



PROUD TO BE AN AMERICAN



Tri *Ye Olde* GOVNSMAN Valley

"The Best Journal Published by a Dam Site!"



VOL. 19 NO. 47 GRAHAMSVILLE, NY 12740 NOVEMBER 23, 2023 \$1.00

Mysterious Book Report John D. McKenna Pg 6 • *The Olive Jar* Carol La Monda Pg 7 • *The Scene Too* Jane Harrison Pg 11
Knarf's Classic Movie & Trivia Pg 73

Vet 2 Vet of Sullivan County Welcomes New Members

MONTICELLO -- Vet 2 Vet of Sullivan County (V2V) recently welcomed two new members to their Veteran Service Dog Program.

Say hello to Mike and Thunder!

V2V covered Thunder's adoption fees through the Sullivan County SPCA Animal Shelter in Rock Hill. "The SPCA was absolutely wonderful throughout the whole process," said Veteran Peer Advocate for V2V, Stephen Murphy.

Training and supplies are free of charge to the Veterans in the program.

"These dogs are able to make a world of difference in our Veterans' lives," Murphy explained. "They help them to get out and live richer, fuller, happier lives."

For information about the Veteran Service Dog Program, or any of the services from V2V, call 845-794-4228, and ask to speak with a Veteran Peer Advocate.



Frederick Cook Society Open House will feature legendary Jazz guitar duo Van Manakas and Wayne Lopes!



Van Mnakas and Wayne Lopes

Sunday, December 10th the Cook Society will host an Open House at the Sullivan County Museum. The event will include live music, as well as fine art, crafts, books and photographs for sale, just in time for the Holidays.

Little Sparrow will host the stage, with Sullivan West senior Henry Simon on guitar. At 1pm Van Manakas and Wayne Lopes, two lifelong friends and musical collaborators come together for a rare performance of guitar improvisation. Wayne Lopes has been a mainstream performer in the NYC scene as well as performing internationally with his late wife Sylvie Dejez. Van Manakas has recorded multiple jazz records and toured on four continents. (Contd. Pg. 11)

YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN

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

Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman (ISSN 1558-9013) will be published weekly for \$40.00 per year by **Gnome Home Inc.**

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OLIVE JAR - Carol La Monda

MYSTERIOUS BOOK REPORT - John McKenna

MOVIE TRIVIA - Frank Comando a/k/a Knarf

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Subscription for *The Townsman* will be available in pdf format and will be delivered to you each week in your email that will be provided by you. *The Townsman* can easily be read on a computer, tablet or cell phone. The pages have been formatted so they can be printed out as a whole paper or a single page. We continue to encourage those who have home printers, to print out a hard copy and perhaps pass it on to a family member or friend who does not have a computer.

POLICY ON SUBMISSIONS AND LETTERS TO THE EDITORS:

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

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

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Rates are based on **Camera-ready copy**. **All advertising must be pre-paid** unless other arrangements have been made.

Please send your ad copy to: tvtownsman@yahoo.com or by regular mail to: **The Townsman**, PO Box 232, Grahamsville, NY 12740

Deadline for all submissions is 3:00 p.m. Monday for the current week's issue

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

More than ever, thank you for your continued support.

On the Front Burner: I look to the mountains; where will my hope come from? My help will come from the Lord who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 121:1-2

OBITUARIES

Elise C. Hornbeck, a beloved resident of Grahamsville, NY, gracefully departed this world on Monday, November 20, 2023 at the age of 82. Elise's journey began on December 17, 1940 in Bronx, NY, where she was warmly welcomed into the loving arms of her parents, Arthur and Mildred Greenrose. She found lifelong companionship in her late husband, Raymond Hornbeck.



Throughout her fruitful years, Elise embraced a diverse range of passions and pursuits. Commencing her career as a Teacher's Assistant, she diligently honed her skills and eventually earned her teaching degree. She dedicated herself to educating young minds at Tri Valley School District. Her passion for learning extended beyond the classroom. Elise's artistic talents flourished as she not only guided high school plays but also ventured into the realm of dance instruction and safeguarding others as a lifeguard.

In addition to her educational accomplishments, Elise was an active member of the Time in the Valley Museum, the Grahamsville United Methodist Church, and the North East Watercolor Society. She found solace and inspiration in art and painting with watercolors, capturing the beauty of the world around her with each stroke of her brush. Elise's artistic talents were admired by many, and she shared her passion for creativity with those who knew her. Additionally, Elise found great joy in exploring the world through travel and hiking. Nature was her sanctuary, where she found peace and a sense of adventure.

Elise is survived by her children Adam Hornbeck and his wife Melanie, Keil Hornbeck and his wife Narda and Elyse Jean-Phillippe and her husband Dominique. She is also survived by her loving sister Linda Comando and her husband Frank; sister-in-law Betty Shaver; nine grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren as well as many nieces and nephews. Elise's legacy lives on through her family who will carry

forth the values of love, strength, compassion, and dedication that she instilled in them.

A visitation in memory of Elise will be held on Saturday, November 25, 2023, at Loucks Funeral Home in Ellenville from 10am to 12pm. Following the visitation, there will be a celebration of her life to honor the beautiful memories she created with everyone she knew. Elise will be laid to rest at Grahamsville Rural Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers please consider making a donation in Elise's name to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation

James F. Cone Jr., DVM of Napanoch, NY, peacefully passed away on November 13, 2023, surrounded by his beloved family in the comfort of his home. He was 88 years old. Born on December 1, 1934, in Brooklyn, NY to the late Caroline (Johnson) and James F. Cone Sr., Jim leaves behind a rich legacy that touched the lives of many.



Jim's journey began at Haldane High School in Cold Spring where he acquired his diploma and embarked on a path that would shape his life's work. He enlisted

in the Army and was trained as a Russian interpreter at the Army Language School in Monterey, CA. He then worked for the United States Army Security Agency as an interpreter in Germany from 1955 to 1957.

Following his honorable discharge, Jim pursued higher education at Cornell University where he obtained a Bachelor of Science degree. His thirst for knowledge led him to further his studies at Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, where he acquired the skills and expertise that would lead him to fulfill his lifelong passion of providing compassionate care to animals. Jim's dedication culminated in the establishment of his own practice, the renowned and much-loved Napanoch Animal Hospital.

Jim was not only committed to his profession but also active in his community. He was a valued member of the Ancient Order of the Hibernians and the Knights of Columbus, dedicating himself to their missions. (Contd. Pg. 4)

OBITUARIES

(From Pg. 2) He generously served on the board of Ellenville Community Hospital and as a school board member for the Ellenville School District. Additionally, Jim's passion for his field extended to being an esteemed member of the American Veterinary Medical Association.

Beyond his professional endeavors, Jim held a deep appreciation for antique cars, but his true joy came from spending cherished moments with his beloved grandchildren.

Jim is survived by his devoted wife Sally DeMichael Cone, whom he married on December 11, 1955. Together, they built a loving family that includes their children Karen Coombe and her husband Ric, Kevin Cone and his wife Leslie, as well as his cherished grandchildren Patrick and Rebecca Coombe and Layne Miller. Jim's memory will also be treasured by his brothers-in-law John Hopper and Alan DeMichael and his wife Susan. Additionally, he leaves behind numerous nieces and nephews. Preceding Jim in eternal rest are his beloved granddaughter Michaela Coombe and his siblings Ann (Donald) McGrath, Carol Cone, Lambert Cone (Theodora), and Kathleen Hopper.

To honor Jim's memory, Memorial Visitation was held on Sunday, November 19 at Loucks Funeral Home, Ellenville. A Mass in celebration of his life took place on Monday, November 20th, at St. Mary and St. Andrew's Church, Ellenville.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests considering a donation in Jim's memory to the Ellenville Regional Hospital, Ellenville First Aid and Rescue Squad, Ellenville Library, or the Napanoch Fire Department.

Arrangements are under the guidance of Loucks Funeral Home, 79 N. Main St., Ellenville.

Todd C. Ackerley of Grahamsville passed away on November 16, 2023. He was 46.

Todd was born on November 17, 1976 in Monticello, NY to Rubin Ackerley and Deborah (Terbush) Ackerley.

Todd was an avid lover of the outdoors, spending a lot of his free time walking through the woods and fishing. He held a deep affection for animals, especially horses, as well as his beloved canine companion, Chico, who had preceded him in passing. Todd was also an exceptional athlete and as a young boy would play any sport that involved a ball. Above all, Todd cared deeply about his family, as a loving and beloved son, brother, uncle, and cousin.

Todd is predeceased by his father, Rubin Ackerley, and his canine companion, Chico.

Todd leaves behind his mother, Deborah Ann Ackerley; his sister, Tonya Martin (Tim); his brother, Troy Ackerley (Kandice); his niece, Caroline Martin; his loving nephews, Timothy Martin, Gabriel Ackerley, and Kaleb Ackerley; his long-time companion, Kimberly Ferreri; as well as many dear aunts, uncles, and cousins.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to CARE.

A memorial visitation was held on Tuesday, November 21, 2023, at Colonial Memorial Funeral Home.

Household Hint:

Safe All Purpose Cleaner

An excellent all-purpose cleaner: vinegar mixed with salt. Cleans copper, bronze, brass, dishes, pots, pans, skillets, glasses, and even windows. Rinse well.

Nature Column - L. Comando

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

As Townsman Tradition goes... American Wild Turkey...

... noone tells the Tale of the Turkey as Peggy DeWire did.

"Gobble, gobble," said the wild tom turkey sitting on a limb in a maple tree almost hidden in the leaves. "You caught me resting after my lunch of grasshoppers and seeds. I'm called Tom Two Toes and I'll tell you how I got named."

He settled himself more comfortably on the limb fluffing out his beautiful brown plumage, tail hanging down neatly folded and beard tassel on his chest swinging to and fro.

Two years ago when I was a small chick, my Mom moved me and my twelve brothers and sisters away from our nest on the ground hidden in the woods to the edge on an open field.

There we watched how she pecked at ants, bugs and berries (strawberries are my favorite). She showed us things that are good to eat. She walked along very slowly to keep her brood together and stopped often, spreading her wings so we could rest under their shade.

We came to a pond on our way to the next open meadow and the whole family waded in with Mom cackling at us to stay together and paddle quickly across.

All the splashing caught a snapping turtle's attention and it investigated, managing to bite off two toes of the last chick to struggle up on land, safely across. I limped along at first but I kept right up with my family after that awful experience.

I also remember my first flight one summer day when I was about two weeks old. Mom and all of us were feeding together in a field pecking at ants and grass seeds. My keen eyesight helped me get the smallest bits of food as well as keep a sharp lookout for danger.

Suddenly Mom flew up into a tree and landed on a limb six feet off the ground. From there she called perk, perk encouraging us to join her.

One by one we flapped out little wings to get up there, the smaller chicks landing short on the ground and launching themselves again and again till they succeeded. I made it on my first try and snuggled beside Mom proudly. After that day we never slept on the ground but always in a tree.

By the end of my first summer I was nearly as big as Mom and looked like her in my new brown-bronze plumage. My head and wattle turned red, white and blue, my wing feathers brown with white edging. Half-inch long yellow spurs grew on my legs. A grand five-inch brown bristle beard drooped from my chest.

My brothers and I practiced loud gobbling, dragging wing tips on the ground and spreading our tail feathers into wide showy fans.

(Contd. Pg. 4)



American Wild Turkey...

(From Pg. 3)

All this gobbling commotion was too much for Mom and she drove all her young toms out of the flock with loud yelping cries, and led our sisters off and away.

During the winter it was very hard to find enough food until we joined some deer that scraped snow aside uncovering moss and grass. While they foraged, we turkeys with sharp eyesight watched every alert for danger. And then we ate.

I'm now a full-grown gobbler who controls the clearing you're standing in looking up at me. This spring I fought another tom and beat him in a knock-down fight for this spot.

He grabbed me by the neck but I spurred him hard enough on the chest to draw blood. He let go and fell flat on the ground defeated. I jumped on his back and did a victory march to and fro. Then I let him escape.

Now I gobble to attract hens to my clearing where I'll be the alpha male for the next ten years, barring a hunting accident.

I think it's easier for you to call me Tom Two Toes rather than my full name, Meleagris gallopurva.

DAYS OF YORE....

Today's History

December 2, 1953

Mr. Wesley Ackerley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Ackerley of Grahamsville, received the highest grade, 98%, ever given for Accounting at the State Agricultural and Technical University at Alfred, New York. Wesley is a 1953 graduate of Tri Valley Central School.

November 27, 1963

- Mr. and Mrs. Earl H. Norton of Greenwich, New York announce the engagement of their daughter, Miss Phyllis Edna Norton, to Richard Irwin Coombe of Ridgewood, New Jersey and "Broadacres" Grahamsville, New York. Miss Norton and Mr. Coombe are members of the class of 1964 at Cornell University. Mr. Coombe is associated with Sigma Pi Fraternity.

Thomas H. Smith, 70, a retired stationary engineer at the Woodbourne Correctional Facility, died Wednesday in Roswell Park Memorial Hospital in Buffalo. Mr. Smith, who lived at South Hill Road, Grahamsville, was born there June 27, 1903. He married Linda George on June 16, 1928 in Grahamsville. He was a member of the Grahamsville United Methodist Church, The Grahamsville Volunteer First Aid Squad and a volunteer worker for "The Townsman" for more than 20 years. He is survived by his widow; a son, Thomas A. Smith of Grahamsville and two grandsons.

December 5, 1973

Belated congratulations to Jim and Betsey Krum of East Aurora, N.Y. on the adoption of a daughter, Lauralee Michelle who was born October 1, 1973. She weighed 6 lbs. 12 oz. The paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Ray Krum of Grahamsville.

November 17, 1983

Beth Coombe of Grahamsville will join FFA members from all across the country to provide music and entertainment for

more than 23,000 FFA members and guests at the organization's 56th National Convention on Nov. 10-12 in Kansas City, Missouri. Beth, who is a member of the Tri-Valley FFA Chapter, is the 16 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Coombe.

Emily Katz and Michael McNamara were married October 22, 1983 in St. Peter's Church in Liberty, N.Y. with Father Givney and Steve Schick of Grahamsville Methodist Church officiating. A reception at the Elks' Lodge followed the ceremony. The bride is the daughter of JoAnn and Ed Katz of Liberty. The bridegroom is the son of Betty and Ray McNamara of Lackawack Hill, Napanoch. The bride is a graduate of Liberty High School and is employed at Norstar Bank. The groom is a Tri-Valley Central School graduate and earned an AAS degree at Delhi. He is presently employed at Grossinger's. The couple will reside in Liberty.

LOOKING BACK

by Beatrice Akerley

Published November 19, 1998

"How are you?" This seems to me like almost everybody's favorite expression these days. This "how are you" sparks a wide variety of interesting answers. Of all the responses I've heard in my lifetime, one is unique. It dates back to the good old days when the kids and I looked forward to visits from my husband's dad who warmed our hearts with loving kindness and humor.

When he hobbled through the door with his cane, we new he was in great pain from arthritis but he would never admit it. His one and only answer about his health was "I'm fine as a fiddle." Dan's dad never complained about anything. When my mother wasn't seriously ill, she answered my "How are you" with "Oh, so-so Bea" and "How are you?"

The 'how are you' thing runs in our family for I recall going to visit my grandmother Davis and hear her joyously exclaim, "Beatrice, how good to see you, how are you and the kids?" "Anything new?"

While sitting in her cozy rocker darnning socks by her wood burning stove she would be feeling so-so most of the time.

When asked the popular "How are you?", my response is usually "ok!" "How are you?" If my arthritis is having a flare up, I say, "I'm on the sick list right now." I shocked myself last night when my granddaughter Cheryl asked me how I was feeling, I uttered "Oh, so-so." for the very first time, and I pondered over why those words tumbled out of my mouth. I concluded it was my age.

My loving granddaughter Marilyn and her husband gave me a television for my room as a gift some time ago and in my "declining years" I sometimes talk back to it when I'm alone. Recently I called a man on TV a "jerk." I would never have had the guts to call him that face to face even though it was election time but it is a word not in my vocabulary. However, when "jerk" came out of my mouth, I knew why -it was family tradition. It was Wayne's favorite word for a worthless guy and the man on TV was totally worthless, at least in my grandson's eyes.

SC Broadband Partner Demonstrates Faster Way of Laying Fiber-Optic Cable County Officials View Technique of 'Microtrenching'

Saugerties, NY - Sullivan County Legislature Vice Chair Mike Brooks, County Manager Josh Potosek and other County representatives traveled to Saugerties earlier this month to inspect a faster and more efficient method of deploying the latest super-high-speed fiber-optic networks with multi-gig service to homes and businesses.

The visit was part of the ongoing collaboration between Sullivan County and Archtop Fiber, a private startup that is deploying its fiber service across the Hudson Valley including Sullivan County and surrounding regions.



This "microtrench" was being installed by Archtop Fiber earlier this month on a residential street in Saugerties. The trench is then covered over, sealing the cabling inside.

"Having made my living in the cable and telecommunications industries for decades, I was eager to see how this innovative and efficient way to lay cable underground actually works," said Brooks. "I'm excited about the possibilities this poses for Archtop's plans in Sullivan."

The minimally invasive process of "microtrenching" employs a specialized machine to slice a tiny, one-inch-wide trench in pavement to a depth of up to two feet beneath the road surface, but above sewer, water, gas and electrical infrastructure.

"With utility pole infrastructure in the region causing extraordinary delays and increases in cost, Archtop is always seeking out the latest, most efficient methods to deploy fiber across the Hudson Valley," said Shawn Beqaj, Chief Development Officer for Archtop. "Our use of very narrow underground trenches allows us to deploy faster with less impact on our neighborhoods."

Sullivan County has signed a memorandum of understanding with Archtop Fiber to jointly develop a plan to extend multi-gig fiber within the County. The technology being deployed is capable of providing both upload and download speeds up to 10Gbps. Archtop is investing several hundreds of millions of dollars across the Hudson Valley, and this agreement will allow the County to participate in both the planning of that private investment as well as upcoming NY State ConnectALL efforts to support the extension of broadband to unserved and underserved homes and businesses across the County and region.

Additionally, Sullivan County's emergency communication towers will be connected to Archtop's network with the goal of offering wireless broadband service to areas that otherwise would be significantly difficult or expensive to reach with fiber.

"They have already started to install their multi-gig fiber within certain areas of the Hudson Valley and are waiting on permits to attach to public utility poles in order to complete the first phase of construction," Potosek explained. "This microtrenching technique will allow them to serve our more populated locations without having to string wires above ground."

Local service in Sullivan County is anticipated to start in 2024.

About Archtop Fiber

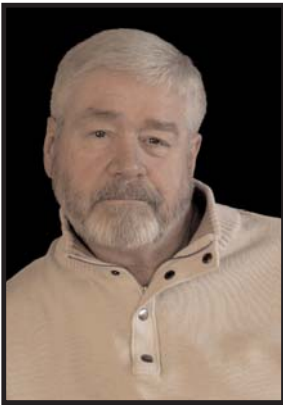
Archtop Fiber was founded with a commitment to bring the fastest, most reliable, environmentally friendly and affordable Internet access to those who have traditionally been underserved - or even overlooked. The Archtop team has decades of success partnering with communities, large and small, to create technology-driven opportunities. With a fully funded business strategy, Archtop is dedicated to local investment. This ensures they support customers with upgrades to existing infrastructure while deploying the latest multi-gig, symmetrical, fiber-based network technology to bring faster, more secure and scalable broadband services to those that need them. Archtop Fiber is proudly invested in empowering your day-to-day life, bringing the digital world to you, your community and its businesses, schools, libraries, hospitals, farms and community centers.

For more information, visit www.archtopfiber.com.



The fiber-optic conduits sit snugly inside the microtrench.

Just in case you're wondering, we'll be re-running some of our best and most popular book reviews every other week from now on. They will be described as our Legacy Mysterious Book Reports. Send us a quick request if you have a favorite that you'd like to see again and we'll do our best to re-publish it.



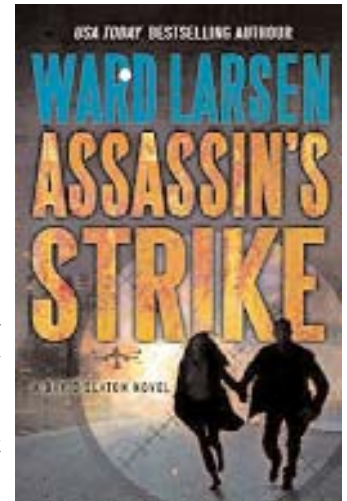
Assassin's Strike

Legacy Mysterious Book Report No. 63

Mysterious Book Report No. 413

Published November 25, 2021

by John Dwaine McKenna



If you recognize the names Gabriel Allon, Bob Swagger, or Jason Bourne, you're gonna love David Slayton. He's the protagonist and off-the-books secret agent good guy in Ward Larsen's award-winning series featuring the lone wolf operator and notorious assassin.

Assassin's Strike, (Forge, \$27.99, 336 pages, ISBN 978-0-76539156-8) by Ward Larsen, is the seventh and latest in the electrifying, kinetic and attention-grabbing thriller series. It opens with a secret meeting between the presidents of Russia and Iran in Damascus, Syria. The only persons in the room are the two presidents and two interpreters, because they are there to discuss the transfer of certain secret technologies that are outlawed in the rest of the world . . . the use of which is a war crime, as well as a crime against humanity. Shortly after the meeting ends, the Iranian interpreter is thrown to her death in front of a terrified Ludmilla Kravchuk —President Petrov's interpreter—who assumes that she's next, and runs for her life. She takes refuge with an old acquaintance in the city and tries to contact and solicit help from the Americans. She holes up and waits, hoping and worrying, praying for rescue before Syrian police or the Russians find her.

