable Internet for All; Expanding Early Voting; and \$306 Billion Infrastructure Plan - Largest in the Nation - to Update Airports and Transportation Infrastructure and Redevelop Manhattan's Midtown West Neighborhood

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced his 2021 agenda - Reimagine | Rebuild | Renew - features nation-leading proposals to not only defeat COVID-19, but also tackle critical issues facing New York and the country, including jumpstarting New York's economic recovery; creating a fairer, more just state; reopening the state; becoming a leader in the growing green energy economy; and rebuilding and strengthening New York's infrastructure. Proposals include legalizing adult-use cannabis and online sports betting; first-in-the-nation affordable internet for all; safely bringing back the arts with pop-up performances and events; the largest

off-shore wind program in the nation; five dedicated port facilities to make New York a global wind energy manufacturing powerhouse; building a green energy transmission superhighway and; The largest infrastructure plan in the nation to update the state's airports and transportation infrastructure, including a new Port Authority bus terminal, and redevelop Manhattan's Midtown West neighborhood.

"There are moments in life that can change a person fundamentally - sometimes for the better, sometimes for the worse. Likewise, there are episodes in history that transform society and COVID is one of those moments. We see the risk and peril, but we also see the promise and potential of this moment." Governor Cuomo said. "This next year we will see economies realign and reset around the world and New York will lead the way. In a moment when nagging insecurity can either limit your potential or give way to the energy of urgency, necessity, and innovation. We know the direction we are headed - it is our state motto, Excelsior ever upwards."

Governor Cuomo continued, "New York is different - our DNA is different, our character is different. What COVID did to us is different and how we responded to COVID is different. We have a confidence born from accomplishment. We know what we must do and we will do it. We will win the COVID war and we will learn and grow from the experience. After the war, reconstruction begins. That is when progress is made. We must start our post COVID war reconstruction now. We can and we will build back a better and stronger New York. We have done it throughout history, we did it last year, and we will do it again. It is our legacy."

Attorney General James Files Lawsuit Against the NYPD for Excessive Use of Force

*Landmark Lawsuit Outlines NYPD's Use of Brutal Force Against Protesters and Pattern of False Arrests
AG James Seeks Systemic Reforms at NYPD,*

Implementation of External Monitor to Oversee Changes

NEW YORK - New York Attorney General Letitia James today filed a lawsuit against the New York City Police Department (NYPD) and its leadership to end its pattern of using excessive force and making false arrests against New Yorkers during peaceful protests. In the complaint, Attorney General James outlines the NYPD's illegal and harmful conduct against New Yorkers during recent racial justice protests and for years prior, which has led to significant injuries and violated individuals' basic right to peacefully protest. The lawsuit specifically charges the NYPD, the City of New York, Mayor Bill de Blasio, NYPD Commissioner Dermot Shea, and NYPD Chief of Department Terence Monahan with failing to address this longstanding pattern of abuse by not properly training, supervising, and disciplining officers to prevent misconduct, despite knowledge and public admission that it violated the rights of New Yorkers.

In the complaint, Attorney General James lays out dozens of examples of the NYPD's blatant use of excessive force and other misconduct, since May 2020, including the indiscriminate, unjustified, and repeated use of batons, pepper spray, bicycles, and a crowd-control tactic known as "kettling" against peaceful protesters - all causing protesters significant physical harm. NYPD officers also unlawfully arrested legal observers, medics, and other workers performing essential services without probable cause and in direct violation of executive orders from Mayor de Blasio. The lawsuit seeks broad injunctive relief, including systemic reforms to the NYPD and the implementation of a monitor to oversee the NYPD's policing tactics in future protests and to ensure compliance with the law. (Contd. Pg. 29)

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(From Pg. 29) “There is no question that the NYPD engaged in a pattern of excessive, brutal, and unlawful force against peaceful protesters,” said Attorney General James. “Over the past few months, the NYPD has repeatedly and blatantly violated the rights of New Yorkers, inflicting significant physical and psychological harm and leading to great distrust in law enforcement. With today’s lawsuit, this longstanding pattern of brutal and illegal force ends. No one is above the law - not even the individuals charged with enforcing it.”

Background

Following the killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis, Minnesota, thousands of protesters took to the streets across New York City to protest Mr. Floyd’s death, the killing of Breonna Taylor, and the larger pattern of unarmed Black people being killed by the police.

