

#### VOL. 19 NO. 1 GRAHAMSVILLE, NY 12740 JANUARY 5, 2023 \$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 53

## **BCES SGA Offers Gifts to Pre-K Classes**

For many years just before Christmas Holiday, Fallsburg's Benjamin Cosor Elementary (BCES) has been providing gifts to children in the Pre-K classrooms. The Student Government Association (SGA) under the guidance of advisor Mr. Peter Dworetsky have

the happy task of wrapping and presenting the gifts to the happy youngsters. He told the children why they were there and emphasized the importance of giving and being generous.



Pre-K teachers Ms. Mindy Conciatori and Ms. Amy Saravia and their staffs greeted the SGA student elves and you can tell from the attached photos that the children were excited to see what was inside the packages. It is a great tradition to begin celebrating the spirit of the holiday season.

## **Cpl. Jared Moore Visits FCSD for Christmas**



Immediately upon graduating from Fallsburg High School in 2019, Jared Moore enlisted in the US Marine Corps for a five year contract. Earlier that same school year, his older brother Zach visited their little sister Chloe Jordy, who was in kindergarten. He was dressed in his US Army fatigues and was a big hit with the young children.

On the afternoon of December 21, 2022, Cpl. Jared Moore reprised the family visit to the two sections of Pre-K classrooms and the fifth grade classroom of sister Chloe. He was wearing a Marine Corps camouflage uniform. The younger children were studying about veterans and how they serve the country so they were eager to meet Cpl. Moore. He was accompanied to all the rooms with his very happy mom, Ms. Helen Jordy, a long-time teacher assistant at BCES. (Contd. Pg. 20)

#### THE TOWNSMAN

#### **JANUARY 5, 2023**

YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER FOR THE TOWN OF DENNING AND THE TOWN OF NEVERSINK Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman (USPS #009 398 - ISSN 1558-9013) will be published weekly for \$40.00 per year by Gnome Home Inc. EDITOR: Linda Comando - 985-0501 THE SCENE TOO - Jane Harrison OLIVE JAR - Carol La Monda MYSTERIOUS BOOK REPORT - John McKenna FALLSBURG NEWS - Larry Schafman

MOVIE TRIVIA - Frank Comando a/k/a Knarf COMMUNITY NEWS - Sheila Lashinsky Email: tvtownsman@yahoo.com

#### Website: thetownsman.com

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#### POLICY ON SUBMISSIONS AND LETTERS TO THE EDITORS:

1. <u>ALL submissions</u> should be typewritten or in Microsoft Word.

2. Letters should contain no more than 300 words and must be typewritten. They may be emailed as Microsoft Word documents.

3. Letters should offer worthwhile comments and avoid libel or bad taste.

4. Letters must be signed with the writer's own name. No letter will be published without a signature.

5. The writer must provide his/her full name, address and telephone number (for verification). This information will be kept on file in the Gnome Home Inc. office. Telephone numbers will not be published.

6. Copies of letters or third-party letters will not be accepted. Opinions expressed in Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman belong to the writers and are not necessarily the viewpoint of Ye OldeTri-Valley Townsman or its staff.

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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/articles sent by email should be sent as **Microsoft Word Documents**. Photos or graphics must be in jpg or pdf format

More than ever, thank you for your continued support.

**On the Front Burner:** For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. Isaiah 62:1

### Obituaries

On the morning of December 30, 2022, **Ruth Eleanor McKeon** of Woodbourne, NY died at the age of 81.



Ruth was born to Lee and Irene Kile in 1941. She g r a d u a t e d from Tri-Valley High School third in her class in June of 1958, and retired from the dame

school as a confidential secretary after many years of service. She was a devoted Catholic at the Church of the Immacualtee Conception in Woodbourne.

In June of 1963, she married Kevin Francis McKeon, and together raised two children, Sean and Colleen on there horse farm in Hasbrouck, NY.

Ruth was an avid bird watcher, loved butterflies, horses and all animals big or small. She spent countless hours making her home beautiful inside and out with flowers. She loved going on trips and spending time with her family and friends. Her greatest love was her grandchildren. A work ethic was second to none, a good heart, artistic, happy and sociable were only a few of her qualities. Ruth will be missed by many but will live on through her family and friends. On the day of her passing, baby boy Bryson, her first great grandchild was born. Son of Brent and Danielle McKeon. The lord is with us.

Ruth was predeceased by her husband Kevin, her brother Jim Kile, her sister Regina Osterhout and her parents Lee and Irene Kile. She is survived by her son Sean McKeon and his wife Lynn, and their children, Brent McKeon, and wife Danielle and new baby Bryson, Zachary Connor and Logan McKeon. Her daughter Colleen Osterhout and fiance Aaron Tetlak and grandson Trevor Osterhout. Along with many cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Visitation will be on Wednesday, January 4, 2023 at Colonial Memorial Funeral Home, 396 State Route 52, Woodbourne, NY 12788 from 4-7:00pm. A Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated on Thursday, January 5, 2023 at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, 6317 State Route 42 Woodbourne, NY 12788 at 10:00am. Internment will follow at Hillside Cemetery in Woodbourne, NY.

Arrangements were under the care of Colonial Family Funeral Home for further information please call 845-434-7363 or visit www.colonialfamilyfuneralhome.com.

To plant a beautiful memorial tree in memory of Ruth McKeon, please visit our Tree Store

## **Days of Yore...** Today's History

#### January 21, 1953

Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Conklin are the parents of a son, Steven, born January 13, 1953 at Liberty Loomis Hospital.

The Grahamsville Choral Society held a surprise farewell party for Dr. and Mrs. Karl Messinger at the Jack Huntsberger home last Wednesday evening after the regular Choral meeting at the school had adjourned. Dr. Messinger has been one of the faithful members of the bass section since the start of that organization nearly five years ago.

The Dairyman's League of the Montela Local held its annual meeting Saturday night at the Lows Corners Church Hall. The following officers were elected:

> Van Furman President Arthur Burch Vice President Robert Many Secretary and Treasurer

#### January 23, 1963

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Mickelson, Sr., of South Hill Road, Grahamsville have announced the engagement of their daughter, Sandra Lou, to Roger TerBush, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roger TerBush of Ulster Heights. Miss Mickelson is a graduate of Tri Valley School and is employed by the New York Telephone Company in Ellenville. (Contd. Pg. 3)

## **Days of Yore...** Today's History

January 23, 1963 (From Pg. 2)

Her fiancé attended Tri Valley School and is employed by Lonstein Motors, Ellenville.

Mr. and Mrs. George Bertram of Neversink are the parents of a girl born last week at Liberty Maimonides Hospital.

#### January 17, 1973

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis DePew celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary with a party given by their daughter, Delores Huggins at her home in Jeffersonville on Sunday evening. Approximately fifty friends and relatives were present to help them celebrate this special occasion.

Patricia Gorman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Gorman, has been accepted in the Conservation and Land Management of Recreational Lands curriculum at the State University Agricultural and Technical College at Cobleskill.

Also accepted at Cobleskill is JoAnne Walker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Walker. She plans to major in secretarial science.

#### January 20, 1983

Elsie Mae Hill of Hurley, a lifelong area resident, died Friday at Community General Hospital, Harris after a short illness. She was 80. The daughter of the late LaFayette and Lucy Lawrence Smith, she was born Nov. 3, 1902 in Divine Corners. She was a member of the Hurleyville United Methodist Church. Survivors include her husband, Arthur, at home; two sons and two sisters.

Bruce and Kathleen Erath of Sherburne, N.Y. became the parents of a son, Andrew Jeremiah, on January 16, 1983. The happy grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. James Gorman and Mr. and Mrs. Oland Erath. The great-grandmothers are Mrs. Irene Lange and Mrs. Helen Bruce. A.J. Erath (Bert) at

### Household Hint: Reshape your Woolens

Shrunken woolen sweaters and other items can usually be stretched back to their former size or shape after boiling them in a solution of 1 part vinegar to 2 parts water for 25 minutes. Let the garment air-dry after you've finished stretching it.

#### THE TOWNSMAN

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

## The Delicate Winter Evergreen Forest

Not only did we enjoy warm weather as we walked the dog in the backyard the past few days, but be also enjoyed all the vivid 'green' that is still scattered through the forest - not just the evergreen trees -but all the mosses and ferns that remain 'summer green'.

Slater, Shirley Davis and Hulda Vernooy.

Some mosses not only survive and grow in winter weather, but actually thrive. An amazing botanical characteristic to these magical mosses is the "antifreeze" that is produced to allow them withstand cold conditions.

Research suggests that moss has antifreeze properties! Ice crystals can rupture cell walls eventually causing



the cell in the animal or plant to die. Some scientists believe mosses contain a combination of sugars and sugar alcohols that become more concentrated in the fall and winter and stop the ice crystals from developing, much like how antifreeze regulates temperature in a car. There is some speculation about whether the moss itself has the antifreeze property or whether it's secreted by bacteria living on the surface of the moss; either way, the result is that the sugar alcohols melt the snow around it.

We observed round mosses growing on trees, light green lichen growing on rocks, and other mosses growing in damp places near the stream.

There were also several species of wood fern -most noted was the Christmas fern that remains a shining, forest green.

While most ferns are the color of caramel or have faded to pale yellow, thanks to cold temperatures or frost, evergreen wood fern stands out in vibrant green. Look for it in damp areas with rocks, or at the base of a tree. Evergreen wood fern's leaves, or fronds, usually grow 1-3 feet long. They come up in a circle from an underground rhizome (underground stem).

How do these fern stay green when most other vegetation is dying back or los-



ing its leaves? When the snows of winter arrive, the fronds, still green, flatten to the ground. It turns out they have a special hinge that becomes flexible with moisture in the autumn, allowing the fronds to "relax" onto the ground on top of the autumn leaf layer.

But that's not all. This fern, like other evergreen plants, also produces substances that act as antifreeze. As the days shorten and temperatures cool, evergreen wood fern is prompted to move sug-

ars into its leaves, as other evergreen plants do, instead of storing them all below ground in roots or rhizomes, as plants that lose their leaves do. The concentration of sugars in the leaves acts as a kind of antifreeze that protects the leaves from freezing when temperatures are 5-10 degrees below freezing.

You will recognize the Christmas fern - each little leaflet resembles a Christmas stocking! Could that be coincidental??

Nature has provided us with many clues to the complex functioning of our natural systems that maintain planetary life in all its complexities. See it for your self. Whether it is a nice day or a day that calls for three layers of winter clothing, if you get a chance to take a walk in the winter woods, experience the amazing ways in which even the most delicate of life -tiny moss or fragile fern -manages to survive even the bitter cold of winter.

#### **JANUARY 5, 2023**



## News from your Town of Neversink Parks & Rec

HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE! We've said goodbye to 2022 and are ready to welcome in all that awaits us in 2023! And your Parks & Rec hopes to have some fun and exciting happenings this year.

Our Community Ice Rink is open and has been doing great! The rink is open Thursdays & Fridays 7 pm-9pm, Saturdays 1pm-3pm and 7pm-9pm and Sundays 1pm-5pm. We are also looking to have a once-a-month DISCO NITE. I'm in the process of working thru the logistics and will be sharing more info as its finalized. One thing we are really in need of is LARGER SIZE SKATES! We are sorely lacking in sizes 10, 11, 12 & 13 adult skates. So if you have any gathering dust in your basements or attics or garages and don't know what to do with them DONATE THEM TO YOUR COM-MUNITY ICE RINK!!! We really appreciate any and all donations. Donations can be dropped off at Town Hall. Hope to see ya at the rink!

On another note our 2nd Annual Winterfest (or Winterfest 2023) is scheduled for Saturday, February 4th from 11am until 4 pm (with a weather reschedule date of Saturday, February 11th). We are excited for this year's Winterfest, and depending on the weather, we will have plenty of winter activities to enjoy during the day. We will also have our kids craft area, our beer garden (provided by Roadhouse Rolling Bar) and lots of good food and music. And lets not forget our vendors. We are currently soliciting for vendors to participate in our Winterfest. If you have a special craft you make and sell, or provide a product that we can't live without, then a booth at Winterfest is for you! Spaces are limited and its on a first come, first serve basis. If you are interested, send your information to: cwparksandrec@gmail.com. Keep checking our Parks & Rec Facebook page and your weekly Townsman for more details on Winterfest!

Until our next update, everyone be safe, stay healthy and most of all be happy.

 $Che\gamma$  (your Parks & Rec Director)

THE TOWNSMAN

**JANUARY 5, 2023** 

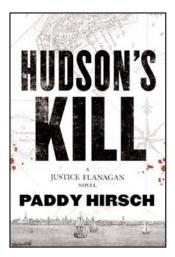


Just in case you're wondering, we'll be re-running some of our best and most popular book reviews every other week from now on. They will be described as our Legacy Mysterious Book Reports. Send us a quick request if you have a favorite that you'd like to see again and we'll do our best to re-publish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

> Legacy Mysterious Book Report 16 Published February 10, 2020 Hudson's Kill Mysterious Book Report No. 389 by John Dwaine McKenna

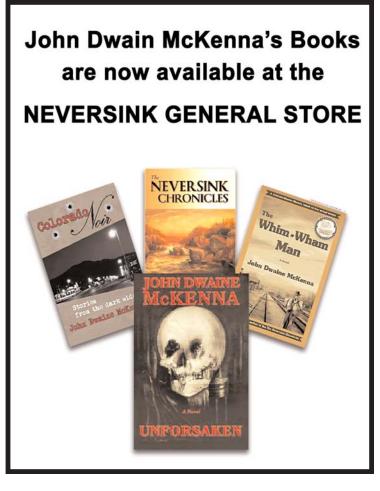
Although they're few and far between . . . "Rare as hen's teeth," as my old Irish mother used to say . . . some authors show early on in their careers that they are on the way to literary greatness, and destined to leave a wordsmith's mark on the world. Writer Paddy Hirsch is such a one. And now, less than twelve months after his electrifying debut, *The Devil's Half Mile*, (MBR No. 352, 01 Nov '18) comes his second historical thriller: *Hudson's Kill*, (Forge, \$25.99, 336 pages, ISBN 978-0-7653-9916-8).

*Hudson's Kill* begins in the year 1803, at the burgeoning, lawless and deadly southern tip of Manhattan Island, where the city of New York is developing it's master plan for how the metropolis will be laid out and built. The city is teeming with speculators, schemers and scalawags of every type known to the human race, each of whom are trying to outdo the others in grabbing the most real estate riches. In addition, there's the usual allotment of corrupt officials, thugs, criminals, killers, con artists, gang leaders, rapists and thieves . . . as well as all of the rapacious stock, bond, and commodities traders who frequent the Tontine Coffee House, where they buy and sell all day long.



New York's a miasma of social, political and financial tensions, to which racial unrest must also be added, for slavery was legal at the time in New York, (it was not abolished until 1827,) and all of the factions are battling for control of the city.

Against that unstable and highly charged background of social unrest, a young woman of color is found stabbed to death



in an alley. A mere girl, barely in her teens, her murder sets serial characters Kerry O'Toole, a schoolteacher, one-time pickpocket and courtesan . . . along with City Marshall Justy Flannagan, a former Fenian, Irish rebel and émigré to America . . . on divergent paths, but with the same goal: find the person who did it. Kerry goes undercover, while Justy uses all the powers of his office to bring the perpetrator to the gallows. It's a dark and dangerous undertaking that will lead them both to the same reclusive colony of criminal religionists who are hiding in plain sight in the area known as Hudson's Kill. *"There, they uncover a craven political conspiracy bound up with a criminal enterprise stunning in its depravity,"* according to the liner notes, and the MBR could not have said it better.

