



VOL. 17 NO. 26 GRAHAMSVILLE, NY 12740 JULY 1, 2021 \$1.00

Mysterious Book Report John D. McKenna Pg 5 • *The Olive Jar* Carol La Monda Pg 6 • *The Scene Too* Jane Harrison Pg 11
Knarf's Classic Movie & Trivia Pg 43

SC COVID Vigil & Walk Honors Sullivan County Residents Who Lost Their to COVID

The Sullivan County COVID Vigil & Walk took place at 8:00 pm on June 23rd in Monticello. Luminaries, placed along the sidewalks at the Sullivan County Government center were lit, to honor those Sullivan County residents who were lost to COVID.

Joining family and friends of those who perished were guest speakers including: Assemblymember Aileen Gunther; Mr. John Little, Sullivan County Health and Family Services Commissioner; Nancy McGraw; Sullivan County Public Health Director; Ms. Amanda Galigher Langseder, Director, Sullivan 180; Ms. Dana Taylor, Monticello Central School District Executive Director for Special, Summer and After-School Programs; Rev. Richard Witt, Executive Director Rural & Migrant Ministry; Ms. Nadia Rajs; Sullivan County Legislator, District 2; and Mr. Lou Setern, community member and vocalist.

The event was organized and sponsored by community members Josie Omar, Sandra Oxford, Catherine Scott, Lou Setern, as well as by Sullivan 180.



Fallsburg Central School District Selects Esther Grossman for Hall of Fame



Esther Lelah Grossman was selected for the FCSD Hall of Fame(HOF) by the HOF Committee on March 15, 2021. She taught Physical Education at Fallsburg High School for over 35 years. During this time, she was the Athletic Director and coach. Esther was a role model to her students and helped many of them obtain college degrees. She coached championship teams in field hockey and volleyball.

Ms. Grossman was very active in the Fallsburg community. She owned and operated Pleasant Valley Day Camp, where many children spent their happy summers. Her love of athletics was a life-long commitment to her. She trained and "took under her wing" many other teachers and coaches. She was a mentor to them and to hundreds of students and campers. The letters in support of her nomination were unanimous in the gratitude for transforming shy young girls with low self-esteem and no sense of any athletic ability into strong young women. In and outside of class, she was always encouraging people, and she did it all with a great sense of humor.

Esther's personal story is exemplary. She was born in Singapore, Malaysia, on August 9, 1931. Her family moved to Calcutta, India, where Esther attended the Calcutta Girl's School. She excelled in sports and qualified for the London Olympics in 1948 in Track and Field. Unfortunately, because of the assassination of Gandhi and turmoil in India, the Indian Olympic Team never got to London. (Contd. Pg. 4)

YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN
 OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER FOR
 THE TOWN OF DENNING AND
 THE TOWN OF NEVERSINK

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EDITOR: Linda Comando - 985-0501
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 OLIVE JAR - Carol La Monda
 MYSTERIOUS BOOK REPORT - John McKenna
 FALLSBURG NEWS - Larry Schafman
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POLICY ON SUBMISSIONS AND LETTERS TO THE EDITORS:

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

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

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

More than ever, thank you for your support during these difficult times. Wishing everyone well.

ON THE FRONT BURNER: Owe no man anything, to love one another, for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law. Romans 13.:8

OBITUARIES

Alton Hall, devoted father, grandfather, friend and Coach, passed away on



June 20, 2021 at the age of 87. Born on April 9, 1934 to Stewart Wakefield Hall and Olive McClintock Hall, he was raised on a dairy farm in Franklin, NY. After graduating from Franklin Central School in 1952, he attended SUNY Cortland where he obtained bachelors and masters degrees in Physical Education. Al proudly served his country in the US Army from 1957 - 1959 and was stationed in Germany.

Al is survived by his daughter Joyce Rice (Ronald), sons Steven (Kelly), Andrew (Tricia) and Dean (Sharon), 10 grandchildren: Erin, Brock, Lauren, Norah, Jaden, Kieran, Amanda, Ryan, Julia and Christopher and brother Harold Hall of Sharon Springs, NY. Al is predeceased by his brothers Everett and Floyd Hall.

Al met Joan Whelan while at Cortland, they married just after graduation in 1956 and moved to Grahamsville, NY, where they raised four children. If you lived in the area you were familiar with Al, who always had a smile and hearty hello for all he met, believing a stranger is a friend not yet met. Al taught physical education, coached various sports teams and was athletic director; ultimately spending 34 years with the Tri-Valley Central School District. He helped establish the Tri-Valley Youth Commission serving as chairman for many years. He was the founding president of the Tri-Valley Little League where he served in that role and as an umpire for untold seasons. He was proud to be listed on the Sullivan County Public School Sportsman's "Wall of Fame" located at the SUNY Sullivan Gerry Field House.

Al served as a volunteer with the Grahamsville Fire Department for more than 45 years and also enjoyed donating his time to the Neversink Renaissance Commission and the Time and the Valley Museum. Al was a real estate broker in the Grahamsville area and when not showing property, he could often be found mowing it. He loved his adopted town and will be missed by many.

His love of agriculture brought him to become the vice president and director of the Neversink Agricultural Society,

for years helping to organize the annual Grahamsville Little World's Fair. Years spent tinkering with his own and his friends' tractors led to him helping launch the Neversink Rondout Antique Machinery Association in 1999 and assist with the annual Sullivan County Antique Power show. His love of Ferguson tractors was obvious; in 2007, he was appointed to the National Board of Directors of the Ferguson Enthusiasts of North America.

Al loved history, genealogy and had a great memory for details. He was proud of his family history and the historic Hallway Dairy Farm in Franklin. A social butterfly, he loved to get to know people, always trying to determine how he knew you or your family. Al was a longtime, devoted member of the Vine & Branch Church in Liberty, NY.

Friends and family will gather for a memorial service at 2 pm on July 17, 2021 at Vine & Branch Church with internment at the Sullivan County Veterans Cemetery in Liberty, NY. In lieu of flowers, the family respectfully requests that donations be made in his name to: Vine & Branch Church, Time and the Valley Museum or the New York State Agricultural Society.

Arrangements were under the care of Colonial Memorial Funeral Home, for further information please call 845-434-7363 or visit www.colonialfamilyfuneral-home.com.

To plant a tree in memory of Alton Hall, please visit Tribute Store at: https://tree.tributestore.com/memorial-tree?oId=21527613&_ga=2.171605923.2057167030.1624814801-388217018.1624814801

Herbert Donald Akerley of The Villages, FL, a former long-time resident of Neversink, NY died Wednesday, June 23, 2021 at Cornerstone Hospice in The Villages, FL. He was 77.



The son of the late Herbert Daniel and Maxine Donaldson Akerley, he was born March 22, 1944 in Monticello, NY.

Herb worked 22 years for Channel Masters in Ellenville NY in the shipping and receiving Department until the company moved to North Carolina. He then went to work for Sullivan County DPW where he was employed for 20 years before retiring as a Construction Equipment Operator in 2006.(Contd. Pg. 3)

OBITUARIES (From Pg. 2)**Herbert Donald Akerley**

He proudly served Our Country in the US Army from 1965-1967; was a member of the Grahamsville United Methodist Church in Grahamsville, NY and former Dennis Akerley VFW post.

He enjoyed landscaping, geocaching, sudoku and in addition while in Florida, shuffleboard, Samba, and Bunco. He will be remembered as being kindhearted, hardworking, and devoted to his family.

Survivors include his wife of 53 years Kathleen "Kathy" Akerley, at home; one daughter, Lynn McKeon and her husband Sean of Grahamsville; three grandsons, Brent and his wife Danielle, Zachary and Logan; a brother, Bob Akerley and his wife Vi of Grahamsville; a sister, Maxine Buck of Milford, PA; three sisters-in-law, Barbara Gorman of Liberty, Hazel Akerley of Liberty and Olga Akerley of Woodridge; several nieces and nephews and his close friend Tony Carmeci.

In addition to his parents, Herb was predeceased by four brothers, Harold (Hetz), Kenneth, Ralph and Dennis; two sisters Lulubelle Gloor and Helen Johnston; and a daughter Ruth.

Visitation was Tuesday at the Harris Funeral Home, West St. at Buckley, Liberty, NY.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday, June 29, 2021 at the Harris Funeral Home. The Rev. Gretchen Fischer officiated. Burial will be in the Rural Cemetery, Grahamsville, NY.

Memorial contributions in Herb's name may be made to the charity of one's choice or Cornerstone Hospice 601 Mariposa Way, The Villages FL 32162

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Harris Funeral Home West St. at Buckley, Liberty, NY 845-292-0001 or 845-439-5200 or www.Harris-FH.com

Nial Paul Edwards - January 28, 1950 - June 18, 2021.

Nial Paul Edwards, Sr., 71 passed away after an extended illness on June 18, 2021 in his home surrounded by his loving family. Born in Liberty, New York and a resident of Virginia for the last 17 years, he was the son of the late Jesse Loren Edwards and Bertha Stickle Edwards. Nial was also predeceased by three sisters, Loretta Noren, Doris Painter, and Saralt Sennett, and a brother, Douglas Edwards.

Nial was a carpenter and a member of Holland Baptist Church.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife, Rita Van Aken Edwards; his four children, Nial P. Edwards, Jr. (Kimberly), Tina Wallace (Joseph), Kenneth A. Edwards (Megan), and Joann McKenny (Horace); two sisters, Berthann Apple (Larry) and Sandra Edwards; three brothers, Robert Edwards (Mary-Jean), Roger Edwards (Nancy), and Donald Edwards (Elaine); eight grandchildren, Jacob Edwards, Brian Edwards (Claire), Evan Edwards, Christina Reilly, Jesse Wallace, Zachary Edwards, Meridith Edwards, and Brent McKeon (Danielle); and a great grandson, Wesley James Edwards.

Nature Column - Linda Comando

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

Butterflies are Back

This past weekend the Tiger Swallowtails (*Papilio tatus*) took advantage of some of the muddy spots that formed after we watered the garden. They put on a beautiful display boldly dashing from the treetops down to the ground. There were several dozen at a time gathering in the mud. Others flew over to the edge of the benekill (spring fed pond) in the front yard for a drink before they flitted away over the fields and into the woods.

It was male Tiger Swallowtails that were congregating in the mud. This behavior is called puddling. They extract sodium ions and amino acids from these sources which aid in reproduction. Males that puddle are typically young, and puddle only for their first couple of days. Females will occasionally puddle, but do not form a flock like the males.



Male tiger swallowtails are yellow with four black "tiger stripes" on each forewing with a few orange and blue spots near their tail. Females may be either yellow or black, making them dimorphic (occurring in two distinct forms). The yellow morph is similar to the male, but with a conspicuous band of blue spots along the hind wing, while the dark morph is almost completely black. The dark form still has the blue spots, but it is otherwise very dark with no yellow. The Tiger Swallowtails that live during late spring and summer in the Catskills are about three inches across. All Tiger Swallowtail butterflies belong to the *Papilio* family and bear the trademark -a black tail on the hind wings.

Tiger Swallowtails are found all over, especially near water, but also in meadows, gardens, parks, roadsides and flying above the tree canopy.

During courtship, the male and female fly about each other prior to landing and mating. The male releases perfume-like pheromones during courtship to entice the female.

Females lay their eggs singly on the host plant leaves, with little or no embryonic development within the mother. The egg is round and green, later turning yellowish-green with reddish dots. The size of the egg is large for a butterfly. It is .03 inches in height and .5 inch in width. The egg will hatch into a jade green caterpillar with two big white eyespots in about a week. Its first food is its own eggshell, then leaves and more leaves. It will molt three times as it grows bigger. When the caterpillars are fully grown, they will then become pupae (resting stage). The name for a butterfly pupae is chrysalis. Upon changing into a brown chrysalis, it will spin a single strong silk thread to support itself at a slant on a twig.

Then about ten days later a beautiful yellow butterfly emerges and becomes a dazzling black-striped Tiger Swallowtail. An unknown poet said it all:

“And what's a butterfly?

At best it is a caterpillar drest.”

Household Hint:**After Chopping Onions & Garlic
Remove the Odor from Your Hands**

Wipe your hands with vinegar after chopping. It will remove strong scents like onion and garlic, as well as stains from fruit juices.

DAYS OF YORE...**Today's History****June 27, 1951**

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Nielsen of Neversink have announced the engagement of their daughter, Carol, to Mr. George Dexheimer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Dexheimer of Liberty.

Miss Carol Gridley, who attended the Community College at Middletown the past year, returned home for a few days' vacation before starting a summer job on the Goshen "Independent Republican." Miss Gridley was news editor and then associate editor of the college paper, "The Citadel."

Marjorie Dierfelter graduated with honors from the School of Nursing at St. Luke's Hospital in Newburgh last Wednesday night. Miss Dierfelter was awarded second prize for the highest average in class work and for being the most cooperative.

The Grahamsville Rod and Gun Club announced today that the winner of the annual Conservation Contest sponsored by the organization is Thomas Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Smith of South Hill. The contest was directed by Fred Cryer and George Mayberry, faculty members at the Tri Valley School.

June 28, 1961

Miss Barbara Ann Gillette, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Delmer Gillette, Hurleyville, became the bride of Donald Short, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Short of Neversink, on Saturday, June 17 in St. Peter's Church, Liberty.

Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Allison announce the engagement of their daughter, Janice Elaine to William A. Decker, son of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Decker of this village. No date has been set for the wedding.

Mrs. Lissa R. Donovan of Woodbourne died June 21st at her home. She was 70. Mrs. Donovan was born August 21 1890 at Denning, the daughter of William and Jennie Osterhout Ryan. She married Mahlon Donovan at Grahamsville on September 11, 1912 and had lived in Woodbourne since her marriage.

The State Department of Public Works will receive bids on the resurfacing of a section of Rt. 55 on the southerly side of the Rondout Reservoir on July 27th, it was learned recently. The \$235,000 project will start at the Sullivan County line and run easterly for 5.19 miles to the intersection of Rt. 55 with Rt. 55A.