In America, word of the interpreter's defection reaches the highest levels of the intel community . . . where top CIA officials are desperate to learn what took place at the clandestine meeting, and why. They task an unofficial operator and legendary assassin named David Slayton to attempt the rescue of a middle-aged woman who's untrained for combat operations and basically an intellectual, from deep inside a war-torn country while the full police resources of two nations try to stop them.

As things are happening in Syria, a cattle herder and his son suffer horrifying deaths in Darfur, Africa, when they stumble upon a collection of chemical weapons, hidden in a remote, lawless area of the drought-stricken and war-ravaged nation.

Although seemingly random and unrelated events taking place on two different continents, the killings in Africa are linked to Slayton's mission in the Middle East. They're all being orchestrated by a shadowy figure who dreams of being the fifth Rashidun of Islam. A man who intends to unite the religion by igniting a war throughout the region with a massive false flag attack . . . an attack that will change the world and elevate a notorious clan to power. The only thing standing in his way is a single individual named David Slayton in this high-octane thrill-fest that will leave you standing on your chair and cheering for the quiet hero and the red, white and blue!

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.

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

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



The Olive Jar

by Carol Olsen LaMonda

The BI



You are a "LOCAL" if you know the place and the people by the initials of the restaurant/bar (B I) or by their last name (Parete)

The new Boiceville Inn was built for the Parete's by Bruce Duffy and Bruce Ackerman just down the road from the

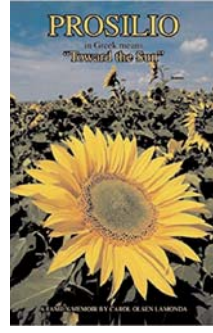
original BI, Boiceville Inn that became the Landmark. The year marker over the fireplace, built by John Bachor, records, in five-year engraved stone increments (the years which I think are over 50) by Steve Heller of Fabulous Furniture.

John and Barbara have been hosts and hostesses to our community for decades. They become part of people's lives through funerals, weddings, baby showers, Trout Unlimited meetings, Sport teams" celebrations, fundraisers, senior turkey dinners, and almost any event you can name. Many are done gratis like the Santa breakfast poster below.

Right now, the Parete's are planning their annual Breakfast With Santa event with the help of his volunteer elves, Santas and pancake, sausage, and scrambled eggs cooks.

The FamilyMemoir, PROSILIO...

... in Greek means "Toward the Sun," was written by Carol Olsen LaMonda. Carol writes the column "The Olive Jar" for *Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman*. This local author has been busy guesting at book clubs who have chosen this local memoir as their book choice. **Feel the warmth of "Prosilio" as you read Carol's memoirs cuddled up in your favorite chair. It also makes a great gift!** *Prosilio* is available at Amazon or Barnes and Noble on-line as a soft or hard cover or as a downloadable e-book for Nook or Kindle. Go to:



<http://amazon.com> or <http://barnesandnoble.com> and type in *Prosilio* in the search to order your copy of *Prosilio*

Just before this, John and Barbara and their children who pitch in as waitresses and chefs will host a dinner theater put on by Linda Burkhardt with local talent. This is her third one done at the BI. Last year sold old!

We have all grown up with the Parete Family: John, Barbara, Patty, John Jr., Richie and Robert. We know their wives' names and watched the grandchildren grow up.

The family can boast three County Legislators, a Town Supervisor, The Head of Board of Elections, Committee Chairman, Sports' coaches, judicial workers, and all-around kind people who give so much to our Town.

The television Cheers has nothing on the Paretes. Not only do they "know your name," they care about us.



"IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE A LIVE RADIO PLAY"

BY: JOE LANDRY

Directed by Linda Burkhardt

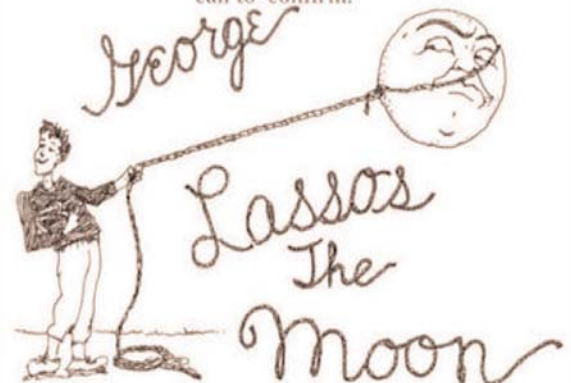
Dinner Theater at the Boiceville Inn

Showing December 1st and 2nd - Dinner at 7pm. Show starts at 8pm

December 3rd - Dinner at 3pm, Show starts at 4pm.

Ticket price is \$50 for adults and \$25 for children 12 and under for show and dinner. Reservation guarantees your space. Walk-ins are welcomed but not guaranteed a space. Payments at the door cash or credit cards.

Reserve tickets at boicevilleinndinnertheater@gmail.com. If unable to email call 845-416-5912 Monday - Friday after 4pm someone will call to confirm.





Daniel Pierce Library

Between the Bookends

Counting our Blessings From Patrons to Programs, We're grateful for it all!

By Lisa Carroll

GRAHAMSVILLE-Happy Thanksgiving!

I hope you are all reading this from a place of total contentment and comfort. The turkey and trimmings are well on their way to the table, the family has all made it safe and sound to your home and the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade is blaring in the background.

There is something to be said about a house full of laughter, mouth-watering smells and full bellies. As well as, the opportunity to share our traditions with family and friends, to count our blessings-to be gracious for the good times and respectful of the not so good-and to really immerse ourselves in what the holiday is meant to be: a time for togetherness; especially as we head into the frantic winter holiday season.

Maybe it's hearing of the holiday plans of our patrons, full of promise of good times (and some seriously delicious eats!), witnessing the magnitude of generosity as food items rolled in for our food drive or having a community room full of students biting on the bit to build fantastic pumpkin mazes...but we are all counting our blessings here at the library.



We did it! A great big thank you goes out to everyone who contributed to our Community Giveback Donation Program. Between what was collected at the Grahamsville Reformed Church and our library, over 20 bags of groceries were donated to the Grahamsville United Methodist Church food pantry. The pantry (the only one in our community) serves many local families and was elated with the donations. Please keep them in mind throughout the season; without summer's gardening, the pressure is even greater in collecting and distributing food.

We are incredibly grateful

for our patrons who visit on a regular basis, for the conversations about books, and life and what their children are up to now. We are so thankful for our partner community organizations who lend a helping hand when needed. We are humbled by the show of support for our programs; for the grandparents who bring in the next generation of Story Hour participants, for the patrons who sing our praises on Facebook and Instagram and for all the "small" every day interactions that mean so much.

We're counting our blessing and asking you all to do the same. It's so easy to get caught up in the daily grind-thinking we have all the time in the world to appreciate what we have in the here and now-but as many of us know all too well, that just isn't the case.



"It was an a-Maze-ing time," Deirdre McHugh, Daniel Pierce Library Children's Program Coordinator, said about our last fall Lego program of the year. "They were so enthusiastic-right from the start-to get working on their mazes and they turned out so beautifully," she continued. The program, held Wednesday, November 15 for Tri-Valley students in grades four through six had the engineering challenge of designing mazes out of Lego pieces that their friends then had to try out with marbles. We love when children come to the library and get to experience such a fun activity-we look forward to each one. If your child missed this program (and resides within the Tri-Valley CSD boundaries) be on the lookout for more programs. We announce them through our website, social media platforms and the Tri Valley Townsman.



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Thanksgiving

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Mains

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Average 7 - 9 pounds half bird
- Turkey Breast - boneless \$12.49 lb Avg 3 - 3.5 lbs
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- Whole Salmon Sides - roasted \$19.00 lb
- Hickory Smoked Salmon Sides - \$23.99 lb

Sides

- Skin on Mashed Potatoes, butter and cream \$11.99 qt \$5.99 pt
- Roasted Butternut Squash \$10.49 qt \$5.29 pt
- Green Beans braised in garlic and onions, smoky bacon \$8.49 qt \$4.99 pt
- Southern Collard Greens seasoned with smoked turkey \$7.49 qt \$4.99pt
- Whipped Maple Yams covered in Toasty Marshmallow \$8.49 qt
- Herbed Bacon-Cornbread Stuffing Casserole \$11.99 qt \$5.99 pt
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The Scene Too

— By Jane Harrison

Word of advice....don't injure your foot! It is hell. About six weeks ago, something dropped on my foot while cleaning, hitting right where the toes meet the foot. What did I do? Swore and went about business. It is now ruling my life until it heals. I'm blaming the cleaning!

Combine that with winter actually arriving, well just yuck! And what is this 'snow bomb' for this week that I keep hearing about for New York? I'm seeing 1-3 inches tops. I guess we'll see.

A couple of things that I'd like to add to my last bit here. THE COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME visit would have been, for me, even better had their museum been open. It being closed was a source of many conversations. Cortland, New York was not around the corner for many of the attendees, and while hinting for donations, it might have been far worth their while to have opened their museum with its touted many treasures and collect the nominal fee. As it is, those who traveled serious distances expressed a reluctance to make the journey again even with the attached RV park.

Another highlight of the induction ceremonies was meeting ARLEN ROTH who was one of two celebrities scheduled to perform. You may not recognize the name, but from having been married to a musician and work in the music field, I sure did. If you google his name, you'll see what I mean. He appears on many recordings in many genres from SIMON AND GARFUNKEL forward. The man is a legend.



Inductee Don Cerce Sr.



Don Cerce Jr, Lil Scoles, inductee Don Cerce Sr.

The photo here is of LIL SCOLES and inductee to the HALL OF HONOR, DON CERCE SR. Who knew my friendship with LIL would lead to my attending the induction ceremonies!

Right now, these are on my radar (foot be damned) as 'must attend' for me:

POISON LOVE will be at THE BRIDGE AND TUNNEL

BREWERY in Liberty (just past the New Munson Diner) on the Friday after Thanksgiving at 4pm.

Sunday, December 10, the FREDRICK COOK SOCIETY hosts an Open House at the SULLIVAN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND MUSEUM in Hurleyville. Along with the performance of LITTLE SPARROW, the event will feature VAN MANAKAS and WAYNE LOPES, both known nationally and internationally, will be performing from 1pm-2. Also featured will be the wood-fired pottery by the late ROBERT SEGALL. All sales of the pottery will be donated. Doors open at 11am and the event is free.

My buddies THE JOHNNY JULES BAND will be back at the HASBROUK TAVERN on Friday, December 17th at 7pm.

SHANE RENNISON will be at the RUSSIAN MULE on Saturday, December 19th. This is an exciting young performer that I first caught at the HURLEYVILLE MUSIC FESTIVAL in June of this year. And his recent CD release is getting an amazing amount of attention in the press and rightly so. His originals are poignant and speak to a wide range of experiences. Consider him a 'must see'.

As you are out and about this holiday season, please be aware that CoVid is rearing its head again in the area with symptoms that mimic a common cold: sore throat, coughing, sneezing. In fact, it's so much of a worry that the state will be offering four free home Covid tests again soon. This does not bode well for the winter season.

Be well, stay safe and don't be afraid to mask up!

Until next time.....

Jazz guitar duo

Van Manakas and Wayne Lopes!

(From Pg. 1)



Earthenware pot by Robert Segall

On display will be an exhibition of wood fired earthenware pottery, donated by the late Robert Segall. Robert holds a post doctorate degree in Fine Art, and taught ceramics at Hunter College, College of the City of New York, and Marymount Manhattan College. Major influences include Pueblo Indian Pottery and Japanese Bizen Ware. Proceeds from

Robert's pottery sales will be donated to local charities and non profit organizations.

Doors open at 11:00. The event is free.

The Sullivan County Museum is located at 265 Main Street, Hurleyville. Call 845-434-8044 for more information or visit the Cook Society Website at frederickcookpolar.org.



Thanksgiving is much more than a big meal with family and friends. It's a time to reflect on, and be thankful for, all of the good things you have. Even with all of the uncertainty and turmoil in the world, you have so much to be thankful for. Rather than lamenting what you feel is lacking in your life, begin each new day by developing an attitude of gratitude. Take inventory of your blessings, and you will be surprised at just how much you have to be thankful for. Focus on all positive aspects of your life. Take nothing for granted. Every morning, recharge your appreciation. Be happy for everything there is, not upset over what you feel is missing. Make every day a day of Thanksgiving and you will be amazed at how much better your life will become.

Wishing you all a very Happy Thanksgiving and the start of a wonderful holiday season!



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The poster features a red background with yellow stars and gingerbread cookies. The title 'Gingerbread BASH' is written in a large, bubbly, brown font with a white outline. Below the title, the text 'Celebrating the birth of baby Jesus' is written in a white, sans-serif font. The date and time are listed as 'Date : Dec 10th Sunday' and 'Time: 1-3PM'. The location is 'Where: Claryville Reformed Church Hall, 946 Claryville Road, Claryville, NY 12725'. The word 'Free' is written in a large, white, sans-serif font. The RSVP information is 'RSVP: by Thursday Dec. 7th. Via e-mail to claryvillechurch@gmail.com'. The bottom section contains a paragraph of text and a double-asterisked note.

Gingerbread BASH

Celebrating the birth
of baby Jesus

Date : Dec 10th Sunday

Time: 1-3PM

Where: Claryville Reformed Church Hall
946 Claryville Road, Claryville, NY 12725

Free

RSVP: by Thursday Dec. 7th. Via e-mail to
claryvillechurch@gmail.com

Respondents need to provide their name, phone number, e-mail address (incase we need to contact you), number of children (so we can be sure to have enough supplies available) please. Thank you!

**** All children must be accompanied by an adult to attend the festivities.****

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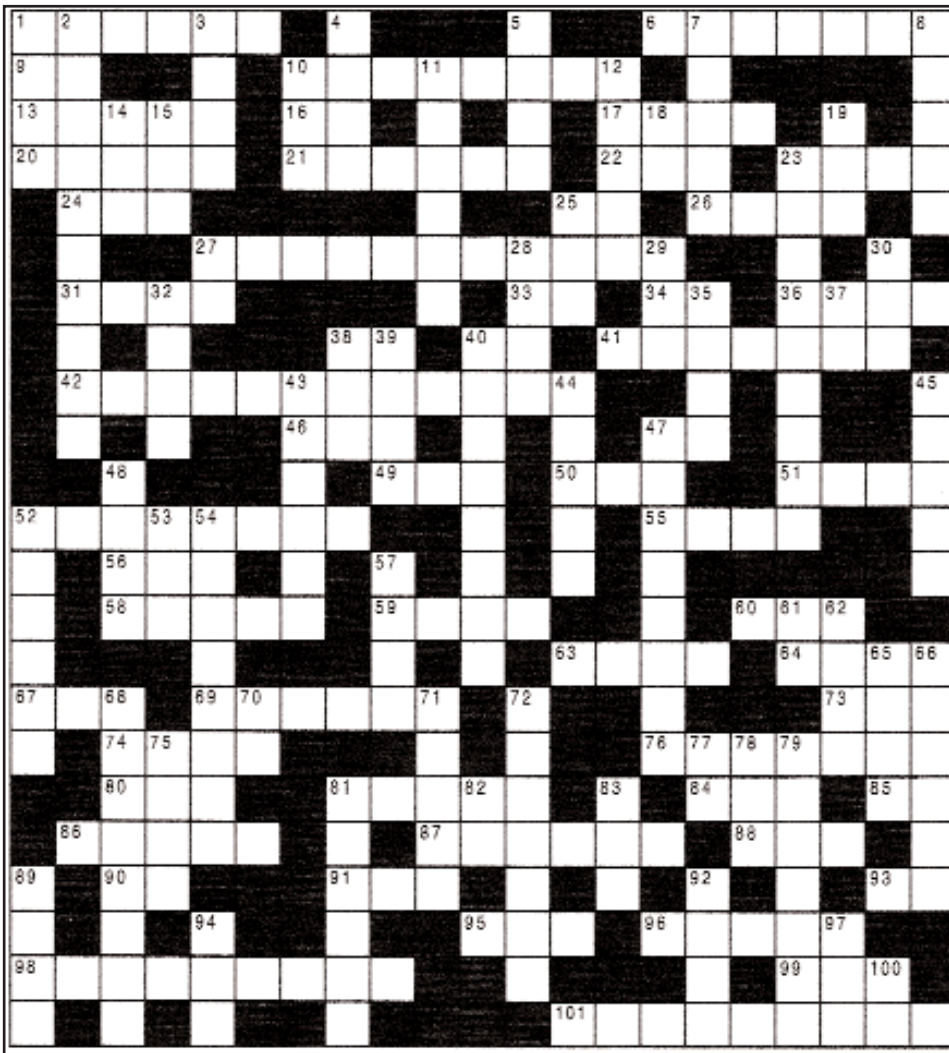
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A Time for Thanksgiving -L. Comando



ACROSS
 1 Part of Thanksgiving festivities
 6 A day of leisure
 9 Printer's measure
 10 Popular game enjoyed on Thanksgiving Day
 13 To accumulate
 16 Look!
 17 Always
 20 In accordance with fact
 21 Loves
 22 Person's bearing manner
 23 Dispense justice
 24 Word of command to a horse
 25 Post Script
 26 Device for

catching animals
 27 Popular Thanksgiving berries
 31 Range of lower female voice
 33 At the age of
 34 Objective-case of we
 36 To give food
 38 Anglo-Saxon
 40 3.14159
 41 Relating to worldly things
 42 November-28th
 46 Electrically charged atoms
 47 Part
 49 Prevent or limit speech
 50 To be in poor health
 51 Malevolent
 52 Good

wishes
 55 Belonging to you
 56 To perch or roost
 58 More faithful
 59 Ten cents
 60 Daughters of American Revolution
 63 Contest or match
 64 Maize
 67 Small child
 69 Household establishment
 73 Ocean
 74 State bordering Lake Erie
 76 Gathering of a crop
 80 Rifle
 81 Cereal seeds
 84 Foot digit
 85 Seventh note of the diatonic scale
 86 Author of this week's

Nature Column
 87 On the contrary
 88 Finish
 90 Tellurium (Chem)
 91 Small roll
 93 You and I
 95 In addition
 96 Elaborate meal
 98 "Prosper well"
 99 Possess
 101 Tribe of Algonquian Indians

DOWN
 1 Much loved people
 2 Migrating people
 3 Where the sun rises
 4 Nourishment
 5 A variety of sweet potato
 7 Apparent
 8 20th Century novelist
 10 Florida
 11 A

Thanksgiving entree
 12 A landlord's contract
 14 A stage of life
 15 That woman
 18 Roman six
 19 Vigor
 23 Pilgrim ship
 25 Thanksgiving pumpkin favorite
 27 Colorado
 28 Pour down
 29 Take legal action
 30 For each
 32 Second element in a comparison
 35 Form of improvised singing
 37 Each
 38 Before now
 39 Croon
 40 Wanderers
 43 Wrongdoer
 44 Juice given off by meat during cooking
 45 George Eliot's *Marnet*
 47 Rock where the pilgrims landed in

- 1620
- 48 Most excellent
- 52 Generous gift
- 53 Respectful term of address
- 54 Seasoned bread mixture served with turkey
- 57 Effigy
- 61 Alternating current
- 62 Flower of the genus *Rosa* family
- 65 Doze
- 66 Indigenous
- 68 Side by side
- 70 ___ dias, Vietnamese woman's tunic
- 71 Filled with desire
- 72 Sportsman's fall activity
- 75 Very large
- 77 Expressing a particular place
- 78 Fish eggs
- 79 The flesh of a game animal
- 81 Male turkey sound
- 82 Iowa
- 83 One more than nine
- 89 Where the sun sets
- 92 To harvest
- 94 Lyric poem
- 97 More than one
- 100 North America

Pauline Begendorf's Pumpkin Bread

- 1 2/3 c sugar
- 4 eggs
- 2/3 c. water
- 3 1/3 c flour
- 1/2 tsp. baking powder
- 1 3/4 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. ground cloves
- 2 c. pumpkin
- 2/3 c. oil
- 2/3 c. nuts, chopped
- 2/3 c. raisins
- 2 tsp. baking soda
- 1 tsp. cinnamon

Beat eggs lightly. Combine with the sugar, pumpkin, water and oil. Add flour, baking soda, baking powder, salt and spices.

Mix well. Add nuts and raisins. Bake in 350° oven for 45-60 minutes. This recipe makes 2 loaves.

数字は単数に限る

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

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

Kids' Fun Page

- L. Comando

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

Follow the dots to see a beautiful cornucopia, then color the pictures.



Can you find 5 differences between the 2 pictures?

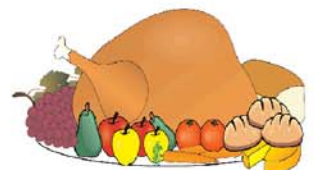


Thanksgiving Word Search

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

FAMILY
 GRATEFUL
 GRAVY
 POTATOES
 PUMPKIN

ROLLS
 SQUASH
 STUFFING
 THANKS
 TURKEY



Help the waiter through the maze to the family's Thanksgiving table.



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

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

Any questions contact Cher @ cwparksandrec@gmail.com



LEGALIS/PUBLIC NOTICES

**Annual Election of the Neversink Fire District
Held on December 12th, 2023**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual Election of the Neversink Fire District will take place on December 12th between the hours of 6:00pm and 9:00pm at the Neversink Fire House located at 7486 State Route 55, Neversink, New York for the purpose of electing a Commissioner for one, one year term, commencing January 1st, 2024 and ending December 31st, 2024, and a Commissioner for one, five year term, commencing January 1, 2024 and ending December 31st, 2028. All voters registered with the Sullivan County Board of Elections on or before November 20th, 2023 and residing within the Neversink Fire District will be eligible to vote.