*Hudson's Kill* establishes Paddy Hirsch in the forefront of current thriller writers with it's compelling prose and kinetic plot, as well as its dynamic and skillful storytelling that will educate and entertain all whodunnit lovers . . . while leaving them thinking that the next installment of this outstanding series can't come soon enough !

Like the review? Let your friends know, You saw it in the **Mysterious Book Report**, because the greatest compliment you can give is to share our work with others. Check it out. It's free, open to everyone and has all of our past reviews available for viewing.

We're looking forward to hearing from all of you.

Go to:

Johndwainemckenna.com or Mysteriousbookreport.com

#### **JANUARY 5, 2023**

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The FamilyMemoir, PROSILIO...

... in Greek means "Toward the Sun," was written by Carol Olsen LaMonda. Carol writes the column "The Olive Jar" for Ye Olde

*Tri-Valley Townsman.* This local author has been busy guesting at book clubs who have cho-



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My plans for

New Year's Eve

## The Olive Jar by Carol Olsen LaMonda 2023

My plans for New Year's Eve are no plans. I can count the number of New Year's Celebrations that met all the hype and hoopla they were planned to be. My plan is to avoid the ball drop and the dreadful television coverage that accompanies it. The New Year will ring in without me.

I do consider the turning of a new calendar as a time to reflect and ponder and clear the cobwebs of 2022 with hindsight and perspective. It is a demarkation of endings and beginning and holding on to memories worth saving for another day. I love the Irish tradition of opening all win-

dows and doors to be out with the bad of the old and let in the good for the new.

It is also a time to say good riddance to: Covid Spam and Telemarketers Toxic and NGP (No Good People)

Wasteful and unhealthy habits Prejudice and Intolerance

Instead of resolutions, I am setting small goals like: Cleaning out the Junk Drawer in the kitchen Paying bills on time. My neighbor Carl Stone once told me that he never let a bill sit overnight at his house. Walking, not for the mileage, but to appreciate nature. Keeping in contact with family and friends. Forgiving myself for not, single-handedly, curing Cancer, Dementia, Homelessness, Poverty, Mental Illness, War, and Bigotry.



The last goal will be the hardest but most important one on which to concentrate. I am a "fixer" by nature. I meddle; I advise; I help; I interfere with good intentions. I set myself impossible goals and am disappointed when my efforts fall short.

So, I am just going to try to be kind to one person at a time and hope that my kindness has a ripple effect. Perhaps I can enlist an army of "do-gooders" to ease my burden of trying to save the

#### PAGE 7

#### THE TOWNSMAN

#### **JANUARY 5, 2023**

Coffee Cappuccino

Hot Chocolate • Lunch Specials • Deli Sandwiches • Hot Sandwiches

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Machine





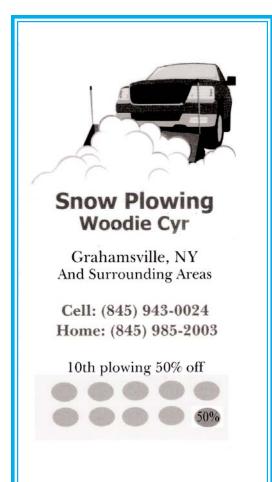
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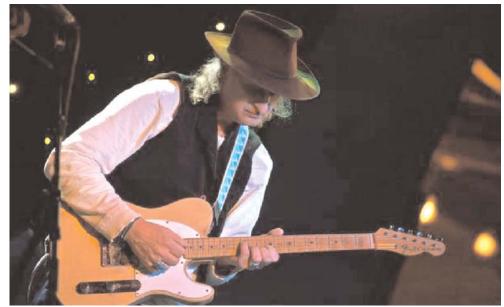
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order in!

row and guest guitarists Van Manakas and Henry Simon. The event will open with a talk about Frederick Cook. Saturday, January 14th at 3:00pm

The Sullivan County Museum is located at 265 Main Street, Hurleyville, New York. Call 845 434-8044 for more info, or visit the Little Sparrow facebook page at: https://www.facebook.com/littlesparrowny.





## DEC Forest Rangers -Week in Review Recent Statewide Forest Ranger Actions

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Forest Rangers respond to search and rescue incidents statewide. Working with other state agencies, local emergency response organizations, and volunteer search and rescue groups, Forest Rangers locate and extract lost, injured, or distressed people from across New York State.





*http://wwwbloominggreenlawnandlandscape.com* "If it grows by day, have it cut & split by Knight"

#### Town of Rockland Sullivan County

**ATV Through the Ice**: On Dec. 20, Retired Forest Ranger Lieutenant Morse reported an ATV broke through the ice on Waneta Lake in Willowemoc Wild Forest. Ranger Stratton responded and issued tickets to the two subjects from Pennsylvania for unauthorized motor vehicle use on state land. A tow company removed the ATV from the lake





### Start 2023 in the Sullivan Catskills Let the Next Adventure Begin New Year's Eve heralded traditions world-

New Year's Eve heralded traditions worldwide, symbolic of good luck, peace, health, new beginnings, and prosperity for the year to come. From carrying coins, eating round food, and wearing white, to a toast, a kiss, and eating 12 grapes at midnight.

Plan your next adventure. Spend the weekend in the legendary Sullivan Catskills. Our full-service resorts, boutique inns, B&Bs, hotels, and cozy vacation rentals are a perfect way to start 2023.

Now, while you're here, you should get out and about and explore our main streets, where our local shopkeepers, makers, and talented artisans create pottery, jewelry, baked good, clothing, outdoor gear, and more. If your idea of exploration means getting out into the crisp air of a Sullivan Catskills winter and getting your heart rate up, then try a hike or go snowshoeing on one of our trails. We have dozens, and our friends at Trailkeeper.org can help you decide the best trail for your fitness level. Or you could take an Alpaca Walk at Buck Brook Alpacas in Roscoe. December 31 is the last walk until spring. If you'd like to explore our landscape by car, take a ride from one end of our Sullivan Catskills to the other and go find the 61 doves on the Sullivan Catskills Dove Trail. It's our tribute to the 1969 Woodstock Music and Art Fair.

#### Mark your calendars and plan ahead.

Get ready for the 8th Annual Winter Fest at Roscoe Beer Company on January 28.

Mark your calendar for February 19. That's when the Sullivan County Catskills Conservation Club hosts the area's premier ice fishing contest. King of the Ice NEVERSINK GENERAL STORE

## Creative Catering for your Trip Down the Aisle!

Executive Chef Jaime Stankevicius brings his culinary creativity to any occasion. Catering with an emphasis on American Contemporary Cuisine. Menu options include Neversink's famous hickory smoked meats.

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mier ice fishing contest... King of the Ice! Hats, 50-50, and raffle tickets will be available at the registration site. Cash prizes and trophies will be awarded for winning fishing categories: Trout, Pickerel, Perch, Crappie, and Walleye. Youth trophies are also awarded to kids in each category (no cash prizes).

We're a 90-minute drive from Manhattan and the metro NY-NJ area. Join us and start a new, New Year's tradition!

## Welcome to the Catskills

The Welcome to the Catskills webpage is the place to go if you are interested in learning more about the Catskills. It provides information about the Forest Preserve and conservation easement lands, outdoor recreation opportunities, and Leave No Trace. Be sure to check out the links to additional information and tips for recreating safely and minimizing your impacts on natural resources, recreational infrastructure, and other backcountry users in the Catskill Mountains. Go to webpage for more information:

https://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/120094.html For Sundown Wild Forest go to: https://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/75346.html Hike Smart NY https://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/28708.html National Weather Service https://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lat=42.0842&lon=-74.3166#.YrXXCm4pAWq Summit Weather Conditions: https://www.weather.gov/aly/mountain Tick Information: https://www.dec.ny.gov/public/111538.html



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## **Take the 2023 Catskills Fire Tower Challenge**

If you missed the past Fire Tower Challenges or would like an opportunity to add to your patch collection, the 2023 Catskills Fire Tower Challenge opens on January 1, 2023, and runs through December 31, 2023. The Catskills Fire Tower Challenge encourages experienced hikers to visit six fire towers in the region: Balsam Lake, Hunter, Overlook, Red Hill, Tremper, and Upper Esopus, a new fire tower located at the Catskills Visitor Center.

To complete the challenge:

Hike to all six fire towers

Submit a log of your completed hikes along with a favorite photo or selfie via a web form or to the designated email inbox For an extra bonus entry to win prizes submit a photo practicing Leave No Trace while participating in the challenge (picking up litter, carrying out, planning and preparing for a hike, staying on trail, keeping your dog leashed, etc.).

If you've been participating in the 2022 Catskills Fire Tower Challenge, must be postmarked by January 7, 2023 - don't forget to send yours in!

For more info go to: https://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/76620.html

THE TOWNSMAN

## The Scene Too

By Jane Harrison

No column this week. Wishing you all a Happy New Year!

### DEC: Several New Requirements Taking Effect for 2023 to Protect Consumers from Harmful Chemicals

Statewide Laws will Limit Use of 1,4-Dioxane, PFAS, and Chemicals in Variety of Consumer Products New Laws for Household Cleaning, Personal Care, Cosmetics, Food PacDEC: Several New Requirements Taking Effect for 2023 to Protect Consumers from Harmful Chemicals Statewide Laws will Limit Use of 1,4-Dioxane, PFAS, and Chemicals in Variety of Consumer Products New Laws for Household Cleaning, Personal Care

#### New Laws for Household Cleaning, Personal Care, Cosmetics, Food Packaging, and Children's Products Help Prevent Public Exposure

Several new laws are taking effect in the new year to help protect public health and the environment by reducing exposure to harmful chemicals in everyday items, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) announced today. At the start of 2023, laws will be implemented that will cover 1,4-dioxane, per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), and other chemicals used in household cleaning, personal care, cosmetics, food packaging, and children's products.

"DEC prioritizes the health and well-being of New Yorkers and our environment, and the implementation of new laws for chemicals in everyday household products is part of our state's ongoing commitment to protect communities," DEC Commissioner Basil Seggos said. "With the start of the new year, these stringent requirements will build upon our nation-leading efforts to prevent exposure to emerging contaminants."

PFAS are manmade chemicals that have been widely used in various consumer, commercial, and industrial products since the 1940s. These chemicals' unique properties make them resistant to heat, oil, stains, grease, and water and useful in a wide variety of everyday products. One of the PFAS' was widely used in fire-fighting foam. These same properties also make PFAS challenging when found in our environment. PFAS do not break down easily and persist in the environment, especially in water. Because of widespread use, PFAS releases into the environment have been detected in surface water, groundwater, animals, and humans worldwide.

1,4-Dioxane is a synthetic industrial chemical commonly associated with chlorinated solvents and was widely used as a chemical stabilizer in other formulations. It is also a byproduct or contaminant in consumer products such as laundry detergent. 1,4-Dioxane has been found in groundwater at sites throughout the United States, particularly in the sole source aquifer of Long Island and in association with legacy industrial and hazardous waste sites. The toxicity and persistence of this compound in the environment represent a growing challenge; once released, this emerging contaminant is extremely costly to clean up from the environment, treatment technologies to remove 1,4-dioxane from drinking water supplies are complex and costly.

DEC will implement restrictions on the following chemicals for the following uses:

1,4 Dioxane in Household, Personal Care, and Cosmetic Products

Effective Dec. 31, 2022, New York State will require a maximum allowable concentration of two parts per million (PPM) of 1,4-dioxane in household cleaning and personal care products and a 10 ppm limit is established for cosmetics. A limit of 1 ppm for 1,4-dioxane in household cleaning and personal care products will be effective Dec. 31, 2023.

DEC has held meetings to gather stakeholder input and is currently in the process of drafting a rule to implement the law limiting 1,4-dioxane in household cleansing, personal care, and cosmetic products. DEC will provide an opportunity for public comment once the draft regulation is released. Additional information is available on the DEC website. PFAS in Food Packaging Materials

DEC is implementing a prohibition on intentionallyadded PFAS in food packaging. The law applies to paperbased food packaging (made from paper, paperboard, or other plant-derived materials) intended for direct food contact. Products of this type containing intentionally added PFAS cannot be sold in New York State after Dec. 31, 2022. The restriction of PFAS in food packaging was enacted under the Hazardous Packaging Act. Additional information on the prohibition of PFAS in food packaging is available on the DEC website.

#### Toxic Chemicals in Children's Products (TCCP)

Beginning Jan. 1, 2023, DEC will implement restrictions on the sale of children's products containing intentionally-added benzene, asbestos, or tris (1,3-dichloro-2propyl) phosphate in New York State. Also of note, the TCCP law will require the disclosure of certain chemicals of concern and high-priority chemicals if present in children's products. DEC is currently working to develop lists of these chemicals.

Children's products are defined as products marketed to children 12 and under. The products include such items as clothing; non-electronic toys; car seats; children's bedding and mattresses; school supplies; products intended by the manufacturer to help children with sleeping, teething, or eating; furniture; and apparel. The law excludes certain items such as electronic products, batteries, sports equipment, and science kits.

DEC is in the process of developing a regulation to implement portions of the law. The rule will address the specific product categories that are covered, which chemicals and supporting information must be disclosed, details on how to obtain a waiver from reporting or the sales prohibition, and the fees associated with reporting and applying for a waiver. For more information, go to the DEC website and read about New York's nation-leading efforts to protect communities from the risks of emerging contaminants (PDF) in our water.

**JANUARY 5, 2023** 

## DEC Announces Launch of State Lands Kiosk Survey Public Input Will Help DEC Make Improvements to State Property Signage

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos today announced the release of the new DEC Kiosk Survey seeking public input on informational kiosk signage on DEC properties. Feedback received will help inform DEC improvements to informational kiosk signage throughout the state.

"DEC is encouraging New Yorkers to get outside, visit DEC's many beautiful properties, and provide us with feedback on signage they see while they're there," Commissioner Seggos said. "With input from our visitors, DEC can make meaningful improvements to our signage and provide an enhanced outdoor experience."

Kiosks are small, open wooden structures that provide cover for educational and informational signs that feature trail maps, emergency phone numbers, and other important information. Kiosks are located at various State properties such as State forests, wilderness areas, conservation easements, wildlife management areas, boat launches, and more.

By taking the survey, participants will be entered into the survey sweepstakes. Each month from January 2023 through January 2024, one lucky winner's name will be pulled randomly from survey responses received that month. The winner receives a free subscription to DEC's Conservationist magazine and a \$50 gift card to a sporting goods store. In January 2024, DEC will announce the grand prize winner, pulled from everyone who correctly submitted the survey over the 12-month period. The grand prize winner receives a free subscription to the Conservationist and a \$200 gift card to a sporting goods store. Individuals can submit multiple surveys per month but can submit only one survey response per kiosk location.

Individuals looking to participate in the survey are encouraged to use DEC's Info Locator to find a complete list of State lands to visit. Once at a kiosk, visitors can simply use their smart phones to pull up the survey and fill out the questions, or review the kiosk signage and fill out the survey later. DEC encourages visitors to provide detailed feedback and submit photos when possible.

Additional information about the survey and sweepstakes and a link to the survey can be found on DEC's website.