June 30, 1971

Services were held Saturday for Elmond J. Allison, 73, of Grahamsville, who died Wednesday at Ellenville Community Hospital. Born in Curry April 16, 1898, he was the son of James and Phoebe Townsend Allison. He was the husband of the late Emma Miller. A lifelong area resident, Mr. Allison was the owner of the Allison General Store and Garage. Surviving are one brother, Edgar of Grahamsville; two sisters, Mrs. Betty Dierfelter of N.J. and Mrs. Jeni Terwilliger of Riverdale, N.J.>

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. George C. Haag of Sundown Rd. on the birth of their son, Karl William, on

Saturday, June 26 in Community General Hospital, Monticello. The maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Porter of Neversink. The paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. George K. Haag of Staten Island and Greenville.

A bridal shower was held on Sunday, June 27th at the Woodbourne V.F.W. Hall for Miss Kathleen Fuller, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Fuller. The shower was given by Mrs. Loretta Ackerley of Grahamsville, Mrs. Jane Houghtaling of Neversink and Mrs. Ada Curry of Sundown. Miss Fuller and Mr. John Donelli will be married on July 10th at an evening service at the Grahamsville United Methodist Church.

June 25, 1981

Nial J. Everett, born in Liberty, but a resident of this area since 1919, was honored on June 9th at an open meeting of the Mongaup Masonic Temple in Liberty for his 62 years of dedicated service as a Master Mason. Richard Wynkoop, Master of the Lodge, served as Master of Ceremonies.

Dawn Schmitz was recently graduated from the Central City Business Institute (CCBI) as a standard secretarial major. A 1980 graduate of Tri-Valley, she is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lorence Schmitz of Woodbourne.

John J. Boncek, son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Boncek of Grahamsville, received his Juris Doctor degree magna cum laude from the Temple University School of Law on May 28th.

Judy Klinger of Denman Mt. Road, Grahamsville, and Sr. Airman David Tuttle of Georgia were united in marriage on Saturday, June 13, 1981. The simple, charming ceremony took place at the Chestnut Creek Covered Bridge with Justice of the Peace Miles Ellison officiating.

FCSD Selects Esther Grossman for Hall of Fame

(From Pg. 1) Esther immigrated to the United States, with the help of an older sister and brother-in-law. She later received a full scholarship to and graduated from Brooklyn College, where she received top honors in all sports. After retiring from FCSD, Esther Grossman continued with the day camp. Indicative of her joy of life and physical exercise, she remained active after moving to Florida. She courageously battled with ALS over the last year of her life. She raised over \$8000 for the ALS Walk in her local community just before she died in 2010.

In January 2010, Esther died after a courageous battle with ALS at the age of 78. Her close friend and protégé as a P.E. teacher and coach at FCSD, Ms. Donna Rae Robitaille, nominated Esther for the HOF. She also was responsible for establishing the Esther Grossman Scholarship at Fallsburg High School

There will be a brief ceremony at the Fallsburg Alumni Association Awards Presentation on Saturday, July 17, 2021 from 11 AM to 1 PM at the front entrance to Benjamin Cosor Elementary School where Esther Grossman's family will receive the HOF plaque.



Black Ice

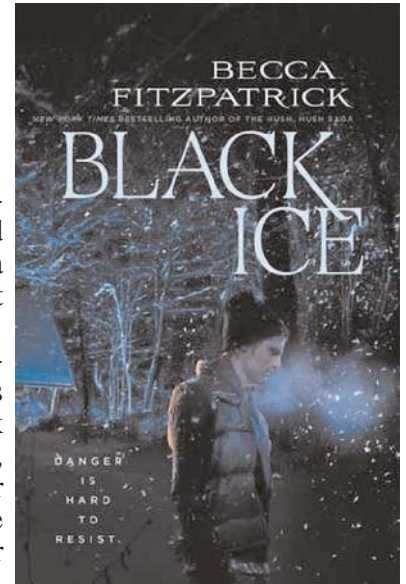
Mysterious Book Report No. 455

by John Dwaine Mc Kenna

Black Ice, (Scarlet, \$25.95, 400 pages, ISBN 978-1-61316-222-4), written by Carin Gerhardsen, and translated from the Swedish by Ian Giles, takes place on Gotland, a small island located in the Baltic Sea, off the southeast coast of Sweden.

Told in alternating points-of-view by different participants, the novel begins in January of 2014, when a man dies a terrible and agonizing death in a hit-and-run accident on one of the island's back roads. As one driver flees the scene, the other is left at the bottom of a deep ravine, barely alive, trapped in his crushed vehicle and needing immediate rescue. For their own selfish and crime-related reasons, the three other observers on the scene fail to report the accident. The car is covered in snow and goes undiscovered for four days, and the investigating the police write it off as a single car accident.

Over the next four years, all four individuals who know about the crash live their ordinary lives, until one of them attempts to blackmail the drunk driver who fled the scene . . . and sets off a wave of crimes, including kidnapping, torture and murder. By using different perspectives from each of the various players and only revealing small plot details at a time, the author keeps ratcheting up the pressure with every chapter of this psychological thriller that will leave readers eagerly anticipating the next one from Ms. Gerhardsen, while singing her praises to their friends . . . *Black Ice* is nail biting suspense at its very best!



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 Dwaine McKenna's Books
are now available at the
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2021 Kingston Annual Juried Exhibition

Arts Society of Kingston and *Midtown Arts District Kingston* are collaborating on the Kingston Annual 2021. The 2nd year of our juried exhibition sees an expanded jury, incredible guest artist, and collaboration with the Bard Center for Curatorial Studies.

Open to visual artists working in any medium living and/or working in the Mid-Hudson Valley. Submit up to five pieces for consideration (\$15 for the first piece, \$5 for each additional entry). There are three Juror's Choice Awards which include a cash prize of \$300. A catalog of all selected work will be produced and available for sale. There is a 40% commission taken on all sales during or as a result of the exhibition.

If you have any issue with the form or any questions regarding the procedures, please email us at kingstonannual@gmail.com

The deadline for submissions is 5pm, Monday, July 12th. Drop off for selected works is Tuesday, August 31 and Wednesday, September 1. This show will open online and at 97 Broadway Saturday, September 4, 2021, and run through Sunday, September 26.

Click here to submit artwork: <http://kingstonannual.art/2021-submissions/>



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UC Dems' News

Following ten days of in-person early voting at four sites around Ulster County and Democratic Primary Election Day on June 21, unofficial election results are available from the Ulster County Board of Elections at voteulster.com. The Ulster County Democratic Committee (UCDC) congratulates these candidates on their projected wins:

- o Mike Baden for Rochester Town Supervisor
- o Michael Coleman for Rochester Town Council
- o Maria-Elena Conte for Woodstock Town Council
- o Kevin Freeman for Saugerties Town Council
- o Phil Erner for Ulster County Legislator District 6 (Parts of City of Kingston)
- o Charlotte Knapp for Rochester Town Council
- o Joseph Maloney for Ulster County Legislator District 2 (Parts of Town of Saugerties and Village of Saugerties)
- o Laura Nordstrom for City of Kingston Alderman, Ward 7
- o Bennet Ratcliff for Woodstock Town Council
- o Charlotte Richman for Gardiner Town Council
- o Reynolds Scott-Childress for City of Kingston Alderman, Ward 3
- o Jacob Sherman for Marbletown Town Supervisor
- o Warren Wiegand for Gardiner Town Council
- o Kayleigh Zaloga for Saugerties Town Council

389 absentee and affidavit ballots are still yet to be counted in these races. Absentee ballots postmarked on or before June 22 and received by the Board of Elections by June 29 will be counted beginning June 29 at 10 a.m., with an expected completion date of June 30. We thank all the candidates who stepped up, as well as the volunteers and Board of Elections staff who made a successful, safe election possible!

The General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 2, 2021. Early voting will take place starting on Saturday, October 23 until Sunday, October 31, 2021.

For voting information, visit www.voteulster.com.

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

In Praise of our Two-Party Political System A Tribute to Kenneth Walter

- submitted by William A. Brenner
Grahamsville, NY

I offer a tribute to Kenneth Walter; a resolute American, dedicated to the two-party system. To explain:

Earlier this year, at the outset of the 2021 local election season, the town of Neversink republican and conservative party quietly met and selected their candidates, coincidentally the same candidates.

The only ripple was that the town of Neversink Justice candidate pre-selected by both the republican and conservative parties was Keri-Ann Poley, a republican and former town court clerk in another town.

Soon after the early republican and conservative party conventions, local resident Michael Scagnelli politely asked the republican chairman to be considered as a candidate for town justice to replace retiring attorney Brian Edwards. The same story with the conservatives. Mike Scagnelli was politely told by both party leaders that he was too late. Mr. Scagnelli is a retired New York City Police Chief of Transportation. Mike was a man of few words, and inexhaustible perseverance and energy. Using the signature petition method, he forced a republican and conservative primary (the only primary in town). Mike spattered the town with large campaign posters (the only posters until the last week) and campaigned tirelessly door to door. And on primary election day, June 22nd, caused a bit of an upset when he won both the republican and conservative town of Neversink justice primaries. This victory may have been a bit overshadowed by the New York City Democratic Mayoral Primary held that same election day.

By some unknown quirk of planning, the town of Neversink Democratic Committee gave notice that their Democratic Caucus would be held on Wednesday, June 23rd at 6PM at the Neversink General Store. At that time, the Democrats would select their Democratic candidates for Town Offices - including Town Judge.

The Democratic Caucus was held under a huge outdoor tent on the lawn at the intersection of route 55 and Schumway Rd by the barbecue oven. There were beef and cracker Hors d'oeuvres on the tables. 34 people attended - the largest turnout in years. The chairman and secretary were selected and supervisor candidate was unanimously voted in.



Nominations for the office of Neversink Town Judge were opened. Nominated and seconded were Michael Scagnelli, Keri-Ann Poley and Kenneth Walter (a dedicated Democrat). The candidates' speeches were limited to three minutes each. Scagnelli and Poley were stopped at the three minute bell.

Walter's speech did not go beyond the three minute bell. Kenneth Walter said in effect that in this democratic party caucus for Neversink Town Justice, he, Kenneth Walter was the only registered democrat running.

The vote was by secret ballot. Only registered democrats who signed in could vote. All the votes had the candidate's first name written and were dropped into an orange bowl and counted at the head table.

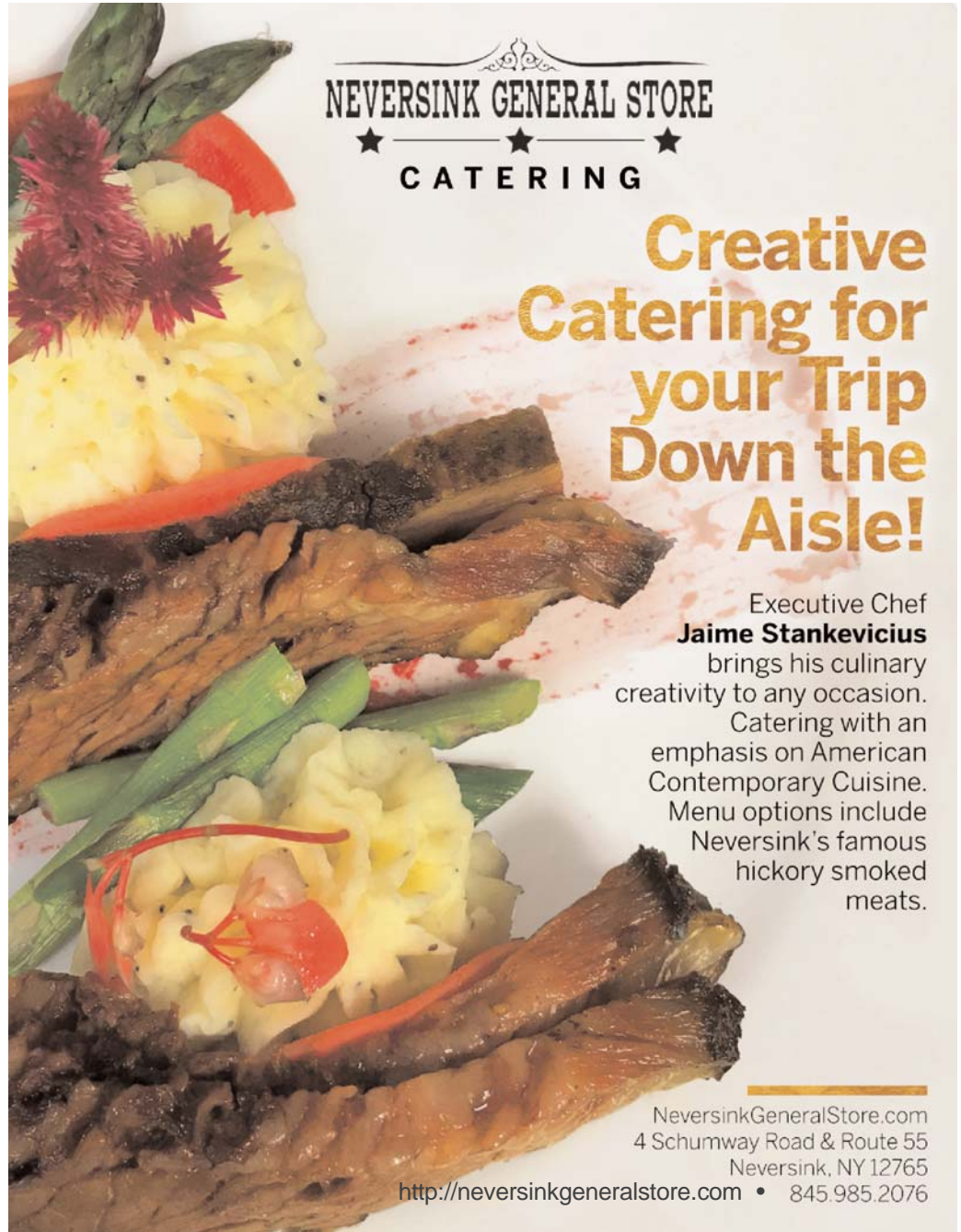
Kenneth Walter received 10 votes, which in another time would have been a landslide victory. In a very close vote, Kenneth Walter came in second to Keri Ann Poley, a Republican winning the Democratic nomination. Keri Ann Poley will be the Democratic candidate for Town of Neversink Justice this fall running against Republican candidate, Mike Scagnelli.