Candidates for District Office will need to have filed their names and the office they are seeking in writing with the Secretary of Neversink Fire District, at the firehouse at Neversink Fire District, PO Box 394, Neversink, New York 12765, no later than 20 days prior to the election with the last day for a Candidate to file their name in writing being November 22nd, 2023.

Dana Vogler, Secretary
Board of Fire Commissioners
Neversink Fire District
11/16; 11/23; 11/30; 12/7

Senior Legislative Action Committee

The Senior Legislative Action Committee of Sullivan County. We invite you to our postponed meeting on Friday, December 1, 2023, at 10 AM in the Legislative Committee Room of the Government Center, Monticello, NY. Doors open @ 9:40 am.

Call to Order
Welcome
Minutes of last meeting
Treasurer's report

Old Business:

Update on Adult Care Center.
Postponement of Application to January /February
- What we did that made a difference
- What is the CON's future?

What we can do to move the legislature to "TAKE THE ACC BACK".

Open forum and discussion on:

- A. Garnet Catskills, Harris
 - a. Their plans
- B. Emergency Medical Services

Any business or concerns from the membership and guests.

Adjournment

COME! Bring a Friend, learn together and plan actions to improve our quality of life.

SLAC, P.O. Box 303, Kiamesha Lake NY 12551. ???
Call 845 866 2629

DUES: \$10.00 per year. 2024, collected before or after the meeting.

SLAC is affiliated with StateWide Senior Action Council, senior@org.com and NYS Alliance for Retired Americans nysara.org

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**Thank you for your recent support.
Your Town Board looks forward to
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The Denning Republican Committee

Kiwanis Club of Monticello 2023

Bernie Shore/Rose Raimond

Fundraising Dinner

We are once again making our annual fundraising dinner available at a time of your choosing from Yanni's Café on Pleasant Street in Monticello. You can have your dinner socially distant "eat in" or "take out" at the window after ordering ahead at 845-794-2044.

Dinner choices (choose one):

Roast Beef Dinner

Grilled Chicken Platter

Gyro Platter

Vegetarian Crepe

Dinner Includes: Dinner choice, Soup or Salad, Choice of 2 Sides

Tickets are \$25 each and must be purchased in advance by contacting a Monticello Kiwanis member or by mailing a check made out to Kiwanis Club of Monticello, P.O. Box 413, Monticello, NY 12701. They are valid currently and may be redeemed at Yanni's through December 31, 2023

Thanks for your continual support of this important annual fundraiser. All proceeds benefit our local projects, including a Walk Against Hunger, aiding foster children, working with United Way to collect food baskets for holiday distribution, providing books for second graders and sponsoring scholarships for Monticello High School seniors.

For questions or information on obtaining tickets contact:
Marvin Rappaport at 845-701-1655.

Shadowland Stages
Meet Mary, Elizabeth, and
Jane from
MISS BENNET:
CHRISTMAS AT PEMBERLEY
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HMldUvF7xA8>

This family-friendly romance stars Laura Cable* (last seen in the 2023 hit comedy *The 39 Steps*) as Mary, the bookish middle sister coming into her own. Making his SHADOWLAND STAGES debut is Michael Raver*, portraying the anxious introvert Arthur de Bourgh, who Mary finds to be a kindred spirit and intellectual equal.

Directed by Brendan Burke, *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley* unfolds two years after the events of Jane Austen's masterpiece. Mary, growing weary of her role as the dutiful daughter amid her sisters' romantic escapades, discovers a potential love interest in Arthur - a "single man in possession of a good fortune." Mary must learn to be the heroine of her own story that the San Francisco Chronicle calls a "perfectly constructed love story".

Also in the cast are Melody Ladd* as Elizabeth "Lizzie" Darcy, Katharina Schmidt as Anne, Ben Williamson* as Mr. Darcy, Devon Caraway* as Jane Bennet, Lena Pepe* as Lydia Bennet Wickham, and Matthew Zimmerman* as Charles.

*denotes member of Actor's Equity.

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW
https://shadowlandstages.easy-ware-ticketing.com/calendar?mc_cid=606d9a1c8b&mc_eid=138a9b9d06

Join us for laughter and romance in *MISS BENNET: CHRISTMAS AT PEMBERLEY* by Lauren Gunderson and Margot Melcon!

When: December 1 - 17

Where: The MainStage at SHADOWLAND STAGES.

This energetic and witty romantic comedy has become a new holiday classic, delighting audiences across the country. As the Chicago Tribune raves, "An unstuffy, highly entertaining and warm-spirited work, the kind of thing multiple generations can enjoy together..." And the Houston Chronicle declares, "This show is a holiday gift!"

Don't miss this heartwarming holiday play that's perfect for the whole family. Please note our holiday performance schedule: Fridays & Saturdays at 7 PM __ Saturdays & Sundays at 2 PM

Get your tickets now and make *MISS BENNET: CHRISTMAS AT PEMBERLEY* part of your holiday traditions at **SHADOWLAND STAGES!**

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**AT GABY'S CAFE &
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December 10, 2023

**Lunch at noon
 Show at 2:00pm**

Miss Bennet: Christmas At Pemberley

\$100 per person

**Contact Rich Bradford at (845) 807-3043 or
 Bill Brown at (845) 903-3069 to purchase tickets
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**Sundown United Methodist Church
Covered Dish Supper
5:30 pm
Dec 2, 2023**

Many items from the Indoor Yard Sale will be available for sale at the Supper. Come check them out.

Sundown United Methodist Church Hall

St. Mary's and St. Andrews Church
139 S Main Street • Ellenville, NY 12740

Mass Times
SUNDAY EUCHARIST
5:00 PM Saturday Evening
7:30 AM Sunday Morning
10:00 AM Sunday Morning
(Latin) 11:30 AM Sunday Morning*
(Spanish) 1:00 PM Sunday Afternoon
*Sung Mass 2nd and 4th Sundays

WEEKDAY EUCHARIST
8:00 AM Monday through Friday
9:00 AM Saturday

HOLY DAY EUCHARIST
Schedule will be listed in the bulletin
<https://smsaparish.org/bulletins>

**CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**
(Embraces Fallsburg, Neversink, Sundown and Ulster Heights)
6317 Rte. 42, Woodbourne, NY

Weekend Mass schedule:
Saturday afternoon: 4:30 pm
Sunday morning: 9:00 am and 11:30 am

Daily Mass Schedule: Monday, Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday
Mass at 8:30AM.

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

Grahamsville United Methodist Church

**Holiday Craft Fair
December 2, 2023
from 10:00 to 3:00
Fellowship Hall**

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

Join Zoom Meeting - Worship Service & Tuesday Evening Bible Study Zoom Link
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2029912673?pwd=R21JYUhyTVdsQWdMUXZvTEtCeGdLZz09>
Meeting ID: 202 991 2673 Passcode: 012740
Dial by your location
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

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

Grahamsville Reformed Church

The Church with a friendly welcome
Pastor Kenneth Ronk
Sunday School 9:30 am
Worship Service 9:30 am
P O Box 238 - Route 55
Grahamsville, NY 12740
845-985-7480

Claryville Reformed Church

Claryville Road
Claryville, NY 12725
845-985-2041



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

Loucks Funeral Home

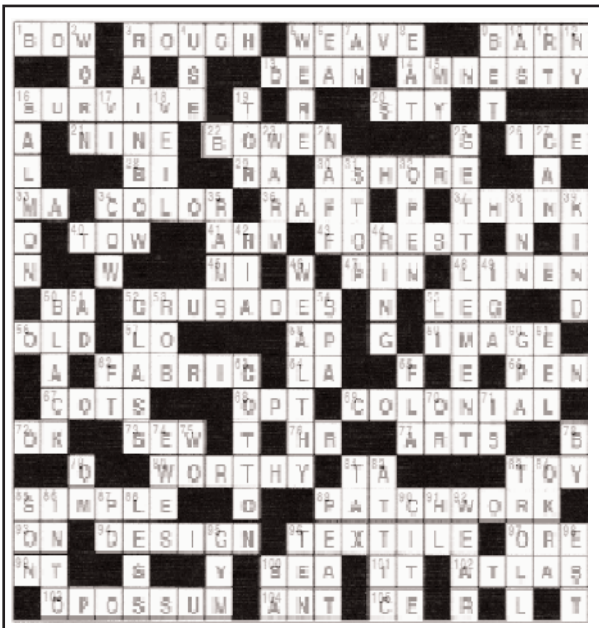
Geoff and Heather Hazzard
"Celebrating Life, One Family at a Time"

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

St. Augustine's Chapel
Watson Hollow Rd. • West Shokan, NY

Sunday Mass - 9:30 am
Holy Days 5:30 pm
Penance 9:00 am, 2nd Sunday of the month
Rev. Thomas P. Kiely, Pastor

Ans to last week's Crossword



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

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

GRAHAMSVILLE UMC THRIFT MINISTRY

We are no longer accepting donations for the Thrift Ministry. Thanks to all for your generosity which has helped to make a successful season. We look forward to returning in the Spring of 2023.
The Grahamsville UMC Mission Team

<https://grahamsvilleUMC.org>
 GrahamsvilleUMC@gmail.com—Seung Jin Hong, Pastor

Sundown United Methodist Church Covered Dish Supper
Saturday, December 2nd, 2023 5:30 pm at the Church Hall
Check out the tables with Yard Sale items available for sale
 (Covered Dish Suppers are held the First Saturday of each month at 5:30 pm at the Church Hall)

Holiday Craft Fair
The Grahamsville United Methodist Church will be hosting a Holiday Craft Fair on Saturday, December 2, 2023 from 10:00 to 3:00 in their Fellowship Hall
Local artists and craftsman will be selling their jewelry, ceramics, pottery, and much more...
Chili, soup, sandwiches and desserts will be available for take-out only
The church is located at 356 Main Street (Route 55) in Grahamsville
For more information call, 845-985-7427 or 845-985-7222

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

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.

LOCAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

11/22-23/23	Town of Neversink Holiday - THANKSGIVING
12/2/23	Grahamsville UMC Holiday Craft Fair 10:00 am - 3:00pm Fellowship Hall
12/2/23	Sundown UMC Covered Dish Supper 5:30 Church Hall
12/5/23	Claryville Fire District Meeting 6:30 pm
12/6/23	Town of Neversink Planning Board Meeting 7:00 pm
12/12/23	Claryville Fire District Election 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
12/12/23	Neversink Fire District Election 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
12/12/23	Denning Town Board & Business Meeting 6:00 pm Denning Town Hall
12/13/23	Town of Neversink Board Meeting 7:00 pm
12/19/23	Town of Neversink Zoning Board Meeting 7:30 pm
12/21/23	Denning Town Planning Board Meeting 6:00 pm Denning Town Hall
12/21/23	Neversink Fire District Commissioner Meeting 7:00pm

Save the Date!

Grahamsville UMC Holiday Craft Fair Dec. 2, 2023 - 10 am - 3 pm
Gingerbread Bash Dec 10th 1-3 pm Claryville Reformed Church Hall (See pg. 13 for details)

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.

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

Ulster County Legislature Weekly Calendar Update for the Week Of

November 20 - November 24, 2023

Monday, November 20

- o 9:00 AM - Ulster County Soil & Water Conservation District, at 5 Park Lane, Highland, 12528
- o 11:00 AM - Ways & Means Committee: Budgetary Appeals & Amendments Meeting, in Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston
- o 3:00 PM - Ulster County Electrical Licensing Board, in the Rondout Municipal Center, 1915 Lucas Avenue, Cottekill 12419
- o 6:00 PM - Ulster County Trails Advisory Committee, in Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, Kingston

Tuesday, November 21

- o 1:00 PM - Ways & Means Committee: Budgetary Appeals & Amendments (As Needed), in Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston

Wednesday, November 22

- o 12:00 PM - Resolution Deadline
- o 7:30 PM - Fire Advisory Board, in Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston

Thursday, November 23

- o Thanksgiving - All County Offices Closed

Friday, November 24

- o Office Closed



Artwork by Jared Bliss

Woodstock Holiday Open House

Friday, December 1st 4-8pm

Shop Local this Holiday Season

Sponsored by Woodstock Brick & Mortar and The Town of Woodstock

Ulster County Leads in Green Procurement, Joins New York State's Green Purchasing Communities Program

KINGSTON, NY - Ulster County Executive Jen Metzger is proud to announce that Ulster County has joined the New York State (NYS) Green Purchasing Communities Program (GPC) as one of seven local governments in the state to join this initiative. The GPC program aligns with Executive Order 1 of 2023, County Executive Metzger's Climate Action Commitment which created a bold climate agenda for Ulster County Government to achieve the goals of the New York State Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

"Green Purchasing" entails making informed choices to purchase products that are sustainable and have a lower environmental impact, such as products with reduced packaging or products containing a higher percentage of recycled material content. To become a NYS Green Purchasing Community, a local government must adopt a Green or Sustainable Purchasing Policy.

In accordance with Executive Metzger's Climate Action Commitment, the Ulster County Department of Purchasing, in collaboration with the Department of the Environment, took the lead in updating its Procurement Manual in May. The update incorporated a Sustainable Purchasing Policy that aligns with the requirements of the statewide GPC program, and in some instances went further by requiring that the County only purchase copy paper with 100% recycled content and refrain from purchasing single use plastics.

To support the implementation of this policy and track sustainable purchases, the County developed an internal tracking and reporting mechanism and instituted a comprehensive training package for County employees, including a video tutorial and supplemental educational resources aimed at promoting awareness and understanding of sustainable purchasing practices.

"Governments purchase significant quantities of goods and supplies and can play an important role not only in modeling responsible purchasing but also in helping to expand the markets for sustainable products and the new green jobs that come with that," said Ulster County Executive Jen Metzger. "We are thrilled to join the NYS Green Purchasing Communities Program, and to go even further in setting a high bar for government. We invite fellow communities to join us in creating a more sustainable, healthier environment for our residents and future generations."

Ulster County Director of Purchasing Edward Jordan stated, "We're excited to work with County Executive Metzger and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to achieve our goal of making New York a more environmentally sustainable place to live and work. It's been a rewarding experience creating a positive message about the benefits of sustainability to our colleagues in the Ulster County workforce. We look forward to partnering with suppliers and other communities to implement programs that expand the commodity and service procurement pipeline and

integrate new standards focusing on sustainability."

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner Basil Seggos said, "Governor Kathy Hochul's ambitious green procurement initiatives are advancing a more sustainable future for New York by directly involving local governments through the State's new Green Purchasing Communities program. I commend Ulster County for serving as an exemplary community leader in their innovative green purchasing programs and look forward to our continued partnership towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions and helping meet many other New York environmental and climate goals."

The Green Purchasing Communities program makes it easy for local governments to adopt and implement purchasing specifications that prioritize products with lower environmental impacts. The GPC program identifies over 75 different GreenNY purchasing specifications covering office and building management supplies, electronic equipment and appliances, food service items, and transportation items. Additional specifications for a wide variety of items frequently purchased by local governments are also available as guidance, as well as ongoing updates for current green purchasing standards that promote public health and environmental sustainability.

Local governments in New York have substantial leverage in minimizing the environmental impact of their purchases and influencing the market's transition toward more sustainable choices due to their significant buying power and scale. For instance, Ulster County's total commodity spending exceeded \$18 million in 2022, highlighting the positive influence of the new Sustainable Purchasing Policy.

Ulster County encourages its local municipal governments and fellow NYS counties to join the NYS Green Purchasing Communities Program to further elevate this impact. This achievement also contributes to Ulster County's progress in the NYS Climate Smart Communities (CSC) Certification Program. The CSC Certification program offers local governments a comprehensive framework for climate action and acknowledges high-performing communities for their leadership. Ulster County is currently a silver-level Climate Smart Community.

Statement from Senator Oberacker

ONEONTA, 11/16/23 -- State Senator Peter Oberacker (R/C - Schenectady) commented on the Clean Slate Bill which was signed into law by the governor today:

"Protecting the public is one of the most important responsibilities of government, however, here in New York the criminals continue to have the upper hand thanks to measures like Clean Slate. I am supportive of giving individuals a second chance, but I am not okay with hiding serious crimes like manslaughter, gang assault, and armed robbery - to name a few. This law, like bail reform, is another blow to public safety in our communities. I join with my Republican colleagues, law enforcement officials, and victims' rights advocates who continue to push back against these dangerous policies."

Governor Hochul Expands Economic Opportunity for New Yorkers, Protects Public Safety by Signing the Clean Slate Act

S.7551A/A.1029C Allows Certain Criminal Records To Be Sealed Years After Their Sentence or Incarceration if An Individual Remains Crime-Free

Compromise Negotiated By Governor Hochul Allows Law Enforcement, Prosecutors, School Officials, and Courts To Access An Individual's Full Criminal Record; Access To Records Of Convictions For Murder, Sex Offenses, Domestic Terrorism, Other Serious Crimes Will Remain Unchanged For All

New York Becomes 12th State To Enact Clean Slate Legislation; Analysis Shows Individuals Impacted By Record Expungement Have Been Less Likely Than General Public To Commit Criminal Offenses

Last Thursday, Governor Kathy Hochul signed the Clean Slate Act (S.7551A/A.1029C), which allows certain criminal records to be sealed years after an individual is sentenced or released from incarceration if that individual is not subsequently convicted of an additional criminal act. Following their release from any incarceration, records of individuals with eligible misdemeanor convictions will be sealed after three years and those with certain felony convictions, after eight years. The Clean Slate Act will not seal the records of individuals convicted of sex crimes, murder or other non-drug Class A felonies; law enforcement, prosecutors, the New York State Education Department, the courts and other groups will continue to have access to all criminal records under this law.

“The best crime-fighting tool is a good-paying job. That’s why I support giving New Yorkers a clean slate after they’ve paid their debt to society and gone years without an additional offense,” Governor Hochul said. “I negotiated a compromise that protects public safety and boosts economic opportunity, and the final Clean Slate Law will help New Yorkers access jobs and housing while allowing police, prosecutors and school officials to protect their communities. And as our state faces a worker shortage, with more than 450,000 job openings right now, this new law will help businesses find more workers who will help them grow, expand and thrive.”

“The Clean Slate Act is a historic step forward with regard to restorative justice and second chances,” said Lieutenant Governor Antonio Delgado. “This will allow so many New Yorkers to build a new future for them-

selves, their families, and their community.”

State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins said, “Clean Slate offers a genuine second chance to individuals who have fully paid their debt to society, enabling them to restart their lives and become positive contributors to their communities. By the Legislature passing, and the Governor signing the Clean Slate bill into law, we are affirming our belief in redemption and improving our society by providing formerly incarcerated individuals a better path forward and removing barriers that have prevented so many from establishing stability in their lives. My appreciation goes to Senator Zellnor Myrie for championing this bill in the Senate, and to my Conference for their support in passing this vital legislation that will empower thousands of New Yorkers to forge a better future. I also thank Governor Hochul who has shown that her administration recognizes the economic and moral implications of this important bill.”

Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie said, “By signing the Clean Slate Act into law, we will give millions of New Yorkers who served their time the opportunity to begin a new chapter of their lives - helping open the door to housing and employment opportunities previously closed to them. Thank you to bill sponsor Assemblymember Catalina Cruz and the many members of our Assembly majority conference who fought hard to get this passed. We remain committed to building a criminal justice system that prioritizes rehabilitation over perpetual punishment and this is an important step in that direction. I look forward to continuing to work with our partners in government to achieve that goal.”

The Clean Slate Act (S.7551A/A.1029C) takes effect one year from today. It provides the New York State Office of Court Administration up to three years from that date to implement the processes necessary to identify and seal all eligible records. The law will seal certain criminal records following an individual's release from any incarceration: eligible misdemeanor convictions will be sealed three years after release, and eligible felony convictions will be sealed eight years after release - on the condition that the individual convicted of the offense has not committed an additional crime in the intervening period.

The law also includes multiple components to protect public safety. Records will not be sealed to law enforcement or the criminal justice system. Records will not be sealed for individuals convicted of sex offenses, murder, domestic terror and other non-drug Class A felonies, and will also not be sealed until parole or probation is complete and there are no criminal charges in New York State. The clock restarts altogether if parole or probation is revoked or if there is a new conviction. Employers permitted by law to perform fingerprint-based criminal history checks on job applicants will continue to receive those records and use them to determine whether individuals should be hired. Conviction information will remain available for law enforcement purposes, the hiring of police and peace officers, the hiring of teachers at public and private schools, and background checks for firearm purchases and/or licenses. (Contd. Pg. 27)

Governor Hochul Expands Economic Opportunity for New Yorkers, Protects Public Safety by Signing the Clean Slate Act

(From Pg. 26) New York will become the 12th state in the nation to sign Clean Slate legislation, joining states like Utah, South Dakota, Oklahoma, New Jersey, Michigan and Pennsylvania. A study from the libertarian Cato Institute found that following Michigan's passage of record expungement legislation, individuals with expunged records posed a lower crime risk than the general statewide population; the same study found that the reconviction rate for violent crimes was less than 1 percent.

A criminal record can impede an individual's full participation in their communities after they have served their sentence. This is especially true for individuals from communities of color, who have been disproportionately represented in the criminal justice system. While New York State has the lowest incarceration rate among states with more than 10 million residents, racial disparities persist. Studies show that without Clean Slate, New York is missing out on \$12.6 billion in annual economic activity - the total cost of lost wages each year due to the reduced earnings of individuals with unsealed records; nationwide, the cost to GDP is approximately \$87 billion each year.