Go to: Amazon.com then type in In the Spirit of Sumi-e

to • the • point graphic design studio
offering branding, company logo design, brochures, business cards, stationery sets, website design and more...
Everything we do has a single unifying goal Keep it simple – Go right to-the-point with attractive design

For information send an email to: tvtownsman@yahoo.com or call 845-985-0501



## **Volunteer Museum Educators Needed at the Time and the Valleys Museum**

The Time and the Valleys Museum is seeking to expand and revitalize their educational field trip programs for k-12 students. The Museum badly needs new volunteer Museum Educators who are interested in helping when school groups (of 25-100 students) visit to keep the programs going. The Museum's two popular educational programs teach students about: 1- The history of the building of NYC's water system and the effect on local residents 2- The importance of water and its impact on our history. It is SO IMPORTANT to reach children and engage them with history at an early age!



Columbia Secondary School students from the Bronx visiting the museum, being guided by Museum Educator, Lynne Priebe

Museum Educators help in a variety of ways, from teaching students, helping with hands on activities, assisting others who teach students, answering questions and moving groups through the program. No prior teaching experience or knowledge of history is necessary. All that is needed is an interest in working with students and a willingness to learn, and Museum Educators are fully trained and comfortable prior to starting. Museum Educators can help as little as one or two weekday mornings a month, or more - whatever suits their lifestyle.

Benefits to being a Museum Educator include a 10% discount in the Museum Shop, free admission to Museum programs, an invitation to a special recognition luncheon, gaining new skills, meeting new people and making new friends. Join Sullivan County's R.S.V.P. program, and there are additional perks including mileage reimbursement!

"It is an energizing and rewarding experience helping students learn about local history." says Mary Inghrim, Volunteer Chairperson. For more information about the Museum Educator position, benefits and training, please email info@time-andthevalleysmuseum.org or call the Museum at 845 985-7700.

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

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

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

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

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

o New Exhibit opening 2023 - Bittersweet Memories: The Lost Towns of the Catskill Watersheds

For more information call 845 985-7700, e-mail info@timeandthevalleysmuseum.org or visit www.timeandthevalleysmuseum.org. To schedule a group tour for children or adults, please call 845-985-7700.



## Small Business Assistance: 2023 - START-UP ENTREPRENEUR TRAINING

Tuesday/Thursday Evening Sessions 6-8PM Sullivan BOCES Conference Room, 15 Sullivan Ave, Liberty, NY

## Course Instructors: Experts & practitioners from a wide range of backgrounds

Class dates - January 17, 19, 24, 26, 31 & February 2, 7, 9 & 16, + one additional date tbd 2023

All Classes will be held at the offices of the Sullivan BOCES Conference Room, 15 Sullivan Ave. (former Liberty Mall), Liberty, NY If you're thinking about starting your own business in 2023; or want to know how to make your existing business perform better: this is the class for you. Get a full 360° view of business operations.

## The training sessions will cover a wide range of topics:

Small Business Basics – Business Structure(s) – Marketing – Business Plans – Financing – Product & Customer Quality & Service – Human Resources – Business Location

Presented by the Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with the Sullivan County Division of Planning & Environmental Management, the Sullivan County Partnership for Economic Development, the County of Sullivan IDA, and Workforce Development. Funded in part through a Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least 2 weeks in advance. Contact the Chamber @845-791-4200 to make arrangements. Services are extended to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis.

\$100 course fee for <u>ALL 9 CLASSES</u> (can be applied to Chamber membership or renewal)

## To sign up, go to

https://business.catskills.com/events/details/ 2023-start-up-entrepreneur-training-13189 and coomplete registration form

#### PAGE 15

#### THE TOWNSMAN

#### **JANUARY 5, 2023**

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#### **Debbie Vurckio's Carrot Soup**

1 small potato, sliced 6 to 8 medium carrots 1 medium onion, sliced 3 3/24 c. shicken stock 1 1/2 c. milk 2 Tbsp. butter 4 Tbsp. flour Salt and Pepper Parsley

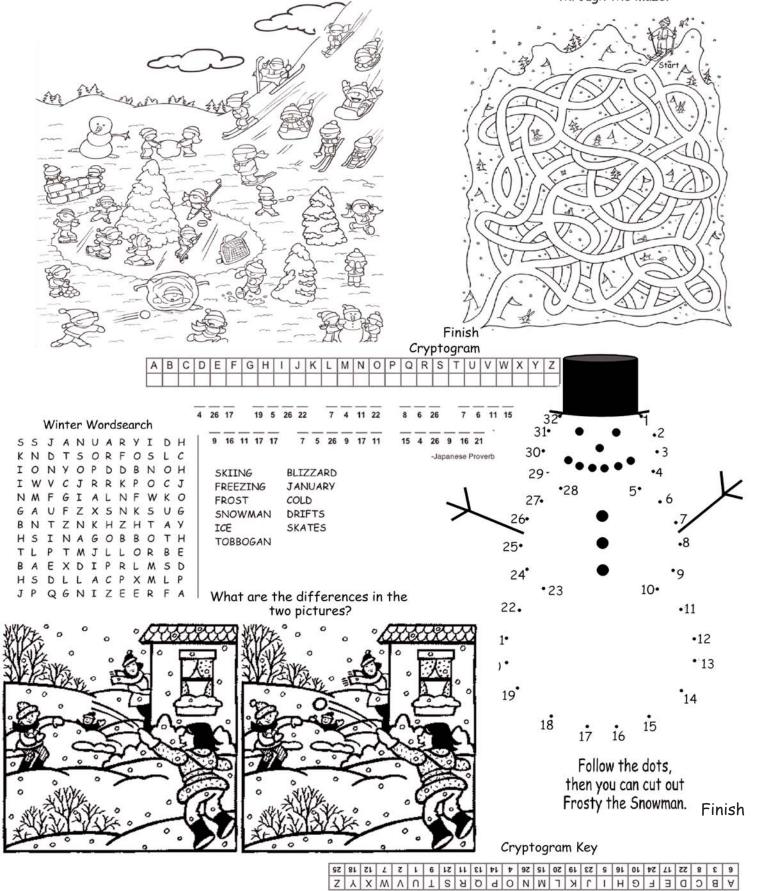
Simmer potato, carrots and onion in stock until soft. Sieve or puree in blender. Add milk. Melt butter in saucepan. Blend in flour gradually. Add pureed soup. Bring t a simmer, stirring constantly. Season to taste and add parsley. Serves 4.

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We are looking for the kids. Janna isn't wearing her hat but has ribbons in her hair and a scarf around her neck. Frankie is missing his ski poles, and Melba has lost her skate. Can you find the three kids?

It looks like Joe is getting ready to ski down the mountain. Can you help him through the maze?



#### THE TOWNSMAN

## NEW YORKERS, ARE YOU ON THE BROADBAND MAP?

Help make sure New York is accurately counted in the national broadband census!

#### VISIT: BROADBANDMAP.FCC.GOV

## Are You Being Served by Broadband?

## FCC Asking for Public's Help in Ensuring Accurate Map

Monticello, NY - The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is putting out a call for everyone to check the new National Broadband Map for accuracy. New York State and Sullivan County are encouraging the same.

"Knowing exactly where we have high-speed Internet service, and what kind of service it is, will ensure we get the attention and the funding we need to make broadband available in every corner of the County," explains District 3 County Legislator Mike Brooks, who chairs the County's Broadband Local Development Corporation.

The map is already created - the FCC is seeking public review and input, especially if an error is noted.

"Maybe you don't have access to the service(s) the map indicates. Maybe the location address is wrong," says Brooks. "Taking just a few minutes to ensure the info is accurate can make a world of difference for all of us."

How to help:

- o Visit https://broadbandmap.fcc.gov/home no later than January 13, 2023
- o Enter the address you'd like to check (you do not need to be at the location you're checking)
- o If info is incorrect about that address, click on "Location Challenge" and follow the instructions

o Be sure to look at the service information for the different categories: Fixed Broadband (residential and business) and Mobile Broadband (outdoor stationary and in vehicle)

o If any info is incorrect about the broadband service(s) available at that location, click on "Availability Challenge" and follow the instructions

o Need more help? Check out this step-by-step video: https://youtu.be/fiFoxZKywv4

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#### LEGALS/PUBLIC NOTICES

TAX COLLECTOR'S NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF TAX ROLL AND WARRANT

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that I, Nancy Parrow, Tax Collector for the Town of Denning, Ulster County, State of New York, have received the tax roll and warrant for the collection of taxes within the Town of Denning for the year 2023.

Taxes will be collected at the Denning Town Hall, 1567 Denning Road, Claryville, N.Y. 12725 on Monday through Thursday from 8:30 A.M. to 3:30 P.M., and by mail to the Town of Denning, P.O. Box 277, Claryville, N.Y. 12725.

Taxes will also be collected on Saturday, January 28th, 2023 from 10 AM to 12 PM at the Denning Town Hall.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE as pursuant to Ulster County Law No. 8 of 2012 an insert has been provided describing each Unfunded Mandate required by New York State.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that taxes paid on or before the 31st day of January or postmarked by that date are paid without interest. On all taxes received after such date there shall be added interest of one percent of the amount of the unpaid taxes for each month or fraction thereof until taxes are paid or until the return of unpaid taxes to the Ulster County Department of Finance pursuant to law.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that pursuant to the provisions of law, the tax roll for the Town of Denning will be returned to the Ulster County Finance Commissioner on the date of expiration of the Collector's Warrant for 2023.

Nancy Parrow Tax Collector Town of Denning

1/5

December 30th, 2022

#### **Organizational Meeting of the Claryville Fire District**

Please take notice that the organizational meeting for the Claryville Fire District of the Towns of Denning and Neversink, Counties of Ulster and Sullivan, New York, will be held on the 10th day of January, 2022 at 6:30 PM at the Claryville Fire Department Warren Cole Community Hall. The regular End of Year meeting will be held following the Organizational Meeting on January 10, 2023. These meetings are open to the public.

This notification is being given to the news media pursuant to the provisions of Section 94 of the Public Officers Law of the State of New York. The purpose of the Organizational Meeting is to set salaries, establish policies and procedures, as well as handle any other matter that has come before the Board.

By order of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Claryville Fire District

Anne-Marie Kremer Secretary Claryville Fire District

## Please Take Notice: Covid-19 Home Test Kits

are available at

Town of Denning Town Hall 1567 Denning Road Claryville, NY

## Mondays through Thursdays 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM until they are gone.

Call (845) 985-2411 for more information.

Full Time Residents Only Proof of Denning residency required <u>ONE</u> kit per household (2 tests) Signature required

### Tri-Valley Central School District Board of Education

The next scheduled Board of Education Meeting will be Thursday, January 5, 2023. Meeting Opening Call to Order 6:00 p.m., Secondary School Library Lower Level. Anticipated Proposed Executive Session 6:00 p.m., Secondary School Library Upper Level. Regular Meeting #10 Resumes 7:00 p.m., Secondary School Library Lower Level

CONDUCTED/STREAMED, RECORDED VIA YOUTUBE LIVE https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkl224 vKQ8nAWhR6NVao24w/live

## Sullivan County to Collect 2023 Fallsburg Property Taxes Water/Sewer Charges Should Still Be Paid Directly to Town

South Fallsburg, NY - Thanks to an agreement between the Sullivan County Legislature and the Fallsburg Town Board, the County Treasurer's Office will be collecting Fallsburg county/town property taxes in 2023.

"The retirement of our tax collector led us to approach the County about partnering for the upcoming tax collection season," explained Fallsburg Town Supervisor Kathy Rappaport. "We're grateful for the County Treasurer's response, which will help us meet present needs while we plan for the future."

"We're always glad to help our towns and villages in whatever ways we can," affirmed Sullivan County Treasurer Nancy Buck. "We'll make it easy for Fallsburg property owners to pay their taxes and for Fallsburg town officials to keep track of those payments for proper credit. The only real change is that landowners will send their taxes to our office instead of the town's."

Taxpayers should shortly be receiving their bills, accompanied by a flyer listing the various ways they can remit payment. That same list of options is available at www.sullivanny.us/Departments/Treasurer (click on Fallsburg Tax Payments 2023). Questions are welcome at 845-807-0200 or by visiting the County Treasurer's Office inside the Government Center at 100 North Street in Monticello, open between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday (except holidays).

PLEASE NOTE: Water and sewer payments will continue to be collected at the Fallsburg Town Hall, 19 Railroad Plaza, South Fallsburg.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:** that the Town of Fallsburg LAND Tax Collector has received the Tax Roll and Warrant for Collection of property taxes in the Town of Fallsburg, Sullivan County, New York for the year 2023.

#### THE 2023 LAND TAXES WILL BE COLLECTED BY THE SULLIVAN COUNTY TREASURER.

TO PAY BY REGULAR MAIL:	TO PAY BY OVERNIGHT MAIL:
Fallsburg Town Tax Collector	Fallsburg Town Tax Collector
c/o Sullivan County Treasurer	c/o Sullivan County Treasurer
PO Box 5012	100 North Street
Monticello, NY 12701	Monticello, NY 12701
845-807-0200	845-807-0200
TO PAY IN PERSON:	TO PAY BY CREDIT CARD:
The Sullivan County Treasurer's Office is open 9:00 am	Credit card or E-Checks payments are accepted online only:
to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday (except holidays)	www.taxlookup.net.
100 North Street	(Select Sullivan County & Town of Fallsburg)
Monticello, NY 12701	No credit card payments will be accepted in the Sullivan
845-807-0200	County Treasurer's Office. At this time, only payments in full
	will be permitted when paying by credit card.

Please include your tax bill or a photocopy of your bill when making payments. Please write your Tax Map Number on your check and please provide your phone number so we may contact you if there is an issue.

#### INSTALLMENT PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

You must make the first 50% installment by January 31<sup>st</sup> in order to use the payment plan option. Send appropriate stub with installment payment. Follow the payment schedule as indicated. January payment: 50% due by 01/31/2023 with no interest February payment: 25% due by 02/28/2023 with 1% interest March payment: 25% due by 03/31/2023 with 2% interest and \$2.00 fee.

The \$2.00 fee is included in March payments as directed by NYS Law. We will mail unpaid bill reminders in early March.

Receipts for bills paid in installments will be mailed <u>when the final payment is received</u>. You may view the status of your bill or print your bill by visiting <u>www.taxlookup.net</u>.

Payments made the last day of the month MUST BE POSTMARKED or RECEIVED IN PERSON before 5:00 p.m. ONLY U.S. POSTAL SERVICE POSTMARK ARE ACCEPTED- Postage meter dates are not accepted.

THERE WILL BE A \$20.00 SURCHARGE FEE FOR ALL RETURNED CHECKS.

#### WATER AND SEWER PAYMENTS WILL STILL BE COLLECTED AT THE TOWN OF FALLSBURG TOWN HALL.

If your taxes are in escrow, your bank will obtain a copy of your information. The copy of this bill is for your records only. You or your bank may also at any time obtain a copy of your current tax bill by visiting <u>www.taxlookup.net</u> during the tax collection period. The website is not updated after March 31.

Tax Collector's Warrant expires March 31, 2023. If you wish to make a payment after this date, please contact the Sullivan County Treasurer's Office at (845) 807-0200 - 100 North Street, Government Center, Monticello, New York 12701

STAR EXEMPTIONS may be applied for by contacting NYS Dept. of Taxation & Finance: <u>www.tax.ny.gov</u> or call (518) 457-2036. You may be eligible for various exemptions on your PRIMARY RESIDENCE ONLY.

ADDRESS CHANGES must be in writing by contacting the Assessor's Office as stated below: Town of Fallsburg Assessor 5250 Main Street South Fallsburg, NY 12779 (845) 434-8814

If you no longer own this property, please forward this bill to the new owner or contact the Sullivan County Treasurer.