I tip my hat in tribute to Kenneth Walter and his faith in our two-party system.

SUNY Sullivan Nursing Students Gain Practical Insights Through On-Site Experience at New Hope Community

(LOCK SHELDRAKE, NY - June 23, 2021): New Hope Community, in Loch Sheldrake, NY, is forging forward with a collaborative partnership with SUNY Sullivan to provide nursing students with an invaluable clinical rotation involving the provision of healthcare supports to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). CEO, Debra McGinness, whose career began as a pediatric nurse, extolled the importance of this program, saying "It is critical to equip nursing professionals with a comprehensive understanding of how best to holistically support patients with special needs. Optimal health care experiences can only be realized when all health care professionals understand the nuances and needs of patients with I/DD."

The weekly program complements students' academic coursework. "The program has been an excellent experience for the students because it opens their eyes to working with a population whose needs may not be addressed in the typical nursing school curriculum," said Karen Russell, Chief Operating Officer, New Hope Community. While developmental disabilities affect a small portion of the population - 1 to 3 percent globally -- meeting their needs



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Nursing students meet with their clinical instructor at New Hope Community to receive their assignment and goals for the day.

can be quite complex. "This is an ideal opportunity to change perceptions and to build practical skills that nurses can use throughout their careers," Russell said.

"The program is innovative and fills a void," noted Karen Kerendian, RN, Director of Health Services for New Hope Community, "because it brings together the expertise of educators and health professionals working within the I/DD community to prepare students for addressing the physical, social and emotional well-being of people with disabilities." (Contd. Pg.



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Town of Neversink 2021 SWIMMING LESSONS SIGNUP

Swimming Lessons Registration has begun and is ongoing at the Town of Neversink Town Hall in Grahamsville. Registration forms can be downloaded from the Documents section of the Town of Neversink's website or picked up at the Neversink Town Hall located in Grahamsville from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday to Friday.

Any child who lives in the Tri-Valley School District and/or the Town of Neversink is eligible to participate in the Swimming Lessons Program. There is no fee. Lessons are expected to begin July 5th and run through August 6th. For more information please contact the Town Clerk's Office at 985-2262 x300 or 307.

<http://www.townofneversink.org>

The Scene Too

-Jane Harrison

It's very weird typing on this interim computer. My old one was with me from the inception of the idea that someone should write about the amazing live music in the area. I almost feel like I'm mourning the passing of a good friend!

If what I saw Sunday before last is any indication, Callicoon is becoming a major hub of all things including live music. It was gratifying to see a goodly amount of people milling about on both upper and lower Main Street.



I started my afternoon with THE JOHNNY JULES BAND at the WESTERN HOTEL'S outdoor stage. Their outdoor seating on the patio was impressive...small tables set up socially distanced and each filled. The angels were smiling as one of those tables (with an extra chair) was occupied by guitarist BILL GRIESBECK and fiddle lady LIL SCOLES! We had stayed in touch and would run into each other from time to time but it was the first time we were able to actually SEE each other and hug in a year and a half! They and easily six of the ten or so tables had traveled specifically to see the band.

THE JOHNNY JULES BAND was on fire, drawing patrons out from the indoor seating and bar. JOHNNY on guitar and vocals, DAVE D'ARCY on upright electric bass and backup vocals, BOBBY D on Dobro and the addition of MANGO MIKE on mandolin, gave their audience exactly what was needed to celebrate the lessening of the fear of being in contact with one another.



From here I walked up the street to RAFTERS and their wildly popular Open Mic. In the few years since its inception, it now draws musicians and groups from Pennsylvania and as far away as Brooklyn. Going back into THE NEST, which is what their outdoor venue is named, it was immediately clear that finding a seat would be difficult and unlike most Open Mics the seats were filled with audience, not musicians. I chatted briefly with ELIZABETH GEORGE, who hosts this and knew I couldn't leave before hearing her and her guitar with the beautiful rose painted

by none other than songstress DEBBIE FISHER. DAVID MILNER his guitar and indelible style was on stage with JIMMY DIPRIMA on harp adding his own special sweetness.

I made my way over to MITZI at the far end of the lawn. MITZI was trying her hand at singing before the pandemic and I have to say that when it was her turn on stage, her voice was now clear and strong. But that's the difference between a dilettante and someone who really works at learning the craft. If she keeps this up, I can see her becoming a force in the music scene.



Also on that far end was POISON LOVE, a duo I truly like both professionally and personally and one I don't see enough of. They play a great deal in the western part of the County and for me, it's a distance thing, just



Callicoon is close to an hour each way.

Apparently, I found myself in the musician's corner, as GREG HATTEN, CASWYN MOON, and MOSHA were also on hand.

Wednesday night was another Open Mic, this time at CABERNET FRANK'S in Parksville now being hosted by the intrepid NICK HEATHEN (stage name) and his keyboards. Outdoor venues can be tricky and Wednesday night was chilly which affected the turnout but I still was able

to see SCOTT PALERMO, CASWYN MOON and for the first time MOSHA. (Contd. Pg. 12)

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The Scene Too

(From Pg. 11)

I really need to hear more of her before I can pass along her 'style'. A few songs, some in Russian, are just not enough. That is my fault, too much conversation and shivering and not enough paying attention to the stage.



And finally, THE DAVE WALTON BAND last Friday, also at CABERNET FRANK'S in Parksville. After a three year hiatus, they reunited with a new bass player who also plays the cello! And judging by the audience, a great many people were thrilled as people kept arriving. The term 'good time was had by all' would be a true understatement. By the second set, it seemed everyone was up and dancing. The band itself is extremely good, each is an excellent musician coming together as a cohesive unit doing justice to covers and bringing out several lesser known 'side B' songs with amazing success. I had not seen this band before but I will be looking for them going forward.

Phew! Thank you, interim computer, for allowing me to get this all out with no surprises.

Stay safe, stay well and if it makes you feel more comfortable.....stay masked. And get out there and see some music! The venues and musicians were hurt by all this too!

Until next time.....

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SUNY Sullivan Nursing Students Gain Practical Insights Through On-Site Experience at New Hope Community

(From Pg. 9) The program is an outgrowth of New Hope Community's partnership with SUNY Sullivan which has included the establishment and operation of a 3-acre organic farm on its campus and enrollment services for individuals with disabilities from New Hope Community in the College for Educational Enrichment Program.

Since signing an agreement in 2019, 65 students have rotated through the clinical rotation program. Students start their day at New Hope Community in a classroom setting with their instructor and are assigned to group residences on the NHC campus where their education continues. The visiting students are encouraged to observe and ask questions of the nursing staff, and residential managers, and shadow the one-on-one direct support professionals, who comprise the New Hope Community team.

"We are excited about the program and are happy to welcome the nursing students and work with them so they are comfortable caring for people who might have different ways of communicating or use adaptive equipment they are not familiar with," said Kerendian. "We are able to draw on our experience, share some of the tools we use and to be there for them as a resource."

In addition to ensuring that people with disabilities are approached with respect and understanding, Russell believes the program could open students' minds toward pursuing careers in disabilities services or similar nursing opportunities.

"We hope this will serve as a model for nursing programs across the country to start gradually closing the awareness gap for intellectual and other developmental disabilities in health care," Russell concluded.

Mystical Stitches

Livingston Manor, NY The public is invited to a book signing with the talented Christi Johnson, author of *Mystical Stitches*, on Friday, July 9, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at Morgan Outdoors in Livingston Manor, NY.

Christi Johnson's art combines cosmic visions and botanical beauties, stitched slowly and methodically into fabric. She embraces the qualities of natural materials and the use of discarded materials. Christi is the woman behind Mixed Color, a textile studio, based in Sullivan County, NY, which provides functional pieces that are thoughtfully made, as well as sharing skills in sewing, embroidery, and natural dyeing so that others may do so themselves.

Christi dedicated her book to "anyone who's ever been told they aren't creative, or their art isn't good enough." In addition to signing books, Christi will bring several of her beautiful Stitch Wish hand-embroidered pieces for sale. Some of her tapestry and embroidered clothing will also be on display.

For more about Christi, check out her stunning website mixed-color.net. Copies of *Mystical Stitches* are available for sale at Morgan Outdoors.

To reserve a copy of *Mystical Stitches*, call Morgan Outdoors at 845 439 5507. Morgan Outdoors is located at 46 Main Street, Livingston Manor, NY. www.morgan-outdoors.com

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Snapshots and Memories for Fallsburg Class of 2021

Fallsburg Central School District (FCSD) created a very special evening for the Class of 2021 on June 18, 2021. The title of the event was simple-"Senior Night". The intention of the school administration, class advisor, the Student Government Association and Guidance Counsel Office was to give the graduation class a night of memories and an opportunity to celebrate their friendships shaped over the entire school experience.

Students felt welcomed as soon as they entered the high school lobby with black and gold decorations and signs honoring the graduates. When it was time to enjoy the abundance of teen-favored hot buffet foods and ice cream with a fixings bar, they walked down the steps to the 300 Wing of the building that they had done for 1000's of times. Above the steps was a complete list of the class by first names emblazoned on a banner.



A highlight of the evening was a photo booth provided by DJ Jimmy Lyles of K104 in Beacon, NY. Adjoining the booth was a table filled with crowns, signs, extravagant gold and silver necklaces (imitation, of course), weird eyewear, and masks, not the kind the students came in wearing, but Halloween masks. Students and staff could not wait to take photos several times throughout the event. Many went home with pockets and purses stuffed with photo strips of three photos each.

Several times during the celebration, groups of six students came up to sit at a large table in front of Jimmy Lyles for a friendly trivia competition. Questions were about FCSD and popular culture. Participants and the audience of classmates could not stop

laughing and cheering as each grouping sat down and gave incorrect or correct answers. Winners of each group received \$25 gift certificates for their efforts.

The next to the last item on the agenda was going

into the school auditorium to enjoy a video put together by Class Advisor Victoria Alzate and technical help from Nick Wells of the Tech Department. Students laughed at seeing themselves from elementary school days, especially at sixth grade graduation. Candid photos elicited some screams, and there were probably a few tears at remembering those moments. Loud applause rang out at the end of the video.

Before everyone began leaving the building, all the Classmates of 2021 present went to the front entrance steps to the high school. Standing beneath the Fallsburg Jr.-Sr. High School sign, students smiled, waved, and cheered. In the last few shots, Victoria Alzate and class guidance counselor Sonja Ferreira joined the group. Finally,

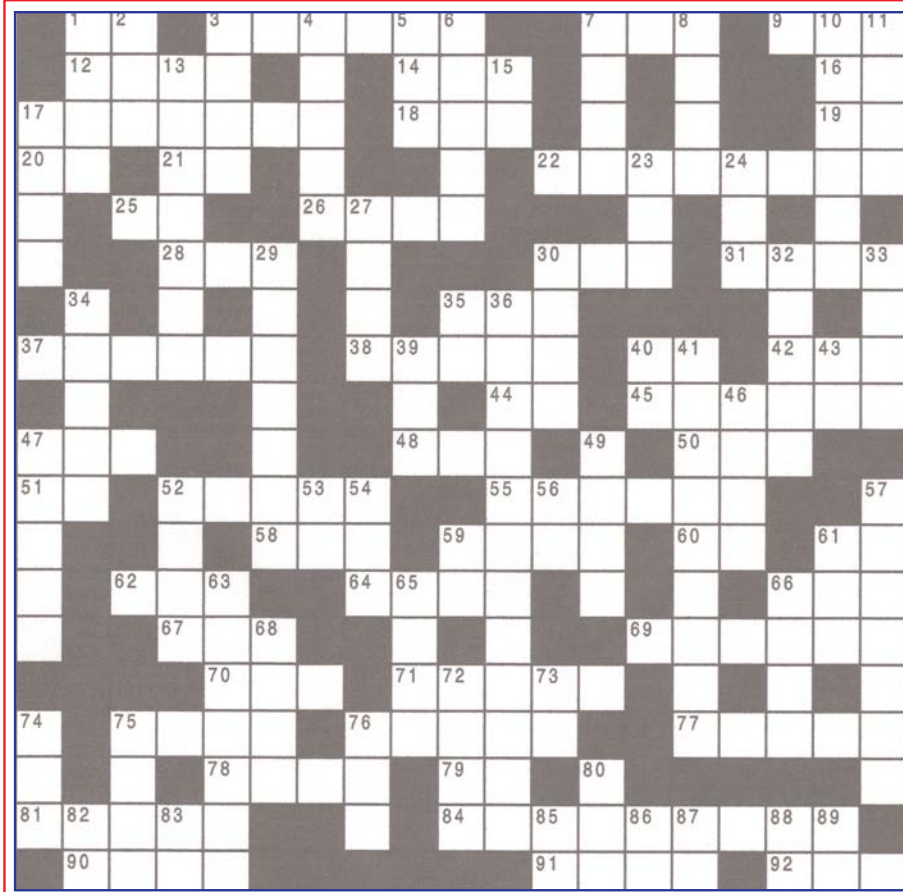


Victoria took a selfie with everyone in the background.