After several evenings of violent clashes between the NYPD and protesters, Governor Andrew Cuomo called on the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) to conduct a civil investigation into police misconduct during these incidents. Since May 30, 2020, the OAG received more than 1,300 complaints and pieces of evidence through a dedicated online portal and phone and email hotlines. Attorney General James also held a three-day public hearing with testimony from more than 100 protesters, community-based organizations, elected officials, and NYPD Commissioner Shea. In addition to the public testimony, the OAG received more than 300 submissions of written testimony.

Overview of Claims

Based on the myriad of complaints received and subsequent investigation, the OAG found that from May 28, 2020 to December 11, 2020, in response to these largely peaceful protests, NYPD officers effectuated mass arrests without probable cause; unjustifiably deployed pepper spray, batons, and other force against protesters; and targeted and retaliated against First Amendment activity so frequently and pervasively as to constitute customs or usages of the NYPD.

Use of Force

NYPD officers unjustifiably deployed pepper spray and used batons, bikes, and other force against protesters, repeatedly violating New Yorkers’ constitutional rights and grossly violating NYPD policies regarding the use of force and the use of pepper spray. As a result of these actions, protesters experienced significant physical harm, including broken bones, gashes requiring stitches and staples, concussions, and other harm, as well as extensive psychological harm. In total, the OAG found that officers:

- o Struck protesters with blunt instruments at least 50 times,
- o Unlawfully deployed pepper spray against protesters in at least 30 incidents, and
- o Used unreasonable force through pushing or striking protesters at least 75 times.

In one instance, Luke Hanna, who was participating in a protest at Cadman Plaza in Brooklyn on June 3, was struck in the back of the head with a baton without provocation or justification while complying with a police directive to disperse. The baton strike caused a gash so severe that Hanna required ten staples in his head to close it. Neither the officer who hit Hanna nor any other officer nearby sought or provided medical attention for Hanna’s wound, and Hanna was not arrested or charged with any crime.

In another instance, Andrew Smith, who was participating in a protest in Brooklyn on May 30, had his COVID-19 facemask

pulled down without warning or cause by an officer and was pepper sprayed in the face. As a result of being pepper sprayed, Smith suffered a severe burning sensation to his eyes and face, exacerbation to eczema on the back of his neck that lasted for hours, and difficulty removing and wearing contact lenses for at least a week after the incident. Smith also suffered stress and fear that he had been exposed to COVID-19 when the officer removed his facemask. Smith was not arrested or charged with any crime and did not receive medical aid from any of the officers nearby, in violation of NYPD policy. After the incident, body-worn camera footage captured the officer who sprayed Smith asking fellow officers whether they used their pepper spray and bragging, “I took the guy’s goggles, I ripped the s--- off and I used it.”

Unlawful Detention

Officers arrested or detained hundreds of protesters, legal observers, medics, and others without legal justification. Officers repeatedly violated New Yorkers’ constitutional rights and applicable NYPD policies regarding crowd control and arrest procedure by arresting curfew-exempt individuals; using kettling tactics, excessive force, and threats of force to detain peaceful protesters; and detaining and arresting individuals without probable cause or suspicion that they were engaged in unlawful conduct. Beginning on June 1, Mayor de Blasio issued several emergency executive orders that imposed curfews in New York City. These orders explicitly exempted “first responders and emergency medical technicians, individuals travelling to and from essential work and performing essential work.” The de Blasio Administration also acknowledged that the curfew orders exempted legal observers, medics, and jail support providers.

In a June 4 protest in the Mott Haven neighborhood of the Bronx, officers detained 12 legal observers for purportedly violating the curfew as soon as it took effect and thereby prevented them from observing the large number of protester arrests occurring at the same time. In news footage, a member of the NYPD’s Legal Bureau can be heard shouting to other officers, “legal observers can be arrested. You’re good to go.” Officers also arrested several medics at that same protest in Mott Haven, who were in attendance solely to provide medical assistance.

Kettling

Throughout the time the curfew orders were in effect and beyond, officers engaged in an unlawful practice of kettling or corralling protesters without providing them an opportunity to disperse, and thereafter making mass arrests of protesters without probable cause.

At the June 4 protest in Mott Haven, officers used kettling to trap and arrest protesters. During this incident, approximately five to 10 minutes before the 8 p.m. curfew, officers halted marchers at an intersection, flanking them on both sides and preventing protesters from moving forward. Officers used their bikes to physically push the protesters, resulting in protesters being crushed together. At this time, multiple people stuck in the kettle begged officers to let them go home or leave the protest zone; however, officers refused to make space for these individuals to leave or for the protest to safely disperse.