#### PAGE 20

#### THE TOWNSMAN

## **Cpl. Jared Moore Visits FCSD for Christmas**



(From Pg. 1) The highlight of the visit came in Ms. Mednick's fifth grade class when Chloe introduced her big brother in front of her classmates. Jared is 6' 5" now and Chloe has grown a least ten inches since kindergarten. She seemed two feet taller because of the added stature of the pride she has for Jared.

Everyone was pleased with this wonderful opportunity to be with the young man, home on leave for Christmas to be with his family and with the children from the school where he grew up. Thank you for your service Jared to the country and to the children of Fallsburg that appreciate your protecting them.

## Letters to the Editor:

We Have To Save Ukraine

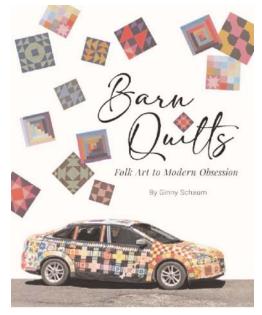
The United States convinced Ukraine in 1991 to give up its nuclear weapons and send them to Russia. We then guaranteed Ukraine's security, and now we are fulfilling those guarantees.

We have provided about \$70 billion in aid and plan on giving another \$50 billion in economic and military aid. This aid is well spent since Ukraine is fighting to counter and deter Russian expansionist goals in Eastern Europe. If Ukraine goes down Eastern Europe could be next. This would require a response from NATO countries, including the U.S., which would precipitate WWIII.

Kevin McCarthy, the next Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the far right Republicans in the House Freedom Caucus, including the extremist Marjorie Greene, want to cut back our commitment to Ukraine. This highly partisan, short sighted, and naive position loses sight of the world geopolitical situation. It would endanger Ukraine and Europe and encourage other bad actors in the world like China, North Korea and Iran to commit aggression with impunity to further their expansionist objectives.

Ukrainian President Zelensky is committed to defending his country. Congress and the American people should realize the strategic importance of saving Ukraine from the clutches of a Russian tyrant.

## "What are those painted squares all about?"



Across the United States and into Canada quilts have gone from bed cover to barn side, sewing needle to paint brush, fabric to wood, and traditional block design to original art. Quilts have transformed both American architecture and the landscape.

What part of the movement was strategic marketing and how did it turn into a wildly popular obsession?

Read how the Schoharie County Quilt Barn Trail,

NY became a microcosm of the Quilt Trail Movement, experiencing the excitement, growth, and evolution that Donna Sue Groves set in motion over 20 years ago.

Feel free to contact Ginny: barnquiltobsession@gmail.com or text (518)380 0025

Purchase at the Apple Barrel, Schoharie, NY or on Amazon

Donald Moskowitz Londonderry NH

Ginny Schaum Schoharie, NY SUNY and CUNY Students Whose Families Make Up to \$125,000 Annually Can Apply for Tuition-Free College Applications Accepted Through February 9, 2023

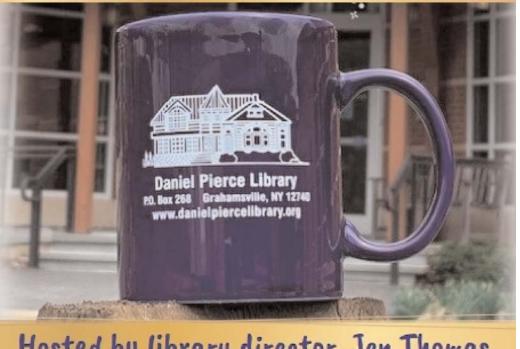
Governor Kathy Hochul today announced that the application for the Excelsior Scholarship for new applicants for the Spring 2023 term is now open here.

https://www.hesc.ny.gov/pay-for-college/financial-aid/types-of-financialaid/nys-grants-scholarshipsa w a r d s / t h e - e x c e l s i o r scholarship.html

The Excelsior Scholarship, in combination with other student financial aid, allows eligible full-time students to attend a SUNY or CUNY two-year or four-year college tuition-free.

"Since its inception, the Excelsior Scholarship has enabled tens of thousands of students from low and middle-income families the chance to pursue a quality education tuitionfree," Governor Hochul said. "By easing the financial burden associated with the cost of attending college, stuA Cup and Conversation

Come grab a cup of coffee or tea and relax with us!



## Hosted by library director, Jen Thomas Tuesday, January 10, 2023



Guest speaker, Donna Steffens, Director of the Time and the Valley Museum.

For more information visit our website.

https://danielpiercelibrary.org/a-cup-and-conversation/

dents and their families can focus on their education, providing New York's students every possible opportunity to climb the ladder of success."

Students from households with federal adjusted gross incomes up to \$125,000 are eligible for a Spring Excelsior Scholarship award. Students must also:

- o Plan to attend a SUNY or CUNY two or four-year college
- o Complete 30 credits per year towards their program of study (including Summer and Winter terms); and
- o Be on track to graduate with an Associate's Degree in two years or a Bachelor's Degree in four years

Dr. Guillermo Linares, President of the New York State Higher Education Services Corporation said, "The cost to attend college is often a barrier for students from low and middle-income families who wish to experience the benefits that come from earning a postsecondary degree or credential. The Excelsior Scholarship offers the opportunity for students who, without financial support, could not readily afford to purse a college degree."

The Excelsior Scholarship is just one of the many ways New York State makes college affordable and accessible. Check out the New York State Higher Education Services Corporation website to explore other options available to help pay for college.

The Spring 2023 Excelsior Scholarship application is open to first-time students entering college in the Spring 2023 term and current college students who have never received the Excelsior Scholarship. Students currently receiving an Excelsior Scholarship do not need to complete this application to receive continued award payments. Students eligible for the Excelsior Scholarship under the Senator José Peralta New York State DREAM Act can applyhere.

Applications will be accepted through February 9, 2023.



PAGE 23	JANUARY 5, 2023
Ans to last week's Crossword	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	GRAHAMSVILLE UMC THRIFT MINISTRY We are no longer accepting donations for the Thrift Ministry as of November 1, 2022. Thanks to all for your generosity which has helped to make a successful season. We look forward to return- ing in the Spring of 2023.
III         I         S         O         N         E         A         T         S         I         F           HO         N         E         A         T         S         I         F           M         A         P         P         I         N         G         M         Z         E         E         L         P         U         N         E         A         T         S         I         F           M         A         P         P         I         N         G         M         A         Z         E         E         L         P         U         N         L         I         C         F         N         I         N         C         I         C         I         I         I         I         N         C         I	The Grahamsville UMC Mission Team
I         S         S         E         E         H         H         A         H         D         O         H         I         T           IB         IB         IB         IB         IB         IB         IB         IB         ID         O         IH         I         T         IE         IE         ID         O         IH         I         T         IE         IE         IE         ID         IE         IE </th <th>Sundown United Methodist Church</th>	Sundown United Methodist Church
T G S HORELAND S A	Covered Dish Supper Saturday, Jan. 7, 2023 5:30 pm at the Church Hall
Join the Fun! Play Mexican Train FREE FUN every FRIDAY 1-4 pm	Check out the tables with Yard Sale items available for sale (Covered Dish Suppers will be held the First Saturday of each month at 5:30 pm at the Church Hall)
Also MANTED People to play cards SUUJI WA TANSU NI KAGIRU	American Red Cross Give blood, Help save lives.
	Community Blood Drive
2       7       9       3       1       6       8       5       4         3       8       5       2       7       4       6       1       9	Proudly Hosted by Daniel Pierce Library
1 4 6 8 5 9 2 3 7	In the Community Room 328 Main St. Grahamsville, NY 12740
7 2 4 5 9 1 3 8 6	Tuesday, January 17, 2023
9 3 8 7 6 2 1 4 5	2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Please Call 1-800 RED CROSS or visit reduces blood ong
6 5 1 4 3 8 9 7 2	to make your lifesaving appointment today' Welk-line Welcome - Appointments Preferred
5 9 2 1 8 7 4 6 3	Please consider giving a Power Red Cell donation if you are O _ O F, A- or B-1
8 6 3 9 4 5 7 2 1	Streamline year datables represents and year up to 15 minutes by vialing field resultion and Rapid Paus to
4 1 7 6 2 3 5 9 8	complete your pre-Sonation reading, and health history specifiers on the day of your appointment.
ARTISTS • CRAFTERS Need a place to show and sell your crafts? Call us at 845-985-0501 email: <i>tvtownsman@yahoo.com</i> or visit our Virtual Mall <i>http://gnomehomeinc.com</i>	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.

#### THE TOWNSMAN

#### LOCAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 1/4/23 Town of Neversink Planning Board Meeting 7:00 pm 1/7/23 **Sundown UMC Covered Dish Supper** 5:30 Church Hall
- 1/10/23 Denning Town Board Meeting 6:00 pm Denning Town Hall
- 1/11/23 Neversink Town Board Meeting 7:30 pm
- 1/17/23 Town of Neversink Zoning Board Meeting 7:30 pm

#### To all Local Municipalities, Civic Organizations, Churches, etc.

Please remember to send us your **Events Calendar for 2023** so that we may continue to post your meetings and events throughout the coming year. You may email them to: tvtownsman@yahoo.com or

USPS Mail - The Townsman, PO Box 232, Grahamsville, NY 12740

#### Save the Date!

February 4, 2023 **2nd Annual Town of Neversink Winterfest** (Blizzard date Feb. 11, 2023)-Watch for details. May 6, 2023 f **Tri-Valley Lions' Journey For Sight Walk** at 8:30 am at Grahamsville First Aid Squad Bldg and Fairgrounds. Call Lion Esta Jacob for more information at 845-866-1579.

TOWN OF OLIVE MEETINGS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

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

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

#### Ulster County Legislature Weekly Calendar Update for the Week of January 2 - January 6, 2023

Monday, January 2

o Holiday - County Offices Closed

Tuesday, January 3

o No Meetings

#### Wednesday, January 4

**o** 6:00 PM - Caucuses: Democrats, in the Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston, Republicans, in KL Binder Library, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston

o 6:30 PM - Organizational Meeting of the Ulster County Legislature, in the Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston. This meeting will be livestreamed and available via vimeo at https://livestream.com/accounts/1512750/events/1824203

o 6:30 PM - Ulster County Planning Board Executive Committee, at the Restorative Justice & Community Empowerment Center, 733 Broadway, Kingston

o **7:00 PM - Ulster County Planning Board,** at the Restorative Justice & Community Empowerment Center, 733 Broadway, Kingston

#### Thursday, January 5

**o 6:00 PM - Human Rights Commission,** at the Restorative Justice & Community Empowerment Center, 733 Broadway, Kingston

#### Friday, January 6

o No Meetings

## Happy New Year!

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

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

Classified ads - \$5.00 for the first 20 words/ 20 cents each additional word

1" Boxed ad (1" x 3")- \$6.00 per week Business card ad ( 2" x 3") - \$12.00 per week

(3" × 4") - \$24.00 per week (3" × 6") - \$36.00 per week 1/4 pg (4" × 5") -\$40.00 per week 1/2 pg (4"×8") -\$64.00 per week (6" × 8") - \$96.00 per week

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

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

 Full Page Flyer for Local Municipalities and Organizations one time fee- \$20.00 (once the flyer is inserted we will publish it each week through the week of the event)
 As in the past, there is no fee for advertising for our local churches

> Low Rates High Visibility!

# Dept. of Motor Vehicles dates for the Neversink Town Hall. 12/8/2022, 1/5, 2/2 & 3/2/2023.



Go on the DMV Website to make a reservation. Search sullivancountydmvscheduling

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

## Now conveniently doing business at 9 locations:

Neversink Town Hall - 273 Main Street, Grahamsville, NY (rotating schedule) Callicoon Town Hall - 19 Legion Street, Jeffersonville, NY (rotating schedule) Rockland Town Hall - 95 Main Street, Livingston Manor, NY (rotating schedule) Delaware Town Hall - 104 Lower Main Street, Hortonville, NY (rotating schedule) Mamakating Town Hall - 2948 US 209, Wurtsboro, NY (rotating schedule) Tusten Town Hall - 210 Bridge Street, Narrowsburg, NY (rotating schedule) Town of Liberty Senior Center - 119 N Main St. Liberty, NY (rotating schedule) Bloomingburg Town Hall - 13 North Rd. Bloomingburg, NY (rotating schedule)

Customers <u>MUST</u> have all forms completed <u>PRIOR</u> to arriving for their appointment. You can access orms through the NYS DMV website - <u>dmv.ny.gov</u>

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

Please limit the number of people coming to your appointment. Additional people not necessary

to the transaction may be asked to wait outside.

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

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

#### DEC Announces Adoption of Advanced Clean Cars II Rule for New Passenger Cars and Light-Duty Truck Sales All New Cars, Pickup Trucks, and SUVs Sold In New York To Be Zero-Emission by 2035 Requirements are Crucial to Help Implement Newly Finalized Climate Act Scoping Plan, Further Electrify Transportation Sector, and Improve Health of Communities

New York State Department of Environmental Conversation (DEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos announced today the adoption of new requirements to reduce climate-altering greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution from the transportation sector. The Advanced Clean Car II regulations will require all new passenger cars and trucks sold in New York State to be zero-emissions by 2035. This step will accel-

erate zero-emission car sales, resulting in improved air quality statewide, particularly in communities disproportionately impacted by transportation-related pollution.

"Adopting Advanced Clean Cars II is a game-changing step for New York that will forever improve the health of our disadvantaged communities, and help bring about changes in zero-emission vehicle use here in the Empire State and across the country," said Commissioner Seggos. "These requirements demonstrate New York's commitment to, and Governor Kathy Hochul's leadership in acting on climate and laying a strong foundation of cutting greenhouse gases, reducing harmful pollution, and promoting the growth of the green transportation industry."

The Advanced Clean Cars II rulemaking supports New York's ambitious work of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 85 percent by 2050 from 1990 levels, as outlined in the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (Climate Act). The regulation requires an increasing percentage of new light-duty vehicle sales to be zero-emission vehicles (ZEV) each year, starting with 35 percent ZEV sales in model year 2026, leading to 100 percent ZEV sales by 2035. Advanced Clean Cars II also includes revised pollutant standards for model year 2026 through model year 2034 passenger cars, light-duty trucks, and medium-duty vehicles with internal combustion engines. The regulation provides manufacturers with flexibility to meet the emission requirements and help advance a successful transition to cleaner vehicles. (Contd. Pg. 27)

winter sched	er an loc	N COUNTY mobile unit ation 10:00am - 3:00pm	DMV to Schedule
JEFFERSONVILLE	WURTSBORO	NARROWSBURG	HORTONVILLE
Tues January 10	Thurs January 19	Tues January 24	Thurs January 12
Tues February 7	Thursday February 16	Tues February 21	Thurs February 9
Tues March 7	Thursday March 16	Tues March 21	Thurs March 9
License & Registration Appts	Registration Appts Only	Registration Appts Only	Registration Appts Only
19 Legion Street, Jeffersonville, NY	2948 US 209, Warlsbara, NY	210 Bridge Street, Narrowsburg, NY	104 Lower Main Street, Hortonville, NY
LIVINGSTON MANOR	GRAHAMSVILLE	LIBERTY	BLOOMINGBURG
Tues January 17	Thurs January 5	Tues January 81	Thurs January 26
Tues February 14	Thurs February 2	Tues February 28	Thurs February 28
Tues March 14	Thurs March 2	Tues March 28	Thurs March 28
Registration Appts Only	License & Registration Appts	License & Registration Appts	License & Registration Appts
95 Main Street. Livingston Manor, NY	27 T Main Street, Grahamsville, NY	15 Sullivan Ave Liberty, NY	13 North Rd. Bloomingburg, NY

Schedule an appointment on the county website sullivanny.us | County Clerk Russell Reeves

### DEC Announces Adoption of Advanced Clean Cars II Rule for New Passenger Cars and Light-Duty Truck Sales All New Cars, Pickup Trucks, and SUVs Sold In New York To Be Zero-Emission by 2035

(From Pg. 26) Adoption of Advanced Clean Cars II is included among the recommendations in the Climate Action Council's recently released Scoping Plan and will be instrumental in achieving the greenhouse gas emissions reductions required in the Climate Act. On Dec. 19, New York State's Climate Action Council adopted the Scoping Plan, which outlines recommended policies and actions to help meet the Climate Act's goals and requirements. The plan was the culmination of more than three years of collaboration, including contributions from the Council's Advisory Panels and Working Groups, since the enactment of the Climate Act in 2019.