During the past year plus, with the pandemic impacting school events, the Class of 2021 was not able to have a junior prom and a senior class trip. This night of silly snapshots from a photo booth, being with classmates, friends and teachers and staff, delighting in delicious food, and reliving old memories will be a treasured moment in the Class of 2021 experience. Thank you to all those that organized Senior Night 2021. Congratulations to the graduates



Happy Birthday U.S.A.! - L. Comando



ACROSS

- 1 Morning
- 3 Mixture used by masons
- 7 Total
- 9 Light knock
- 12 Small flute
- 14 Female deer
- 16 Colorado
- 17 Nationalist
- 18 Lyric poem meant to be sung
- 19 Centiliter
- 20 Links alternatives
- 21 Half an em
- 22 Food cooked on a grill
- 25 Person speaking
- 26 Capital of Norway
- 28 Not bright
- 30 Large coffee pot with a tap
- 31 So be it
- 35 Underwater flipper
- 37 Ordinary
- 38 Happening
- 40 Provided that
- 42 Feline
- 44 Perform
- 45 Authority to publish certain works
- 47 Father before an event
- 50 Fish eggs
- 51 Prescription
- 52 Movies
- 55 Fine powder plant substance that carries the male gamete
- 58 Past
- 59 Lease
- 60 “__ the People”
- 61 Long Island
- 62 Talk
- 64 Existing a result of birth

- 66 Camorra
- 67 An edible kernel
- 69 Bring something into existence
- 70 Rapid Eye Movement
- 71 Split
- 75 Myth; long story
- 76 Where most of our fireworks will come from
- 77 Bed linen
- 78 As a result
- 79 North Carolina
- 81 Natural stream
- 84 Government by the people
- 90 Their construction
- “changed for all time, the face of the valley”
- 91 Between twelve and twenty
- 92 Male adults

- DOWN**
- 1 At a distance
- 2 Mass. Institute of Technology
- 3 “Chow __”
- 4 Relationship
- 5 Fuss about something not important
- 6 Cowboy exhibition
- 7 A region of town
- 8 Branch
- 10 Charge with
- 11 Post
- 13 Libration
- 15 Electrical Engineer
- 17 Flesh of a pig
- 23 Sprint
- 24 Age
- 27 Protected
- 29 One of the lost Tri-Valley towns
- 30 Archaic ‘until’
- 32 Corn salad
- 34 Obtain as a

- clear profit
- 34 White mineral used in making glass
- 35 Chemical element iron
- 36 Liberty
- 39 Compete
- 40 Chemical iridium
- 41 Fourth of July event
- 43 Location in a particular place
- 46 Departed
- 47 According to this week’s Nature Column
- “A butterfly is a caterpillar __”
- 49 Lowest female singing voice
- 52 Baked dessert
- 53 Auto

- named for Morris’s Garage
- 54 Cry
- 56 Supported by
- 57 Independence
- 59 Railroad
- 61 Great quantity
- 63 What might be on the 4th of July menu
- 65 Orchestra (abbrev)
- 66 Life partner
- 68 Droplet
- 72 “The Swedish Nightingale”
- 73 Fourth note of the major scale
- 74 Belonging to the speakers
- 75 Hindu god
- 76 What corn kernels are attached to
- 80 “G.I. __”
- 82 Part of the human psyche
- 83 Printer’s measure
- 85 Mountain
- 86 Common Era
- 87 Registered nurse
- 88 Centimeter
- 89 “__ Olde Tri-Valley Townsman”

Make ahead 4th of July BBQ Spareribs

- 4 pounds pork spareribs
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1/4 cup ketchup
- 1/4 cup soy sauce
- 1/4 cup Worcestershire sauce
- 1/4 cup rum
- 1/2 cup chile sauce
- 2 cloves garlic, crushed
- 1 teaspoon dry mustard
- 1 dash ground black pepper

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Cut spareribs into serving size portions, wrap in double thickness of foil, and bake for 1 1/2 hours. Unwrap, and drain drippings.

Place ribs in a large roasting pan. In a bowl, mix together brown sugar, ketchup, soy sauce, Worcestershire sauce, rum, chile sauce, garlic, mustard, and pepper. Coat ribs with sauce and marinate at room temperature for 1 hour, or refrigerate overnight.

Preheat grill for medium heat. Position grate four inches above heat source. Brush grill grate with oil. Place ribs on grill, and cook for 30 minutes, basting with marinade.

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Sundown UMC Ladies Indoor Thrift & Yard Sale

Friday, July 2 & Saturday July 3 Indoor Thrift & Yard Sale
... and Bake Sale on Saturday

Donations for our Bake Sale are greatly appreciated.

Please drop baked items off at the Sundown UMC Hall on Sat, July 3

Friday, July 9 & Saturday, July 10
Indoor Thrift & Yard Sale

Friday, July 16 & Saturday, July 17
Indoor Thrift & Yard Sale

Friday, July 23 & Saturday, July 24
Indoor Thrift & Yard Sale

Friday, July 30 & Saturday, July 31
Indoor Thrift & Yard Sale

9am to 12 Noon



We appreciate donations for our White Elephant table

Sundown United Methodist Church Hall

(Intersection of Sundown Rd, Peekamoose Rd & Greenville Rd, Sundown, NY 12740)

LEGALS/PUBLIC NOTICES

Seeking two Fire Commissioners for the Neversink Fire District. These appointments will expire on December 31, 2022, at which time one of the appointed Commissioners shall run for a new full length term, and the second shall run to complete an additional year of the prior unexpired term. All candidates must reside in the Neversink Fire District. Send letters of interest to the Board of Commissioners, Neversink Fire District, P.O. Box 394, Neversink, New York 12765. 7/1; 7/8

Statement from Senator Mike Martucci

The Governor's decision to end the state of emergency effective today is a positive development for New Yorkers and those doing business here. After 15 months of unprecedented challenges and changes, we are well-past ready to get back to normal - taking the heavy hand of Albany off our backs. I would like to personally thank all the essential workers who sacrificed on our behalf from Day 1 and the local and county governments who navigated this crisis with courage and composure, as well as the everyday heroes and volunteers who stepped up to help when it was needed most.

With that said, it should come as no surprise that the Governor's decision has left many unprepared. During the state of emergency, he issued countless Executive Orders which now expire. We can mostly disagree with them - those that led to thousands of small businesses closing, tens of thousands of seniors dying in nursing homes, and hundreds of thousands of our neighbors and friends fleeing our state - but some were common sense and should be continued through the proper course of legislative action. Since the Legislature has finally been restored as a coequal branch of government, we should immediately reconvene in a special session to enact into statute those changes that were helpful to the average New Yorker and small businesses, such as take-out and delivery of alcoholic beverages, licensure for out-of-state medical professionals, and eliminating restrictions on the ability of community pharmacies to deliver vaccinations.

I have long called for, and on 47 occasions voted for, rescinding the Governor's emergency powers. New York is ready to get back to normal, and it is now incumbent upon us to clean up the Governor's messes.

Gillibrand Introduces Bill to Create a National Standard for Adoption and Foster Care Home Studies***Bipartisan, Bicameral Bill Would Increase Consistency To Better Serve Children In All 50 States***

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Today, U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand introduced the bipartisan, bicameral National Adoption and Foster Care Home Study Act of 2021, legislation to create a national standard and database to increase the uniformity and transparency of home studies for families adopting children. Home studies are mandated for every family in the United States adopting domestically from a private agency or public child welfare agency. While these studies provide child welfare agencies and courts with comprehensive information for determining the most appropriate home for a child, current requirements vary vastly from state to state. The National Adoption and Foster Care Home Study Act of 2021 will help fix this inconsistency by creating a national standard for adoption and foster care home studies. Senator Lankford and Congressmen Huffman (D-CA-2) and Bacon (R-NE-2) were original cosponsors of this legislation. (Conatd. Pg. 21)

**Tri-Valley CSD
Board Meetings
Thursday, July 8, 2021**

Anticipated Proposed Executive Sessions
will be at 5:00 p.m.

Regular Meetings will be at 6:00 p.m.
Both in the Secondary School Library Upper Level

(Annual Organizational Meeting
and Regular Meeting #1)

August 12, 2021,
August 26, 2021.

**NYS DEC Regulations
and Proposed Changes
190.35 Peekamoose Valley
Riparian Corridor**

The rule will address overuse and protect public health, safety, general welfare and natural resources on the Peekamoose Valley Riparian Corridor by implementing a permit system from May 15th through September 15th of each year while still providing a quality outdoor experience for users.

Public comment period deadline - August 1, 2021

More information go to:

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/regulations/2359.html>

**Sullivan County
ROAD
CLOSURES**

Jeffersonville, NY - The Sullivan County Division of Public Works is closing a portion of **Town Highway 17 (DeWitt Flats Road)**, in the Town of Callicoon, to replace County Bridge 241.

County Bridge 241 is located approximately 0.3 miles east of the intersection of State Route 52 and DeWitt Flats Rd and will be closed to all traffic starting 8 a.m. on June 1, 2021, remaining closed for approximately 4 months.

The Sullivan County Division of Public Works will post a detour route using DeWitt Flats Rd, State Route 52, Briscoe Rd. (CR 144), Huff Rd., Hubert Rd. and East Hill Rd.

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

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

Terwilliger chooses Daniel Pierce Library for Eagle Scout Project

The Daniel Pierce Library staff and Board of Trustees would like to congratulate Cole Terwilliger for recently earning the Boy Scouts of America's highest advancement award of Eagle Scout. The Eagle Scout award is a performance based achievement whose standards have been well maintained over the years. Not every boy who joins a Boy Scout troop earns the rank of Eagle Scout. Eagle Scouts must fulfill many requirements in the areas of leadership, service, and outdoor skills.



In the photo from left to right is: Cathy Coombe, Board Secretary, Cole Terwilliger, Eagle Scout, Kate Kelly, Board Member, and Mari Martin, Board President

Cole's dedication and commitment to his community is honorable and he is a great example for the youth in our community. Luckily for us, Cole chose the Daniel Pierce Library as the beneficiary for his Eagle Scout project. Cole approached the library about his project at a time when the library was planning to revamp the Young Adult room and the 1902 sitting area. Cole's project was the perfect match for us.

Our goal in revamping our teen area is to make it more inviting and more exciting for our teen patrons, encouraging them to visit the library more often. As part of this project we also decided to redesign the beautiful 1902 sitting room, which used to be the circulation desk area in the old library, transforming it into a tween/teen program space. For Cole's Eagle Scout project he constructed 9 tables, from scratch, to be utilized in that room. These tables were built to meet the need of a space for children to do homework, use laptops or chromebooks, and to create items during makerspace programs. This room, once complete, will also offer a better setting for our youth sports organizations who host registration at the library and will have wireless printing capabilities and charging stations. The craftsmanship of the tables and the attention to detail is amazing.

We encourage our patrons to come in and visit the room which proudly displays Cole's tables and will for many generations to come. Cole's project not only helps the library in the reinvention of the space but it also continues the history and tradition of the Daniel Pierce Library. This library was built by community members and volunteers, all paid for through donations of money, labor, and materials. Cole's project continues that tradition by choosing us as the beneficiary of his Eagle Scout Project. These tables which were made by a community member, doing a community service project, and will be enjoyed for years to come, fits right in with our story

Sullivan County Budget Again Wins National Award

Monticello, NY - For the sixth consecutive time, the Sullivan County Manager's Office and Budget Office have earned the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA).

"This award is the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting and represents a significant achievement by your organization," GFOA Technical Services Center Director Michele Mark Levine wrote in congratulations to Sullivan County Manager Josh Potosek.

A panel of judges reviewed more than 1,600 budgets submitted to the GFOA, including Sullivan County's version for the 2021 fiscal year. They judged the budgets on their excellence as policy documents, financial plans, operations guides and communications devices, deeming Sullivan's to be "proficient" in all four categories.

"This speaks to the proficiency and professionalism of the top-notch budget team we've had in place for years," Potosek affirmed. "The rigorous attention to detail and our focus on staying responsible to taxpayers were noticed by the judges, and we aim to continue that record of achievement in 2022's budget, already under development."

"I've reviewed many budgets over the years, including municipal budgets, and taxpayers can be as confident as I am that the County budgets are produced with care and accountability," said District 5 Legislator George Conklin, who chairs the Management and Budget Committee of the Legislature. "We are typically the only rural county in New York to achieve this level of excellence, and that alone says something."

More information is available at www.gfoa.org.





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Gillibrand Introduces Bill to Create a National Standard for Adoption and Foster Care Home Studies

(From Pg. 18)

“Our outdated child welfare system can't meet the needs of the thousands of children that enter the child welfare system every year. Congress has a responsibility to help these children find loving and stable families, and give them the opportunity to reach their full potential,” said Senator Gillibrand. “The National Adoption and Foster Care Home Study Act of 2021 would create a national standard and database for home studies so that all children have a better chance at being matched to families who will provide a caring home.”

Inconsistency in home study standards across the States has complicated the adoption process for children and resulted in a number of issues, including inability to collect accurate information on adoptive or foster families, bias in decisions of suitability due to family self-reporting, lengthy and costly home-study processes, and delays in interstate adoption and fostering. The National Adoption and Foster Care Home Study Act amends the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) by creating a new program under the Adoption Opportunities Program and includes three main components:

- o Creating a research-based National Adoption and Foster Care Home Study assessment standard. States who implement the national assessment standard would be eligible for funding through a demonstration program.

- o Developing and establishing a secure National Home Study Database containing information related to completed home studies in order to allow child welfare agencies across the country to more efficiently and effectively match foster and adoptive children to prospective families.

- o Instituting regular independent evaluations of the assessment standard and database.

The legislation is supported by Ambassador Susan Jacobs, the former Special Advisor for Children's Issues at the State Department; the Military Family Building Coalition; the National Association of Counsel for Children; and the Consortium for Children.