New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services Commissioner Rossana Rosado said, "The Clean Slate Act will help reduce recidivism by ensuring that people who have served their sentences can access educational opportunities, jobs and housing, which are all essential ingredients to success. Helping individuals successfully transition back to their communities improves lives and public safety, and the Clean Slate Act makes our criminal justice system fairer for all. I thank Governor Kathy Hochul for her leadership, vision and support for reforms that work."

New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision Acting Commissioner Daniel F. Martuscello III said, "Removing barriers to reentry and providing justice-involved individuals with a second chance is critical to the rehabilitation process. The Clean Slate Act will not only further the Department's efforts to reduce recidivism, but will bring hope to hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers by providing greater access to employment and housing. I applaud Governor Hochul for her leadership in implementing such impactful change while fully prioritizing public safety. The Department has already begun working with our State partners to ensure that the Office of Court Administration has the resources necessary to implement this law as expeditiously as possible."

State Senator Zellnor Myrie said, "It's not every day that we can change our laws to strengthen our communities, make our legal system more fair, improve public safety and grow our economy at the same time. But that's exactly what Clean Slate will do for New Yorkers. I'm grateful to Governor Hochul for signing this transformative bill into law, to my partner Assembly Member Catalina Cruz, and to one of the largest, broadest and most diverse coalitions in state history who helped make this moment possible. To the

millions of New Yorkers who will be impacted by this law, I'm proud to say the wait is over."

Assemblymember Catalina Cruz said, I am profoundly moved by this incredible step in our journey for justice, redemption, and economic development. This transformative law seeks to redress the harmful aftermath of a criminal justice system designed to promote inequity and injustice, even once the debt has been paid to society. Millions of New Yorkers have been burdened by the crippling weight of their past convictions. By providing qualifying individuals with a clean slate, we are unlocking doors to dignified employment, education, and housing, thereby fueling economic growth and stability for all New Yorkers. Ensuring that people can work and find housing is the best way to keep our communities safe, reduce recidivism, and break the cyclic poverty and mass incarceration for generations to come. I am proud of the strong and supportive coalition we built, from labor unions, to small and large businesses, to criminal justice activists and law enforcement, as well as faith and civic leaders. This is a testament to our commitment to building a more inclusive and just economy, where everyone has the opportunity to contribute and thrive regardless of their past. I would like to thank Governor Hochul for signing this bill into law, as well as Speaker Heastie for never faltering in our collective vision. I also want to thank my colleague Senator Myrie and the Clean Slate Coalition for fighting every step of the way so that 2.3 million New Yorkers and their generations to come receive the second chance they so desperately need."

The law requires the Office of Court Administration to determine which criminal history records are eligible for sealing and notify the following entities of those sealed convictions: the state Division of Criminal Justice Services, which maintains the state's fingerprint-based criminal history records; courts of conviction, county clerks, police departments, sheriffs' offices, and district attorneys' offices.

The law also builds upon other efforts implemented and enacted by New York State to help remove barriers faced by people with criminal convictions, especially the approximately 25,000 individuals who return to their communities annually after serving prison sentences. The state has reinstated the right to vote for people on parole; removed outright bans on occupational licenses; implemented fair-chance hiring at state agencies; and prohibited discrimination at state-financed housing based solely on an individual's criminal record, among other initiatives.

Governor Hochul has prioritized public safety throughout her time in office, securing the most criminal justice system funding in a generation; and increasing investments to improve opportunities for young people and families and strengthen communities. The FY24 budget funds the Governor's public safety plan and comprehensive plan to fight gun violence and violent crime, improve community safety and increase public trust in the criminal justice system. As part of this plan, the budget includes record investments to support programs and services that assist with re-entry, and pretrial programs designed to divert individuals from deeper involvement in the criminal justice system.

Gillibrand Leads Senate Colleagues in Call for Strengthened Protections for Immigrant Children in Government Custody

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Today, U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) led her Senate colleagues in the introduction of the Protection of Kids in Detention (PROKID) Act, which would improve and enforce transparency, protection, and accountability for all immigrant children in government custody. The PROKID Act would create a permanent Office of the Ombudsperson within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) responsible for ensuring that the rights afforded to children by the Flores Settlement Agreement, the 2008 Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVPRA), and other relevant statutes and standards are properly enforced.

This bill is cosponsored by Senators Durbin (D-IL), Merkley (D-OR), Warren (D-MA), Blumenthal (D-CT), Cortez Masto (D-NV), and Booker (D-NJ).

"The separation of children from their families is barbaric and shameful. We must develop and enforce thoughtful guidelines and standards of care to ensure unaccompanied children, many of whom are fleeing unimaginable hardship in search of better lives, are treated with dignity and care when they reach our borders," said Senator Gillibrand. "Unfortunately, under President Trump's 'zero tolerance' immigration policy, thousands of children were separated from their parents and forced to live in oppressive conditions. While we can never undo years of trauma and harm done to immigrant children seeking safety in the United States, the PROKID Act is a meaningful, long-term solution to this complex problem. I look forward to working with my colleagues to get this bill passed and to protect the dignity of all youth."

"We must ensure that unaccompanied children are treated with dignity and respect while in our government's care," said Senator Cortez Masto. "Our PROKID Act provides critical tools to protect the safety and wellbeing of these children while also helping them reunite with their families whenever possible."

"We were all heartsick to see thousands of children detained and separated from their families at the border under the Trump administration," said Senator Elizabeth Warren. "Senator Gillibrand and I are introducing the PROKID Act to strengthen federal oversight and ensure the wellbeing of immigrant children while in federal care."

"Everyone deserves to be treated with dignity and respect, particularly vulnerable children coming to the U.S. to seek safety. When immigrant children are in government custody, it is our obligation to ensure their health and safety," said Senator Durbin. "The PROKID Act would protect these children by establishing an office dedicated to advocating for child welfare best practices and investigating reports of legal violations and abuse. This will create more thorough oversight mechanisms for how our immigration system treats our most vulnerable."

"Our nation must do more to advocate for and protect the rights of children who come in contact with our immigration system," said Senator Booker. "The PROKID Act would provide a new layer of oversight and accountability to ensure that all immigrant children in any kind of government custody are treated with compassion, care, and dignity. This is one of many steps that we must take to ensure a more just immigration system that reflects the best of our nation's values." (Contd. Pg.

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Every day
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for the first 20 words/
20 cents each additional word

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\$6.00 per week

Business card ad (2" x 3")
- \$12.00 per week

(3" x 4") - \$24.00 per week

(3" x 6") - \$36.00 per week

1/4 pg (4" x 5") - \$40.00 per week

1/2 pg (4"x8") - \$64.00 per week

(6" x 8") - \$96.00 per week

Full Page - 8" x 10" -
\$100.00 per week

Digital Flyer Insert - 8"x10 - \$100.00/week

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and Organizations -
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(once the flyer is inserted
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Free Christmas
Trees for Veterans*

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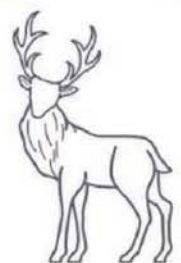
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Delaware Valley Farm and Garden*

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AND TREE EXHIBIT AT
MUSEUM

MOVIES AND DANCE



SHADOWLAND
STAGES



BY LAUREN GUNDERSON and
MARGOT MELCON

The MainStage at SHADOWLAND STAGES

157 Canal Street, Ellenville NY 12428

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SUNDAYS at 2 PM

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DEC 1 - 17

Gillibrand Leads Senate Colleagues in Call for Strengthened Protections for Immigrant Children in Government Custody

(From Pg. 28)

“This bill would establish essential oversight to protect the rights, well-being, and safety of unaccompanied children while they are in government custody. As kids wait to be reunited with their families, a permanent office of the Ombudsperson within HHS would advocate for them, monitor for any claims of mistreatment or neglect, and hold those responsible accountable,” said Senator Blumenthal. “The PROKID Act is a necessary measure to ensure our government has the right tools and processes in place to provide a safe environment for these young immigrants.”

“Save the Children is pleased to support the PROKID Act, a vital piece of legislation that ensures children's dignity, rights, and well-being are at the forefront of all immigration proceedings. This bill would guarantee that immigrant children in government custody are held in the least restrictive settings and that they are reunited with their families in a timely manner. This bill is perfectly aligned with Save the Children's unwavering commitment to protecting the rights and well-being of migrant children, placing a crucial emphasis on centering their needs and interests in immigration decisions.” - Santiago Mueckay, Save the Children

“The Young Center applauds the introduction of the PROKID Act, which advances children's rights and helps to ensure government accountability for immigrant children in government custody. As the only organization providing independent Child Advocates to unaccompanied children, we know that any time in government custody is harmful to children's safety and wellbeing, and we are committed to fighting for a system that enshrines their best interests. Too often, children seeking safety are confronted with a prolonged period of detention and separation from family. We are grateful to Sen. Gillibrand and Rep. Jayapal for leading this effort to address systemic concerns at a pivotal time; ORR is in the process of rulemaking which could potentially end judicial oversight of the UC Program and now more than ever, strong oversight is needed to protect children in federal custody.” - Mary Miller Flowers, Director of Policy and Legislative Affairs for the Young Center for Immigrant Children's Rights

Specifically, PROKID would:

1. Ensure that immigrant children are only held in government custody in the least restrictive setting;
2. Empower the Ombudsperson to advocate for the quick, safe, and efficient release of immigrant children from government custody whenever possible, including the right to review placement decisions;
3. Create an expert advisory committee made of up immigration law and child protection specialists to report on trends from the field and advise on best practices;
4. Mandate the establishment of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Homeland Security to facilitate a close working relationship and ensure visibility, allow for real-time communication, and influence policy and procedures for those children in temporary DHS custody.

The PROKID Act has been endorsed by the Young Center for Immigrant Children's Rights, National Center for Youth Law, Prevention Institute, Kids in Need of Defense (KIND), Michigan Immigrant Rights Center, Save the Children, Church World Service, Witness at the Border, Immigrant Legal Resource Center, Acacia Center for Justice, National Immigrant Justice Center, Futures Without Violence, Center for Law and Social

Policy (CLASP), National Education Association, and Women's Refugee Commission.

A champion for the well-being of children and families, Gillibrand has long advocated against troubling conditions at immigration facilities and for improvements to policy and procedures relating to children in government custody. In addition to leading the PROKID Act, Senator Gillibrand helped introduce landmark legislation that would take important first steps toward reforming the nation's detention-based immigration system. Following disturbing reports from federal oversight agencies and the media of children being held for extended periods of time in unlicensed facilities, Gillibrand also called on the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) to immediately implement policies to speed up the reunification process for immigrant families.

Read the text of the bill here.

<https://www.gillibrand.senate.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/MCC23F23.pdf>

Gillibrand Calls on Drug Enforcement Agency to Reschedule Marijuana to a Schedule III Substance

WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand is calling on the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) to reschedule marijuana from a Schedule I to a Schedule III substance. Unlike other Schedule I substances, like heroin, marijuana is not associated with the same acute health risks and potential for addiction and abuse. It is also shown to be effective in treating chronic pain, PTSD, and other debilitating conditions. Rescheduling marijuana to Schedule III would reduce obstacles to its prescription and encourage investment and research into additional medical uses.

“While I continue to believe that marijuana should be descheduled entirely, I am urging the DEA to, at a minimum, consider rescheduling it from Schedule I to a Schedule III substance,” said Senator Gillibrand. “Marijuana is simply not comparable to other Schedule I substances like heroin, LSD, and MDMA. Moreover, marijuana enforcement has for decades disproportionately targeted communities of color. This means that people of color are more likely to have criminal records for marijuana possession and to face needless barriers to employment, housing, and educational opportunities as a result. It is past time to end overly restrictive federal marijuana policy and I urge the DEA to do so immediately.”

The Controlled Substances Act (CSA) categorizes controlled substances into five schedules, with Schedule I classification being the most restrictive. Schedule I classification is characterized by its stringent criteria of having no recognized medical utility and a high potential for abuse. Schedule I is the same classification used for heroin and LSD, and an even higher classification than medical fentanyl and methamphetamine - drugs that currently pose a serious public health crisis in our communities.

The full text of Senator Gillibrand's letter to the DEA is available here

<https://www.gillibrand.senate.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Quill-Letter-L13764-Letter-to-DEA-to-Reschedule-Marijuana-Version-8-11-16-2023-@-12-40-PM.pdf>

SYDA Foundation Community Service Award 2023



On Wednesday, November 15th, the SYDA Foundation presented the Community Service Award 2023 to Ms. Barbi Neumann-Marty. The ceremony was held at the Sullivan County Government Center in Monticello, NY.

In 1986, the SYDA Foundation Board of Trustees established the SYDA Foundation Community Service Award. This award was created to honor and acknowledge those who perform good works that benefit the Sullivan County community and to encourage an ongoing spirit and practice of community service.

We're pleased to offer you the opportunity to view a recording of the presentation. The recording will be available for the next two weeks until midnight on Saturday, December 2, 2023.

You can access via this link:

<https://vimeo.com/885878008?share=copy>

And use this Password: csa2023

Note: This recording is intended for personal viewing only and is protected under SYDA Foundation copyright. Please do not download, copy or distribute the recording in any manner.

You are welcome to forward this email to others who may be interested in viewing this special event.

If you have any inquiries about the event or the recording, please email CSA@syda.org.

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Live Webinar for Adults

How Money Works

Free Live Webinar

Saturday, December 16, 2023

10:30 a.m.-11:45 a.m.

Presenter: James Farnham, MS, MBA, Licensed Agent

This webinar is for anyone who wants to learn more about personal finance. Whether you're just starting out or looking to improve your financial skills, this program will provide you with the information you need to make sound financial decisions.

Topics covered (and much more):

- How to save money for short-term and long-term goals
- How to invest your money wisely and avoid the high cost of waiting
- Identify and outline the three "Ds" of investing
- Uncover and illustrate the Rule of 72
- Paying off debt and the effects of compounding (both good and bad!)

For more details, please check out our website at www.danielpiercelibrary.org
Advanced online registration required.



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328 Main Street | P.O. Box 268
Grahamsville, New York 12740-0268 | 845-985-7233
www.danielpiercelibrary.org

Governor Hochul Signs Legislation to Protect Public Health and Combat Opioid Addiction

S.2099C/A.5200B Enacts Matthew's Law Which Will Allow Drug Testing Supplies to be Distributed by Health Care Professionals or Pharmacists to All

Governor Kathy Hochul signed legislation that continues aggressive efforts to address the opioid and overdose epidemic. Matthew's Law, or S.2099C/A.5200B, expands the public's access to fentanyl testing supplies, a resource that protects public health by decreasing the chances of an accidental drug overdose.

"Families across our state have felt the immense tragedy of the opioid and overdose epidemic - it is a pain no one should ever have to endure," Governor Hochul said. "For too long, pharmacies and other local health care providers have struggled to provide the resources proven to prevent overdose deaths. With our historic investments in testing expansion, along with this legislation, we are working to ensure that every New Yorker has access to life-saving testing kits."

Fentanyl testing strips were difficult to access across large parts of New York State. Matthew's Law expands on the state's ongoing efforts to provide access to test strips. Both the New York State Department of Health and the New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS) at <https://oasas.ny.gov/>

fund initiatives for providers to obtain and distribute fentanyl and xylazine test strips, as well as naloxone.

Earlier this year, OASAS launched a new ordering system for individuals and providers, which has resulted in the order of 2 million fentanyl test strips, 1.4 million xylazine test strips, and 70,000 naloxone kits. An additional 873,000 fentanyl test strips, 340,000 xylazine test strips and 387,492 naloxone units have been distributed through the state Department of Health-funded community-based programs from January to September 2023.

Matthew's Law furthers this effort by allowing local pharmacies and health care providers to provide this life-saving resource to all New Yorkers. The law is named in memory of Matthew Horan, who died of an accidental fentanyl overdose in November 2020.

New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports Commissioner Dr. Chinazo Cunningham said, "We are in the midst of the worst overdose crisis in history and expanding the availability and use of resources like test strips is vital to the ongoing efforts to prevent overdose deaths in New York State. These materials are lifesaving, and we need to continue to take steps to make sure that we are getting them in the hands of people that need them so that they can reduce their risk of overdose."

New York State Department of Health Commissioner Dr. James McDonald said, "The overdose epidemic has had a devastating impact on far too many New Yorkers and their loved ones, but I am encouraged to see that drug testing supplies will now be more accessible to the public, and along with other available tools like naloxone, could save thousands of lives. I am grateful to Matthew Horan's family for advocating for this law and for Governor Hochul's enduring commitment to eliminating the senseless death and tragedy that comes with accidental overdose."

State Senator Pete Harckham said, "To stop as many overdoses as we can before they occur, it is critical that we make sure testing kits for fentanyl and other adulterants are widely available. Thanks to Governor Hochul for signing this bill into law, these lifesaving tools will be stocked now in every pharmacy in New York, for starters. I am

grateful to Kailey Horan, whose brother Matthew is one of the many individuals we have lost to fentanyl and the namesake of this new law, for spurring me to introduce it."

Assemblymember John T. McDonald III, RPh said, "The increase in drug overdose deaths is a public health crisis that requires immediate action and novel strategies. This legislation can help save lives by providing tools to identify the growing presence of alterants like fentanyl in the illicit drug supply. The opioid and overdose crisis continues to evolve in dangerous and unpredictable ways, and we must do everything we can to provide our communities with tools to prevent as many of these deaths as we can. I thank Governor Hochul for her commitment to helping New Yorkers in this public health crisis."

In May, the State Department of Health's Office of Drug User Health piloted the implementation for four drug checking programs operated by state funded Drug User Health Hubs at <https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/aids/consumers/prevention/>

This care initiative is providing information to individuals on the content of their drugs. The results are offered along with counseling and guidance on how to use the drugs more safely. In the first six months of the program, 98 percent of samples purported to be heroin contained fentanyl and 53 percent contained xylazine. The testing program will detect new drugs as they enter the illicit market and warns people of unexpected substances in their drugs.

In partnership with OASAS, New York State offers ongoing virtual naloxone trainings, which teach people how to recognize signs of an overdose and use naloxone to reverse it. More information is available here <https://oasas.ny.gov/keywords/naloxone>

**BECOME
SOMEONE'S
Angel**

Donate a little of your time and have a direct impact on someone's path to recovery!

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not HANDCUFFS
www.hopenothandcuffshv.com



Holiday Shop

Saturday, December 2nd

10 to 2 p.m.

Time and the Valleys Museum

St. Rt. 55, Grahamsville

and at the United Methodist Church Craft Fair next door!

Unique books, gifts, heritage toys and local crafts -
perfect holiday gifts!

Do your holiday shopping with us!

Can't make it?

Call 845 985-7700 or email to shop on a day that works for you.

Museum exhibitions will be open

timeandthevalleymuseum.org/shop

info@timeandthevalleymuseum.org



Grahamsville Youth Program

Fall Dates

One Saturday a month

5 pm to 7 pm



October 14, 2023 - Flood Buckets for UMCOR
November 4, 2023 - Operation Christmas Child
December 9, 2023 - Nursing Home Christmas Gifts

Join us for a night of playing games, short messages, crafts, music, dinner and community service projects.

Grahamsville United Methodist Church Hall

Who: Ages 8+

**Accepting donations for the Flood Buckets. Please contact
Grahamsville Church to arrange a drop off time.
Evening sponsorships are welcomed.**

**For more information contact Amanda 845-538-6145 (text) or
grahamsvilleumc@gmail.com**



ULSTER HEIGHTS ROD & GUN CLUB RAFFLE

SUPPORT OUR CLUB AND FUTURE YOUTH EVENTS
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WICKED RIDGE - RAIDER 400 DE-COCK CROSSBOW



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FOR MAKING THIS FUNDRAISER POSSIBLE.

**RAFFLES ARE
\$10.00 EACH**

**CONTACT FOR TICKETS:
RYAN BOLLIN 845.399.6703 - CLUB PRESIDENT
ERIC AKERLEY 845.707.1483 - CLUB MEMBER**

WINNER WILL BE CONTACTED BY PHONE WHEN TICKET SALES HAVE RUN OUT

DEC Announces Regular Firearms Season for Deer and Bear Hunting in the Southern Zone Began on Nov. 18th

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos announced today that the state's most popular big game season begins on Saturday, Nov. 18. DEC encourages hunters to review safety regulations to enhance their hunting experience.

"This weekend, hundreds of thousands of big game hunters will head afield for the chance to harvest deer or bear in New York's Southern Zone while enjoying time with family and friends in the great outdoors," said Commissioner Seggos. "I wish all hunters a safe and successful hunting season and encourage these outdoor adventurers and those visitors sharing the woods to put safety first and wear blaze orange or pink to see and be seen."

The 2023-24 regular deer and bear hunting seasons in New York's Southern Zone begin on Saturday, Nov. 18 and continue through Sunday, Dec. 10. The Southern Zone regular season is New York's most popular hunting season, with participation from about 85 percent of New York's 550,000 licensed hunters. Harvest during this season accounts for nearly 60 percent of the total statewide deer harvest and 30 to 60 percent of the statewide bear harvest.

Following the regular deer and bear hunting seasons in the Southern Zone, late bowhunting and muzzleloading seasons will run from Dec. 11 through Dec. 19, and again from Dec. 26 through Jan. 1. Hunters taking part in these late seasons must possess a hunting license and either bowhunting or muzzleloading privileges.