Reducing transportation-related emissions in this rulemaking will provide significant air quality benefits, including progress to reduce ozone, for many of New York's disadvantaged communities that are predominantly home to low-income Black, Indigenous, and People of Color, and often adjacent to transit routes with heavy vehicle traffic. The newly adopted regulation will help health and pollution burdens affecting these communities.

Also announced, New York State appliance and equipment standards under the Advanced Building Codes, Appliance and Equipment Efficiency Standards Act of 2022 will be adopted on Jan. 1, 2023, to set minimum energy and water efficiency requirements for residential and commercial products that will save consumers \$264 million annually on utility bills by 2035, with \$85 million benefiting low- to moderate-income households. The standards ensure performance and quality to phase out poor, inefficient and wasteful products while reducing energy and water consumption to limit 807,000 metric tons and save more than 25 billion gallons in annual water by 2035 to help meet New York's nation-leading emissions reduction goals under the Climate Act.

NYSERDA President and CEO and Climate Action Council Co-Chair Doreen M. Harris said, "Putting more clean vehicles on our roadways reduces pollution and emissions that cause climate change, improving health in communities, while providing consumers more choice in the type of vehicle they drive or ride in. As we advance vehicle electrification, we are also raising the bar for energy efficient appliances with new standards that call for products to feature the latest technologies and energy saving features."

New York State Department of Transportation Commissioner Marie Therese Dominguez said, "The Advanced Clean Car II regulations will speed the transition to zero-emission vehicles and advance New York's nation leading efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The state Department of Transportation is advancing Governor Hochul's vision to provide greener and cleaner transportation, collaborating with our partners in government and the private sector to build out the infrastructure needed to support electric vehicles and create a more sustainable transportation network for all New Yorkers."

The regulatory action announced today builds on New York's ongoing efforts to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, including the adoption of the Advanced Clean Trucks regulation in December 2021. That regulation will drive an increase in the number of medium- and heavy-duty ZEV models available as purchase options for vehicle purchasers and fleets.

Both the Advanced Clean Trucks and Advanced Clean Cars II rules will provide the needed regulatory certainty to support a stable market for long-term vehicle purchasing decisions and the development of ZEV charging infrastructure.

New York is investing more than \$1 billion in ZEVs of all weight classes over the next five years. Active light-duty vehicle initiatives include zero-emission vehicle purchase rebates through NYSERDA's Drive Clean Rebate Program, zero-emission vehicle and charging infrastructure grants through DEC's Climate Smart Communities Municipal Grant Program, as well as the "EV Make Ready" initiative, NYPA's EVolve NY charging infrastructure program, and DOT's National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) charging infrastructure program to help expand electric vehicle use.

In addition to the Advanced Clean Car II regulations, New York incorporated California's Heavy-Duty Low Nitrogen Oxide (NOx) Omnibus and Phase 2 Greenhouse Gas standards under a separate rulemaking. The Heavy Duty Omnibus regulation requires medium- and heavy-duty engine manufacturers to sell new, cleaner vehicles (e.g., heavy-duty trucks) that meet more stringent NOx and particulate matter emissions standards, beginning with engine model year 2026. The regulation also includes revised test procedures and longer useful life and warranty requirements for applicable medium-and heavy-duty vehicles compared to current federal requirements. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently finalized new clean-air standards for heavy-duty trucks beginning with the model year 2027. New York's NOx emission standards for heavy-duty engines, when fully implemented, would be more stringent than the recently announced national standards.

DEC is implementing the regulations through an emergency rulemaking and also making the regulations available for public comment. Advanced Clean Cars II regulations will be available for public comment until March 6 and a virtual public hearing on the measure will be held on March 1. The Heavy Duty Omnibus regulation will be available for public comment until March 6 and a virtual public hearing will be held on Feb. 28. More details about the regulations, registering for the public hearings, and details on submitting public comments can be found in the State Register and on DEC's website.

#### New York State's Nation-Leading Climate Plan

New York State's nation-leading climate agenda is the most aggressive climate and clean energy initiative in the nation, calling for an orderly and just transition to clean energy that creates jobs and continues fostering a green economy as New York State recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic. Enshrined into law through the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, New York is on a path to achieve its mandated goal of a zero-emission electricity sector by 2040, including 70 percent renewable energy generation by 2030, and to reach economy wide carbon neutrality. It builds on New York's unprecedented investments to ramp-up clean energy including over \$35 billion in 120 large-scale renewable and transmission projects across the state, \$6.8 billion to reduce buildings emissions, \$1.8 billion to scale up solar, more than \$1 billion for clean transportation initiatives, and over \$1.6 billion in NY Green Bank commitments. Combined, these investments are supporting more than 165,000 jobs in New York's clean energy sector in 2021, a 2,100 percent growth in the distributed solar sector since 2011 and a commitment to develop 9,000 megawatts of offshore wind by 2035. Under the Climate Act, New York will build on this progress and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 85 percent from 1990 levels by 2050, while ensuring that at least 35 percent with a goal of 40 percent of the benefits of clean energy investments are directed to disadvantaged communities, and advance progress towards the state's 2025 energy efficiency target of reducing on-site energy consumption by 185 trillion BTUs of end-use energy savings.

## DEC Issues 2022 Statewide Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report

#### Implements Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos today announced the release of the 2022 Statewide Greenhouse Gas Report. The report details statewide greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions for 1990 - 2020, expressed in tons of carbon dioxide equivalents from all greenhouse gas emissions sources in the state. The release of this report prior to the end of the year supports the State's comprehensive and ongoing work to meet the requirements of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (Climate Act).

"As last week's historic finalization of the Scoping Plan demonstrates, New York continues to make progress implementing the Climate Act to reach our critical emissions reduction milestones," DEC Commissioner and Climate Action Council Co-Chair Seggos said. "This report offers valuable information and insights on the changes in emissions attributable to impacts from the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, among other indicators of emissions sources."

The Climate Act requires the State to achieve a carbonfree electricity system by 2040 and reduce GHG emissions 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 and 85 percent by 2050, setting a new standard for states and the nation to expedite the transition to a clean energy economy. The law drives investment in clean energy solutions such as wind, solar, energy efficiency, and energy storage and ensures that at least 40 percent of the clean energy investments benefit disadvantaged and low- to moderate-income communities. On Monday, Dec. 19, the State Climate Action Council adopted the New York State Climate Action Council Scoping Plan, which outlines recommended policies and actions to help meet the goals and requirements of the Climate Act.

The comprehensive report released today utilizes best available science and data to describe GHG statewide emissions, including those from electricity, industry, and agriculture. The Statewide GHG Report is unique in the U.S. for using the 20-year Global Warming Potential and including emissions associated with the generation of imported electricity and with the extraction and transmission of fossil fuels imported into the state. It also describes the contributions of the state's forests and natural lands to collect and store carbon and to help the state reach its goal of net-zero emission by 2050.

The 2022 report also describes the significant effect that the COVID-19 pandemic had on GHGs, particularly a 20 percent drop in transportation emissions. The report notes that 2020 is likely not a representative year in terms of overall emission trends, due to the impact of the pandemic. DEC will provide updated information through 2021 in the 2023 report next year. The annual emission totals provided will



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aid in tracking New York's progress toward its 2030 and 2050 emissions limits established in the Climate Act, as codified in the Part 496 regulation DEC adopted in 2020.

The publication is available on DEC's climate website.

#### New York State's Nation-Leading Climate Plan

New York State's nation-leading climate agenda is the most aggressive climate and clean energy initiative in the nation, calling for an orderly and just transition to clean energy that creates jobs and continues fostering a green economy as New York State recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic. Enshrined into law through the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, New York is on a path to achieve its mandated goal of a zero-emission electricity sector by 2040, including 70 percent renewable energy generation by 2030, and to reach economy wide carbon neutrality. It builds on New York's unprecedented investments to ramp-up clean energy including over \$35 billion in 120 large-scale renewable and transmission projects across the state, \$6.8 billion to reduce buildings emissions, \$1.8 billion to scale up solar, more than \$1 billion for clean transportation initiatives, and over \$1.6 billion in NY Green Bank commitments. Combined, these investments are supporting more than 165,000 jobs in New York's clean energy sector in 2021, a 2,100 percent growth in the distributed solar sector since 2011 and a commitment to develop 9,000 megawatts of offshore wind by 2035. Under the Climate Act, New York will build on this progress and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 85 percent from 1990 levels by 2050, while ensuring that at least 35 percent with a goal of 40 percent of the benefits of clean energy investments are directed to disadvantaged communities, and advance progress towards the state's 2025 energy efficiency target of reducing on-site energy consumption by 185 trillion BTUs of end-use energy savings.

## American Red Cross

Give blood. Help save lives.



## **Community Blood Drive**

Proudly Hosted by Daniel Pierce Library

In the Community Room 328 Main St. Grahamsville, NY 12740

## Tuesday, January 17, 2023 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Please Call 1-800 RED CROSS or visit redcrossblood.org to make your lifesaving appointment today!

Walk-Ins Welcome - Appointments Preferred!

Please consider giving a Power Red Cell donation if you are O-, O+, A- or B-!

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

#### THE TOWNSMAN



Join the Neversink General Store community for Pilates Mat Classes, taught by Audra Lang. Sundays @ 10AM Wednesdays @ 5PM Details: - Drop-in, no RSVP required. - Mats and props are provided (students may bring their own if they prefer). - All classes are 50 minutes long. - \$15 per class. Payable via cash or Venmo.

Thieves Using Skimming Devices To Steal Benefits from Electronic Benefit Transfer Card Users

Federal Funding Bill Includes Provision To Issue Additional Assistance to Victims of Stolen Benefits

Governor Kathy Hochul urged New Yorkers who receive government assistance via an Electronic Benefit Transfer card to take steps to protect themselves from criminals who have been using "skimming" devices to steal the benefits from unsuspecting recipients. The Governor also thanked New York's Congressional delegation for their efforts to secure two years of federal funding to provide additional assistance to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program recipients who had their benefits stolen.

"It is unconscionable that thieves are stealing SNAP benefits from some of our most vulnerable New Yorkers," Governor Hochul said. "I urge all EBT card users to stay vigilant and protect themselves, and I thank Senator Gillibrand and the New York Congressional delegation for their efforts to address what has become a national problem."

The Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, which oversees SNAP in New York State, has developed outreach materials to inform EBT card users about actions they can take to protect themselves and their benefits. A video, "Act Fast!" and a flyer, "Protect Yourself from EBT Skimming," are available for download and sharing on social media in both English and Spanish.

When shopping, consumers should inspect the card reading machine for an overlay device that may hide parts

## A Job Well Done

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of the machine or anything unusual like glue marks, damaged or loose parts. If anyone suspects something is wrong with the machine, they should not use their card, notify a store manager, and contact their local department of social services as well as the local police.

#### Additionally, EBT card users should:

o Protect their benefits by shielding the PIN pad when entering their PIN.

o Change their PIN frequently and do not share it. It is best to change the PIN immediately after each transaction.

o Check their EBT account regularly for unauthorized charges.

o If a transaction is unexpectedly declined or a user receives an error code, contact the EBT Customer Services Helpline to verify the transactions on the account.

Across the country, thieves are using card skimmers surreptitiously placed over card reading machines at legitimate retailers to directly copy card and PIN information from EBT users. Scammers are then able use the stolen data to create a duplicate version of the card, enabling them to access the compromised account and use the benefits.

As the skimming devices otherwise allow legitimate transactions to proceed unimpeded, victims are typically unaware that they have been victimized until their next attempted purchase or account balance review.

New York's Congressional delegation worked to ensure language was included in the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 to allow theft victims to have up to two months of benefits reinstated using federal funds for the current and upcoming federal fiscal year. The state is also working with USDA to identify options to further enhance the security of EBT cards.

Senator Kirsten Gillibrand said, "No one should go hungry because they fell victim to identity theft or a skimming scam. We are working hard to give Gov. Hochul the tools she needs to right this wrong, including having secured provisions in the end-ofyear funding bill for FY23 to reissue SNAP benefits to those who had them stolen. SNAP provides a lifeline for millions of New Yorkers, and I will keep doing everything in my power to protect the families who rely on it."

Anyone who believes their benefits have been stolen should contact the EBT Customer Services Helpline at 1-888-328-6399 or go to ConnectEBT.com, and report it so they can get a new card. Suspected victims should also contact their local department of social services to report that their benefits have been stolen and file a police report with their local police department.

## Monticello Rotary December 27, 2022 Meeting

The Tuesday Evening Meeting of the Monticello Rotary was called to order by President Brad Rutledge at 6:30 pm.



Following the Pledge of Allegiance and the Four Way Test, President Brad announced that Shayna Benskie is now a full-fledged Rotarian - Kudos and Welcome!

The guest speaker, Yvonne Hausman was introduced to the audience.

Yvonne Hausman is an educator with deep roots in Sullivan County and a legacy that began with her advocacy for her son Devin Michael Hausman and grew even stronger following the untimely passing of Devin.

Devin was a most special young man; diagnosed with a "spectrum disorder," Devin, throughout his lifetime, "stole the hearts" of everyone who had the pleasure of being in contact with.

From his engaging personality to his incredible ability as an artist, Devin was an example of how "gifts and talents" are all too often masked by "clinical

evaluations" and that the definition of "gifted" rests solely on an academic grade point average.

In 2020, following the passing of Devin, the Devin Michael Hausman scholarship was established to provide monies for students with special needs. Qualification for this scholarship is based upon "the arts" from traditional art, to theater arts to any "art" that students with special needs can demonstrate.

Yvonne indicated that this scholarship is unique in that no other scholarship like it exists in NYS; to that end she is advocating for "scholarships with meaning;" and is presently lobbying the NYS Senate and Assembly for "hospice in hospital" a law that would ensure the no family is denied access for any reason to their children who are hospitalized - Yvonne is optimistic that this bill, Devin's Bill," will be voted into law.

Devin passed away at the age of 22, but his legacy lives through his artwork and a memorial garden - The Lion King Garden - that fills the backyard of the Hausman home.

It is the fervent hope that all school districts in Sullivan County and beyond will become actively involved in developing programs and establishing policies that recognize that special needs students are, in their own special way, "gifted and talented." Yvonne concluded by asserting that "...it's just that their brains work differently!"