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

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

Good News!
St. Mark's
UM Church
 68 Clinton St.
 Napanch, NY
Thrift Shop
 and
Clothing Sale
 Will be opened
 every Friday
 from 10 - 3



Sundown United Methodist Church
Indoor Thrift Sale & Yard Sale
 July 2 & 3
 9am - 12 noon
Bake Sale
 July 2
 9am - 12 noon
 Sundown United Methodist Church Hall



Grahamsville United Methodist Church
Thrift Sale To be announced
 350 Main St.
 Grahamsville NY 12740



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 Music by Fred VanWagner
 Coffee hour follows service
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www.standrewsepiscopalmission.org

CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
 (Embraces Fallsburg, Neversink, Sundown and Ulster Heights)
 6317 Rte. 42, Woodbourne, NY
Weekend Mass schedule:
 Saturday afternoon: 4:30 pm
 Sunday morning: 9:00 am and 11:30 am
Daily Mass Schedule: Monday morning 8:50 am; Tuesday morning 8:50 am; Wednesday morning No Mass; Thursday afternoon 5:45 pm; Friday morning 8:50 am and Saturday morning 8:50 am.
Saturday afternoon confessions: 3:45 to 4:15 pm
 Rev. Ignas Dhas MMI, Administrator
 (845) 434-7643



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.
 The next meeting will be a Seventh-week gathering. 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
 Church Hall available for rent
 Call - 845-985-2041 for information



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

Loucks Funeral Home
Geoff and Heather Hazzard
"Celebrating Life, One Family at a Time"
 79 North Main Street
 Ellenville, New York
 (845) 647-4343

Ans to last week's Crossword



Vacation Bible School July 14 6:30-8

Grahamsville Reformed Church
in conjunction with the
Grahamsville United Methodist Church
will hold Vacation Bible School at the Grahamsville Fairgrounds
Under the pavilion. Rain date – same time – July 15th.

Community Driver Safety Programs Defensive Driving Classes Callicoon Town Hall • 19 Legion Street Jeffersonville, New York 12748

Community Driver Safety Programs will be offering two Defensive Driving Classes this summer. The first class will be held on Saturday, June 26, 2021 and the second class will be offered on Saturday, September 18, 2021. Both classes will be take place from 10:00AM to 4:00PM at the Callicoon Town Hall located at 19 Legion Street in Jeffersonville, New York.

Class size is limited and pre-registration is required. Please call Community Driver Safety Programs, Inc. at (845)807-6005 to register for a class or to obtain further details.

Courses are instructed by a RSVP volunteer and consist of lecture, discussion and video presentation. Participants will receive a certificate at the completion of the course which entitles them to apply for a discount on their automobile insurance. This program can help reduce your auto insurance by up to 10% and may reduce up to four points on your license. The fee for the course is \$25 for individuals over 50 years of age and \$30 for individuals under 50 years of age.

These courses are sponsored by Community Driver Safety Programs, Inc., Sullivan County RSVP and Office for the Aging.

CFFCM to Host Outdoor Angler's Market, Lifestyle Items, Crafts & Artisan Goods at Annual Summerfest

Join us this year on Saturday August 21, 2021 for an outdoor Angler's Market, Lifestyle Items, Crafts & Artisan Goods at our annual Summerfest in the field.

Our day of festivities also includes a kid's arts & crafts table, new exhibit opening in the Wulff Gallery, casting demos in the field and more! Don't miss our yearly gathering to get that one of a kind item you've been looking for! Vendor sign-up info below.

Summerfest Vendor Sign Up Click Below!

Open Field Space go to:

https://cffcm.com/programs/signup?category=Event&ss_source=sscampaigns&ss_campaign_id=60c0aeeef5bf09778e617965&ss_email_id=60c0af4d35d0b709ae725f68&ss_campaign_name=Summefest+Date+Announced%21&ss_campaign_sent_date=2021-06-09T12%3A09%3A01Z

Pavilion Space

Limited spaces available - call or email office to inquire if to reserve
(845) 439-4810



SUUJI WA TANSU NI KAGIRU
answer

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

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email: tvtownsman@yahoo.com
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<http://gnomehomeinc.com>

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

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

LOCAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

7/5/21	Town of Neversink Holiday - 4th of July
7/6/21	Claryville Fire District 6:30 pm Warren Cole Hall in Claryville
7/7/21	Town of Neversink Planning Board Meeting 7 pm (App submission Dt. 6/23/21)
7/20/21	Town of Neversink Zoning Board of Appeals 7:30 pm- Submissioin date 7/6/2021
7/13/21	Town of Denning Town Board and Business meeting at Denning Town Hall 6:00 pm (Please note: 2nd Tuesday)
7/14/21	Town of Neversink Town Board Meeting - Regular
7/15/21	Town of Denning Planning Board Meeting - 6:00 pm Denning Town Hall
7/20/21	Town of Neversink Zoning Board of Appeals 7:30 pm- Submissioin date 7/6/2021

Save the Date!

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

TOWN OF OLIVE MEETINGS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Unless otherwise noted, all **Town Board meetings** are held at the Town Meeting Hall, Bostock Road, Shokan at **7:00 pm.** Town Board Meetings are the **second Tuesday of each month** with the **audit/workshop meetings** being held the **Monday preceding the second Tuesday.**

Town of Olive Planning Board meets the **first and third Tuesdays of each month.** Meetings start at 7:30 PM at the Town Hall on Bostock Road, Shokan, NY. You can contact the Town Building & Zoning Department to confirm a meeting date if you would like to attend at 657-2015. If there is nothing on their agenda, they will cancel meetings.

PLEASE CONTACT A MEMBER OF EACH ORGANIZATION FOR UPDATES ON OPENINGS

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

Ulster County Legislature

Weekly Update For The Week Of

June 28 - July 2, 2021

Monday, June 28

- o 12:00 PM - Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency Board of Directors at 999 Flatbush Rd, Kingston

Tuesday, June 29

- o 6:00 PM - Special Meeting of the Laws & Rules, Governmental Services Committee in the Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, County Office Building, 244 Fair Street, Kingston

Wednesday, June 30

- o 6:30 PM - Environmental Management Council in the Howard St. John Business Seminar Room, Clinton Hall, SUNY Ulster, Stone Ridge Campus, 491 Cottekill Rd, Stone Ridge

Thursday, July 1

- o 5:30 PM - Human Rights Commission at Restorative Justice & Community Empowerment Center, 733 Broadway, Kingston

Friday, July 2

- o No Meetings

Congresswoman

Claudia Tenney

(NY-22)

Offices and Contact Information**Washington, DC**

202-225-3665

1410 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515**Utica, NY**

315-732-0713

430 Court Street

Suite 102

Utica, NY 13502

Binghamton, NY

601-242-0200

49 Court Street

Suite 210

Binghamton, NY 13901

Sullivan Catskills Visitors Association News

Just a few days removed from Summer Solstice 2021, we're rolling right into summer in the Sullivan Catskills, and we can't wait to see you! How about you escape your work week a little early so you can be here in time for Thursday's Full Strawberry Moon?

Yup! Right after sunset, fix your eyes on the southeastern skies and watch the moon creep above the horizon in all its glorious golden hues. Why strawberry? Simple. it marks the ripening of the luscious summer berries ready for picking. Did someone say strawberry shortcake? Grab a quart or two at one of our Farmers Markets. This weekend, we welcome the opening of the Kauneonga Lake Farmers Market on Saturday. It will run through September 4 and joins the already opened markets in Narrowsburg, Callicoon, Jeffersonville, Barryville, Mamakating, Rock Hill, Liberty, and Roscoe.

Speaking of Kauneonga Lake, the Bethel Lakeside Music Series kicks off Thursday at Gazebo Park and runs through September 2. You can check out Music in the Park at Veterans Memorial Park in Wurtsboro on Thursdays through October 30 or try the Rock Hill Summer Concert Series Wednesdays behind the Farmers' Market Park. In There are always good tunes playing at Cabernet Franks up in Parksville, too. And don't forget Forestburgh Under the Stars. Not to be outdone the music will play again at Bethel Woods Center for the Arts. There are nine Outdoor Pavilion concerts (Chicago, Chris Stapleton, The Black Crows, and others) and eight indoor, Event Gallery shows including The Outlaws, Southside Johnny and the Asbury Jukes, and Marty Stewart.

Here's a fun way to support the arts in our Sullivan Catskills-Eat, Play, Love at Jax's Garden at Blue Hills Farm in Narrowsburg on Saturday benefits the Delaware Valley Arts Alliance. It features a summer evening of arts, games, food, drink, and rediscovering the simple outdoor joys of childhood- giant Jenga, bocce ball, horse-shoes, checkers and backgammon and more.

There's nothing quite like summertime on the river. Grab your friends and drift down the Delaware in a canoe, raft, or kayak. Or grab a fishing rod and see what you can reel in. Looking for land adventures? Get a foursome and try your hand at your short game. Hop on a bike and tour our beautiful landscape- or use the power of your own two feet. We have lots of trails! And that's just a taste of the adventure you'll find here. There's plenty more to explore and there's always something happening. Check out our events calendar on our website and Facebook pages.

Who's hungry? Who's thirsty? The food and beverages here are Catskill-icious, handcrafted, and sure to please even the fussiest palette. I promise you won't go home hungry. But don't go home until you've stayed awhile. The hoteliers at our vacation rentals, B&Bs, campgrounds, small inns, full-service resorts, hotels and motels aim to please whether you prefer self-service or full-on pampering.

Now that COVID mandates and capacity restrictions have been lifted in New York, I ask you to please be mindful of others and adhere to masking requests in our Sullivan Catskills businesses for the sake of their employees and our residents. As always, all of our proprietors remain committed to maintaining Catskill Confidence for you! Plan your visit now. We're just 90-minutes from Manhattan. Close. Clean. Confident and rolling into summer! Come see us!

Roberta Byron-Lockwood
President/CEO

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Classified ads - \$6.00 for the first 20 words/
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1" Boxed ad (1" x 3")
- \$7.50 per week

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

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

(3" x 6") - \$45.00

(4" x 6") - \$60.00

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

(6" x 8") - \$120.00

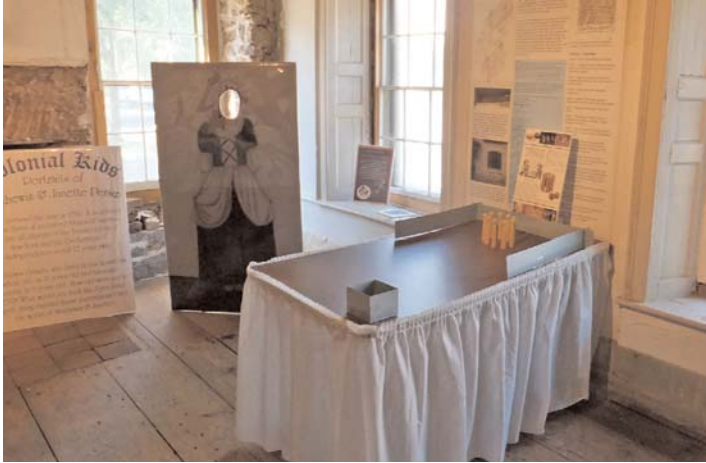
1/2 pg (4"x8") - \$80.00

Full Page - 8" x10" - \$160

Low Rates - High Visibility!

Nina Postupack, UC Clerk, Announces “Colonial Game Days” at the Matthewis Persen House Museum

Nina Postupack, Ulster County Clerk is pleased to present “Colonial Game Days” July 1-3, 2021, at the Matthewis Persen House Museum located at 74 John Street in uptown Kingston, at the corners of John and Crown Streets.



Visitors to the Persen House are invited to try their hand at many entertaining and historic games including Game of Graces, Jacob's Ladder, Hoop Rolling and Whirligigs just to name a few. Step behind our “Colonial Kids” portraits to see what you might have looked like in colonial dress. Bring your family and see how different or perhaps similar games and toys were in the 18th century as compared to those of today!



“Game Day is always a special event,” said County Clerk Postupack. “Families are able to come to the house, try the games, have fun and possibly learn something new at the same time. The Persen House is an ideal location for this type of event, having so much history itself.”

The Persen House will be open July 1st & 2nd from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm and on Saturday, July 3rd from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Admission is free and all are welcome to this fun, family-friendly event!

For further information about the Matthewis Persen House Museum and other outreach programs of the Ulster County Clerk's Office, please contact County Clerk Nina Postupack at (845) 340-3040 or countyclerk@co.ulster.ny.us or visit us on Facebook.

UC Clerk Announces Return of Motor Vehicle Mobile Unit

Kingston, NY - Ulster County Clerk Nina Postupack is happy to announce that the Mobile Unit of the Department of Motor Vehicles will resume service Thursday, July 8, 2021, at the New Paltz Community Center and Friday, July 9 at the Shandaken Town Hall. On Monday, July 12, it will resume its normal schedule around Ulster County.



In an effort to be as conveniently accessible to as many Ulster County residents as possible, the DMV Mobile Unit travels to 6 different towns throughout Ulster County during the year. Hours each day are 10:00am-1:00pm and 2:00-3:30pm. No appointment is necessary. The Mobile Unit travels around the county on the following schedule:

- o Monday - Marlborough Highway/Water Department,
- o Tuesday - Saugerties Town Hall,
- o Wednesday - Ellenville Village Hall,
- o Thursday - New Paltz Community Center,
- o 1st Friday of the month - Shandaken Town Hall, and
- o All other Fridays - Shawangunk Town Hall.

“We are happy to be able to provide these essential services to our community again,” stated County Clerk Postupack. “The Mobile Unit has become a vital part of the communities where it travels, and we are so pleased we can resume services.”

The County Clerk's Office offers limited DMV services through our DMV Mobile Unit. Transactions that can be processed on the Mobile Unit include Driver's License Renewal, Learner's Permit, Non-Driver I.D., Vehicle Registration, Registration Renewal, License Plate Surrender, Duplicate Title Request, and Change of Address. Please note that Enhanced Driver's Licenses, CDL Permit Testing, and Enforcement are only available at the main Motor Vehicle location at 244 Fair Street in Kingston.

For further information, please contact Ulster County Clerk Nina Postupack at (845) 340-3040 or countyclerk@co.ulster.ny.us.



JÖRG MADLENER

the river

works on paper

Open Studio, July 1 - 4 and July 8 - 11 10:00 am to 6:00 pm

1094 Claryville Road, Claryville NY 12725

joergmadlener@gmail.com 845-985-2048

in preparation of an exhibition in Germany



Summer Reading



Incentives and Programs
for TVCS Residents
of ALL ages!