In the Northern Zone, the regular deer and bear hunting season opened Oct. 21 and closes Dec. 3. A late bowhunting and muzzleloading season for deer will be open in portions of the Northern Zone from Dec. 4 to 10.

Daily hunting hours for deer and bear include the full daylight period, beginning 30 minutes before sunrise and continuing until 30 minutes after sunset. Hunters should check the sunrise and sunset times before hunting each day. Opportunities for Youth Hunters

Once again this year, 12- and 13-year-old hunters may hunt deer with a firearm during the regular firearms season when accompanied by a licensed, experienced adult hunter. This pilot program was established by the New York State Legislature in 2021 and extended through 2025 for Upstate counties that choose to participate. The program does not apply to Westchester or Suffolk counties; Erie and Rockland counties have not opted in to the program.

Continuing New York's Record of Safe Hunting
The 2021 and 2022 hunting seasons were the safest on record and DEC is encouraging all hunters to continue to take steps to remain safe while afield. Most hunting-related injuries occur when hunters are climbing in and out of a tree stand. Hunters should read the manufacturer's instructions and warnings before using a tree stand, check all stands (including straps and chains) before every season, and replace any worn or missing parts. Hunters should also wear a fall-arrest harness with a lifeline to stay connected from the time they leave the ground to the time they get back down and never climb in or out of a tree stand with a loaded firearm.

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Start at Route 28 and Reservoir Rd in Shokan 1.7 Miles
 ← Turn LEFT onto Monument Road
 Continue onto NY-28A West 1.8 Miles
 ← Turn LEFT onto NY-213 1.1 Miles
 → Turn RIGHT onto Krumville Road/CR-2A 0.8 Miles
 Gun Shop on LEFT

Start at Route 209 and 213 in Stone Ridge
 -Going Towards Olivebridge 7.5 Miles
 ← Turn LEFT onto The Krumville Road/CR-2A 0.8 Miles
 Gun Shop on LEFT

Bingo at the Monticello Elks Lodge Every Tuesday at 7 PM 46 North Street in Monticello For information contact Past Exalted Ruler Ronni Scannell at (845) 701-0695

Hunters must wear fluorescent orange or fluorescent pink clothing (either a hat, vest, or jacket which are visible in all directions) when pursuing deer or bear with a firearm, and should always follow the basic rules of firearm safety:

- Point your gun in a safe direction.
- Treat every gun as if it were loaded.
- Be sure of your target and beyond.
- Keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.
- Let Young Bucks Go and Watch Them Grow - Harvest a Doe

By voluntarily passing up opportunities to harvest young bucks, hunters can increase their chances of seeing and harvesting older bucks with large antlers and body sizes. By harvesting antlerless deer instead of young bucks, hunters help keep deer populations in balance with available habitat and reduce deer-related impacts to agriculture, forestry, and municipalities. By choosing to Let Young Bucks Go and Watch Them Grow, New York hunters are now seeing and taking more older bucks than ever before. However, only 16 percent of deer hunters harvested one or more antlerless deer in 2022, despite antlerless deer being the most abundant and commonly observed portion of the deer population. Hunters should help manage New York's deer herd by harvesting at least one antlerless deer this hunting season.

(Contd. Pg.)

WANTED

White and Black T-shirts or T-Shirt Fabric



Maureen Hamilton is making another hooked rug! This time she needs enough **Black and White T-Shirt Fabric** to complete this project

When the rug is finished it will go on sale
by the **Sundown UMC Ladies**

All proceeds from the rug will be for the benefit
of **The Sundown United Methodist Church**

T-Shirts can be dropped off at the Sundown UMC Hall on Tuesdays from 1 - 3 pm

DEC Announces Regular Firearms Season for Deer and Bear Hunting in the Southern Zone Began on Nov. 18th

(From Pg. 38)

Hunters Can Help Prevent the Spread of Chronic Wasting Disease

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is an always fatal disease of deer that threatens New York's deer and moose populations and hunting opportunities. If introduced, CWD could spread rapidly and be practically impossible to eliminate. Hunters can help keep CWD out of New York by following these tips:

Those who hunt any type of deer, elk, moose, or caribou outside of New York State must debone their venison (video) before bringing it back to New York. DEC will confiscate and destroy illegally imported carcasses and parts.

Avoid using natural deer urine-based lures or attractant scents, as these could contain CWD. Use synthetic products instead.

Dispose of carcass parts where the deer was harvested or in a landfill.

Report any deer that appears sick or is acting abnormally to DEC.

Hunt only wild deer and support fair chase hunting principles.

Take It - Tag It - Report It

With DEC's HuntFishNY mobile app, reporting a deer, bear, or turkey harvest is easier than ever. Through the mobile app, hunters, anglers and trappers can access an electronic version of their licenses and report their harvests immediately while afield on their mobile device. Hunters can also report their harvest by calling (1-866-GAME-RPT) or through DEC's website. Reporting your harvest is required by law, so please remember to Take It, Tag It, Report It!

Other Reminders for the 2023-24 Southern Zone Regular Hunting Season

Choose non-lead ammunition for reduced risk of lead exposure to you and non-target wildlife.

Hunters can donate venison to help those less fortunate while contributing to deer management.

For the first time this season, big game hunters can use rifles in Onondaga County.

For specific descriptions of regulations and open areas, hunters should refer to the 2023-2024 Hunting and Trapping Regulations Guide (PDF). Hunters are urged to review all regulations and safety tips contained in the guide.

Holiday Market



at Liberty Mall

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2023

11 AM - 4 PM

Shop our regional artisans and their assortment of goods from clothing and jewelry to candles and fragrances.

Local Cuisine and Craft Beverage Makers.

Easy on/off Access to Route 17



Scan for more information



Greater Liberty Chamber of Commerce

2023 – 2024
- WOODSTOCK FARM FESTIVAL -
WINTER MARKET

OVERLOOK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
233 TINKER STREET

SATURDAYS, 10 – 2

NOVEMBER 18
DECEMBER 2 & 16
EVERY OTHER WEEK
JANUARY 6 – MARCH 16



Latkes and Applesauce

at the Daniel Pierce Library

Students Grades 1-6

Tuesday, December 5, 2023

3:00 to 4:30 p.m.

Snow Date: Wednesday, December 6th

How do you feel about potato latkes?

We like them a-latke!

Come in from the cold for some holiday cheer, stories, crafts, music, games and LOL (Lots of Latkes)!

Learn about the Festival of Lights - Hanukkah, a joyous holiday.

Participants will take home the secret recipe!



If you wish for your child to take the bus from school, please send a note to the elementary office no later than Monday, December 4th.

Registration is open to Tri-Valley residents.

Advanced online registration is required at www.danielpiercelibrary.org



Sundown United Methodist Church

(Sundown UMC Hall-Intersection of Sundown Rd.,
Peekamoose Rd. & Greenville Rd., Sundown, NY 12740)

Covered Dish Supper

Saturday, December 2, 2023
5:30 pm

Bring a covered dish to share.
Enjoy good food and fellowship.
... and don't forget to check out the tables
filled with holiday items that will be
on sale!



Daniel Pierce Library

Holiday Felting Event!

Come explore the world
of wool with us.

For Adults

Thursday, December 7, 2023

6:00-7:00 pm



Celebrate the holidays and dip into felting! Join felting expert, Christine Adams in this workshop where you will felt your own Snow Owl.

Felting is an age-old textile art that uses wool fibers and special tools to create a variety of objects.

A \$5 supply fee is due before event to secure your spot. Space is limited.
Tri-Valley residents only. Advanced online registration is required at www.danielpiercelibrary.org

To register for this event go to:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSelawQI3OvFzZXsIQu4PWVeBuXf7rIbZIK_2DppFm0IPz-x1Q/viewform

Governor Hochul Encourages New Yorkers to Make an Energy Plan Ahead of Winter

• **New York State Programs Help New Yorkers Manage Energy Use, Reduce Energy Bills, and Explore Electrification Solutions**

• **Utilities and Fuel Providers Reminded to Ensure Adequate Reserves and Customer Communication**

Governor Kathy Hochul today encouraged New Yorkers to prepare now to keep their homes and businesses warm heading into winter. Multiple New York State agencies and authorities offer programs that can help residents manage energy use, reduce electric and heating bills, and increase comfort during cold temperatures by weatherizing and making these buildings more energy efficient. Governor Hochul also reminded the State's utilities and fuel providers to ensure there are adequate reserves and communication with customers to meet peak winter demand.

“As the weather gets colder, New York State is prepared to assist residents and businesses in managing their energy use, maximizing energy efficiency, and understanding the resources available in case of extreme weather,” Governor Hochul said. “As consumers undertake their own planning, utilities and fuel suppliers should strategize now to meet consumer needs and enhance communication to reduce unexpected service interruptions and respond to emergencies.”

New Yorkers can take advantage of programs offered through the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), Department of Public Service (DPS), Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, and Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Service that provide assistance to keep families, particularly those of low-or-moderate income warm during the times of the year when energy consumption may be high.

New York State programs offer funding and technical assistance that can assist homeowners, renters, and businesses manage their energy needs. This includes:

- o Apply for HEAP. As of November 1, applications are being accepted for the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) which can provide up to \$976 to eligible homeowners and renters depending on income, household size and how they heat their home (e.g., family of four with a maximum monthly gross income of \$5,838 can qualify). For more information visit NYS HEAP.

- o Energy Affordability Program/Low Income Bill Discount Program. This program provides income-eligible consumers with a discount on their monthly electric and/or gas bills, as well as other benefits, depending on the characteristics of the particular utility's program. New Yorkers can be enrolled automatically if they receive benefits from a government assistance program. For more information, they should visit their utility website or links can be found at DPS Winter Preparedness.

- o Community-based Service Programs. Service organizations and local community agencies provide financial aid, counseling services and assistance with utility emergencies. New Yorkers can contact organizations like the American

Red Cross (800-733-2767), Salvation Army (800-728-7825), and United Way (2-1-1 or 888-774-7633) to learn more.

- o Take immediate action to be more energy efficient. NYSERDA offers energy saving tips for residents and homeowners, as well as businesses, that can lower energy use. NYSERDA also offers a range of home energy efficiency programs that can help save energy and reduce costs over time. Income-eligible customers may qualify for reduced cost or free energy upgrades to their homes through the EmPower+ program. Homeowners should also check with their local gas and electric utility companies to access discounted products and services

that can help them lower their energy costs all year long.

- o Receive a customized list of energy-related assistance in the State. New York Energy Advisor can help income-eligible New Yorkers locate programs that help them spend less on energy and create healthier and more comfortable spaces. With New York Energy Advisor, consumers answer simple questions and get connected with energy-saving offers in New York State. Sponsored by NYSERDA and utilities, qualified New Yorkers can get help paying utility bills, receive special offers on heating assistance, and more.

- o Prioritize Home Heating Safety. Property owners should avoid connecting occupied buildings to wells producing natural gas because doing so can be dangerous and potentially deadly. The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) also encourages property owners who use oil for heat to inspect fuel storage tanks for potential leaks or spills before receiving shipments of fuel oil for the heating season. Additional information can be found here.

New York State Energy Research and Development Authority President and CEO Doreen M. Harris said, “New Yorkers want to remain comfortable in their homes and businesses want to remain open, so taking steps now to safeguard their ability to do so as we head into the winter season is invaluable. We encourage all New Yorkers to understand their energy use and adopt energy efficiency measures as well as seek out the various services and products that can save energy and help reduce out of pocket costs.”

New York State Secretary of State Robert J. Rodriguez said, “As we head into the colder months of winter, we ask New Yorkers to be prepared and start planning their energy usage to keep their homes and businesses warm while keeping their electric and energy bills fair. This is also a good time to remind consumers that New York state offers various services and products that help consumers adopt energy efficiency measures and also get assistance to reduce out of pocket costs for state residents.”

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner Basil Seggos said, “In preparation for cold weather in the months ahead, Governor Hochul is providing the resources and information New Yorkers need to help them stay warm and safe. DEC encourages property owners to prepare for the winter by making sure their home heating systems are safe to prevent potential spills or other issues, and to seek out cleaner energy sources and energy efficient solutions that can help protect both our wallets and the environment.”

(Contd. Pg 46)

Governor Hochul Encourages New Yorkers to Make an Energy Plan Ahead of Winter

(From Pg. 45)

New York State Homeland Security and Emergency Services Commissioner Jackie Bray said, “Freezing temperatures can have serious consequences which makes it critical New Yorkers prepare their households for the winter months. When heating their homes this winter, New Yorkers should always remember to look for ways to make your home more energy efficient, as well as ensure that if an alternative heat source is being utilized, it is used safely in a well-ventilated area.”

New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance Acting Commissioner Barbara C. Guinn said, “With nighttime temperatures now dipping below freezing, it’s important that low- and moderate-income households act now to apply for assistance from HEAP so they can keep their homes warm throughout the winter. Now is also a good time to access other programs available to help reduce energy costs, including taking energy efficiency measures to ensure heating equipment is operating properly, helping to save energy and money.”

New York State Public Service Commission Chair Rory M. Christian said, “We continue to closely monitor the utilities serving New York State to ensure adequate sources and supplies of electricity and natural gas to meet expected customer demands this winter. New York State under Governor Hochul’s leadership remains laser-focused on ensuring the reliability of our energy systems and the protection of consumers through energy efficiency and bill reduction programs.”

New York State’s utilities - including Con Edison, Central Hudson, Orange and Rockland, National Grid, NYSEG, RG&E, National Fuel Gas, and PSEG-LI - and home heating fuel providers were also reminded to ensure adequate fuel reserves, contingency plans, and to communicate with customers to help them access assistance programs, avoid disrupted service and to keep warm. Actions include:

- o Reminding dual-fueled and interruptible commercial customers to fill their alternate fuel tanks and to maintain and inspect fuel storage tanks for potential leaks or spills before receiving fuel shipments.
- o Reviewing emergency plans that address alternate fuel supply disruptions, and prepare to work with local and state government agencies to protect public health and safety when temperatures drop below 20 degrees.
- o Informing customers about warming centers, hot meals, and access to a list of master plumbers in case pipes freeze in unheated buildings.
- o Coordinating with the New York Independent System Operator and major power generators to encourage the dual-fuel operators to fill tanks in advance of the winter heating season and to inspect fuel storage tanks for potential leaks or spills before receiving fuel shipments.

New York State’s Nation-Leading Climate Plan
New York State’s nation-leading climate agenda calls for an orderly and just transition that creates family-sustaining jobs, continues to foster a green economy across all sectors and ensures that at least 35%, with a goal of 40%, of the benefits of clean energy investments are directed to disadvantaged communities. Guided

by some of the nation’s most aggressive climate and clean energy initiatives, New York is on a path to achieving a zero-emission electricity sector by 2040, including 70% renewable energy generation by 2030, and economywide carbon neutrality by mid-century. A cornerstone of this transition is New York’s unprecedented clean energy investments, including more than \$55 billion in 145 large-scale renewable and transmission projects across the state, \$6.8 billion to reduce building emissions, \$3.3 billion to scale up solar, more than \$1 billion for clean transportation initiatives, and over \$2 billion in NY Green Bank commitments. These and other investments are supporting more than 165,000 jobs in New York’s clean energy sector in 2021 and over 3,000% growth in the distributed solar sector since 2011. To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality, New York also adopted zero-emission vehicle regulations, including requiring all new passenger cars and light-duty trucks sold in the State be zero emission by 2035. Partnerships are continuing to advance New York’s climate action with nearly 400 registered and more than 100 certified Climate Smart Communities, nearly 500 Clean Energy Communities, and the State’s largest community air monitoring initiative in 10 disadvantaged communities across the state to help target air pollution and combat climate change.

Governor Hochul Signs Legislation to Protect the Rights of Freelance Workers

Legislation S.5026/A.6040 Enacts the “Freelance Isn’t Free” Act Providing Payment Protections for Freelance Workers

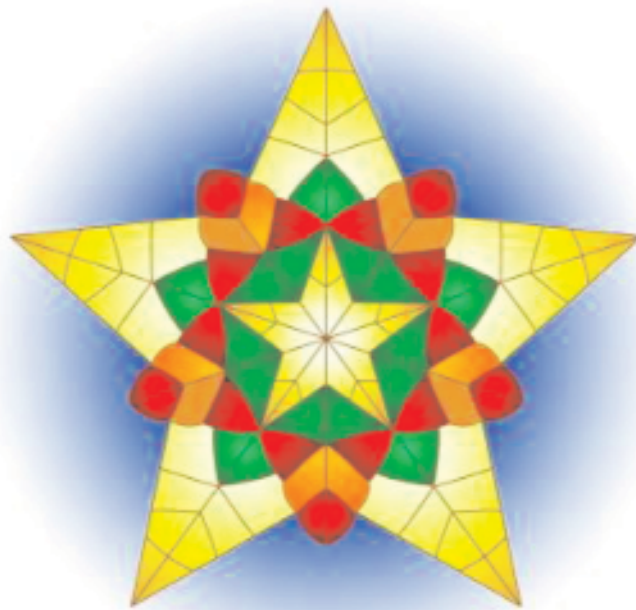
Governor Kathy Hochul signed legislation S.5026/A.6040, known as the “Freelance Isn’t Free” Act, which provides protections, rights and opportunities for recourse to freelance workers experiencing non-payment for their services.

“Every single New Yorker deserves to be treated with dignity and respect in the workplace, whether they’re a full-time, part-time or freelance worker,” Governor Hochul said. “As freelance work becomes more and more common, we need laws have strong protections to ensure these individuals are paid fairly for the work they do. This new law is a major step forward for this critical sector of our workforce.”

Legislation S.5026/A.6040 extends protections to freelancers across all of New York State, building upon the NYC’s Freelance Isn’t Free Law, by adding oversight and enforcement from the New York State Attorney General’s Office. This law will protect freelancers by establishing a right to a written contract with certain terms, timely and full payment, and protection from retaliation and discrimination for exercising these rights. The Attorney General can bring actions to obtain remedies, including damages and civil penalties, on behalf of impacted freelance workers. Freelance workers would also have the right to pursue a private lawsuit to protect their rights under the new law.

These expanded rights and protections will apply to covered freelancers being paid at least \$800 for their services. The Department of Labor will provide model contracts on its website for freelancers and hiring parties to use with terms that comply with this new law.

Holiday Craft Fair



Saturday, December 2, 2023

10:00 - 3:00

United Methodist Church Hall

356 Main Street (Route 55), Grahamsville, NY

Pottery, Jewelry, Ceramics, Baked Goods and More!

Gifts Galore!

Chili, soup, sandwiches and dessert available for Take-Out!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 845-985-7427 or 845-985-7222



BLUE MOUNTAINS TROUT NEWS

NOVEMBER, 2023

By Ed Ostapczuk



Image above depicts a twenty-nine-inch, ten-pound brown recently caught by Rob Ostapczuk.

No Chapter Meeting in November

Given that Thanks giving coincides with our normal monthly chapter meeting night, there will NOT be a November chapter meeting this month. However, watch for details in the next newsletter for a possible year-end holiday celebration.

On behalf of the officers and chapter board of directors, wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!

Shandaken Tunnel Shutdown

As previously noted in the August 2023 chapter newsletter, reporting on the semi-annual Shandaken Tunnel SPDES Permit review conducted by the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYC DEP), the Tunnel will be shut down for approximately six weeks during November and December of this year. This allows contractors' workers time to finish planned renovations to the Tunnel Intake and High Level Intake within Schoharie Reservoir. The Portal was turned off on November 10, following a step-down protocol.

Trout Fishing



Redds

If, and when, you're out fishing, please be careful of stepping on "redds"). Redds tend to be oval or circular clean gravel depressions, often found in tailouts of pools. Remember, currently stream fishing is "catch and release" only, and also just flies or lures - no bait until April 1, 2024.

Stream Access and Recreation Working Group

On October 30 several chapter members participated in an AWSMP (Ashokan Watershed Stream Management Program) Stream Access and Recreation Working Group meeting. Access and Esopus Creek usage - upstream of NYC's Ashokan Reservoir - plus the 2024 Delaware Tunnel shutdown, and recreational water releases were among major topics of discussion.

Acid Rain Report

Jody Hoyt reports during October there were 5 measurable rain events totaling 6.02 inches with a weighted 5.8 pH as measured in Boiceville. Within days of this newsletter, the Fifth National Climate Assessment (NCA5) was released, FYI: <https://www.globalchange.gov/our-work/fifth-national-climate-assessment>. The National Climate Assessment is an authoritative assessment, produced by scientists, on all aspects of climate science, with a focus on the United States. It's worth your review.

Treasurer's Report


Jody reports we have \$10,024.81, with \$8,884.29 in the General Operating Fund and \$1,140.52 in the Conservation Fund, dedicated to conservation uses only. Recently the chapter received a \$150 donation from the Neversink Association, not yet reflected in the numbers above. Thank you Neversink Association for your ongoing support.

Membership

If you have membership questions or concerns, or know someone who wants to join our chapter, please contact Russell Martin at: <mailto:rmartintu@gmail.com?subject=TU%20membership%20inquiry>.

Until next time,
Ed Ostapczuk

Veteran Peer Support



**Vet 2 Vet offers
Veteran Peer Support.
Call to speak with our Veteran
Peer Advocates.
We didn't fight alone while
we served, we don't need
to fight alone at home.**

Vet 2 Vet



**Sullivan County
NEW YORK**

NYC Joseph P. Dwyer Peer Support Program

Call or email us to register!

845-794-4228

vet2vet@atitoday.org

309 E Broadway Suite A

Monticello, NY 12701

SAVE A LIFE! DONATE! SHARE OUR STORY!