In all, at least 249 individuals present at this intersection were arrested for violating curfew, and numerous protesters were shoved or hit with batons. The Bronx District Attorney dismissed all of the summonses issued for disorderly conduct, unlawful assembly, and violating curfew arising out of the Mott Haven protest.

Commissioner Shea later commended police conduct at Mott Haven and indicated that the kettling was part of a pre-planned tactic, stating that their execution was “nearly flawless.” Mayor de Blasio also later defended the use of kettling at the protests. Extensive Violations of Federal and State Laws (Contd. Pg 30)

Martucci Responds to Cuomo's Executive Budget *Senator Mike Martucci (R, C, I - New Hampton) issued the following statement in response to the Governor's FY 2022 Executive Budget Presentation:*

“With a \$15 billion deficit, this is going to be one of the toughest budgets in the history of our State. The COVID-19 pandemic has heavily contributed to this shortfall, but it is also necessary to recognize that there was a roughly \$6 billion structural deficit before COVID hit. Over the last two years, the Senate Democrat majority has refused to make the hard decisions. They have made a mess and left it to me and others to clean up. The Governor's budget presented today was full of contingencies based on the amount of Federal aid we may or may not receive. Let me be clear - the federal government should assist us with the portion of the deficit directly tied to the pandemic.

“Beyond that, it is long past time that we get our own house in order. Tax increases are not the answer. As the Governor correctly pointed out, raising taxes will only make a bad situation worse. Instead, we must get out of control wasteful spending under control. At a time like this, we should zero out \$425 million in corporate welfare to Hollywood, eliminate fraud and abuse in the nation's most expensive Medicaid system, and stop using taxpayer dollars to pick winners and losers as it relates to economic development.

“Going to Washington with a tin cup and hoping for them to save us is not a viable long-term strategy. It is time for Albany to stop the gimmicks, stop the excuses, tighten its belt, and do the right thing for hardworking taxpayers. I am committed to doing exactly that.”

DEC Accepting Applications for Annual Pheasant Release Program *– Applications for Cooperative Program Due March 25*

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos today announced that applications are now available for DEC's cooperative Day-Old Pheasant Chick Program, which allows people to participate in raising and releasing pheasants to enhance the state's fall hunting opportunities. The program is provided through DEC's partnership with hunters, 4-H youth, and interested landowners. “For more than a century, volunteers have been working with DEC to successfully raise and release pheasant chicks to bolster hunting opportunities in New York State,” Commissioner Seggos said. “The Day-Old Pheasant Chick Program is a great way to learn about animal husbandry and wildlife management.”

The Day-Old Pheasant Chick Program began in the early 1900s. At that time, the state Conservation Department (precursor to DEC) distributed pheasant eggs and chicks to farmers and rural youth, a tradition that continues to this day. Day-old chicks are available at no cost to participants that can provide a

brooding facility, covered outdoor rearing pen, and an adequate release site. Approved applicants will receive the day-old chicks in April, May, or June. No chicks obtained through the Day-Old Pheasant Chick Program can be released on private shooting preserves and all release sites must be approved in advance by DEC and be open for public pheasant hunting opportunities. The program is funded through the State Conservation Fund from license fees paid by hunters, trappers, and anglers.

Applicants are required to provide daily care to the rapidly growing chicks, monitor the birds' health, and ensure the chicks have adequate feed and water. The pheasants may be released beginning when they are eight weeks old and must be released no later than Dec. 1. Individuals interested in these programs should contact the nearest DEC regional office for applications and additional information.

In 2020, DEC distributed more than 31,500 day-old pheasant chicks to qualified applicants. Applications must be filed with a DEC regional wildlife manager by March 25 (contact information below). A "Pheasant Rearing Guide" and applications are available on the DEC website. For questions about the program or eligibility, email wildlife@dec.ny.gov or call 607-273-2768.

Region 1 - Nassau and Suffolk counties:

SUNY at Stony Brook
50 Circle Road
Stony Brook, NY 11790
(631) 444-0310

Region 3 - Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster, and Westchester counties:

21 South Putt Corners Rd.
New Paltz, NY 12561
(845) 256-3098

Region 4 - Albany, Columbia, Delaware, Greene, Montgomery, Otsego, Rensselaer, Schenectady, and Schoharie counties:

65561 State Hwy 10, Suite 1
Stamford, NY 12167
(607) 652-7367

Region 5 - Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Hamilton, Saratoga, Warren, and Washington counties:

1115 Route 86, PO Box 296
Ray Brook, NY 12977
(518) 897-1291

Region 6 - Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Oneida, and St. Lawrence counties:

317 Washington Street
Watertown, NY 13601
315-785-2263

Region 7 - Broome, Cayuga, Chenango, Cortland, Madison, Onondaga, Oswego, Tioga, and Tompkins counties:

1285 Fisher Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045
(607) 753-3095 x 247

Region 8 - Chemung, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, and Yates counties:

6274 East Avon-Lima Rd.
Avon, NY 14414
(585) 226-5380

Region 9 - Allegany, Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, Erie, Niagara, and Wyoming counties:

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Allegany, NY 14706-1328
(716) 372-0645

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KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIES & TRIVIA

ON TCM 12:00 am
 TUESDAY JANUARY 26, 2021

Munster, Go Home!