Each year, we offer a fun, no-pressure program to keep kids reading and prevent "summer slide." This year's incentive program, Tails and Tales, will start on Sunday, June 27th and go through Tuesday, September 7th. You must be a Daniel Pierce Library card holder to participate. If you need one, please stop by the library.

Preschool through Grade 4

Read all summer, log the number of books and minutes read to receive prizes!

"Tweens", Teens, and Young Adults

Grades 5 - 8 and Grades 9 - 12

Log the number of books and minutes read to be entered into our SRP drawing!

Adults

Log the number of books and minutes read, for every 4 books you read, you are entered into our SRP drawing!

The library is also offering two options this summer: your child can track their reading using a paper-reading log or online via ReadSquared or both! It is up to you! To get a paper-reading log, stop by the library or download the PDF to print your reading logs from our website. Prefer online? Sign up for ReadSquared.



"Bookmark" Contest, Deadline July 30th

Grades K - 5th and

Grades 6th - 12th

1 winner will be picked from each category.

Winners will receive a

\$50 Barnes and Noble Gift Card.

"Ocean Shells & Mermaid Tails", July 13th

2, 3, and 4 year olds

A mermaid story hour for our youngest of patrons.

"Animal Tails & Tales", July 15th

Grades K - 1

If you love horses, bunnies, and butterflies this evening is for you!

"Fairytale Escape Room", July 20th

Grades 2 - 3

Will you be able to escape the Goldilocks and the Three Bears fairytale?

"Panda Monium", July 22nd

Grades 4 - 6

Felting workshop; students will felt their own adorable panda.

"Mystery Clue Night", July 27th

Grades 7 - 12

A mystery solving, live clue night at the library. Prizes will be awarded!



For more details, please check out our website @ <https://danielpiercelibrary.org>

For information and to register go to: <https://danielpiercelibrary.org/kids-family/>

Catskill Center Calls On NYC DEP To Rethink Its Land Acquisition Programs To Better Focus On Water Quality

June 24, 2021 -- Arkville, NY: The Catskill Center is urging the New York City Department of Environmental Protection to adequately fund and cut red tape from its watershed protection programs in the Catskills. This comes after the first study of the programs in more than two decades was released in late 2020, and as state and federal regulators are considering the future of the programs. It's an analysis the Catskill Center believes presents an opportunity to ensure that land acquisition programs focus strategically on water quality results, while supporting the economic vitality of watershed communities.

"We applaud the results of the NASEM Expert Panel and urge the regulators responsible for NYC's Filtration Avoidance Determination to incorporate the panel's recom-



mendations, as discussed in our June 4 letter to the stakeholders and regulators," Senterman says. "We think now is the time to focus our efforts on protecting and improving water quality through more targeted land protection programs, and by measuring results of those efforts and adjusting accordingly into the future."

The nonprofit National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM), which issued the study, says that land acquisition should focus on the most valuable lands for water quality protection and eliminate the purchase of lands that do not directly contribute to such protection. The Catskill Center has suggested goals that are rooted in the science of water quality, such as the percentages of impervious surface cover and forest cover in the drainage basin, and the degree of natural vegetation alongside streams. The Catskill Center also supports NASEM's findings that there should be more collaboration across the various land protection and stewardship programs for improved water quality.

The Catskill Center recommends that DEP review the percentage of developable land that remains available in each town for community growth and redevelopment, and adjust its land acquisition to better balance water quality protection with community needs. Additionally, DEP should build on the success of the Ashokan Rail Trail as a regional amenity that attracts recreational tourism (as lauded by NASEM) and replicate this model elsewhere in the watershed. Plus, DEP should allow towns and local land trusts to own lands acquired through DEP land protection programs, and manage the lands

for both water quality protection and compatible community needs, with DEP funding.

Focusing on the above improvements would help DEP avoid building an expensive filtration system. As a party to the 1997 agreement that set the stage for DEP to ensure ongoing protection of its drinking water supply in balance with the needs of local communities, the Catskill Center urges DEP to continue to restore funding to aid watershed protection.

"It's a testament to the strength of the original Memorandum of Agreement and the stakeholders that have worked together for more than two decades to have reached this point in the history of the New York City Watershed and Catskills where we are able to study, review, and fine-tune the programs designed to protect water quality, in a scientific and collaborative manner," says Jeff Senterman, Executive Director of the Catskill Center.

Recently, DEP released some funding for land acquisition programs, having put a hold on it since spring of 2020, when the COVID-19 crisis took hold. And while the Catskill Center appreciates this restart, Senterman says that funds need to flow more freely to resume a robust land acquisition agenda and to appropriately staff DEP's Land Acquisition Program. DEP funding of land acquisition programs is mandated under a Filtration Avoidance Determination (FAD). The current FAD is in effect through 2027 as regulators enter negotiations for a mid-term revision.

Senterman says that with the extraordinary benefit of input from a suite of expert scientists, it would be auspicious to both fix what is not working well in the current suite of watershed protection programs and improve and reimagine watershed protection programs for the next 20 years. This will better meet the needs of both New York City and Catskills residents.

Love Our New York Lands

Learn more about Love Our New York Lands and what we can do to recreate responsibly, plan ahead, and Leave No Trace™ at: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/119881.html>
Join the New Camping Loyalty Program

Earn camping rewards with the new NY Loyalty Program..

Visit:

https://newyorkstateparks.reserveamerica.com/showPage.do?name=landing&landing=%2Fhtm%2FNY_LoyaltyEnrolment.html&tti=Rewards&fbclid=IwAR3YzpI-6mBnQcChLc4IqxaW_onaH6KyVxDCSwSSMnxZyUQbzNajBSH-Avk

Spend more time camping, and earn NY camping rewards. Earn 10 points for every dollar you spend on overnight accommodations at all New York State Parks & DEC Campgrounds.

Visit:

[6mBnQcChLc4IqxaW_onaH6KyVxDCSwSSMnxZyUQbzNajBSH-Avk
https://newyorkstateparks.reserveamerica.com/welcome.do?tti=CampingSpot](https://newyorkstateparks.reserveamerica.com/welcome.do?tti=CampingSpot)

Start earning points on new reservations as soon as you are enrolled in the program. Already have an upcoming reservation booked? Don't worry, join the Loyalty program today, and you can still earn points for those stays! Plan your next campground trip today. For camping guide go to: https://read.nextbook.com/nysparks/camping_guide/2021/cov.html

UC Executive Pat Ryan Appoints Dawn Spader to Serve as Director of Personnel

KINGSTON, N.Y. - County Executive Pat Ryan announced today the appointment of Dawn Spader as the new Director of Personnel. Spader, a veteran of the United States Navy, previously worked at the



Anderson Institute for Autism, where she was responsible for job posting, recruiting, hiring, and more.

"We are excited to have Dawn Spader as a member of Team Ulster County," County Executive Pat Ryan said. "Dawn's extensive experience as a human resources professional and her honorable service in the Navy, makes her the perfect service-oriented leader that we are looking for to help the employees of Ulster County."

"I am overjoyed and excited to be joining Team Ulster County," Dawn Spader said. "I am looking forward to working for the residents of Ulster County and of course, helping our tremendously dedicated workforce every day, I thank County Executive Ryan for the opportunity to continue to serve my community."

Spader holds a Masters in Business Administration (MBA) from the University of Phoenix and is a resident of Kingston. Spader's appointment is subject to the approval of the Ulster County Legislature and would run through January 2022.

Claudia Tenney Announces Congressional App Challenge

Washington, DC - Congresswomen Claudia Tenney (NY-22) today announced she is hosting the Congressional App Challenge for middle and high school students to work as part of a team to develop a software application.

Established in 2015, the Congressional App Challenge allows students from across the United States to compete by creating and exhibiting a software application the students create for mobile, tablet, or computer devices on a platform of their choice.

"New York's 22nd Congressional is home to state-of-the-art cyber security installations and leads the way in cutting edge research at our top tier colleges and universities and our award-winning schools. I encourage all middle and high school students in NY-22 to take this opportunity to learn more about coding and working with a team to develop an app."

This competition is open to all middle and high school students living in New York's 22nd Congressional District. Students can work individually or in teams of up to four. Those who wish to compete in the challenge must register and submit their app to congressionalappchallenge.us during the Competition Submission Period that ends at 5:00 p.m. on

November 1, 2021.

Apps will be judged by a team of experts in our community for their originality, creativity, design, functionality and user experience. The winner will be featured on CongressionalAppChallenge.us, and the winning app will also be on display in the U.S. Capitol alongside winners from across the country.

For more information, please visit: <https://tenney.house.gov/services/congressional-app-challenge>

UC Executive Pat Ryan Congratulates the Brighter Futures Class of 2021

Brighter Futures focuses and personalizes support for adolescents, and their families, to help break the cycle of intergenerational poverty

Nine students from the Ellenville and Kingston School Districts are among the graduates

KINGSTON, N.Y. - Ulster County Executive Pat Ryan today announced that nine students from the Ellenville and Kingston School Districts are among the graduates from Ulster County's Brighter Futures Program. Launched in 2019, Brighter Futures focuses and personalizes support for adolescents, and their families, to help break the cycle of intergenerational poverty. Support for students enrolled in the program range from internship placements and employment training, mental health counseling, mentorship, and subsidies for clothing and transportation.

"Ulster County is thrilled to have worked with these students and their families in helping them achieve their dreams," Ulster County Executive Pat Ryan said. "Each of these young people gets very personalized, one-on-one care and support to help them not just complete high school or their equivalency, but a number of additional services to put them on a path for success."

"What makes this program great is that they take the first step and make you feel comfortable enough to finally ask for help," Brighter Futures Graduate Marlon Cabrera said. "Brighter Futures has helped me out with my recruiting process and decision on where I will be headed to college. The amount of love the mentors have for the kids really does go a long way."

"The Brighter Futures Initiative has been a major support for Ellenville High School students. Assistant Principal Ellenville High School Frank Mulhern. "The BFI mentor program, coupled with an array of resources that are individually tailored to each student, has reshaped their pathways to success in school, at home and in the community! On June 25th, six of our students will successfully graduate from Ellenville High School with their cohort because of this amazing program! Thank you, Brighter Futures!"

Ellenville Central School District Graduates

Kawshar Biswas, Marlon Cabrera, Charlie Cromwell, Samantha Lopez, Julio Otero, Dajiia Stubblefield

Kingston City School District Graduates

Antoine Leonard, Brenda Perez, Isaac Rosario

Last year, the Brighter Futures program graduated three students in their inaugural class. Graduating students have reported going on to college, the military, and starting in the workforce. In the 2021 Ulster County Budget, County Executive Ryan dedicated funding to double the program from 20 to 40 participants.

Recent NYS ECO Actions

Illegally Possessed Fawn



ECOs Smith and Palmateer with illegally possessed fawn

On June 3, ECOs Smith and Palmateer investigated a complaint about an illegally possessed whitetail fawn. ECO Smith attempted to contact the subject, who was actively avoiding law enforcement. In response, the Officers waited outside the subject's home for several hours before he

emerged from the residence with the fawn. The ECOs apprehended the man and after interviewing him, learned that he had illegally possessed the fawn for about four days and fed it a combination of sugar water and goat's milk, neither of which are healthy nor beneficial to wild fawns. The ECOs transported the fawn to a licensed wildlife rehabilitator in Greene County, where it was determined to be malnourished. The man was issued a ticket for possessing protected wildlife without a permit, returnable to the Town of Cairo Court.

Honorary Vessel Captain of A4 - Marine District, NYC



ECOs and Statepolice pose for picture on boat with little Rosie in a colorful tutu

On June 8, ECOs Pansini and Milliron conducted a ride-along aboard DEC Marine Enforcement Unit (MEU) Vessel A4 with a very special guest. Six-year old Rosie Ramirez, the daughter of a Florida Highway Patrol Sergeant, was the honorary vessel captain for the day. Rosie is currently battling a rare childhood cancer and travels regularly from Florida to New York City with her

mother for treatment. A big fan of boats, Rosie wished for a tour of the Big Apple's waterways and ECOs were happy to oblige. Accompanying Rosie was her mother Nikki Ramirez, as well as New York State Troopers Soares, Ruiz, and Reyes.

MEU ECOs set a course south along the East River and into New York Harbor to get a close look at the Statue of Liberty. Rosie learned some nautical phrases and was tasked with letting the crew know when the boat was ready to go fast, which she loved. Upon arrival to Lady Liberty, the group was met by two vessels from the New York City Fire Department's Marine Division for a water display using their water cannons. Meanwhile, up above, the New York Police Department's Aviation Unit conducted a low fly-by, to provide Rosie with a view of the helicopter up close and in action. When the displays were finished, Rosie got to meet members of the U.S. Coast Guard aboard one of their vessels.

Jaywalking Snapping Turtle



ECO Lovgren with snapping turtle captured crossing a busy Brooklyn street

On June 9, ECO Lovgren responded to a call about a turtle seen crossing a busy intersection in Dyker Heights, Brooklyn. Employees from a nearby auto body shop captured the turtle and kept it safe until the ECO arrived. Identified as a native snapping turtle, New York's official state reptile, the species can live an average of 30 to 40 years and is notorious for crossing roads to lay their eggs during this time of year. ECO Lovgren took possession of the turtle and released it back into state waters.

Surprising Eagle Fight

On June 10, Lieutenant Reilly received a call for help from Muttontown Police. The Officers responded to a residence where the homeowner had heard a ruckus in his backyard and was surprised to see two bald eagles fighting on his lawn. When the Muttontown Police Officers arrived, the winning male had already flown away but the other adult male was sitting stunned along the bushes. Lt. Reilly and ECO Small responded and called a local rehabilitator with raptor experience to assist in the capture and care of the animal. The ECOs and Muttontown Police Officers assisted in corralling the animal and the rehabilitator put the eagle into a carrier. The eagle had cuts on its head and feet and was taken to a veterinarian for evaluation.