NICK NEEDS KIDNEY -TYPE 0 (IN SOME CASES TYPE A BLOOD COULD WORK)

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

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

More about our warrior Nick....

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

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

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

*For any other questions
845.798.2077 nickneedsokidney@gmail.com*

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



**VET 2 VET OF SULLIVAN COUNTY
PFC JOSEPH P. DWYER VETERANS
PEER SUPPORT PROJECT**

WEEKLY WARRIOR WALK

**NO DOG REQUIRED TO WALK
WALNUT MOUNTAIN
LIBERTY, N.Y.**

THURSDAYS @ 1500 (3 PM)

**VETERANS AND THEIR
FAMILIES ARE WELCOMED**

**ALL ANIMALS ARE ENCOURAGED, BUT
MUST BE ON A LEASH.**

For more information, or to register,
please call 845-794-4228
or email smurphy@atitoday.org

CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK OR ONLINE @ WWW.ATITODAY.ORG





Concluding a busy week, I wanted to provide another update on how I've been fighting for you down in DC and across the Hudson Valley.

KEEPING BARGES OUT OF THE HUDSON RIVER ONCE AND FOR ALL

We absolutely cannot allow the Hudson River to be turned into a parking lot for dangerous, polluting oil barges, now or in the future.

This week, I was proud to join with Rep. Marc Molinaro to introduce the Hudson River Protection Act to ban barges from anchoring on the Hudson River once and for all.

We must continue to stand together and fight for our River with one voice. Add your support to the public comments that I will deliver to the Coast Guard here on my website: <https://patryan.house.gov/hudson-river-barge>
FIGHTING FOR EQUAL BENEFITS FOR GUARD AND RESERVISTS

Our National Guard and Reservists shouldn't face disproportionate barriers to access the Veterans Affairs home loans they've earned.

This week, I was proud to reintroduce my Expanding Home Loans for Guard and Reservists Act to right the injustice that they currently face qualifying for VA home loans.

I will keep fighting to ensure that our government upholds the promises it makes to those who wear the uniform.

HONORING OUR VETERANS

During my Veterans Week of Action last week, I was able to join with and recognize some of our community organizations and members who honor those who served our country.

I was proud to present Frank Guido, owner of Frank Guido's Little Italy, with a proclamation to thank him for his service to our veterans and our entire community.

Thank you also to the Accord Fire Department for hosting a great pancake breakfast for our Hudson Valley veterans.

And to our veterans, THANK YOU for your service to our country.

BRINGING MY OFFICE TO YOU

From helping veterans at Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) posts to bringing back the Social Security Administration to Ulster County, the C.A.R.E.S. Van has had a busy few weeks.

This Wednesday it took my team to help constituents with federal agencies in Washingtonville and New Windsor.

Stay tuned for the December schedule!

COMING TOGETHER TO DELIVER RESULTS

I was honored to receive the Freshman Fireteam Award in Congress alongside my former West Point classmate, Representative John James.

I'm proud to have joined with Representative James on many bipartisan efforts and am committed to joining with anyone, regardless of their political party, to deliver for Hudson Valley families and first responders.

SUPPORTING OUR FARMERS

From visiting farms across NY-18, to laying out my Farm Bill priorities to put the power back in the hands of our local, family owned, and specialty crop farmers, I'm committed to delivering for Hudson Valley farmers.

Thank you to the Orange County Farm Bureau for hosting my staffer, Maria Ingrassia, at its annual dinner meeting. Proud to be friends of Orange County farming!

THANKING NY-18 TEACHERS

This week, we celebrated National Education Week. I want to thank all of the NY-18 teachers for your dedication to uplifting our children and shaping future generations.

As the son of a former school teacher, know that I have your back!

IMPROVING OUR INFRASTRUCTURE

Wednesday marked two years since the historic Bipartisan Infrastructure Law was signed by President Biden.

Those investments are making their way into our communities. From safer streets and sidewalks for pedestrians in Orange County to major improvements coming to Stewart Airport, you can track all of the transformations coming to NY-18 here with the White House's investment tracker.

These investments are still being made, and I'm fighting to bring them home to the Hudson Valley. Contact my office here to learn more about funding opportunities currently available for your community.

GRANTS CORNER

NEW!

Applications for the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) are now open. FEMA's two competitive mitigation grant programs provide states and local communities with funding to address high-level future risks to natural disasters such as wildfires, drought, hurricanes, earthquakes, extreme heat, and increased flooding to foster greater community resilience and reduce disaster suffering. Learn more here .

Subapplications are due to the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) through FEMA GO (FEMAGO - Login) no later than December 15, 2023. If you intend on applying and would like a Letter of Support, please contact my office!

APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR:

New York State's Urban Farms and Community Gardens Grant Program has announced that \$1 million is available to support community growing spaces and fund projects geared toward the development and enhancement of urban farms, school gardens, and community gardens across the state. Learn more here .

New York State recently announced more than \$60 million in capital grant funding will be available to nonprofit human services organizations through the Nonprofit Infrastructure Capital Investment Program to support the delivery of critical services to New Yorkers.

Eligible nonprofit organizations that provide direct programs and services to New Yorkers may receive grants ranging from \$50,000 to \$500,000 for the completion of small- and large-scale construction projects. Learn more here .

The Corps Water Infrastructure Financing Program (CWIFP) enables local investment in infrastructure projects that enhance community resilience to flooding, promote economic prosperity, and improve environmental quality. Through CWIFP, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) will accelerate non-federal investments in water resources infrastructure by providing long-term, low-cost loans to creditworthy borrowers. Learn more here .

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)'s The Thriving Communities Program (TCP) provides intensive technical assistance to under-resourced and disadvantaged communities to help them identify, develop, and deliver transportation and community revitalization opportunities. (Contd. Pg. 53)

Pat Ryan

(From Pg. 52) Those communities receive in-kind support from Capacity Builders funded through the TCP to prepare grant application materials and undertake pre-development and project delivery activities including deploying innovative community engagement, workforce development, and clean technology strategies. Learn more [here](#).

The Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) funds grants and rebates that protect human health and improve air quality by reducing harmful emissions from diesel engines. Eligible uses of funding include school buses, class 5 - class 8 heavy-duty highway vehicles, locomotive engines, marine engines, and nonroad engines, equipment or vehicles used in construction, handling of cargo (including at ports or airports), agriculture, mining or energy production (including stationary generators and pumps). The application deadline is December 1.

If you want to stay up-to-date on all of that my office is doing, I encourage you to follow along on our social media channels: Facebook and Twitter.

Please remember that my office is always here to help if you have a question or need assistance. You can reach us using the contact information above and below and we will do everything we can to connect you with the resources you need.

I look forward to hearing from you soon!

Sincerely,

Patrick K. Ryan

Member of Congress

New York's 18th District

<https://patryan.house.gov/>

Governor Hochul Advances Nation-leading Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Build-Out Program

- ***Program Changes Will Accelerate Development of EV Charging Infrastructure and Stimulate \$4 Billion in Total Investment in Charging Infrastructure***
- ***Overall EV Budget Increases From \$701 Million to \$1.24 Billion, with \$372 Million in Funding to Support Programs in Disadvantaged Communities***
- ***Changes Aim to Increase Electric Vehicle Adoption, Especially in Disadvantaged Communities***

Governor Kathy Hochul announced that the New York State Public Service Commission made major changes to New York's electric vehicle "make-ready" program to speed up the transition to zero-emissions electric vehicles. Today's changes are designed to accelerate the development of EV charging infrastructure to combat range anxiety and ensure New Yorkers have access to convenient and reliable EV charging. Combined, the programs announced today are expected to stimulate \$4 billion in total investment in electric vehicle charging infrastructure. More and more New Yorkers are going electric every day, with 175,000 electric or plug-in hybrid EVs on the road today, and approximately 3 million anticipated by 2030.

"To reach our nation-leading climate goals, New York is energizing our transition to a clean transportation future," Governor Hochul

said. "More New Yorkers are making the switch to electric vehicles, and we're working hard to build accessible charging infrastructure across the state. The program improvements announced today will encourage more people to own EVs, helping to build a clean and sustainable future."

Public Service Commission Chair Rory M. Christian said, "The PSC has long recognized the importance of the electrification of the transportation sector in the attainment of New York State's climate goals. To advance these goals, the PSC has adopted policies to incentivize the development of electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure, and today's decision moves forward with our nation-leading EV programs."

The changes approved by the Public Service Commission (PSC) include increasing the overall ratepayer-funded EV Make-Ready Program from \$701 million to \$1.24 billion, with \$372 million in funding to support programs in disadvantaged communities, a sharp increase from the previous budget of \$206 million. The budget increase included expanding the direct current fast charging program target from 1,500 to 6,302 charging stations, along with higher incentive levels to accelerate the build-out of EV charging infrastructure across New York.

Investments in disadvantaged communities increased by 81 percent to \$372 million across several programs, ensuring all New Yorkers benefit from the investments in clean transportation. Today's decision introduced a new, innovative micro-mobility make-ready program, supporting charging infrastructure for e-bike, e-scooters and other forms of electric mobility in disadvantaged communities through New York.

Also today, the medium- and heavy-duty make-ready pilot budget designed for commercial customers more than doubled to \$58 million, paired with increased flexibility for applicants regarding eligible costs and vehicles, targeting emission reductions in disadvantaged communities. The PSC expects the modifications to the medium- and heavy-duty make-ready pilot will unlock investment in this important sector, and generate critical experience for fleet owners and utilities, as the Commission considers broader programmatic needs in a separate proceeding.

Finally, the PSC approved new beneficial rates and programs for commercial EV-charging customers in a separate order. Under the new programs, commercial EV-charging will be eligible for rebates or subsidies of up to 50 percent of the demand charge costs on their delivery bills. Commercial EV-charging customers in downstate New York will also be eligible to participate in new managed charging programs to unlock even more savings that are also beneficial to the grid. Commercial managed charging programs are still under development in upstate New York and are expected to be available in 2024.

New York State's Nation-Leading Climate Plan

New York State's nation-leading climate agenda calls for an orderly and just transition that creates family-sustaining jobs, continues to foster a green economy across all sectors and ensures that at least 35 percent, with a goal of 40 percent, of the benefits of clean energy investments are directed to disadvantaged communities. Guided by some of the nation's most aggressive climate and clean energy initiatives, New York is on a path to achieving a zero-emission electricity sector by 2040, including 70 percent renewable energy generation by 2030, and economywide carbon neutrality by mid-century. A cornerstone of this transition is New York's unprecedented clean energy investments, including more than \$55 billion in 145 large-scale renewable and transmission projects across the state, \$6.8 billion to reduce building emissions, \$3.3 billion to scale up solar, more than \$1 billion for clean transportation initiatives, and over \$2 billion in NY Green Bank commitments. These and other investments are supporting more than 165,000 jobs in New York's clean energy sector in 2021 and over 3,000 percent growth in the distributed solar sector since 2011. To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality, New York also adopted zero-emission vehicle regulations, including requiring all new



Voting to Avoid a Government Shutdown and Preventing Further Irresponsible Government Spending

House Republicans have proven that we are committed to finding a path forward that reduces spending, secures our borders, and restores fiscal responsibility in Washington. I have worked tirelessly to fight wasteful spending and bloated omnibus government funding bills and return to considering appropriations bills with amendments under regular order. Regular order means passing each of the 12 federal appropriations bills individually in an open and transparent process. For many years, Congress has forced through massive omnibus spending bills that have undermined the legislative process and have cost taxpayers billions on wasteful programs.

House Republicans are changing how Washington works and restoring the People's House to regular order in order to represent the American people fairly. I voted in favor of this Continuing Resolution because it continues to fund the government and our military on a short-term basis while granting the House Republicans more time to tackle the fiscal problems plaguing the American people truly. This legislation will avoid a government shutdown and ensure that the service members at Fort Drum, Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, Customs and Border Protection Agents, TSA agents, and all critical federal agencies serving across New York's 24th District will continue to operate in the next two months. In addition, shutting down the government would have cost the American taxpayers more in the long run, raised our already historic national debt, and led to another Christmas omnibus monstrosity, resulting in even more reckless federal spending.

By passing this CR, we are able to pass the remaining fiscally conservative appropriations bills to provide the relief that the American people need, reaffirm Congress's power of the purse, and refocus our government on its core mission: to serve the American people and defend the Constitution.

Investigating the Nexus Between Anti-Semitism, Tax-Exempt Universities, and Terror Financing

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EcpSjcwDQX0>

After the horrific attacks on Israel by Hamas on October 7th, we have seen numerous universities, including some in my home state of New York, allow hate-filled, anti-Semitic demonstrations and support of terrorist groups like Hamas to circulate across campus. Demonstrators outside of the Maxwell School at Syracuse University chanted, "From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free," an anti-Semitic rallying cry long used by terrorist groups to call for the violent destruction of the state of Israel and the Jewish people.

The same was witnessed at the University of Rochester, with the group known as Students for Justice in Palestine hosting increasingly vitriolic and menacing demonstrations. The university has done little or nothing to condemn these hate-filled actions, and students, especially Jewish students, are rightfully fearing for their safety.

In the wake of the Hamas October 7th attack, a professor at Cornell, Russell Rickford, referred to the slaughter of Israeli civilians by Hamas as "energizing" and "exhilarating" while speaking at a pro-Palestine protest on Cornell's campus. After these disgraceful comments, I wrote a letter to the Cornell University president demanding Professor Rickford's immediate resignation, but to my knowledge, he was placed on leave from the university.

That's why the Ways and Means Committee held a hearing, making it clear that anti-Semitism will not be tolerated in civilized society, but even more so in academia, where professors are in a position of power that allows them to mold and influence young minds. Positions like these should demand a higher standard of behavior and one that is free from anti-Semitic rhetoric and the vocal support of terrorism.

Anti-Semitism has no place in our country, and that includes our college campuses!

We MUST Address the Crisis at our Northern Border

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UIP8ddYrLG8>

Thanks to Secretary Mayorkas's dereliction of duty, in just one year alone, illegal immigration at our Northern border has increased by 347%. Not only is this surge in illegal immigration dangerous, but it is also expected to cost taxpayers \$451 billion. These illegal immigrants are incentivized to come to our country because of the left's open border and illegal sanctuary city policies, where they are using the services that taxpayers spend their hard-earned money to pay for.

Secretary Mayorkas must immediately be impeached for his failure to secure both our Borders!

READ MORE: My Border Security Plan
<https://tenney.house.gov/issues/border-security-plan>

Governor Kathy Hochul Fails to Stop Crime

In the past month, hate crimes in New York City soared with a reported 214% spike in anti-Semitic attacks, making it imperative that our elected officials end their "defund the police" rhetoric, crack down on violent rioters, and prosecute criminals.

Instead, Governor Kathy Hochul wants to create a task force to monitor social media and suppress the First Amendment. If Kathy Hochul was serious about preventing crime, she should repeal bail reform and the HALT Act and fully fund the police, not censor free speech.

My Votes Explained

Transparency in Congress and a well-informed electorate are vital to preserving our self-governing Constitutional Republic. My constituents deserve to know how their members of Congress vote, which is why I have explained every vote I have cast in Congress since I was first elected.

To read more about my votes and see the full list with explanations of all the legislation considered this week by the House, please click here.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SLdXas17Qsw>

I voted "Yes" on H.R. 1105, the Debbie Smith Act of 2023. H.R. 1105 is a crucial piece of legislation aimed at addressing the backlog of untested and unanalyzed DNA evidence, often referred to as the rape kit backlog. In 1989, Debbie Smith was sexually assaulted by a stranger who broke into her home. Although she underwent a sexual assault forensic exam, the DNA evidence went unanalyzed for over five years. The Debbie Smith Act aims to prevent such delays and ensure justice through DNA evidence. This bill passed the House by a vote of 405-0.

(Contd. Pg. 55)

This Week with Claudia

(From Pg. 54)

I voted “Yes” on H.R. 593, To rename the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Hinesville, Georgia, as the “John Gibson, Dan James, William Sapp, and Frankie Smiley VA Clinic. Hailing from Georgia, all four of these men were killed in action while serving their country during the Vietnam War. They made the ultimate sacrifice, leaving behind wives, siblings, and parents. H.R. 593 honors their memory and their service. This bill passed the House by a vote of 409-0 with 1 member voting present.

I voted “Yes” on H.R. 6363, the Further Continuing Appropriations and Other Extensions Act, 2024. H.R. 6363 extends funding for the Agriculture, Energy and Water, MilCon-VA, and Transportation-HUD appropriations bills until January 19, 2024, and funding for the other eight bills until February 2, 2024. Additionally, H.R. 6363 extends authorization for Farm Bill programs through September 30, 2024. Most importantly, this legislation will allow Republicans to fight for more conservative spending priorities in the future, while preventing an irresponsible end-of-year Megabus package. The temporary measure also ensures short term funding for Fort Drum, Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, Customs and Border Protection agents, TSA agents, and all other critical federal agencies serving constituents across New York's 24th District. Having considered 11 of 12 individual appropriations bills on the House floor, House Republicans have proven that we remain committed to maintaining regular order and reining in the wasteful spending of the Biden Administration. Passing H.R. 6363 gives us additional time to navigate the discretionary side of the appropriations process (which comprises about 25 percent of overall government spending) to provide the relief that the American people need, reaffirm Congress's power of the purse, and refocus our government to its core mission: serving the American people and defending Constitutional principles. There is much more work to do on tackling the mandatory side of government appropriations (which comprises a substantial majority of federal spending) and ensuring that our legislative goals are prioritized. This bill passed the House by a vote of 336-95.

Advocating for the Delphi Salaried Retirees

The Delphi Salaried Retirees have been fighting tirelessly for nearly 15 years to correct the grave injustice imposed on them by the Obama Administration.

That's why I recently submitted the Susan Muffley Act of 2023 as a bipartisan amendment to H.R. 5894, the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of FY-24. It is beyond time to correct this egregious wrong and pass the Susan Muffley Act to restore the Delphi's pension plan with full back pay. I will continue to fight tirelessly until the Delphi Salaried Retirees have their full pensions restored.

Worth Fighting For - Rural Healthcare

One of my top priorities in Congress is to expand access to affordable, quality healthcare in rural communities.

There are many ways to do this, including fostering greater competition in the marketplace, resulting in more choices for patients, better quality care for everyone, and lower prices that families can afford.

Health insurance premiums, prescription drug prices, out-of-pocket costs for Americans, and overall healthcare spending have skyrocketed since 2009, making it harder than ever for New York families and seniors to access quality care at an affordable price - this has to change. For too long, Congress has failed to make good on its promise to tackle healthcare reform effectively.

I remain committed to delivering more resources and support to rural hospitals in our district, which we rely on for care and services, while increasing competition and improving access and quality of care.

Recently, I have supported:

The Lower Cost More Cures Act secures funding for hospitals that provide essential healthcare services to lower-income and rural communities. This legislation also funds community health centers that provide more affordable quality healthcare to countless New Yorkers and strengthens price transparency for health care services so patients know the cost of their care.

The Protecting Rural Senior's Access to Care Act prevents CMS from enacting an unworkable staffing rule, which will cause the closure of rural nursing homes across the country.

The Support for Patients and Communities Reauthorization Act of 2023 provides access to life-saving treatment, recovery support services and long-term recovery services for individuals seeking help overcoming their substance use disorder.

ICYMI: Our November Webinar on FEMA's Firefighter Grant Program

Thank you to FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant Specialist Alvin Mathew for presenting at our office's November webinar about the best practices and guidelines for Fire Departments to prepare for the upcoming AFG open season.

In January 2024, FEMA will release its Notice Of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), which will have specific guidelines for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant application. This has information from past Assistance to Firefighters Grant funding guides and information on finding more information from FEMA.

You can find the recording of this webinar and all of our past webinars here. For more information about service academy nominations, please contact our Oswego Office at 315-236-7088.

What Are You Thankful For?

As Thanksgiving approaches, it is a meaningful time to pause and reflect on what we are thankful for in our lives. This Thanksgiving, I would love to hear about what members of our community are thankful for! Please share what you are thankful for this year with us at the link below.

Let me know what you are thankful for [HERE](#).

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeL4yUV9ENOtKYxtpnlq7Kov7JR0qsb6IJATkuCZho1cLoQtw/viewform>



Live



Medicare 101 Zoom Webinar

Wednesday, November 29, 2023
6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.

Presented by:
James Farnham, MBA, MS
Licensed Agent

Will you be turning 65 soon? Are you eligible for Medicare?

Please join us for this live webinar as we learn about Medicare basics including, Prescription Drug Plans, Medicare Supplement Plans, and Medicare Advantage Plans (HMOs and PPOs). This program will simplify the choices you need to make, help you make well-informed decisions and explain what Medicare means to you!

Advanced online registration required at www.danielpiercelibrary.org. Those who register will receive an email prior to the event with a link and instructions on how to join. This educational program is provided to you at no cost or obligation.



Daniel Pierce Library

328 Main Street | P.O. Box 268
Grahamsville, New York 12740-0268 | 845-985-7233
www.danielpiercelibrary.org/

Neversink Parks

& Rec Presents:

NYC BUS TRIP

SATURDAY, DEC 9TH

DEPART TOWN HALL @ 7:45 AM

ENJOY THE DAY IN NYC AS YOU WISH

DEPART NYC @ 7:00 PM SHARP!!