(1966, 1h 36m | Comedy | TV-PG)

Is ghoulish looking Herman Munster an aristocrat? He is when he inherits an estate from a British uncle, and takes his wife Lily, and his entire family, – his son, Eddie, a niece, Marilyn, and Grandpa an experimenter supreme, – to England by boat to claim both his title, and his manor house. Marilyn falls in love with Roger Moresby, a race-driving champion boating across the Atlantic to England. On arriving, they receive a less than wonderful welcome, from their foreign relatives – Lady Effigies, her children Freddy and Grace, and their sinister butler Crookshank – who are using the manor house as the headquarters of a counterfeiting ring.



The thugs try to chase them away, but all attempts to scare off the Munsters fail terribly, for they are delighted by screams in the night, white-sheeted apparitions, and other ghostly phenomena. Desperate to get rid of the Munsters, Lady Effigie persuades Herman to save the family honor by entering an automobile race against Roger, as their families have been longtime rivals. Roger is knocked unconscious, and the head of the counterfeiting ring substitutes another driver, planning harm to Herman as the race proceeds. Herman, avoids trouble by driving his Dragula, a special coffin-shaped car, and wins the race. Will Roger visit Marilyn in the States?

Directed by Earl Bellamy. Starring Fred Gwynne, Al Lewis, Yvonne De Carlo and Hermione Gingold

(Contd. Pg.)

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(From Pg. 29)

**KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE #1
ON NETFLIX
Triple Frontier**

Directed by J.C. Chandor. Written by J.C. Chandor and Mark Boal. Cast: Oscar Isaac, Ben Affleck, Charlie Hunnam, Garrett Hedlund, Pedro Pascal and Adria Arjona.

A handsomely made action thriller. J.C. Chandor's *Triple Frontier* is the tale of five disgruntled former special



forces operatives who re-team to steal a fortune from a drug lord in South America. Author Mark Boal is known for his gritty and intense war dramas—*Zero Dark Thirty*, *The Hurt Locker*—and *Chando*.

The movie has a self-serious and brooding tone. The five, led by Oscar Isaac and Ben Affleck, are believable as able-bodied anti-heroes who might embark on such a high risk, high reward mission. With impressive set pieces, punishing violence, and a foreboding aura, it's the story choices that keep you rapt.

A big budget film for Netflix (\$115 million), Chandor makes good use of the funds. The movie has an expansive scope that transports you to the precarious jungles and mountains that the cast is forced to trek through. It's a beautifully gloomy film that makes up in aesthetics what it lacks in emotional potency.



**KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIES
AMAZON PRIME**

THE TICK

(2016 TV series Action, Comedy)

In a world where superheroes have been real for decades, an accountant with mental health issues and zero powers comes to suspect his city is owned by a global super villain long-thought dead. As he struggles to uncover the conspiracy, he falls in league with a strange blue superhero. They launch into an adventure brimming with crazed archvillains, blood-soaked vigilantes, and superhuman freakery.



Starring Griffin Newman, Valorie Curry and Jackie Earle Haley. Go to: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Tick_\(2016_TV_serie\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Tick_(2016_TV_serie))

The Tick is an American web television series created for Amazon Video by Ben Edlund, based on his comic book character of the same name. Its pilot premiered on August 18, 2016. A "half-season", through to the sixth episode that was released on August 25, 2017, and another six episodes were released on February 23, 2018. On January 17, 2018 Amazon ordered a second season of ten episodes. <https://www.amazon.com/The-Tick/dp/B01J776HVW>

Go behind the scenes of the new Amazon series, *The Tick*, as creator Ben Edlund (*Supernatural*, *Gotham*) discusses the evolution of this iconic character from the beloved comic book to TV. Joining Ben is the cast and crew, including stars Peter Serafinowicz and Griffin Newman, who dive into the specifics of this world and its unique characters, explaining why *The Tick* is the hero series for what it is.

Stay safe, May God Bless

Knarf Odnamoc
Gnomø