Invasive Species Awareness Week -

During the week of June 7 to 11, ECOs Tompkins, Thibodeau, Crisafulli, and Franz inspected more than 10 garden centers and nurseries throughout Putnam and Westchester counties looking for prohibited invasive plant species offered for sale. Targeted plants included golden bamboo (*phyllostachys aurea*) and yellow groove bamboo (*phyllostachys aureosulcata*). The ECOs were happy to report none of the

businesses inspected had invasive species for sale. The Officers spoke with the staff and the public at the garden centers and nurseries to explain how prohibited invasive species such as golden and yellow groove bamboo can cripple a native ecosystem by spreading quickly and consuming the resources relied upon by native plant species. New York State regulations regarding prohibited invasive plant species took effect in March 2015, and any prohibited invasive plant species offered for sale or introduced to a native habitat is unlawful and subject to removal and/or possible fines.



Uninvited Pool Guests

On June 15, ECO Small responded to a call in Nassau County that is fairly common this time of the year. A homeowner requested help for unwanted guests in their swimming pool—a mallard and eight ducklings. With the help of a local wildlife rehabilitator, ECO Small used large nets to capture the family of ducks and release them to a nearby pond. Go to DEC's Facebook page to watch a video of the duck release.



Hen and ducklings released at a nearby pond

Injured Bear in Sullivan County

On June 12, ECO Grose received reports of an injured bear in the town of Forestburgh. The ECO arrived at the scene and located a yearling bear with two leg injuries. A local wildlife rehabilitator and staff arrived to assist and the group was able to tran-



Ducklings in a white bucket

quilize and capture the bear. The bear will be evaluated for further injuries and treated as needed. There was no immediate information regarding what caused the bear's injuries.

Fawn Rescue

On June 17, ECO Burgess received a call from Forest Ranger Skudlarek reporting an injured fawn at the base of a waterfall overlook at Mine Kill State Park in Schoharie County. A park official, concerned that the public might attempt to rescue the fawn and put themselves at risk of injury, reached out to DEC for help.



Crate with fawn inside being pulled up side of cliff by ECO and Forest Ranger

ECO Burgess and Ranger Skudlarek made their way to the bottom of the falls with equipment to secure the deer. While Officer Burgess captured the deer and secured it for transport up the bank, Ranger Skudlarek created a rope system to lift the packaged fawn safely to the top. The combination of the ECO's wildlife knowledge and Forest Ranger's rope and rescue training resulted in a successful rescue. Once safely at the top, the Officers transported the fawn to Friends of the Feathered and Furry Wildlife Center for treatment.

SAVE A LIFE! DONATE! SHARE OUR STORY!



NICK NEEDS A KIDNEY TYPE O OR A(2)

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.

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 battled with seizures his whole life from infantile spasms to adult grand-mal seizures. Finally the past year and half Nick's seizures have been controlled but his kidney function was deteriorating. May 2019 we heard the worst news that Nick's function was under 10% on both kidneys! Since then Nick has had 2 surgeries to put ports in his neck and stomach so dialysis can be preformed. Nick has transitioned to home dialysis and has been a tough adjustment. Not what the sweetest, kindest, 29 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!

Governor Cuomo Unveils New Renderings for Essential Workers Monument

Monument to be Installed in Battery Park City

Construction to be Completed by September 6

Essential Worker Park to be Established in Battery Park City

Design to Honor All Essential Workers: The Circle of Heroes; Eternal Flame

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo unveiled renderings for the Essential Workers Monument. The Commission of labor leaders representing all essential workers have chosen a location in Battery Park City to install the monument. The Circle of Heroes design will represent the essential workers who served their communities throughout the pandemic, sacrificing so much in order to keep their fellow New Yorkers safe and supported.

Construction of the Essential Workers Monument is due to be completed by Labor Day, September 6. Additionally, in tribute to our essential workers, Essential Worker Park will be established in Battery Park City.

"In the beginning of the pandemic when people were told to stay home, essential workers went into work day after day, making sure their fellow New Yorkers were safe, fed and cared for," Governor Cuomo said. "While we will never be able to fully repay our essential workers, we can honor and celebrate them with this monument that will stand forever



as a tribute to all that they have done for New York in our greatest moment of need and beyond. These heroes continue to inspire us every day and we are forever grateful for their service and sacrifice."

The location in Battery Park City is along the water, in view of the statue of liberty. This spot is easily accessible to New Yorkers and visitors in a highly trafficked part of the park.

The Circle of Heroes design is to be composed of 19 red maple trees symbolizing the essential workers that carried New York through the pandemic including: nurses, doctors,

healthcare workers, transit workers, police officers, EMTs and paramedics, firefighters, correctional officers, store employees, National Guard, government employees, building service workers, utility and communications workers, delivery drivers, teachers, sanitation workers, construction and manufacturing workers, food service workers and hospitality workers. The monument will also feature an eternal flame as a symbol of New York State's everlasting gratitude for essential workers. This space will represent how all New Yorkers came together to support each other.

This week, ground was broken in the park to begin construction of the Essential Workers Monument. Construction is slated to be complete by Labor Day, September 6.



Introducing the New Board of the Human Rights Commission

Monticello, NY - Sullivan County legislators on June 17 unanimously appointed seven local residents to the Human Rights Commission to serve as an advisory panel to Executive Director Adrienne Jensen.

"I appreciate the willingness of this group to volunteer for such an important job: educating the public about human rights," stated Legislature Chairman Robert A. Doherty. "Reconstituting the board took longer than we had hoped after it had been disbanded under the prior Legislature, but this Legislature was determined to restore a fully functioning Human Rights Commission to Sullivan County, and I'm proud to say that's now happened."

The seven just-appointed members are:

- o Neversink resident Jack Harb, a deputy with the Sheriff's Office, where he serves as the union president and has been a School Resource Officer
- o Monticello resident Al Dumas, a retired Public Works employee of the Village of Monticello and a firefighter
- o Barryville resident Ari Mir-Pontier, an advocate for diversity and inclusion with extensive multicultural outreach experience at state and federal levels, and former executive director of the Human Rights Commission
- o Swan Lake resident Bill Liblick, a longtime advocate for the most vulnerable and Chairman of the Outreach Committee of the former Human Rights Commission Board, current Co-Chair of the Sullivan County COVID-19 Task Force, and past member of the Charter Review Commission and Sullivan County Census Committee
- o Bloomingburg resident Aaron Rabiner, a community advocate and three-term trustee of the Village of Bloomingburg
- o Woodridge resident Dr. Sean Wall-Carty, a college professor, CEO/volunteer Board Chair of Nana's House Child Care Center and former director of human resources for a local nonprofit.
- o South Fallsburg resident Clara Lemaire-Pratt, Fine Art Curator, former Archives Department worker for the SYDA Foundation, former curator for an international fine arts gallery for emerging artists, immigrant and world traveler

Each member was selected by their individual legislator, and the two remaining seats are expected to be filled shortly. The board will meet regularly to discuss programs and policy and advise the executive director. The volunteer members will not conduct investigations.

"I would like to extend a hearty welcome to the new members of the Human Rights Commission. I look forward to welcoming the Commission in person once the final members have been announced," said Human Rights Commission Executive Director Adrienne Jensen. "We will begin with some trainings to set our collective compass, and off we will go!"

"The Commission is like an organic organism of the County; it is made up of elements from each district. I imagine that the Commission will metamorphose over time into something beautiful, healing and instrumental, providing useful input to the growth of our greater community," she added. "These busy and accomplished community members are taking time out of their lives, to support unity. This is so vitally needed. More than the 'what,' I am interested in the 'who,' as it is in part through the modeling of desired attributes we wish our community to embody, that we collectively move towards perfection. Of course, that concept exists as an ever-moving target. Therein lies the challenge!"

For more information about the Sullivan County Human Rights Commission, visit:

[http:// www.sullivanyny.us/Departments/Humanrights](http://www.sullivanyny.us/Departments/Humanrights) or call 845-807-0189. The Commission is also on social media at www.facebook.com/SCNYHRC.

Sullivan 180 is Awarded \$100K HRSA Rural Health Network Planning Grant Seeks Project Director RFP to Lead Project Development

[FERNDALE] - Sullivan 180 has been awarded a HRSA Rural Health Network Planning Grant for \$100,000. This is a 1-year planning grant which runs from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 and will establish the Sullivan Hands4Health Network. This Network intends to address the disproportionate impact of chronic disease on those who are most affected by social determinants of health (SDoH) factors in Sullivan County. Network Partners include: Garnet Health Medical Center - Catskills, Sullivan County Public Health Services, Maternal-Infant Services Network (MiSN), and Sun River Health.

Sullivan Hands4Health Network will research and choose a Community Health Worker (CHW) model that can be sustained through a value-based payment methodology. During the Network development planning process, a strategic plan and network self-assessment will be completed, as well as research into current data and engagement of the affected community through focus groups. Proven decision tools will be utilized to identify a model for adoption or adaptation in order to develop a robust CHW program, whose peer workers are trusted by community members, and deployed throughout the county to help people disproportionately affected by SDoH manage their conditions. This will result in reducing or eliminating preventable hospitalizations and re-hospitalizations, as well as emergency department visits. Collaboration with other partners and the ability to share cross agency referrals will eventually be an outcome after the one-year planning process.

Sullivan 180 is seeking proposals for a qualified and experienced Project Director with proven leadership and management experience to help with the research to develop the Sullivan Hands4Health Network. The Project Director is a consulting position, and the selected individual or firm will oversee all project activities for the duration of the HRSA Rural Health Network Development Planning Grant on an independent contractor basis. They will work with the Network partners to develop a strategic plan using the University of Kansas Community Toolbox approach for community strategic planning. The Project Director will also work to establish relationships with key agents of change among the Network members and initiate all meetings for collaborative Strategic Plan development. This engagement will last the duration of the grant from approximately July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. If you are interested in submitting a proposal for this consulting position, please email Sullivan 180 at info@sullivan180.org for more information or visit our website at www.Sullivan180.org.

Sullivan 180's mission is to build a healthy, vibrant Sullivan County where everyone has a sense of purpose, connection to family and community and access to fresh foods and an active lifestyle. To learn more about Sullivan 180, please visit: www.Sullivan180.org.

Mike Beiling and the Bertholf Family and Friends Present

Matty Bertholf's

10th

Annual Horseshoe Tournament

Sunday July 11th 2021

Neversink Firehouse

Times

Registration 8:30 am

Tourney Begins 9:00 am

Entry Fee \$25

Contests

50-50 drawings

Beverages

Bring your own

Non Players all donations appreciated**

Proceeds will Benefit the Scholarship Fund at TVCS in Matty's Name

**** If you would like to donate but are unable to attend you may do so by mailing check made payable to :Matthew R. Bertholf Scholarship Fund to Community Foundation of Orange and Sullivan, 30 Scott's Corners Drive Montgomery, NY 12549 Attention: Stacey**

All donations are tax deductible!!

Governor Cuomo Announces \$25 Million in child Care Scholarships for Essential Workers Funding Provides Child Care to Support Essential Workers as We Reopen Our Economy

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today announced that New York State will provide \$25 million in child care scholarships to all essential workers starting June 23, 2021. Essential workers include first responders such as health care providers, pharmaceutical staff, law enforcement, firefighters, transportation workers, food delivery workers, grocery store employees and others. This is the first in a series of new investments to support working families and the child care industry through the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act and American Rescue Plan Act.

"Essential workers have always been the backbone of our economy, they got us through the darkest hours of the pandemic and are playing a critical role in our reopening and recovery," Governor Cuomo said. "These individuals went to work so others could stay home and we must continue to support them in every way we can. We are proud to provide these child care scholarships to our essential workers, giving them peace of mind that their children are safe so they can continue to show up to work each and every day and support their families."

Child care costs will be covered for essential staff whose income is less than 300 percent of the federal poverty level (or \$79,500 for a family of four) and will be paid up to market rate for each region statewide for children aged six weeks through 12 years. Families currently receiving child care scholarships under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act are strongly encouraged to also apply for this new funding opportunity. It is important to note that the CARES child care scholarships will end on June 28; those currently receiving CARES scholarships will need to reapply.

Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul said, "We can't get to a full economic recovery without addressing the child care crisis that was thrust into the spotlight by the COVID-19 pandemic. Our essential workers kept New York running throughout the most difficult days of the pandemic, which allowed others to safely stay home. New York State is proud to provide child care scholarships to our essential workers so they can access the support and care their families deserve."

OCFS Commissioner Sheila J. Poole said, "Child care is foundational to our economy - without child care, there is no economy. OCFS is proud to support the families of essential workers, to whom we owe a great debt. They have not only brought us through the pandemic, but are carrying us forward as working families return to the workplace and to normalcy. Quality child care will bring them the peace of mind that they deserve as they support us in our return to work."

To streamline the application and funding process, parents will apply for funding through a single online application, and providers will be paid directly on behalf of the parent. The online application can be submitted starting June 23, 2021,

until funds are depleted. Applications will be processed and awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information and to apply for the funding, please click [here](#).

Essential workers can use the funding to pay for their existing care arrangement, or for a new child care provider. Workers who need child care can contact their local child care resource and referral agency to find openings. The New York State Office of Children and Family Services will administer the funding.

This opportunity is the first in a series of federal funding streams being made available for child care providers, families and workers that were authorized in the New York State budget. Additional funding announcements will be made throughout the coming weeks.

Sullivan County Jury Convicts Man of Tossing Illegal Handgun from Moving Car

District Attorney Meagan K. Galligan announced that a jury



of the Sullivan County Court returned a guilty verdict today at the conclusion of a four-day trial, finding Elgin Cotto, 36, of Kiamesha Lake, guilty of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree and Tampering with Physical Evidence, felonies. The evidence established that Cotto's DNA was found on a loaded 9 mm Star pistol tossed from a vehicle he operated in the area of Fulton Street in the Village of Monticello as

police pursued him on a warrant from the State of Minnesota in 2018.

"Illegal possession of loaded handguns undermines the lawful exercise of Second Amendment rights. This defendant's conduct flies in the face of lawful gun ownership, as demonstrated by his attempt to thwart responsibility by tossing the gun from a moving car, causing it to land among children's toys in a private driveway," Galligan said. Galligan thanked the jurors for their service and attention to the details of this case. The jury deliberated for approximately one hour before returning its guilty verdict.

