

"The Best Journal Published by a Dam Site!"

VOL. 5 NO. 46

GRAHAMSVILLE, NY 12740

NOVEMBER 19, 2009

FIFTY CENTS

REMINDER: ONE DOLLAR/ONE LINE/ONE ITEM AD FLYER IN DECEMBER 3rd ISSUE

Do you have 'treasures' in your attic that you have been wanting to sell, or perhaps a garage filled with items for that yard sale that you still haven't had? Why not put an item or two in the One Dollar, Onw Line, One Item flyer that will be inserted in the December 3rd issue. For the crafters and artists, with Christmas just around the corner, it may just be a way to sell your wares.

All ads for the December One Dollar, One Line, One Item. flyer must be received in our office by Friday, November 27th at 3:00 pm. You may either mail your ad along with \$1 to: The Townsman, P O Box 232, Grahamsville, Ny 12740, drop it in the drop box on the porch of the Grahamsville First Aid Buidling or email to:

tvtownsman@yahoo.com

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION TO HOLD BENEFIT



reading of Askew's By The Time We Got To Woodstock Saturday, November 21 at 7:30 P.M. at the Liberty Free Theatre. Admission for the per-formance is \$25.00 per person and can be paid for at the door.

The Sullivan County Human Rights Commis-

sion will hold a benefit

Seating is limited and reservations are recommended. The audience is invited to gather after the performance for food, drink, and music. The theatre is located at

109 South Main Street, Liberty. Call 292-3788 for reservations and information. (Contd. Pg. 8)

CAS HOLIDAY BAZAARS

Concurrent with the annual CAS Members Show & Holiday Fair (running from November 21 December 30, 2009) - CAS will be hosting two
weekends of Holiday Bazaars featuring local art &
craft vendors. - 1st Weekend - Friday, Nov 27 (15pm) & Saturday, Nov 28 (11am-6pm)
2nd Weekend - Saturday, Dec 5 (11am-6pm) &
Sunday, Dec 6 (11am-3pm)
Holiday of the scale include hondwards from

Holiday gifts for sale include handmade fine jewelry, handbags and accessories, original art prints, wood benches and candlestick holders, and hand turned hardwood bowls. The CAS Arts Center is located at 48 Main Street in Livingston Manor and is wheelchair accessible. For more information call 845-436-4227 or email Kathryn@catskillartsociety.org.

HOLIDAY SHOW AT CATSKILL ARTISTS GALLERY IS ALSO "ART A LA CARTE" EVENT!

The annual Holiday Exhibition at the Catskill Artists Gallery, which begins with a festive reception on Saturday, December 5 from 4-8 p.m. at 38 South Main St., Liberty, will include not only the usual wine and tasty goodies, but music by "Little Sparrow." Many artists and friends will be on hand to celebrate the gallery's seventh anniversary. (Contd. Pg 8)

VETERAN'S DAY FLAG EXCHANGE CEREMONY HONORS PRESTON KORTRIGHT AND DENNIS AKERLEY



Photo courses of the Jokerley Family Dennis Ackerley served in the United States Army from March 26, 1969 until his death on October 27 of the same year. He was 20 years old.



This year's Flag Exchange Ceremony held at Grahamsville Rural Cemetery honored Preston Kortright and Dennis Ackerly. The flag that has flown for the past six months was retired and returned to members of the Kortright family and replaced by the flag offered by the family of Dennis Akerley, who was killed in action during the Vietnamese conflict forty years ago.

SLAC MEETING

The Senior Legislative Action Committee of Sullivan County (SLAC) invites you to attend our regular monthly meeting at the Ted Stroebele Neighborhood Facility in Monticello on Friday, November 20, 2009, at 10 a.m.

The presentation will be: BUDGET CRISIS 2009!, BUDGET CRISIS 2010!, WHAT'S NEXT IN ALBANY?, and our speakers will be Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther and Joeann Drake, representing State Senator John Bonacic. This is a time of threats to the continuing serv-

ices to the Elderly just as needs are growing. Come, bring a friend, and participate in learning and discussing the issues.

SLAC, P.O. Box 1065, South Fallsburg, NY 12779 is affiliated with StateWide Senior Action Council and can be reached through the S.C. Office for the Aging at 794-3000, ext. 2, or 985-7901. REMINDER: Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman will not be published next week, November 26th in observance of Thanksgiving.