Trip includes:

- **ROUNDRIP COACH BUS**
- **DRIVER GRATUITY**
- **SNACK BAG**



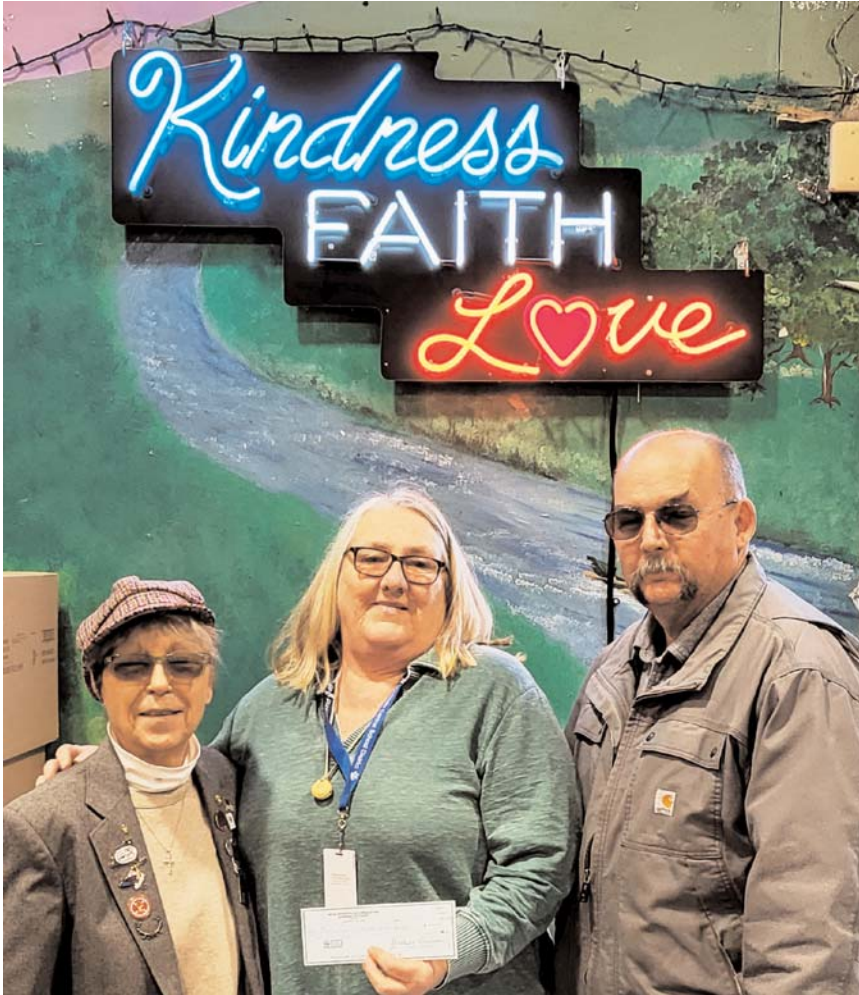
\$50
PER PERSON

Payment due at time of booking

PAYMENTS ARE NONREFUNDABLE UNLESS TRIP IS CANCELLED BY ROLLING V DUE TO WEATHER.

**QUESTIONS OR TO BOOK: CONTACT CHER @
CWPARKSANDREC@GMAIL.COM OR AT 845-985-2401**

Monticello NY Elks Help the Homeless



Elks Past Exalted Ruler Ronni Scannell, Sullivan County Federation for the Homeless Director Kathy Kreiter and Elks Past District Deputy/Leading Knight Jim Gerrard.

(Monticello) Elks Lodge #1544 of Monticello has presented the Sullivan County Federation for the Homeless with a check for \$2000. The funding comes from an Elks National Foundation Spotlight Grant. The Spotlight Grants shine a light on three issues facing American communities: early childhood literacy, veteran homelessness, and hunger. The Federation for the Homeless has helped Elks and many others locally in their time of need. Pictured from left are: Elks Past Exalted Ruler Ronni Scannell, Sullivan County Federation for the Homeless Director Kathy Kreiter and Elks Past District Deputy/Leading Knight Jim Gerrard.

Town of Fallsburg Launches Exciting Community Programs, Embracing Inclusivity and Well-being

Fallsburg, November 19, 2023 - The Town of Fallsburg is thrilled to announce the commencement of registrations for some dynamic community programs aimed at enriching the lives of its residents. These initiatives underscore the town's commitment to fostering inclusivity, health, and recreation for individuals of all ages and abilities.

Empower Video Gaming Club for Children and Young Adults with Special Needs

In collaboration with the Kosher Garage - Fun Spot in Loch Sheldrake, the Empower Video Gaming Club is designed to provide an engaging and supportive environment for children and young adults with special needs.

This program aims to foster social connections, boost self-esteem, and enhance cognitive skills through the medium of video gaming. The program is scheduled to start November 30, 2023. This program is a monthly program that provides over two hours of unlimited arcade game play in Loch Sheldrake NY!

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Coming soon:

Elementary Basketball

Elementary Soccer

High School Basketball Drill

Youth After-School Learn to Swim Program with Hudson Valley Swim

Zumba

These programs are made available free of charge for residents of the Town of Fallsburg, thanks to the town's commitment to promoting community engagement and well-being. Registration for these programs is now open and can be completed conveniently on the town's website at www.townoffallsburg.com. Under community activities and youth activities. Residents are encouraged to secure their spots early, as spaces are limited.

Town of Fallsburg Supervisor Kathy Rappaport expressed enthusiasm about the launch of these community programs, stating, "We are excited to provide our residents with these enriching opportunities for growth, connection, and well-being."

These programs reflect our dedication to creating a vibrant and inclusive community for all."

For more information and to register, please visit www.townoffallsburg.com or contact the Town of Fallsburg at

jedwards@fallsburgny.com
or 845-434-8810 Ext 5.



Enjoy hot cocoa and cookies with Santa at noon!

VENDORS WANTED!



SANTA AT NOON!

**Pre Order your
Cookie Platters- Wreaths-
Swags**



PREORDER FORM- Checks Payable to B.I.O.F.C. Ladies Auxiliary

Name- _____

Phone Number- _____

Available pick up dates:

Sat. 12/2 11a-5p

Wed. 12/13 5:30p-7p

Sat. 12/16 9a-11a

Wed. 12/20 5:30p-7p

Amount

Pick up date

_____ Cookie Platter- Approx. 2lb- \$25

_____ Swag of Greens- \$15

_____ Holiday Wreath- \$25

Mail PreOrder forms and Checks to -

B.I.O.F.C. Ladies Auxiliary in care of Pam Veitch
27 Gossoo Road
Shandaken, NY 12480

Call 631-838-2859 with any questions!

Governor Hochul Announces Completion of Waterfront Trail and Pavilion at Sojourner Truth State Park

- *New York State's Newest State Park Dedicated Last Year to 19th Century African American Hudson Valley Native, Abolitionist and Suffragist*
- *ADA-Compliant Trail Project Improves Connection to Hudson River*

Governor Hochul announced completion of a project to better connect people with the Hudson River at New York State's newest State Park - Sojourner Truth State Park in Ulster County. Scenic Hudson, the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, and the Palisades Interstate Park Commission partnered to build the new features at the site of a former barge dock. The waterfront project signals potential future improvements to reimagine the former industrial site as lively outdoor recreation and community gathering space.

"It's a thrill to see the ongoing transformation of Sojourner Truth State Park into a vibrant destination on the Hudson River that will attract visitors from all over to experience some of the best that Kingston and the Town of Ulster have to offer," Governor Hochul said. "The connection to the waterfront is a major step forward for the Park, and I am proud to see this new state park taking shape and look forward to seeing more improvements in the future."

The project is highlighted by a 2,000-square-foot shaded community pavilion, a plaza-like gathering space, resurfaced fishing platform, benches and picnic tables. Newly planted native trees, shrubs and grasses enhance the site's ongoing recovery from its historic past as a hub for brick and cement manufacturing and provide new habitat for wildlife. The waterfront area also will contain bilingual interpretive signs about the river and the site's history, bike racks, and seasonal toilet facilities. A small lawn area with boulders salvaged during construction will provide additional informal seating overlooking the Hudson River.

A new paved, ADA-compliant River Pavilion Trail leads from the Hudson River Brickyard Trail/Empire State Trail to the waterfront, near the park's northern entry. New plantings offer stormwater infiltration benefits and nestle the newly built components into the landscape. The trail features a small overlook area where visitors can rest while enjoying expansive views, including the Kingston-Rhinecliff bridge to the north.

Additional improvements throughout the 500-acre Sojourner Truth are currently in design and will be constructed as funding is available. Future potential improvements may include additional trails, community gathering spaces around the shore and brick mule barn, kayaking and fishing access, community event spaces, and installations to interpret the area's Indigenous Lenape heritage, industrial history, geology, and natural environment.

State Senator Michelle Hinchey said, "Sojourner Truth State Park is transforming an Environmental Justice Area and former industrial site into an Upstate landmark - a remarkable achievement that is broadening access to green space in our

community and establishing new, accessible connections to the Hudson River while honoring the life and legacy of a prolific New Yorker. I thank Governor Hochul, State Parks, and Scenic Hudson for their commitment to further the progress of Ulster County's first-ever state park, and I look forward to seeing the continued advancement of this magnificent land."

Ulster County Executive Jen Metzger said, "The recently completed waterfront trail and pavilion at Sojourner Truth State Park will benefit our community for generations, offering a tranquil and rejuvenating recreational space along the waterfront, with spectacular views of the Hudson River. I want to express my heartfelt appreciation to Governor Hochul, Scenic Hudson, New York State Parks, and the Palisades Interstate Park Commission for bringing this project to life and creating an accessible and serene haven for Ulster County residents and visitors. I encourage folks to check out the park and these new amenities and enjoy the natural beauty and history of this unique area on the shores of the Hudson."

Kingston Mayor Steve Noble said, "We are so lucky to have the Sojourner Truth State Park in Kingston and are thrilled that there is now a pavilion and additional opportunities for residents and visitors to enjoy the Hudson River and trails to explore the park. I am pleased to see this new amenity, and excited to see increased access to the waterfront. I want to thank Scenic Hudson and NYS Parks for all their hard work, and for this extraordinary investment in the Kingston area."

For the permitting, design, studies, and construction of the pavilion and other new waterfront features, Scenic Hudson secured \$3.8 million. These amenities were designed by Olin Partnership, Ltd. The new \$1.1 million trail section and river overlook was funded by State Parks and was designed by MKW & Associates. All improvements were constructed by Baker Brothers Construction/Kingston Equipment Rental of West Hurley, who were selected through a competitive bidding process. Baker Brothers is affiliated with the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) Local 825 and the Laborer's Local 17.

Under an agreement, State Parks, Scenic Hudson, and the Palisades Interstate Park Commission will collaborate on future phases of development at Sojourner Truth State Park. Scenic Hudson, which protected the parkland in 2019, manages the park under a five-year agreement signed in 2021.

The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation oversees more than 250 parks, historic sites, recreational trails, golf courses, boat launches and more, which saw a record 79.5 million visits in 2022. For more information on any of these recreation areas, visit parks.ny.gov, download the free NY State Parks Explorer mobile app or call 518.474.0456. Joins us in celebrating our Centennial throughout 2024, and connect with us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and the OPRHP Blog.

Formed in 1900, PIPC is the nation's first bi-state partnership established to protect and conserve natural lands. PIPC operates Palisades Interstate Park in New Jersey and the Palisades Region of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation. PIPC's early work helped inspire the emerging fields of environmental stewardship and education, pioneered the goal of exposing children to nature through its group campgrounds, and served as a model for the early growth of the national park system. The Commission's maple and oak leaf logo represents the official state trees of New York and New Jersey.

Sullivan 180 to Host Health Benefits of Open Space

Planning and zoning board training credits offered

[LIBERTY, NY] Sullivan 180 will host “The Health Benefits of Open Space” on Wednesday, December 6th at 6 PM via Zoom. Municipal planning and zoning board members will receive 1 training credit hour for attending.

Shannon Cilento, Sullivan 180 Community Development and Communications Manager, will discuss the important relationship between health and open space. Participants will learn about resources and opportunities for improving access and inclusion in parks and public spaces.

“Planning, Zoning and Town Board members have the power to positively influence the health of their community. Improving access to parks, nature and open space provides immense benefits to human health outcomes and should be a priority of every municipality,” said Cilento.

For more information or to register, visit the Events page at www.Sullivan180.org or call (845) 295-2680.

Sullivan 180 is working to build a healthy community, one degree at a time, through people, places and policy with support from Bold Gold Media Group, The River Reporter, The Sullivan County Democrat, Manor Ink and WJFF Radio Catskill. Learn more at Sullivan180.org or Facebook.com/Sullivan180inc.

Holiday Events in Ulster County

November 23 @ 9:00 am - 11:00 am Family of New Paltz 5K **Turkey Trot -The Water Street Market** 10 Main Street, New Paltz, NY –20th Annual Family of New Paltz Turkey Trot - 9:00am on Thanksgiving morning. This 5K fundraising event supports our crisis walk-in center and food pantry. Register online: www.newpaltzturkeytrot.com or in [...]

November 24, 25 & 26 @ 1:00 pm - 8:00 pm **The Polar Express - Catskill Mountain Railroad** Catskill Mountain Railroad 55 Kingston Plaza Road, Kingston, NY –

Relive the classic story aboard THE POLAR EXPRESS™ for a magical trip to the North Pole where Santa and his Elves board the train to greet guests. Hot chocolate and a delicious cookie served by dancing chefs on your trip. Caroling and on-board entertainment. Train ride lasts approximately one hour. Reserve your timeslot in advance!

<https://visitulstercountyny.com/event/the-polar-express-catskill-mountain-railroad/all/>

November 24 & 25 @ 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm **A Frosty Fest - Headless Horseman Hayrides & Haunted Attractions** 778 Broadway, Route 9W, Ulster Park, NY

Hudson Valley's Largest Holiday Lights Spectacular! Enjoy the drive-thru experience in the comfort of your own vehicle. Park and walk inside, visit Santa, dance with

Mr. & Mrs. Frosty, Rudolph, Snow Bear, and other Characters. Watch Jingles Magic Show, and more. All included with each ticket!

November 25 & 26 @ 11:00 am - 5:00 pm **Winter Market** -Twin Star Orchards 155 N Ohioville Rd, New Paltz
<https://visitulstercountyny.com/event/winter-market/all/>

November 25 & 26 @ 11:00 am - 6:00 pm **“THE THREE HANDS - ANIMAL SOUL”** Jan Harrison, A Solo Exhibition: Recent and Earlier Painting, Sculpture, and Installation The Lockwood Gallery 747 Route 28, Kingston
<https://visitulstercountyny.com/event/the-three-hands-animal-soul-jan-harrison-a-solo-exhibition-recent-and-earlier-painting-sculpture-and-installation/2023-11-25/>

November 25 & 26 @ 11:00 am - 6:00 pm <https://visitulstercountyny.com/event/lagom-unraveling/all/> **LAGOM - UNRAVELING** at Pinkwater Gallery Pinkwater Gallery 56 North Front Street, Kingston, NY
<https://visitulstercountyny.com/event/lagom-unraveling/all/>

November 25 & 26 @ 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm **Kingston Model Railroad Club Train Show - 86th Anniversary** -Kingston Model Railroad Club 49 Susan Street, Kingston, NY
<https://visitulstercountyny.com/event/collectors-exhibition/2023-11-25/>
<https://visitulstercountyny.com/event/kingston-model-railroad-club-train-show/2023-11-25/>

November 25 @ 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm <https://visitulstercountyny.com/event/collectors-exhibition/all/> **Collectors Exhibition -The Lace Mill** 165 Cornell Street, Kingston, NY
<https://visitulstercountyny.com/event/collectors-exhibition/all/>

November 26 @ 11:00 am - 2:00 pm **Phoenicia Indoor Farmers Market** Pine Hill Community Center 287 Main Street, Pine Hill
<https://visitulstercountyny.com/event/phoenicia-indoor-farmers-market/all/>

November 26 @ 11:00 am - 3:00 pm **Holiday Celebration with Santa** - Walkway Over the Hudson State Historic Park 87 Haviland Road, Highland, NY
<https://visitulstercountyny.com/event/winter-market/2023-11-26/>

November 30 @ 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm **A Christmas Carol: A Live Radio Play** Rosendale Theatre 408 Main Street, Rosendale
<https://visitulstercountyny.com/event/a-christmas-carol-a-live-radio-play/all/>

December 1 @ 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm **Woodstock's 41st Annual Holiday Open House** Town of Woodstock Tinker Street, Woodstock, NY

Olive Free Library

FREE INDIVIDUAL MEDICARE COUNSELING
from the Ulster County Office of the Aging


Call the Office of the
Aging for an appointment:
845-340-3456

Appointments available:
November 14, 21 & 28, 1-4 p.m.

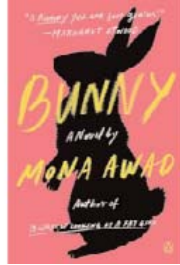
The library is accepting
like-new book donations from
10am-noon
on Saturdays in November

Drop-off donations outside of this window
cannot be accepted by library staff!

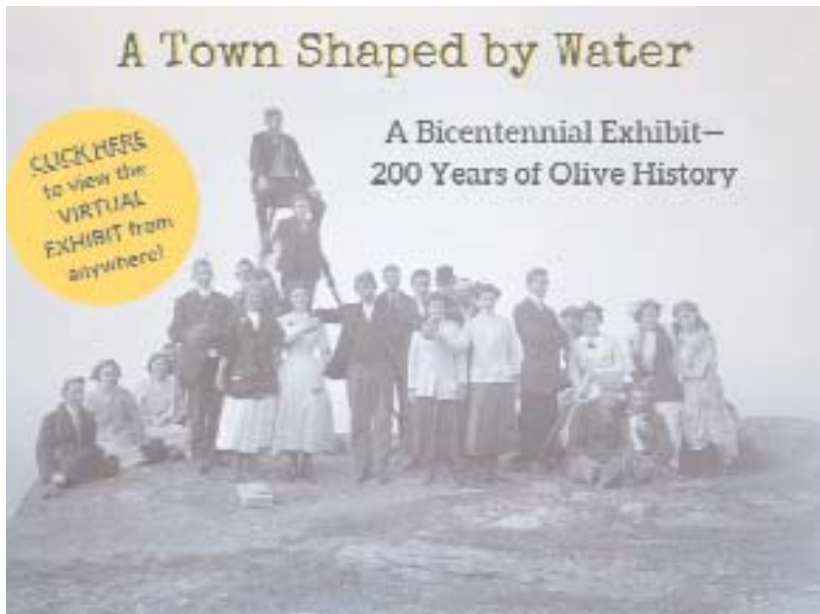
All items should be in like-new condition



BETWEEN THE LINES
YA BOOK CLUB
TUESDAY
NOVEMBER 28
AT 6:00 P.M.



BUNNY
by Mona
Awad



<https://omeka.hrvh.org/exhibits/show/200-years-olive-history/introduction>

November,
Remember with
Kate
McCloughlin &
Nina Shengold
Saturday,
November 25
3:00 p.m.

Holiday Fair!

Saturday,
December 9,
10am-4pm
Sunday,
December 10,
11am-3pm

Trivia Night

3RD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH @ 5 P.M.

Makers
Open Hours!

first & last Wednesday of the month
5:00-7:00 p.m.

Bring your sewing or other craft projects to work on in good company at the library!



Time and the Valleys Museum

Grahamsville, NY

Are you interested in local history?

Did you know that Museum membership is only \$25 a YEAR?
Members receive:

- Free admission to all diverse in-person and virtual programs
- Free admission to the Museum and expanding Catskill Farm
- Invitations to exhibit openings and special events
(there are TWO exhibit openings in 2023!)
- *Around the Reservoirs* Newsletter
- Monthly historical and informative emails
- 10% discount in the Museum Shop



Join now & get 10% off!

Join at the \$100 (Patron) level for FREE admission to thousands of museums all across North America! You can use the form below, or go to www.timeandthevalleymuseum.org to join with paypal.

Time and the Valleys Museum, P.O. Box 254, Grahamsville, New York 12740
845 985-7700 www.timeandthevalleymuseum.org

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$25 \$22.50	Name: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Double	\$40 \$36	Address: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$50 \$45	City: _____ State & Zip: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$100 \$90	Phone: _____ e-mail: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron Silver	\$200 \$180	
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron Gold	\$500 \$450	

Thank you for supporting local history and the Museum.



BONUS - Free Art Catalogue!

Sullivan County Intervention Line for Parents and Teens

Are you a parent struggling with your family?
Are you a teen having problems at home?

Help is available now!

We are here anytime you need to talk.

Give us a call or send us a text and someone will always be there to listen and help you deal with your situation.



Text 845-372-1817
Call 866-372-2336

Calls and texts are answered 24/7

A program of the DRC

Sullivan County Text For Teens

Monday - Friday
4pm-10pm
Saturday & Sunday
5pm-12am



Hey...I really need to talk to someone. Can you help?



Free & confidential support
Someone who can listen and help
Text as often as you need!

We're Here to Listen:
Bullying - Eating Disorders -
Self-Harm - Homeless/Runaway -
Pregnancy - Problems at Home -
Relationship Issues - LGBTQ+ -
Divorce - School Issues -
Substance Use -
Physical/Mental/Sexual Health -
and more!

Text "Start" to:
845-637-9486

OFF HOURS:
Call 1-888-750-2266, option 2



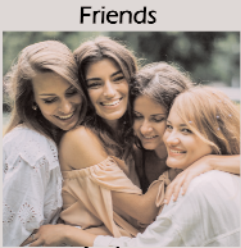
Text for Teens is supported by a Grant of the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation



Rewarding lives. Healthy communities.

COVID-19 Vaccines Save Lives

Who will you protect?