Cotto, who has previous felony convictions in New York and Minnesota, faces up to fifteen years of incarceration at his sentencing before Sullivan County Supreme Court Justice Stephan Schick, currently scheduled for August 19. The case was investigated by the Village of Monticello Police Department, Sullivan County Sheriff's Office, and New York State Police Forensic Identification Unit and Crime Lab. Senior Assistant District Attorney Lisa Bondarenka prosecuted the case at trial.

Claryville Vol. Fire Department
Craft and Vendor Fair
Community Yard Sale

All Vendors are wanted!

New, Used and Handmade items -- Something for Everyone!!

When: Saturday August 28th, 2021

Rain or Shine

Where: Claryville Fire Dept.
1500 Denning Rd
Claryville, NY 12725

Time: 10 AM - 4 PM

Setup start time: 8 AM

Break Down by: 4 PM

Regulations for Sellers:

- Open to all sellers, artisans, antique dealers and crafts on a first come first serve basis.
- Food will be available for sale throughout the day
- **FEE** \$15 per table. Tables are 8ft long or 8ft picnic table (If you require the use of an outlet \$20 per table)- tables are provided.
- ****Claryville Fire Dept is not responsible for any lost, damage or stolen merchandise****

For more information or to register, please contact
Jennifer 845-807-6563; email at claryvillefd@gmail.com.

**Payment and registration must be submitted by July 1st
to reserve your spot. Payment will no longer
be accepted the day of event!**

HELP US TO HELP OTHERS

Grahamsville Reformed Church's

Mission and Outreach Committee is hosting a

CHICKEN BARBEQUE

JULY 17, 2021 3PM- 6PM

At Grahamsville Reformed Church Hall

ADVANCED TICKETS ONLY

TAKE-OUT ONLY – PRICE: \$14

ORDER BY JULY 3, 2021

MENU: 1/2 BARBEQUE CHICKEN, 3 BEAN BAKED BEANS

MACARONI SALAD, CORN BREAD

ICE CREAM

Featuring Chef Mark McCarthy with his

Fall off the Bone B-B-Q Chicken

All Proceeds Will Go To Mission Projects

Contact One of the Mission Committee Members

By July 3, 2021 to purchase tickets:

Wayne Elberth – 845-985-2603

Heidi Curless – 845-985-0218

Evelyn Skidmore – 845-985-7572

Cathy Coombe – 845-701-9629

Tootsie Wells – 845-423-9866

Claryville Fire Dept.

1500 Denning Road Claryville NY 12725

All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast



Sunday, July 18

Serving 7:00 until 12 Noon

Adults: \$9

Children Ages 5-11: \$5

Under 5 Yrs. Free

Take-outs are available 985-7270

**\$50 from the Breakfast Is Donated to the Claryville
Reformed Church Food Pantry**

**GRAHAMSVILLE
REFORMED CHURCH
BAKE SALE
SPONSORED BY THE
GRC LADIES AID**



STATE RTE. 55 (ACROSS FROM T.V. SCHOOL)

SATURDAY

JULY 3, 2021

9:00 am UNTIL ALL SOLD

Homemade pies, cakes,
cookies, brownies and
assorted goodies!

Grahamsville Refomed Church Hall
845-985-7480

God Bless you and thank you for your
continued support!

Governor Cuomo Announces Completion of \$6.4 Million Bridge and Culvert Replacement Project on State Route 17B in Sullivan County

*Project Enhances Safety and Eases Travel Along
Key Access Route for Popular Destinations
in The Catskills*

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced today the completion of a \$6.4 million project that replaced a bridge and culvert along Route 17B in Sullivan County, easing travel and enhancing safety along a vital connector for travelers heading to popular Catskills destinations - including the Bethel Woods Performing Arts Center and Lake Superior State Park - as well as local stores, businesses and houses of worship. The project constructed a new bridge over the Mongaup River in the Town of Thompson and replaced the culvert that allowed State Route 17B to pass over Creamery Brook in the Town of Bethel. Both new structures feature 12-foot-wide lanes and 12-foot-wide shoulders that will enhance safety for pedestrians and bicyclists.

"This project, which took place during the COVID-19 pandemic, shows what New Yorkers can achieve even under the most difficult of circumstances," Governor Cuomo said. "The new bridge and culvert will make it easier for residents and visitors alike to travel through the beautiful Catskills region, fueling tourism and economic growth - and demonstrating yet again that we are not just building back but building back better."

Construction on the project began in the summer of 2019 with replacement of the culvert over Creamery Brook. After that was completed in the fall of 2019, work shifted the following spring to the bridge over the Mongaup River. Traffic flow was maintained throughout the duration of the project by building temporary structures to span the brook and river, ensuring safe and smooth travel for motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists.

The State Department of Transportation, which undertook the project, coordinated construction activities with local officials and organizations to minimize conflicts with major events, keep traffic moving during the tourist seasons and maintain access to local businesses and attractions throughout the year.

New York State Department of Transportation Commissioner Marie Therese Dominguez said, "Under Governor Cuomo's leadership, New York State continues to make important investments in our infrastructure - creating a 21st Century transportation network. This project replaced aging infrastructure nearing the end of its useful life with modern structures that will improve resiliency and make it easier for drivers, pedestrians and cyclists to enjoy all the beauty the region has to offer."

Senator Mike Martucci said, "The Catskills have long been a favorite summer getaway for New Yorkers, and with our State now fully reopened, we will see a return to the past influx of travelers. The completion of this infrastructure project signals a wise use of taxpayer resources that will benefit not only residents and second homeowners in my Senate District, but also tourists and adventurers who are critical to the local economy."

Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther said, "I'm happy that this project was completed and opened just in time for the summer season. I want to thank our DOT workers for completing this project quickly and safely. The widening and pedestrian upgrades on this section of 17B will help to ensure that this important artery of Sullivan County is safe, smooth and effective for all of the travelers we welcome to our area."

Motorists are urged to slow down and drive responsibly in

work zones. Fines are doubled for speeding in a work zone. Convictions of two or more speeding violations in a work zone could result in the suspension of an individual's driver license.

For up-to-date travel information, call 511, visit www.511NY.org or download the free 511NY mobile app.

Follow New York State DOT on Twitter: @NYSDOT and @NYSDOTBGM. Find NYSDOT on Facebook at facebook.com/NYSDOT.

Gillibrand Announces Bipartisan Senior Financial Empowerment Act

Bill Ensures Seniors and Caregivers Have Access to Resources They Need to Combat and Report Fraud

U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, member of the Special Committee on Aging, was joined by Attorney General Letitia James to announce her bipartisan Senior Financial Empowerment Act, which ensures that seniors and their caregivers have access to critical information regarding financial abuse. The bill would standardize and improve the way senior financial abuse is reported, establish a national hotline that would advise seniors on where and how to report fraud, and provide more resources to combat and prevent financial exploitation of seniors. It is estimated that millions of seniors across the country are victims of financial scams and abuse every year --- with scams related to COVID-19 alone costing consumers more than \$460 million. In New York State alone, seniors are estimated to lose as much as \$1.5 billion per year to financial fraud and abuse.

Gillibrand and James were joined by New York State Senator Sue Serino, Dutchess County Executive Marcus Molinaro, East Fishkill Town Supervisor Nicholas D'Alessandro, and Assistant Vice President of the Hudson Valley Credit Union Lisa Morris.

Throughout the pandemic, the range of financial scams targeting seniors expanded as public health and economic anxiety grew. Fraudsters impersonated banks and lenders, offering support with utility bills, credit card debt and other financial burdens. Seniors account for nearly 1 in 5 Dutchess County residents.

"We need to do everything we can to protect older adults, and to prevent and fight back against fraud. Here in New York State, seniors are estimated to lose as much as 1.5 billion dollars a year to financial fraud and abuse, and nearly one in five Dutchess County residents are seniors. That is why I introduced the bipartisan Senior Financial Empowerment Act. This legislation would ensure that older adults and their caregivers have access to critical information regarding financial abuse and the tools they need to get help if they have been a victim of fraud," said Senator Gillibrand. "Our older adults should not have to worry about falling prey to these scams, and if they do, they need somewhere to turn. This legislation will help address the scourge of fraud and protect New York's seniors and I will continue to fight until we can pass it."

"Far too often, unscrupulous scammers exploit our seniors and cheat them out of their hard-earned savings," said New York Attorney General Letitia James. "This type of financial abuse poses a significant threat to communities throughout Long Island, but we can take action to change that. The Senior Financial Empowerment Act provides critical tools to help us hold these fraudsters accountable for their actions and empowers seniors with the education and resources needed to safeguard the financial wellbeing. I thank Senator Gillibrand for her leadership on this issue, and her partnership in ensuring our seniors can live out their golden years in peace."

"Too often, I hear from frustrated New Yorkers who do not know where to turn when they, or a loved one, has been the victim of financial exploitation," said New York State Senator Sue Serino, ranking members on the NYS Senate Aging Committee. (Contd. Pg. 43)

Gillibrand Announces Bipartisan Senior Financial Empowerment Act

(From Pg. 42) “They are often met with red tape and dead ends that let scammers off the hook and leaves victims without recourse. While we have done significant work to prevent elder abuse and exploitation at the state level, I am glad to see this issue getting the national attention it deserves. Information is power, and I thank Senator Gillibrand for her effort to empower seniors and caregivers with this bipartisan legislation.”

“Dutchess County offers robust scam prevention education - working with our seniors to educate them on how to avoid being a victim and keep them advised of various scams, but it is a daunting challenge as new scams continue to emerge every day,” said Dutchess County Executive Marcus Molinaro. “We are grateful to Senator Gillibrand for this important legislation that will provide additional resources to prevent our seniors from being victims of scams.”

“It is wonderful to see bipartisanship especially when protecting our Seniors. We at the local level do whatever we can to protect our Seniors and happy to see this legislation introduced,” said East Fishkill Town Supervisor Nicholas D'Alessandro.

“This bill helps to shine a light on a terrible problem for our seniors,” said Lisa Morris, Assistant Vice President at Hudson Valley Credit Union. “Whether it's by text, email, or phone, bad actors are targeting our vulnerable neighbors who need more information about how to avoid these scams. We join with Senator Gillibrand in the belief that this bill will provide more consumer education and provide easier ways for abuse and scams to be reported.”

This legislation would help protect seniors from financial fraud by doing the following:

- o Centralizing services for consumer education and data on scams and fraud targeting seniors;
- o Improving reporting of suspected instances of elder financial abuse;
- o Educating certain entities regarding elder financial abuse;
- o Creating a grant program to prevent mail, telemarketing, and internet fraud;
- o Directing the National Institutes of Health to conduct scientific research on older adults' increased vulnerability to scams; and
- o Designating a National Senior Fraud Awareness Week.

This legislation is endorsed by AARP and LeadingAge.

Gillibrand Urges NY Families to Sign up for Child Tax Credit Benefits and Pushes to Make Relief Permanent

*87% Of Children Under The Age Of 18 Would
Benefit From The Expansion Of The Child Tax
Credit Across New York State; • Child Tax Credit
Could Help Cut Child Poverty By 45%;*

*Nearly All Working Families Will Receive \$3,000 To
\$3,600 Per Child*

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Today, U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand held a video press conference outlining the details of the historic Child Tax Credit expansion that will aid nearly every working

family with children in New York State and urging families to take all necessary steps to secure this crucial benefit. The Child Tax Credit monthly payments will help set New York's children up for success and will put more money in the pockets of hardworking parents. It is estimated that New York families will receive \$7.03 billion in total relief and 87% of children under the age of 18 will benefit from the enhanced Child Tax Credit. This historic economic lifeline targets low- and middle-income families struggling to make ends meet. Most families will automatically receive monthly payments without further action. However, families that did not earn enough money to file income taxes in previous years, or that welcomed a new baby or child into their family in 2021, must visit childtaxcredit.gov to sign up.

“Finally, nearly all working families can get the full value of the Child Tax Credit, including low-income families who have shouldered the worst of the pandemic and need urgent relief. The expansion of the Child Tax Credit is one of the most important poverty-reducing tools to help families put food on the table, pay for childcare, get back to work, and build a better future,” said Senator Gillibrand. “I am urging all New York families to take advantage of the newly available funding that will help take care of our children and assist parents recovering from this major economic crisis. I want to thank President Biden for his leadership and I join his efforts to make this relief permanent and extend the new Child Tax Credit beyond 2021.”

The American Rescue Plan Child Tax Credit is the largest anti-poverty measure in decades. Prior to its passage, tax relief was only available for individuals after filing taxes. This year, starting July 15th, families will receive monthly payments of up to \$250 for each child aged six to seventeen years old and \$300 for children under the age of six. It is projected that the expanded Child Tax Credit could help lift one-half of all children out of poverty. Approximately 39 million households are expected to receive benefits without need for further action, including the families of more than 3.5 million children under the age of 18 years old in New York State, according to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. That is why Senator Gillibrand is pushing for all New York families to sign up to receive these benefits. Individuals who filed their tax returns for 2019 or 2020, or signed up to receive COVID-19 stimulus checks, will automatically receive the tax benefit. However, families that did not earn enough money to file income taxes in previous years, or that welcomed a new baby or child into their family in 2021, must visit childtaxcredit.gov to sign up.

This critical investment targets low- and middle-income families. Families that did not earn an income are still eligible to receive the full credit. For the first time, the Child Tax Credit is also available to families in Puerto Rico and other US territories. Additionally, parents who are undocumented but whose children have a Social Security number are eligible for the credit, and can claim these benefits using their Individual Taxpayer Identification number.

Qualifications to Receive the Full Child Tax Credit Payments:

- o Married couples with income under \$150,000
- o Families with a single parent (also called Head of Household) with income under \$112,500

Qualifications to receive at Least \$2,000 of the Child Tax Credit, Totaling \$166 per Child Each Month:

- o Married couples with income under \$400,000
- o Families with a single parent (also called Head of Household) with income under \$200,000



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