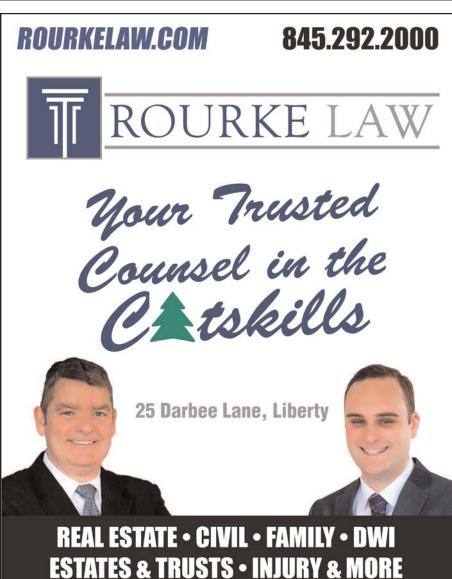
#### **COMMÍTTEE REPORTS**

**Taste of Sullivan** - In Helen's absence Brad reminded all interested Rotarians that a committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 10th,2023 at 5:30 pm.

**Heart - A - Thon** - Lori shared that this event will be held February 17, 2023 at Resorts World and our next Blood Drive that will take place then followed by several additional Blood Drives during the remaining calendar year. Lori will share the Rotary Donation link in for all to use to help secure donations.

**Comfort Closet** - Lori shared that she and Peter "basked in the sunshine of smiles" when comfort items were brought to Achieve in Liberty. In partnership with the 3rd Judicial District, the club agreed that this important initiative will continue as a standing event. **Regional Update** - Jacob indicated that the Rotary Day of Service, scheduled for May 20th 2023, will include the Liberty and Livingston Manor Rotarians.

Jacob shared that the "Little Library" is "painted, mounted and ready to go" to the Rock Hill Post Office within the next week or so.



## Housing Works Cannabis Co, a Non-Profit Supporting Formerly Incarcerated New Yorkers, Makes First Cannabis Sale in Manhattan to NYS OCM Executive Director Chris Alexander

## Cannabis Supply Chain Started by the Seeding Opportunity Initiative is Now Complete New Yorkers Can Now Purchase Legal, Safer Cannabis

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced the first sales of legal, regulated adult-use cannabis in New York State history. The first sale occurred at Housing Works Cannabis Co, a dispensary owned by Housing Works, the nation's largest minority-controlled HIV/AIDS service organization and largest community-based HIV/AIDS service organization. The first purchase today was made by Chris Alexander, Executive Director of New York's Office of Cannabis Management, a former advocate who spent years fighting for, and crafting, the bill that legalized cannabis in the Empire State. Housing Works, based in New York City, operates a range of direct and support services for people living with HIV/AIDS, the homeless, formerly incarcerated, and justice-involved individuals. It also operates a network of charitable retail storefronts.

"The first legal adult-use cannabis sales mark a historic milestone in New York's cannabis industry," Governor Hochul said. "Today is only the beginning, and I look forward to continuing our efforts to solidify New York as a national model for the safe, equitable and inclusive industry we are now building."

The first adult-use retail dispensary, Housing Works Cannabis Co, which is located at 750 Broadway just north of Astor Place in Manhattan, will be open seven days a week, with the first public sales beginning today at 4:20 p.m. Regular hours thereafter will be from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and will adjust in the coming weeks. More dispensaries are expected to follow shortly after the Cannabis Control Board issued the first 36 adult-use retail licenses on November 21, 2022.

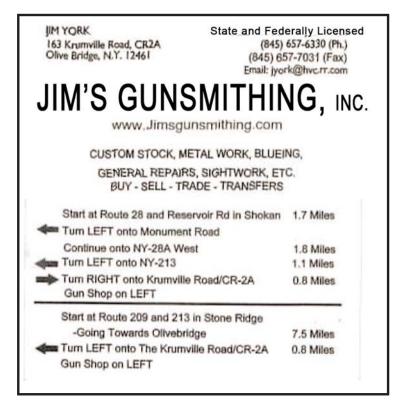
As the first Conditional Adult-Use Recreational Dispensary (CAURD) licensee in the state to open its location for business, today's sales serve as both the official opening of New York's legal cannabis market and the start of a new stream of tax revenue that will be invested in communities across the state to support public schools, addiction services, mental health services, housing, and other community-based programs. It will also support the development of programs to build equity throughout the cannabis supply chain.

Cannabis Control Board Chairwoman Tremaine Wright said, "Today is truly a historic day in the history of New York State. For years we fought to make sure New York not only legalized cannabis but did so in a way that ensures this cannabis market is driven and led by social equity. I am proud to say, with non-profit Housing Works making today's first cannabis retail sale, we are well on our way to achieve that goal and fulfill our commitment to all New Yorkers. I cannot thank Governor Kathy Hochul, the rest of the Cannabis Control Board, or the staff of the Office of Cannabis Management enough for their ongoing work to achieve these goals"

Chris Alexander, Executive Director of the Office of Cannabis Management said, "It is a privilege and an honor to be here today, as we said we would earlier this year, to make history with the first ever legal retail sale of cannabis in New York State. This is a significant part of the battle to end cannabis prohibition that we can say has finally been won. Thank you Governor Hochul for your unwavering support in bringing the vision of New York's Cannabis law to life and thank you to all our farmers and CAURD licensees for believing in that vision and working with our agency to build what will be the most equitable cannabis market in the nation."

State Senator Liz Krueger said, "I am gratified to see the start of the adult retail cannabis sales, and that Housing Works has opened the first retail store. Their decades of work with marginalized communities make them a perfect partner in the effort to ensure that New York's Cannabis market provides meaningful opportunities to those most impacted by the failed cannabis criminalization policies of the past. New Yorkers now have access to a safe sustainable cannabis market rooted in a commitment to social equity."

Assembly Majority Leader Crystal Peoples-Stokes said, "I am so pleased to see the first legal sales of cannabis in New York occur today by a non-profit that's been dedicated to helping improve people's lives for decades. Today, as laid out in the Cannabis Law, we begin collecting revenue that will be reinvested in communities all around the state that were devastated by unequal enforcement of drug laws and mass incarceration." (Contd. Pg. 33)



#### Housing Works Cannabis Co, a Non-Profit Supporting Formerly Incarcerated New Yorkers, Makes First Cannabis Sale in Manhattan to NYS OCM Executive Director Chris Alexander

(From Pg. 32) Charles King, CEO of Housing Works, said, "For us, this dispensary is an opportunity to provide employment opportunities to people who have experienced the harms of cannabis criminalization. We're humbled to be able to provide on-going training to help people advance into cannabis as a career in addition to educating our community on cannabis as the market continues to evolve. We're also looking forward to reinvesting profits to further Housing Works' mission of providing lifesaving services for tens of thousands of New Yorkers in need."

This historic event marks a critical milestone in the Seeding Opportunity Initiative, completing the supply chain which was designed to set New York on a path to fulfilling the goals of New York's Cannabis Law by building an adult-use cannabis industry that works to offset the harms resulting from the disproportionate impact of cannabis prohibition. Announced by Governor Hochul in March, the Initiative has provided for the licensing of 280 family farmers to grow the first adult-use cannabis in New York State. These tested, safer cannabis products will be sold by the first licensed adult-use dispensaries in New York, which are either owned by successful business operators, a close family member, who has a cannabis conviction (justice involved); or non-profit organizations that provide services to individuals who have been harmed by the unequal enforcement of cannabis prohibition.

To qualify, non-profits such as Housing Works also needed to have at least one justice-involved board member and must create vocational opportunities for those with a marijuana conviction. Housing Works has served justice-involved New Yorkers since its inception in 1990 through direct services and advocacy initiatives, providing critical services for people living with HIV/AIDS. Today, Housing Works' Justice Initiative, tailors the non-profit's services to meet the needs of formerly incarcerated individuals, including those with cannabis convictions.

Profits from sales at Housing Works Cannabis Co will be reinvested in the non-profit's services. Founded in 1990 to address the dual crises of HIV/AIDS and homelessness, Housing Works, a self-sustaining nonprofit, provides job opportunities, legal advocacy and comprehensive housing and health services funded. With a focus on compassion and dispelling stigmas, Housing Works endeavors to move the cannabis industry forward by supporting the needs of their community through an equity-driven and harm reduction approach.

Spanning 4,400 square feet, the iconic building where the dispensary will be, 1 Astor Place, was completed in 1883. Housing Works Cannabis Co will welcome patrons with an introductory shopping experience upon opening, with plans to carefully build out an expanded and thoughtfully curated space as cannabis products become more available. Learn more at hwcannabis.co.

To date, the New York State Cannabis Control Board has approved 36 Conditional Adult Use Retail Dispensary Licenses, including 28 for qualifying businesses and 8 for nonprofits. Earlier this month, the Office of Cannabis Management released guidance to support retail businesses in starting their operations with delivery service to help jumpstart sales.

## Governor Hochul Signs Legislative Package to Crack Down on Pandemic Fraud

Governor Kathy Hochul today signed a legislative package to crack down on pandemic fraud. By increasing rewards for reporting fraud and increasing penalties for fraud that occurs during state emergencies like the COVID-19 pandemic, these new laws will deter individuals from committing this crime as well as encourage the reporting of fraud.

"We are sending a clear message: New York has zero tolerance for fraud, especially in our most critical times of need," Governor Hochul said. "These new laws will protect New Yorkers and incentivize them to report fraud and assist with recovery efforts while cracking down on bad actors and their deceitful attempts to turn a profit during emergencies."

Legislation (A.1431/S.1120) increases the award amounts given to individuals who report fraud related to a State of Emergency. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, New Yorkers reported seeing potentially fraudulent acts perpetrated on the state. Currently, private citizens can file civil lawsuits on behalf of the government to help recover defrauded money and may be rewarded a percentage of the money recovered. With this new law, whistleblowers may be eligible to receive additional money if the fraud was perpetrated during a state of emergency. (Contd. Pg 34)



#### Governor Hochul Signs Legislative Package to Crack Down on Pandemic Fraud

(From Pg. 33) Assemblymember Jeffrey Dinowitz said, "As with other states of emergency, like Hurricane Sandy or September 11th, the need to respond swiftly creates opportunities for perpetrators of fraud. By filing a qui tam whistleblower lawsuit, citizens may be awarded a percentage of money recovered. Government funds are limited, especially because of the pandemic. This law incentivizes whistleblowers to come forward with information to assist the state in recovering funds and deterring criminal dealings. I thank Governor Hochul for signing this legislation into law and appreciate the hard work of State Senator Kaminsky in passing this in the state senate."

Legislation (S.4954-C/A.9193) increases penalties for fraud that occurs during a declared State of Emergency. This legislation will impose monetary penalties on any partnership, corporation, company, trust or association, or individual who commits such fraud. The new law empowers the Attorney General to take action for civil penalties against these entities.

Attorney General Letitia James said, "During the height of the pandemic, New Yorkers were deceived by fraudsters trying to take advantage of difficult times. My office has taken significant action to stop scams, combat price gouging of essential goods, and recover millions of dollars for consumers who were misled. This new law will strengthen our ability to go after those trying to take advantage of New Yorkers. I applaud Governor Hochul, Senator Myrie, and Assemblymember Rozic for taking this important step to protect New Yorkers."

State Senator Zellnor Myrie said, "This new law is a clear statement to would-be fraudsters and scammers: if you take advantage of New York consumers during this difficult time, your cost of doing business is about to get much higher. New Yorkers have already lost over \$80 million to pandemic-related fraud and increasing penalties for these white-collar crimes will help deter them now and during future crises. I'm grateful to my partner Assemblymember Nily Rozic, and to the Governor for signing our bill into law."

Assemblymember Nily Rozic said, "During times of crisis, consumers are at higher risk of being scammed and defrauded. This new law will ensure those who take advantage of New Yorkers at the times they are most vulnerable will be penalized heavily. Thank you to Governor Hochul for signing this important piece of legislation."

New York Secretary of State Robert J. Rodriguez said, "Protecting New Yorkers against fraud and unscrupulous actors, especially during emergencies when residents are at their most vulnerable, is a top priority of our Division of Consumer Protection and New York State. I thank Governor Hochul for signing these important bills into law and for her continued commitment to New York's consumers."

## Governor Hochul Signs the Digital Fair Repair Act Into Law

Governor Kathy Hochul signed the Digital Fair Repair Act (S4104-A/A7006-B) into law making New York the first state in the nation to guarantee the right to repair, protecting consumers from anticompetitive efforts to limit repair. "As technology and smart devices become increasingly essential to our daily lives, consumers should be able to easily fix the devices they rely on in a timely fashion," Governor Hochul said. "This legislation will empower consumers with better options to repair their devices, thereby maximizing the lifespan of their devices, saving money, and reducing electronic waste."

The Digital Fair Repair Act (S4104-A/A7006-B) requires original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) to make diagnostic and repair information for digital electronic parts and equipment available to independent repair providers and consumers if such parts and repair information are also available to OEM authorized repair providers and servicers. This legislation will make New York the first state in the nation to require such information from OEMs. Far too often, repairs of digital items are difficult to accomplish due to limited accessibility to parts and tools as well as a lack of manuals and diagrams. By signing this bill into law, New York is protecting consumers and opening the digital repair market up to competition and all its consumer, entrepreneurial and environmental benefits.

State Senator Neil Breslin said, "This new Right to Repair law, the first of its kind in the United States, will not only provide greater choice and affordability for consumers if they choose to repair their electronic devices, but also significantly reduce the amount of electronic waste, while providing more opportunities for small businesses. I want to thank Governor Hochul along with Assemblymember Fahy for their steadfast commitment to seeing this important new law come to fruition."

Assemblymember Patricia Fahy said, "New York leads the nation again - today, the United States' first right to repair bill, the Digital Fair Repair Act, was signed into law - putting consumers first, leveling the playing field for independent repair shops, and reducing our e-waste in landfills. Under the law, electronics manufacturers must allow access to critical information and parts required by independent repair shops to complete repairs on many electronic products, ending what is a growing monopoly on the repair market by big tech, while incentivizing competition. At the same time, we're also reducing an expected 655,000 tons of toxic e-waste discarded in each year in New York State, where 85% of that waste ends up in a landfill. Thank you to Governor Hochul for signing the legislation into law, Senator Neil Breslin for sponsoring the bill in the Senate, and all of the tireless fair repair advocates who worked for years to get the Digital Fair Repair Act over the finish line. While this new law represents a difficult compromise after a vigorous campaign against the right to repair by big tech, I am proud that consumers and small businesses prevailed in the end. We are hopeful this will spur other states into action, galvanize the effort to enact a right to repair law at the national level, and that all Americans will eventually enjoy a comprehensive and real 'right to repair'."



#### Thank You for the Opportunity to Serve

To every resident of New York's 22nd Congressional District, Happy New Year, and thank you for entrusting me with the great privilege of being your voice in Congress. Representing this great district twice in the United States House of Representatives has been a tremendous honor.

I ran for Congress to restore prosperity to our region, and this fight continues. Throughout my two terms representing this district, my staff and I have been honored each day to work tirelessly on your behalf. We have fought special interests to introduce and pass legislation that benefits our community. We have taken on federal agencies to resolve casework matters for those in dire need of assistance. We have nominated dozens of young students to military service academies, many of who have gone on to serve our nation in the Armed Forces. And we have advocated tenaciously for projects that benefit our region, returning millions in federal funding to our community for important and targeted investments in a range of programs, including water infrastructure, health, and law enforcement.