Friends

Amigos

Family

¿A quien protegerás?

Get the facts.



Familia

Obtenga los hechos.

Talk to your healthcare provider about the COVID vaccine.



Comunidad

Hable con su proveedor de salud sobre la vacuna del COVID-19.

#VaccinateSullivan

For more information, visit www.sullivanny.us



GET SIGNED UP TODAY FOR OUR UPCOMING CERTIFICATION CLASS !!

Contact:

Alyssa Wowk
(845) 645-6544

awowk@chowc.net

Sullivan County Department of Social Services is looking for families who can help fulfill the **DESPERATE NEED** for ages **8-18!**



FOSTER HOMES NEEDED!



WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH A Daniel Pierce Library Card?
Explore everything your library card gives you!



Read any way you like
Printed books, magazines, and newspapers, e-books, and audiobooks



Listen at home or on the go
CDs and music by stream or download



Get online and get going
Free Wi-Fi

 Borrow movies, documentaries, TV series and more

Learn something new 24/7

Learn a new language FREE with Rosetta Stone

Online classes and research materials ready when you are

Download the Libby App

Borrow instead of buy

Check out books, magazines, cds, DVDs and audiobooks from all 47 RCS Libraries

Download the RCS Gateway App

Entertain your kids – or yourself!

Passes to Mohawk Preserve and the Jimmie and Valleys Museum

Unlimited access to thousands of digital comics, graphic novels and manga

There's even more to explore with your library card:

- Online programming, databases and research materials
- Expert reading recommendations
- Internet access and computers to use

SIGN UP TODAY! It's FREE and easy!
Visit the Daniel Pierce Library for more details.

Join us for a **THANKSGIVING Farmers' Market**



NARROWSBURG FARMERS' MARKET

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 18
11 AM - 1 PM

Rain, Shine or Snow

7 Erie Avenue
Narrowsburg, NY
Behind the
Narrowsburg Union

NarrowsburgFarmersMarket.org

FARMERS' & FOOD PRODUCERS

Cakes & Scones Bakery

Forthright Cider & Mead

Four Story Hill Farm

Hilly Acres Farm

Sorala's Natural Valley Kitchen

Sprouting Dreams Farm

Two Creek Farm

Willow Wisp Organic Farm

Music by
The AVenue

VOICESUNITED4CHANGE'S VIRTUAL




YOUTH SUPPORT GROUP

JOIN US!

Join us for a peer led, mental health, lesson based virtual support group for teens ages 13-17. Together we learn about our mental health and do an activity together. This group is completely free to join, and all supplies for the activity will be sent to your home. Space is limited for each group!

Contact Rebekah at rumarbashar@asfl.org for more information.

EVERY 1ST & 3RD
WEDNESDAY
@ 6:30 PM

VOICESUNITED4CHANGE'S VIRTUAL




PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

JOIN US!

Join us for a peer led virtual support group for parents of children with mental health challenges. Together we have time for conversation and an activity. This group is completely free to join, and all supplies for the activity will be sent to your home. Space is limited for each group!

Contact Anne-Marie at afreitas@asfl.org for more information.

EVERY 2ND & 4TH
WEDNESDAY
@ 6:30 PM



**JOIN US FOR A
FAMILY FUN DAY
ICE OR NO ICE**

THE JARED PROYECT MEMORIAL ICE FISHING CONTEST

Saturday, January 20, 2024

**SILVER LAKE AT KRIEGER PARK
WOODRIDGE, NY 12789**

**REGISTRATION: 8AM
ICE FISHING CONTEST: 9AM-1PM
AWARDS: 1PM**

**WARM UP WITH A
CHILI LUNCHEON @**

**The Woodridge
Fire Department
2pm-5pm**

Salad, Chili, Rice, Corn bread, Desserts

**Contact:
Eric Akerley - 845.707.1483
for more information.**

**DONATIONS
ACCEPTED AT
GOODWILL**

**ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO
JARED'S DAUGHTER - JOCELYN
PROYECT'S FUTURE FUND**

Sponsored by:

*Woodridge Fire Department
Woods Pond Rod & Gun Club*



FOR A CHILI LUNCHEON IN MEMORY OF JARED PROYECT

**SATURDAY
JAN. 20, 2024**



2PM-5PM

**WOODRIDGE FIRE DEPARTMENT - SOCIAL HALL
2 GREEN AVE
WOODRIDGE, NY 12789**

**DONATIONS ACCEPTED
AT GOODWILL**

SALAD - CHILI - RICE - CORN BREAD - DESSERTS

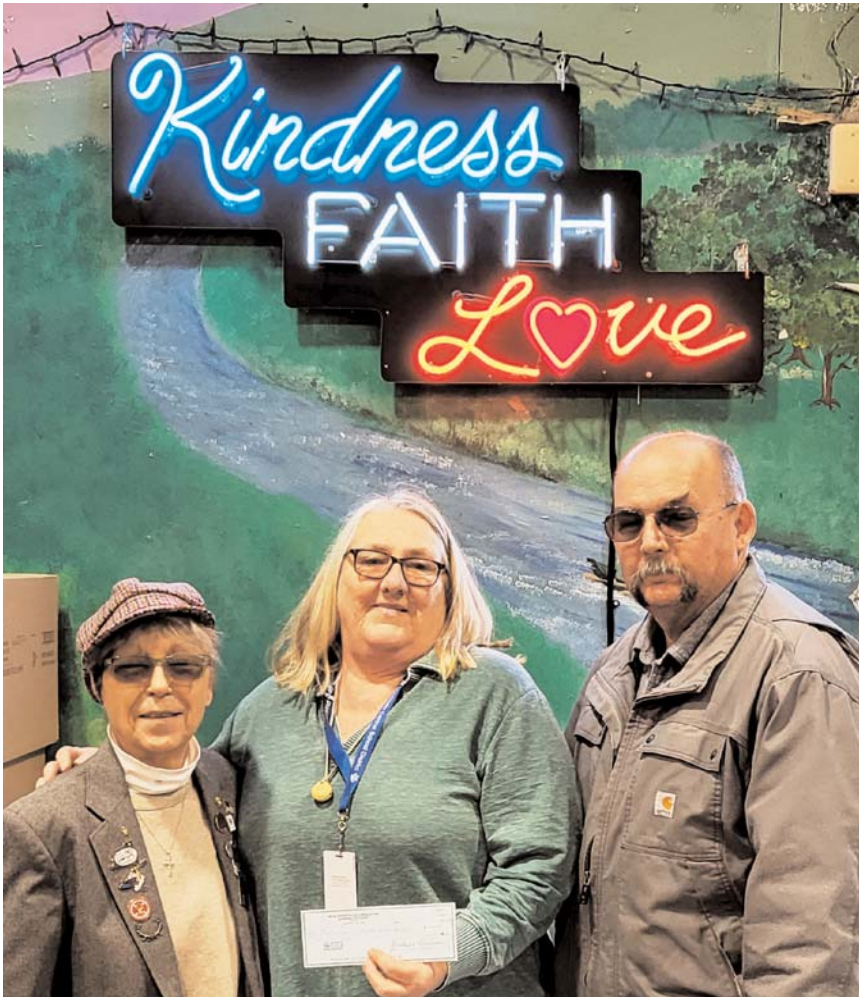
RAFFLES



50/50

**ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO JARED'S DAUGHTER,
JOCELYN PROYECT'S FUTURE FUND.**

Monticello NY Elks Help the Homeless



Elks Past Exalted Ruler Ronni Scannell, Sullivan County Federation for the Homeless Director Kathy Kreiter and Elks Past District Deputy/Leading Knight Jim Gerrard.

(Monticello) Elks Lodge #1544 of Monticello has presented the Sullivan County Federation for the Homeless with a check for \$2000. The funding comes from an Elks National Foundation Spotlight Grant. The Spotlight Grants shine a light on three issues facing American communities: early childhood literacy, veteran homelessness, and hunger. The Federation for the Homeless has helped Elks and many others locally in their time of need. Pictured from left are: Elks Past Exalted Ruler Ronni Scannell, Sullivan County Federation for the Homeless Director Kathy Kreiter and Elks Past District Deputy/Leading Knight Jim Gerrard.

Town of Fallsburg Launches Exciting Community Programs, Embracing Inclusivity and Well-being

Fallsburg, November 19, 2023 - The Town of Fallsburg is thrilled to announce the commencement of registrations for some dynamic community programs aimed at enriching the lives of its residents. These initiatives underscore the town's commitment to fostering inclusivity, health, and recreation for individuals of all ages and abilities.

Empower Video Gaming Club for Children and Young Adults with Special Needs

In collaboration with the Kosher Garage - Fun Spot in Loch Sheldrake, the Empower Video Gaming Club is designed to provide an engaging and supportive environment for children and young adults with special needs.

This program aims to foster social connections, boost self-esteem, and enhance cognitive skills through the medium of video gaming. The program is scheduled to start November 30, 2023. This program is a monthly program that provides over two hours of unlimited arcade game play in Loch Sheldrake NY!

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Elementary Soccer

High School Basketball Drill

Youth After-School Learn to Swim Program with Hudson Valley Swim

Zumba

These programs are made available free of charge for residents of the Town of Fallsburg, thanks to the town's commitment to promoting community engagement and well-being. Registration for these programs is now open and can be completed conveniently on the town's website at www.townoffallsburg.com. Under community activities and youth activities. Residents are encouraged to secure their spots early, as spaces are limited.

Town of Fallsburg Supervisor Kathy Rappaport expressed enthusiasm about the launch of these community programs, stating, "We are excited to provide our residents with these enriching opportunities for growth, connection, and well-being."

These programs reflect our dedication to creating a vibrant and inclusive community for all."

For more information and to register, please visit www.townoffallsburg.com or contact the Town of Fallsburg at

jedwards@fallsburgny.com
or 845-434-8810 Ext 5.

INSIDE INSIGHTS

THE NEWSLETTER OF
THE SULLIVAN COUNTY MANAGER



A BUDGET THAT DOESN'T THE BANK

BY JOSHUA POTOSEK, COUNTY MANAGER

I was pleased in early November to present a proposed 2024 Sullivan County Budget that significantly expands services without raising property taxes.

Typically, that's an extremely rare scenario, but thanks to a healthy, robust local economy and sensible fiscal management, County government is in an enviable position to better serve residents without costing them more.

So here's what I've presented to the Legislature for their review:

- An historic **\$23.6 million for road and bridgework** throughout the County, to be achieved without going into debt by bonding
- **\$2 million for a Housing Trust Fund** to address the housing crisis in the County
- **\$700,000** for the Sullivan Promise Scholarship Program, which provides **up to two full years of tuition-free attendance at SUNY Sullivan** for local high school graduates
- **\$450,000** to expand Move Sullivan's popular bus routes to Cohecton, Eldred, Foxcroft Village, Grahamsville, Jeffersonville, Livingston Manor, Narrowsburg, Neversink and Roscoe
- **\$360,000** to replace patrol vehicles in the Sheriff's Office
- **\$300,000** (an increase of **\$100,000** over last year) for the Youth Bureau to fund local organizations serving youth and their families
- **\$300,000** to demolish blighted properties via the Sullivan County Land Bank and the Remove Unsafe Structures (RUS_t) Program

- **\$165,000** to hire new dispatchers in the Sheriff's Office, thus allowing two more deputies to head out on road patrol duties
- **\$150,000 for a Water Resource Study** to map the inventory of this liquid necessity, especially in areas facing development

More details at <https://county-sullivan-ny-budget-book.cleargov.com/13509>.

WHAT YOU'LL FIND IN THIS ISSUE:

REBUILDING OUR
ROADS AND BRIDGES - 2

A TRUE HOMETOWN
HERO - 3

CREATING A NEW
WORKFORCE - 4

WE REBUILT MANY ROADS AND BRIDGES IN 2023

The 2023 construction season saw our Division of Public Works (DPW) and subcontractors spend a lot of time and money on roads, bridges and associated infrastructure.

In fact, Sullivan County spent more on that work this year than in any other year - **\$21 million**, much of which was from State and Federal sources.

And we did it without going into further debt, for the second year in a row.

Typically, we have to borrow, via short-term bonding, to ensure we keep pace with the needs of our roads and bridges. It's increasingly expensive to maintain 400 bridges and nearly 400 miles of roadway throughout the County, but thanks to strong sales tax revenues, sensible fiscal management by my staff and me, and an eager Legislature, we've repaired/replaced almost 70 miles of highway and close to a dozen bridges in the past two years alone.

10 Year Look Back - Miles of County Road Repaired or Overlaid or Both

No. of Years Back	Year	Miles of CR (Repaired or Overlaid or Both)
10	2014	25.8
9	2015	30.7
8	2016	35.4
7	2017	25.4
6	2018	35.2
5	2019	26.0
4	2020	28.9
3	2021	33.5
2	2022	37.0
1	2023	31.7

But the job is never done, and in my 2024 Tentative County Budget, I've proposed upping our highway/bridge outlay to **\$23.6 million** - again, without going into any debt. For the time being, we are in a good position to not only keep pace but get ahead of our roadway needs, and we owe it to the taxpayers not to squander that opportunity.

FISCAL STRESS? NOT HERE

I'm very pleased to say the NYS Comptroller's Office has once again designated Sullivan County free of fiscal stress, with our finances continuing to be in the best shape since reporting began.

They recently released the 2022 Fiscal Stress rankings for municipalities Statewide, based on the annual financial reports submitted to the Office. We scored better than ever, once again earning the best rank of "No Designation" (meaning there are no indications of the County being susceptible to fiscal stress at this time).

In 2019, Sullivan earned a

Fiscal Stress score of 42.1 points. That improved to 35.8 in 2020 (a lower score indicating better finances), then to 13.3 in 2021 and now dropping to a **best-ever 3.3 points**.

Meanwhile, the Environmental Stress score dropped from 30 in 2019 to 23.3 points in 2020, then 20 for 2021, and now stands at its own **best-ever of 13.3 points**. Unlike Fiscal Stress, the data used to create the Environmental Stress score - population changes, poverty levels, tax base, unemployment rates, state/federal aid and other items - represents issues that are not fully within the County's control.



County Bridge 198, spanning Halfway Brook between Eldred and Yulan, was replaced earlier this year.

We're excited to announce our

FOOD SCRAP RECYCLING PROGRAM



LET'S KEEP FOOD OUT OF A LANDFILL AND TURN IT INTO USEFUL COMPOST!

The first 400 registrants get a FREE kitchen collection bin and a larger, 5-gallon exterior collection bin!

Register to try out this pilot program by contacting Recycling Coordinator Kassie Thelman at **845-807-0291** or recycling@sullivanny.us. (Pre-registration is required.)

HOLIDAY CONCERTS

Inside the Sullivan County Government Center Lobby,
100 North Street, Monticello

11 a.m., December 6, 2023
10:45 a.m., December 7, 2023
1 p.m., December 7, 2023
10:30 a.m., December 8, 2023
12:30 p.m., December 8, 2023

11 a.m., December 11, 2023
12:45 p.m., December 13, 2023

10:30 a.m., December 14, 2023
11 a.m., December 15, 2023

11:45 a.m., December 18, 2023
11 a.m., December 19, 2023
10:30 a.m., December 20, 2023

12 p.m., December 20, 2023

10:30 a.m., December 21, 2023

12 p.m., December 21, 2023

Fallsburg Senior High School Band
Sullivan West HS Select Choir
Fallsburg Junior High Chorus
Chase Elementary School Chorus
Livingston Manor High School Band and Chorus
Sullivan BOCES Student Chorus
Benjamin Cosor Elementary School Chorus
Sullivan West Elementary Chorus
Liberty High School Mixed Choir and Honors Choir
Liberty High School Band
Tri-Valley High School Jazz Combo
Monticello Middle School 6th Grade Chorus, 7th-8th Grade Chorus and String Ensemble
Monticello High School Emerging Ensembles and Chamber Singers
Eldred 6th Grade Chorus, 6th Grade Band, High School Chamber Groups
Minisink Valley HS Mixed Choir, Treble Choir, Chamber Choir, and Bass Ensemble

A HOMETOWN HERO

Sullivan County Public Safety Commissioner **Scott Schulte** knows firsthand what Israelis and Palestinians are enduring. He headed to Israel shortly after the Hamas attacks in October.



The Ulster County native and firefighter has long been a member of the Emergency Volunteers Project, a disaster relief & rescue organization whose primary mission is to deploy volunteer teams to Israel in times of crisis. "We're under Israel's National Fire Service, approved by the Knesset," Scott says. "I've been deployed twice before, but this is the first time for a fully declared war."

During his 10-day deployment, Scott was assigned to areas of Israel under direct attack, fighting fires caused by rockets.

I'm incredibly proud of Commissioner Schulte for undertaking this very dangerous mission. All of Sullivan County applauds his dedication to protecting and saving lives, and we are grateful for his safe return and that of his teammates.

We also pray for that ever-elusive peace in the Middle East, and our thoughts go to all the innocent families caught in the crossfire of this conflict.



Scott Schulte and teammates responded to fires like these in Israel, caused by rockets that hit cars and buildings.

CREATING NEW EMPLOYMENT FOR OUR RESIDENTS

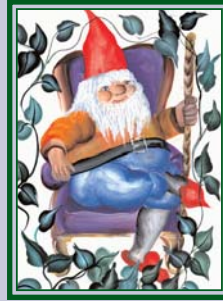


Eleven locals are taking a 10-week welding course at Sullivan BOCES in Liberty, fully paid for by Sullivan County and administered through our Center for Workforce Development. Taught by Nick Conklin, the class is part of an ongoing effort to increase the local employee pool for trades.



RENTALS

Store for Rent in Grahamsville (845) 985-7411

FOR SALE**Sundown Camp and Bait Shop!
Firewood for sale****HELP WANTED****Typing Help Wanted**Experienced or Student. Full/Part time. Work in Grahamsville. Busy Law Office.
William Brenner
(845) 985-7411**KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE**

IMDb

A BIOGRAPHY:

"Dean Martin"**"The King of Cool"**

This week we celebrate **THANKSGIVING**, and how can improve humanity through peaceful understanding of the human condition and our differences of choice. We find we feel for each other regardless of our contrary opinions.

Turner Classic Movies has with diligence programmed their offering to serve the understanding of movie lovers by picking films to suit the signs of our times.



Dean Martin an exceptional creative genius, Boxing, singing act ing then comes Jerry Lewis and comedy, Frank Sinatra's rat pack as inherited from Humphrey Bogart, Sammy Davis,

Martin's best friend. Don't want to redirect the film here. Get it, at the TCM Store. (A TCM Original Documentary)



(Contd. Pg. 74)

Answer to last week's Trivia Question: *Beneath the Planet of the Apes*

This weeks' Trivia question: In what film does Kelly McGillis play a Quaker mom?



Sell your handcrafted items
online from your own little
virtual shop
at the

**Gnome Home
Virtual Mall**

Interested?

Send an email to:
gnomehomeinc@yahoo.com

... or if you just want
to have some
'gnome made' fun..

Visit the gnome's
virtual on-line local shop
at:

<http://www.gnomehomeinc.com>

(From Pg. 73)

“KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE”

Available at the TCM Store, Imob,
Amazon Prime, and Netflix
Miracle on 34th Street
(1947 / Rated G / 97 min.
Comedy / Drama)

From 1947, starting with Thanksgiving and ushering in the Christmas Season, *Miracle on 34th Street* is still one of America's favorite movies.



Miracle on 34th Street was shot on location in New York City, with the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade sequences filmed live while the 1946 parade was happening

The movie is about a six-year-old, Susan Walker (Natalie Wood) who is skeptical of the Christmas myth surrounding Santa Claus, a trait she perhaps learned from her mother, Doris Walker (Maureen O'Hara).

Doris is faced with a dilemma when an older man, Kris Kringle complains to her that the Santa she had hired was intoxicated. She persuades Kris to take his place. He does so well that he is hired to play Santa at Macy's New York City store on 34th Street.

When Kringle surprises customers and employees alike by claiming that he really is Santa Claus, it leads to a court case to determine his mental health and, more importantly, his authenticity.

Miracle on 34th Street is a 1947 American Christmas comedy-drama film released by 20th



Century Fox, written and directed by George Seaton and based on a story by Valentine Davies. It stars Maureen O'Hara, John Payne, Natalie Wood, and Edmund Gwenn.

Miracle on 34th Street won three Academy Awards: Gwenn for Best Actor in a Supporting Role, Valentine Davies for Best Writing, Original Story, and George Seaton for Best Writing, Screenplay.

The film was nominated for Best Picture, losing to *Gentleman's Agreement*.

Miracle on 34th Street received positive reviews from critics. Bosley Crowther of *The New York Times* said: "For all those blasé skeptics who do not believe in Santa Claus –and likewise for all those natives who have grown cynical about New York –but most especially for all those patrons who have grown weary of the monotonies of the screen, let us heartily recommend *Miracle on 34th Street*. As a matter of fact, let's go further: let's catch its spirit and heartily proclaim that it is the freshest little picture in a long time, and maybe even the best comedy of this year."

In 1985, it became one of the first full-length black and white films to be colorized.

In 1993, this version was released on VHS and LaserDisc, and was followed four years later by a "50th Anniversary Edition" on both formats

In 2005, the film was selected for preservation in the United States National Film Registry by the Library of Congress as being "culturally, historically or aesthetically significant". The Academy Film Archive preserved *Miracle on 34th Street* in 2009.

Miracle on 34th Street was listed as the fifth best film in the fantasy genre in the American Film Institute's "Ten top Ten" lists in 2008.

May the miracle of the season bless you with
Peace and Love as you celebrate a
Happy Thanksgiving!