We also have prioritized open and transparent public service. I have been honored to explain every vote I take in Congress. Even if we do not always agree, you will always know where I stand on the issues. This term, I have explained more than 400 votes in significant detail. I will continue to prioritize a government that is transparent and accountable to you.

One piece of legislation that I was especially honored to introduce this term and will continue to fight for is the Essential Caregivers Act, which works to protect the rights of residents in long-term care facilities by allowing them to access up to two essential caregivers during a public health emergency. During the pandemic, the rights of senior citizens were disregarded, and this legislation will make sure that never happens again. Another priority I will continue to focus on in the New Year is the Election Integrity Caucus, which I founded and currently co-chair. This caucus is focused on delivering commonsense solutions that restore faith in our democratic process.

Starting on January 3, 2023, when the 118th Session of Congress begins, I will no longer be representing the 22nd District in Congress. Following New York's redistricting process, I will now be representing New York's 24th District, which includes the portions of Oswego County currently in the 22nd District. Other areas in the current 22nd District will be represented by Congresswoman Elise Stefanik, Congressman-Elect Brandon Williams, and Congressman-Elect Marc Molinaro. Additional information on who will be representing you in Congress starting on January 3 can be accessed by visiting www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative.

#### Governor Hochul Signs Legislative Package to Support Pedestrians, Bikers and Transit Riders

Governor Kathy Hochul signed a legislative package supporting pedestrians, bikers and transit riders across New York State. These new laws will increase Department of Transportation support for municipal "complete streets" projects, and require regional transportation boards have voting seats for transit dependent individuals.

"Whether you're on the sidewalk, in the bike lane or riding the bus, you deserve a high-quality trip that gets you safely to your destination," Governor Hochul said. "Transportation is all about connections: bringing people closer to their jobs, their homes, and the people they love. I'm proud to sign two new laws that will make our streets safer and our communities more connected."

Legislation (S.3897/A.8936-A) provides increased funding for "Complete Streets" projects, which incorporate a holistic approach to street design. A Complete Street is a roadway planned and designed to consider the safe, convenient access and mobility of roadway users of all ages and abilities. This includes pedestrians, bicyclists, public transportation riders, and motorists; it includes children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. Complete Street designs contribute to a cleaner, greener, transportation system. This bill increases the state share of funding for municipalities incorporating Complete Street features. Under the new legislation, the state's contribution to the non-federally funded portion of Complete Street projects will increase to 87.5 percent, which will help municipalities to implement these street designs.

Assemblymember Patricia Fahy said, "With pedestrian deaths in the United States hitting a 40-year high as noted by the Governor's Highway Safety Administration, New Yorkers are at continued risk of injury or death due to traffic violence on our roads today more than ever before. I sincerely thank Governor Hochul for signing the Complete Streets Funding bill (A.8936/S.3897), which will serve to protect more pedestrians and cyclists by increasing state funding for local complete street projects like sidewalks, crosswalks, curb cuts and other pedestrian-friendly infrastructure, undoubtedly saving lives and making streets more user-friendly for all. This law will empower local governments to pursue more of these projects by reducing their cost burden and increasing the state's share of funding for these projects. If our goal is to build strong, multi-modal walkable communities while reducing transportation-sector emissions, complete street design is a proven component for achieving that objective. I commend Senate sponsor Tim Kennedy, the hundreds of advocates like Families for Safe Streets, Transportation Alternatives, families affected by traffic violence, Assemblymember Donna Lupardo and Congressman Joe Morelle who originally sponsored the Assembly bill and now leads the effort in Congress, and more for getting this bill over the finish line and protecting more New Yorkers on our roads."

Legislation (S.3959-B/A.7822-C) will require the non-voting transit dependent representative be moved into a voting position on various transportation authorities' boards. Upstate and Western New York regional transit authorities provide critical services to tens of millions of riders every year. These services include bike-shares, buses, and paratransit, and annually cover hundreds of thousands of miles in service. This new legislation provides a critical voice to riders who permanently rely on these services, and will improve governance within these authorities

Can You Paint a Snowman

Director's

Challenge



Join uS in January for the Director's Challenge! Mrs. Thomas will show the students step by step how to create their version of this adorable snowman inspired painting. Grades 1 - 6



# Wednesday, January 11th 3–4:30 p.m.

To register go to: https://danielpiercelibrary.org/directors-challenge/

# Ulster County Year in Review: 2022

KINGSTON, N.Y. - 2022 was an eventful year in Ulster County. In the past year, County government has made progress on key initiatives and remained steadfast in our commitment to serve the residents of Ulster County. In 2022, we continued into our third year of managing the impacts of the COVID-19 virus as the pandemic turned endemic. We turned over ownership of the former IBM property in the Town of Ulster, and welcomed the cannabis industry to the region with the groundbreaking of Cresco Labs in Ellenville. We demolished our former county jail to make way for affordable housing, triggered an investigation by the state into Central Hudson's billing practices, and commemorated Juneteenth as a County holiday for the first time. We coordinated with federal and state agencies in response to three major climate-related weather events: an ice storm, a tornado and a wildfire. We bid farewell to our second county executive, and we will welcome our first elected female county executive on January 1st, 2023. Here are some of the highlights from the year:

• 7000+ TONS of asbestos-containing debris at iPark 87 (aka Tech City) removed by National Resources with support from Ulster County and EPA

• 50,000 SQUARE FOOT renovation of a building to house medical cannabis operations in Ellenville/Wawarsing begun by Cresco Labs, a project that is expected to create 50 jobs.

• Plans for Phase 2 of the project, a \$200 million investment to build 380,000 square feet and create 375 full-time jobs were approved by the local planning board in 2022

4300 PUBLIC COMMENTS submitted on the State's special investigation into Central Hudson's billing practices, triggered by former Ulster County Executive Pat Ryan

\$1 MILLION provided in direct financial assistance to 34 small businesses through the Ulster County Cares program. Businesses assisted by the program included sectors such as childcare, food and beverage, retail, human services, transportation and the arts. As a direct result of the funding, at least 25 jobs were created or retained in Ulster County.

o 32% of businesses identified as minority-owned

o 50% of businesses identified as women-owned

o 56% of businesses identified as LMI owners (low-to-moderate income) and 44% have LMI employees

\$28 MILLION in federal COVID relief funds allocated by the Ulster County Legislature in partnership with the County Executive's Office, supporting projects including:

o 18 Ulster County initiatives

o 50 nonprofits awarded with \$1.5 million for direct support for vulnerable populations

o \$4.6 Million to support 12 municipal infrastructure projects

o \$2 Million to purchase building for the establishment of a Crisis Stabilization Center

o \$700,000 to purchase the former Elizabeth Manor to create a County-owned emergency shelter

o \$1 Million to assist small businesses recover from the pandemic. o \$2 Million to invest in our main streets and anchor businesses.

o \$2 Million to partner with our municipalities and invest in parks throughout the County.

10,000 COVID VACCINES administered by our Department of Health.

3,292 NARCAN KITS distributed through HEALing Communities Initiative

190 INCIDENTS of Naloxone administration by EMS

1070.18 SQUARE MILES covered by Mobile County Government, delivering direct access to critical government services.

3 ELECTRIC BUSES added to the County's fleet and on the road.

100% FARE FREE RIDES for ALL riders using UCAT.

50 BUSINESSES added to UGREEN (Ulster County Green Economy Network) since launching in mid-2022

3 HISTORIC CELEBRATIONS of Black history:

o 1st time the County Office Building was lit up in honor of Black History Month

o 1st official celebration of Juneteenth by Ulster County

o Establishment of Sojourner Truth Day

1 VISITING HARRIET TUBMAN SCULPTURE exhibited as part of a national tour at the Ulster County Office Building.

2 SCHOLARSHIPS awarded to local youth, to cover two years of college at SUNY Ulster, through our Vax-to-School program 243,000 VOTES in a viral online poll for the winning "I Voted" sticker designed by Ulster County youth, Hudson Rowan. 44% of all VISITATION to the Catskills was within Ulster County.

20 ARTIST SUBMISSIONS to the COVID Commemoration Commission.

2 NEW TASK FORCES convened to improve public safety: the EMS Task Force and the Task Force for Preventing and Responding to Domestic Terrorism.

4+ WARMING CENTERS activated and administered by staff, volunteers, community organizations and first responders after a record ice storm caused 67,000 power outages throughout Ulster County.

8 DAYS of wildfire at Napanoch Point in Minnewaska State Park successfully contained by more than 200 Ulster County fire fighters, DEC forest rangers, Army National Guard UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters, and firefighters from Quebec.

57.3 ACRES approved for purchase in the Town of New Paltz to site a Government Operations Center and Emergency Management facility.

### Accomplishments of the Sullivan County Legislature 2022

#### INTRODUCTION

Comprising the governing body of Sullivan County, the nine members of the Legislature are elected by and beholden to the voters and taxpayers of the County. As such, it is the Legislature's desire to inform the citizens of the work County government has accomplished on their behalf. This report is meant to fulfill that goal.

However, citizens of Sullivan County need not wait for an annual accounting of legislative activities. Any time of the year, their calls, questions, comments and concerns can be relayed to the Legislature at large or legislators individually. Complete contact and meeting information is available online at www.sullivanny.us/departments/legislature or by calling the Clerk of the Legislature at 845-807-0435.

#### MEMBERS

o District 1 - Robert Doherty, Republican, current Chairman, representing the townships of Bethel, Cochecton, Highland and Tusten (hamlets of Mongaup Valley, Smallwood, White Lake, Kauneonga Lake, Bethel, Cochecton, Lake Huntington, Eldred, Yulan, Highland Lake and Narrowsburg)

o District 2 - Nadia Rajsz, Democrat, representing the townships of Forestburgh, Highland, Lumberland and Mamakating, including the Village of Wurtsboro (hamlets of Forestburgh, Eldred, Yulan, Barryville, Glen Spey, Pond Eddy and Westbrookville)

o District 3 - Michael Brooks, Republican, current Vice Chairman, representing the townships of Liberty, Neversink and Rockland (hamlets of Parksville, Neversink, Grahamsville, Claryville, Livingston Manor and Roscoe)

o District 4 - Nicholas Salomone Jr., Republican, representing the Township of Mamakating and Village of Bloomingburg (hamlets of Summitville, Phillipsport, Spring Glen and Burlingham)

o District 5 - George Conklin III, Republican, representing the townships of Callicoon, Delaware, Fremont and Liberty, including the Village of Jeffersonville (hamlets of Youngsville, Callicoon Center, North Branch, Callicoon, Hortonville, Kenoza Lake, Fremont Center, Obernburg, Hankins, Long Eddy, Swan Lake and White Sulphur Springs)

o District 6 - Luis Alvarez, Democrat, immediate past Chairman, representing the townships of Liberty and Fallsburg, including the Village of Liberty (hamlets of Ferndale and Hurleyville)

o District 7 - Joseph Perrello, Republican, representing the Township of Fallsburg, including the Village of Woodridge (hamlets of Woodbourne, Loch Sheldrake, Fallsburg, South Fallsburg, Mountaindale and Glen Wild)

o District 8 - Ira Steingart, Democrat, Minority Leader, representing the townships of Fallsburg and Thompson, including the Village of Monticello (hamlets of Kiamesha Lake, South Fallsburg, Fallsburg and Harris)

o District 9 - Alan Sorensen, Republican, Majority Leader, representing the Township of Thompson and the Village of Monticello (hamlets of Rock Hill, Thompsonville and Glen Wild)

#### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### Taxes and Finances

o Undertook careful and prudent fiscal management that led to the adoption of a 2023 budget which does not raise taxes

o Eliminated the Solid Waste Access Fee, saving taxpayers between \$45 and \$750 per parcel

o Continued to eliminate as much bonding (and thus interest payments) as possible

o Eliminated \$9 million in short-term debt

o Settled all outstanding labor union contracts with Sullivan County employees - a first in the history of the County Legislature - giving much-needed certainty to future budget planning

o Allocated Federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to important road projects and a critical upgrade of buildings, equipment and energy efficiencies at SUNY Sullivan

o Set aside \$4 million to help SUNY Sullivan build an indoor sports arena and swim center that will be open to the public and designed to attract revenue-generating, large-scale events

o Extended the redemption deadline for those seeking to buy back their tax-foreclosed properties

o Sullivan County remains free of fiscal stress, as ranked by the NYS Comptroller's Office

#### Infrastructure

o Division of Public Works paved 39 miles of roads (20 more miles than in 2021), repaired another 36 miles, sealed 52 miles more, and striped (painted) 79 miles in total

o Public Works undertook the long-awaited \$6 million rehabilitation of East Broadway in Monticello, completing half of the work in 2022 with new pavement, drainage and sidewalks

o Authorized \$12 million for road and bridgework in 2022 (nearly \$3 million more than in 2021), without any need for bonding

o Two bridges were completely replaced, while four others underwent significant rehabilitation work, plus repairs to several more

o Welcomed charitable emergency transporter HatzolAir to County Airport, where it has already based aviation equipment and intends to construct its world headquarters

o By contract with The Delaware Company, returned to full operations at the Fort Delaware Museum of Colonial History in Narrowsburg, including multiple events and increased staffing

o Granted lease to helicopter company interested in having office at County Airport

o Landed \$18.5 million State grant to begin major improvements to Airport, including new terminal building, all in a concerted effort to make this resource a revenue-generator

o Erected cell tower in Rock Hill that provides both public and emergency communications in a long-underserved area

o Began studying use of buildings and grounds to create a long-term Facilities Master Plan

Public Health, Welfare and Safety

o Continued funding for and operation of Community Assistance Center, created during the COVID-19 pandemic and now a key connector between residents and the food, shelter and services they need

o Distributed over 30,000 masks to County residents, plus thousands of COVID-19 at-home test kits

o Worked with NYS Department of Health to maintain a Sullivan County office presence, identifying and offering space to the State in the County's Public Health Building

o Relocated and expanded the Veterans Service Agency office space to better serve those who have served our nation

o Restored two Assistant District Attorney positions cut during the pandemic and added two Administrative Assistants to the DA's Office to handle increased work volumes (Contd. Pg. 39)

### Accomplishments of the Sullivan County Legislature 2022

(From Pg. 38)

o In partnership with healthcare provider, debuted mobile trailer to bring needed medical and substance use services to the County's far-flung locales

o Worked with consultant to expand services and staff at Care Center at Sunset Lake, and increased reimbursement rates from State and Federal sources

o Enabled the creation of a much-needed methadone clinic in Monticello, which opened this past autumn beneath the District Attorney's Office

o Authorized agreements which led to the opening of warming shelters in Liberty and Monticello seven nights a week for the entirety of the 2022-2023 winter season

o Adopted a Comprehensive Housing Strategy to address housing concerns Countywide

o Increased starting salaries for critically needed positions in Sheriff's Office and Health & Human Services, in order to attract more candidates

Economic and Workforce Development

o Instituted the groundbreaking Sullivan Promise Scholarship Program, which pays for a full year of tuition for any Sullivan County high-schooler who attends SUNY Sullivan (expanding to a second full year of tuition in 2023) o Expanded the Move Sullivan public transportation serv-

ice from two routes to four and made all rides free to the public

o Acquired 48-acre former campground for future Countyowned Callicoon Riverside Park along the Delaware River, with cleanup begun in 2022 and design work commencing in 2023

o Secured \$2 million Federal grant for wireless broadband project

• Accepted the \$600,000 sale of the unused "Phase II" expansion site of the County Landfill to a private company that plans to develop an industrial park at that highly accessible Monticello location

o Approved \$140,000 in loans from Revolving Loan Fund to aid local startup businesses, with \$300,000 more pending o Sullivan County maintained #1 spot in job growth in the entire State for much of 2022

o Established internship and job shadowing program for local high school and college students interested in County employment

o Created a Youth Intern Coordinator position in the Youth Bureau

#### Community Initiatives

o Entered into agreement with telecommunications company to provide high-speed broadband Internet services to majority of County, including currently unserved/underserved areas, in conjunction with existing wireless broadband initiative

o Infused \$500,000 into the O&W Rail Trail to spur development, including the Neversink River crossing near South Fallsburg

o Reinstated Plans & Progress Program funding of \$100,000, which provided grants to various local efforts o Commenced improvements to fishing/rafting access along Delaware River in the Town of Highland o Allocated \$273,380 to over a dozen nonprofits and community groups to use for worthwhile projects, under the Legislative Discretionary Contract Funding Program

o Continued funding of a Countywide roadside litter pluck and Household Hazardous Waste Days

o Authorized providing computer system troubleshooting and advisory services to the Town of Rockland, in addition to continuing such services with the Town of Liberty, at greatly reduced cost to both municipalities

o Debuted first-in-upstate Google "chatbot" service on County website to improve public access to information

o Entered into agreement with the Town of Fallsburg to handle its tax collection needs for 2023

### MISU Lesson Registration for Returning Students is Open

Happy New Year!

Lesson registration for returning students is OPEN! Please reach out to your teacher to determine how many lessons to sign up for in the January-March session. To register go to: http://misucatskills.org/returning-student-registration-form/

Please spread the word if you know anyone who might be interested in signing up for new student trial lessons. For more information go to: http://misucatskills.org/new-student-inquiry/

We currently offer lessons for violin, viola, percussion, piano and guitar. Visit our website at to learn more about our wonderful teachers. Go to: http://misucatskills.org/

Keep an eye out for our first newsletter of 2023. We are looking forward to recounting our 2022 challenges and successes and some of the exciting new things we have in the works for 2023.

Warm regards for a Happy New Year from all of us at MISU!

#### Anastasia

#### WHO WE ARE:

Under the direction of Anastasia Solberg, the Music Institute of Sullivan and Ulster Counties, located in Ellenville, NY, offers instruction in violin, viola, piano, voice, guitar, music theory, and more for students of all levels and ages. Chamber music and ensemble experience for violinists, violists, cellists, and double bassists of any playing level can be had in one or more of our four orchestras.

#### MISSION:

Based on the belief that music within a social environment can enhance interpersonal relationships, self-expression, and personal growth, the Music Institute of Sullivan and Ulster Counties provides opportunities for people of all ages to develop their varying levels of musical experiences in an environment that acknowledges and nurtures the whole person.



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

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



# **Veteran Peer Support**

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



Call or email us to register! 845-794-4228 vet2vet@atitoday.org 309 E Broadway Suite A

### THE TOWNSMAN



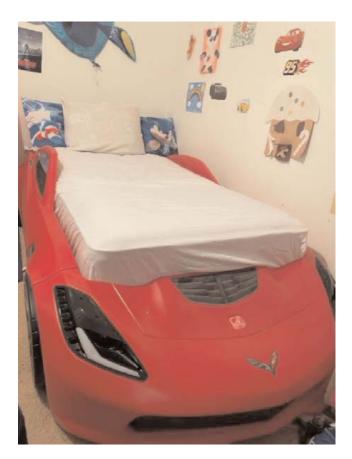
Join us for a peer led virtual support group for parents of children with mental health challenges. Together we have time for conversation and an activity. This group is completely free to join, and all supplies for the activity will be sent to your home. Space is limited for each group!

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



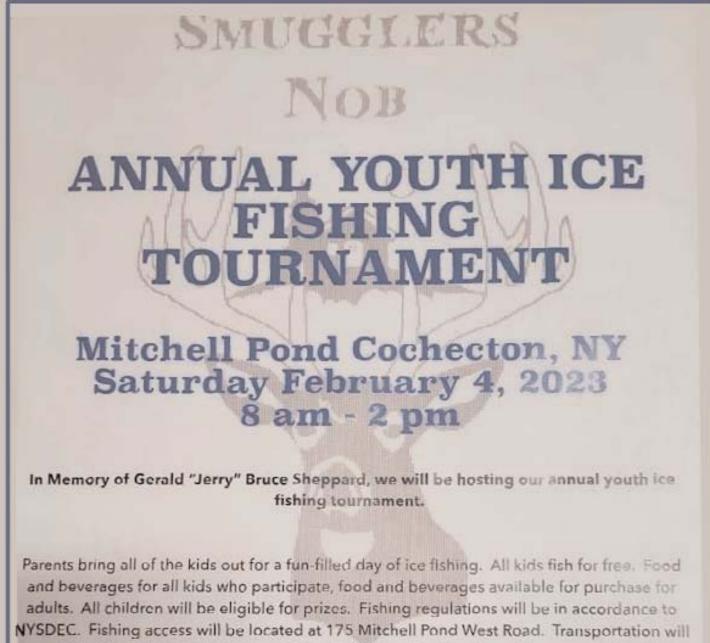
### **DECEMBER 29, 2022**





# It's a Corvette bed! Like new! Asking \$200 buyer must pick up in Grahamsville Mattress not included -

Call 845-417-6165



be provided by club members, no outside ATV/UTV's. Registration will be upon entry. If you have any questions please contact Harold "Boomer" Russell at (845) 583-6602 or Kevin Esselman at (845) 932-7829







# SUBZERO HEROES

## Berean Lake, Highland • Feb. 25, 2023



Join us to get cold for a great cause! Be a Hero and take the frigid plunge into Berean Lake in Highland. Or be a Sidekick, who helps a Hero raise money. All funds raised go to the Alzheimer's Association Hudson Valley Chapter!



Media Sponsor



### **REGISTER TODAY AT SUBZEROHEROES.ORG!**







### NEW HERITAGE BAKING BOOK It Makes a Unique Gift

### The new 68-page Heritage Baking Book

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

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

### \$15 Each \$12 for Museum Members

<image><section-header><text><text><text>

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

Time and the Valleys Museum Baking Book Order Form								
Name:			and the second					
Shipping Address:		City:	State:	Zip:				
Phone #:	E-Mail:							
Please make check payable to	Time and the Valleys Mu	seum, P.O. Box 254, Grah	amsville, New York	12740				
# of copies:	Shipping/Handling plea	ase add: \$5 for the first b	ook and \$1.00 for ea	ich additional book				
Total enclosed: 985 7700 or email info@timea		e picked up by appointme	ent to eliminate ship	ping - Just call 845				
ORDER ONLINE	AT WWW.TIME	ANDTHEVALLE	YSMUSEUM	.ORG/SHOP				

Members use tatvm20 for your membership discount



# WE ARE BUILDING A PLAYGROUND!!! WHERE? At the Route 42 Community Park in Grahamsville

TV Bears PTO, Tri-Valley Little League and Community have joined together along with Town support to place a play structure at the Town park. Fund raisers are ongoing.

# DONATIONS Can be made out to: TV Bears PTO PO Box 43 Grahamsville, NY 12740

Check out our Facebook page Route 42 Community Playground Project for more information.



fifth annual small works show & art fundraiser

# November 19, 2022 – January 7, 2023 Opening: Saturday, November 19, 3 – 5 pm



### ARTISTS in the show:

Gerard Barbot, Natalie Boburka, Tania Canteli, Beth Caspar, Virginia Casper, Eileen Catasus-Chapman, Michelle Ciulla, Susan Cocozza, Carol Davis, Robert Drake, dN eQ, Maria Del Carmen Garcia, Denise Giardullo, Tabitha Gilmore-Barnes, Hana Gordon, Melissa Harris, Barbara Hirth-Strauss, Montine Jordan, Janette Kahil, Carol LaMonda, Maureen Lohan-Bremer, Kate Masters, Elizabeth Melnyczuk, Ashley Miiles, Wilma Miller, David Munford, Cristal Ortiz, Jacqueline Oster, Suzanne Parker, Susan Paroubek, Bryan Perrin, Michael Piotrowski, Geraldine Popko, Elaine Ralston, Marllynn Rowley, Alan Samalin, Dominick Santise, Sandra Scheuer, Linda Schultz, John Scribner, Roberta Sickler, Amy Silberkleit, Judy Stanger, Lisa Starger, Samantha Taylor, K. Velis Turan, Anne Marie Uebbing, Joyce Washor, Roni Wilder, Kathy Yacoe

Curated by Nathalie Andrews and Elaine Ralston



4033 Route 28A West Shokan, NY olivefreelibrary.org 845.657.2482

1,



Your Community Ice Rink has opened for the season

The rink is open Thursdays & Fridays 7 pm-9pm, Saturdays 1pm-3pm and 7pm-9pm and Sundays 1pm-5pm.

If you don't have skates or helmets, no worries we have them for you to use!

If you have never been to ice rink now is the time to check it out.

Town of Neversink Parks and Recreation

# Time to Order **Tri-Valley Lions Scrumptious Milk Chocolate and Dark Chocolate Easter Bunnies**



If anyone is interested in purchasing bunnies, please contact a member of the **Tri-Valley Lions Club** or by calling The Wizwers and leaving a message at: **845-434-2152** with your name, phone number, how many bunnies you would like and if you want milk chocolate and/or dark chocolate.

The bunnies are **\$5 each** and orders must be received by:

Monday, January 9th. Once the bunnies arrive in late March, you will be contacted to set up purchase location(s) and time(s). Checks can be made out to: Tri-Valley Lions Club and paid for upon pick up.

# Time and the Valleys Museum Grahamsville, NY

### Are you interested in local history?

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

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





## Join now & get 10% off!

### Join at the \$100 (Patron) level for FREE admission to thousands of museums

all across North America! You can use the form below,

or go to www.timeandthevalleysmuseum.org to join with paypal.

		045	000-7700 www.uii	neandthevalleysmuseum.org
			Name:	
Individual	525	\$ 22.50		
Double	\$40	5 36	Address:	
Family	\$30	\$ 45		
Patron	STOR	\$ 90	City:	State & Zipe
Patron Silver	\$200	5160		
Patron Gold	\$500	5450	Phone:	e-mail:
		Thank ye	ou for supporting	local history and the Museum.



# **BONUS - Free Art Catalogue!**

### PAGE 53

### THE TOWNSMAN

### **JANUARY 5, 2023**

Alfred Dreyfus, a

German-Jewish captain serving in the French

Army, is falsely accused of

treason and made a scapegoat for military espionage

in an act of institutional

prison, he becomes a controversial issue that attracts

a great deal of public atten-

tion for the novelist Émile

Zola, who dubs it the

Eventually, Dreyfus is par-

doned when the military

to

Affair."

anti-Semitism. Sent



### RENTALS

Store for Rent in Grahamsville (845) 985-7411

### FOR SALE

Sundown Camp and Bait Shop! *Firewood for sale* 

#### **HELP WANTED**

#### **Typing Help Wanted**

Experienced or Student. Full/Part time. Work in Grahamsville. Busy Law Office. William Brenner (845) 985-7411

### Blooming Green Lawn and Landscape Sevice

Part time/Full time work. Salary based on experience. Call: 845-665-3348 or 945-985-0516

WANTED: Someone to cut up a tree & a laborer. Call : 845-500-8057





### "KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE" I Accuse See it on: Amazon Instant Video, Roku IMDb

(Approved - 1 hr. 39 min.) In 1894 France, a Jewish officer in the French Army is falsely accused of spying for Germany.



Cover-up is made public, and he returns to France. But his name is forever tarnished by the accusations of treason. Directed by José Ferrer. Starring: José Ferrer (Captain Alfred Dreyfus)Anton Walbrook (Major Ferdinand Esterhazy) Viveca Lindfors (Émile Zola)David Farrar (Mathieu Dreyfus)Donald Wolfit (General Auguste Mercier)Herbert Lom (Major DuPaty de Clam)Harry Andrews (Major Hubert Henry)Felix Aylmer (Edgar Demange)Peter Illing

"Drevfus

Auguste Mercier)Herbert Lom (Major DuPaty de Clam)Harry Andrews (Major Hubert Henry)Felix Aylmer (Edgar Demange)Peter Illing (Georges Clemenceau)George Coulouris (Colonel Sandherr)Carl Jaffe (Colonel Maximilian von Schwarzkoppen)Eric Pohlmann (Bertillon)John Chandos (Drumont)Ernest Clark (Prosecutor - 1st Dreyfus Trial)Anthony Ireland (Judge - 1st Dreyfus Trial)John Phillips (Prosecutor - Esterhazy Trial)

(Contd. Pg. 54)



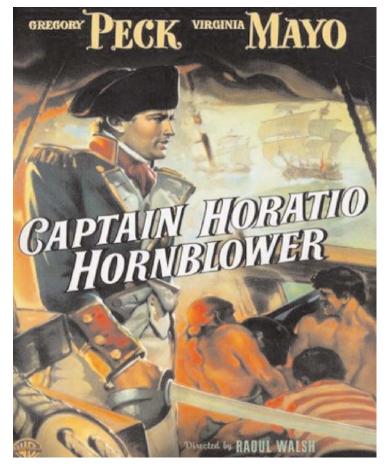
### THE TOWNSMAN

### (From Pg. 53) "KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE II" Captain Horatio Hornblower

See it on: Prime Video, IMDb, DirectTV

(Approved - 1 hr. 57 min.)

Screen legend Gregory Peck brings to life C.S. Forester's classic nautical hero, Horatio Hornblower. Hornblower battles the French and the Spanish forces during the Napoleonic wars, but also finds time for romance.



Capt. Horatio Hornblower (Gregory Peck) steers the HMS Lydia for a treacherous transatlantic mission near the dawn of the 19th century, during which his faithful crew battle both a Spanish warship and a ragged band of Central American rebels. In the process, he also saves Lady Barbara Wellesley (Virginia Mayo), whose brother is the Duke of Wellington. Though the couple fall in love during their return to England, she is betrothed to Hornblower's rival, Rear Adm. Leighton (Denis O'Dea).

Directed and Produced by Raoul Walsh and Gerry Mitchell. Starring Christopher Lee, Gregory Peck, Virginia Mayo, Robert Beatty, James Robertson-Justice, Denis O'Dea, Terence Morgan, Moultrie Kelsall, Richard Hearne, Michael Dolan, Stanley Baker, Alan Tilvern, Alec Mango

### "KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE III"

### A Star is Born

Musical - Rated PG See it on: Prime Video, IMDb, DirectTV

(Approved - 2 hrs. 56 min.) A 1954 American musical Drama, A Star Is Born directed by George Cukor, written by Moss Hart, and starring Judy Garland and James Mason.



Hollywood actor Norman Maine (James Mason) is a celebrity whose star is on the wane, but when he meets aspiring actress Esther Blodgett (Judy Garland), he is inspired to help her, and soon the two appear in a musical together. Now known as Vicki Lester, she marries Norman and finds herself in demand, while his reputation continues to decline, resulting in heavy bouts of drinking. Eventually, Vicki must choose between moving forward with her career and attempting to save her husband.

Hart's screenplay is an adaptation of the original 1937 film, based on the original screenplay by Robert Carson, Dorothy Parker and Alan Campbell, and from the same story by William A. Wellman and Carson, with uncredited input from six additional writers-David O. Selznick, Ben Hecht, Ring Lardner Jr., John Lee Mahin, Budd Schulberg and Adela Rogers St. Johns.

Stay Safe Knarf Odnamoc Gnome