GRAHAMSVILLE METHODIST CHURCH THRIFT STORE

The Grahamsville United Methodist Church THRIFT STORE will continue receiving donations of new and lightly used clothing and household items through the winter.

The Thrift Store will be OPEN for a special pre-

Christmas sale on Saturday, November 28, 2009 9am-2pm with purchases by donation. Thank you for your continued support of this

community outreach.

RONDOUT WATERSHED LANDOWN-ERS ASSOCIATION MEETING

There will be a pilot meeting of the Rondout Watershed Landowners Associaton on Wednesday, December 2 at 7:00 pm in the Town of Neversink Town Hall. All residents who own property along the Rondout Stream in the Town of Denning and the Town of Neversink are urged to attend this informational meeting. For further information please call 985-0501.

NEVERSINK RENAISSANCE "WINTER WONDERLAND"



The "Winter Wonderland" project of Neversink Renaissance will presented to the public at the annual tree lighting ceremony on Sunday, November 29, 2009 at 4:00 PM. Bicentennial Park will be transformed into a "Winter Wonderland" complete with nearly twenty Christmas trees decorated by various community organizations and businesses. Our Christmas trees have been donated by Mancuso Tree Farm in Yeagerville. Please join us for the tree lighting ceremony followed by a us for the tree lighting ceremony followed by a time of caroling, special music, and refreshments.

The holiday display will remain for our enjoyment throughout the month of December.

RED EFT-EXHIBITION WINTER 2009"

Red Eft Gallery invites you to join us for the open-ing of our "Exhibition Winter 2009" now through Spring 2010 This exhibition of over 130 works by 29 artists promises to delight - give the gift of original art this season!

Artists include: Linda Barboni, Simon Berson, LaVerne Black, Bruce Bundock, Jerry Cohen, Margaret Crenson, Carli Davidson, Chuck Davidson, Charlie Dill, Linda Bayer Domanoski, Fritz Drury, Kevin Goodspeed, Laura Gurton, Cynthia Hall, Peter Harrison, Cynthia Harris-Pagano, Elinore Hollinshead, Michael LaTriano, Joan Lesiken, James Mellon, Jonathan Nedbor, Lynn Palumbo, Jules Perlmutter, William Rivelli, Thomas Sarrantonio, Ellen Sigunick, Thomas Stratton, Leigh Williams, Marlene Weidenbaum.

Celebrate art and support the artists!

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) is published weekly except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's week for \$22.00 per year by Gnome Home, Inc., Periodical postage paid at Grahamsville, NY, POSTMASTER: Send change of address to:

The Townsman • P.O. Box 232 • Grahamsville, NY 12740 EDITOR: Linda Comando - 985-0501 FAX: 985-2527 COLUMNIST/NOTICES/TYPIST: Barbara Slater - 434-3969 HERE AND THERE: Polly Hill - 985-2255 NEVERSINK NEWS - Hulda Vernoy - 985-2268 DAYS OF 'YORE' - Martha Ahrens GETTING IN TOUCH WITH NATURE - Peggy DeWire COLUMNIST/TYPIST - Karen Curry LEGALS - Gloria Beavers

CIRCULATION MANAGER: Frank Comando 985-0501 Email: tvtownsman@yahoo.com

POLICY ON SUBMISSIONS AND LETTERS TO THE EDITORS:

 ALL submissions should be typewritten or printed legibly. Letters should contain no more than 300 words.

- Letters should offer worthwhile comments and avoid libel or bad
- 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 YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN office.

 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.

To renew or receive a new subscription to the TOWNSMAN, please fill out the form below. Mail form to the address above or place in the TOWNSMAN drop box located on the porch of the First Aid Building in Grahamsville. Make checks payable to:

Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman

NAME -ADDRESS _ PHONE . SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$22.00 PER YEAR NEW ____ RENEWAL/DATE EXP. _ _Check #

Subscription renewals <u>must be received</u> by the last <u>Saturday</u> of the month preceding subsciption renewal date to avoid interruption of the paper or <u>renewal notices</u>.

A change of address must be received a month prior to change in order to make the necessary changes in our computer. All changes of address, whether seasonal or permanent, are the responsibility of the

ADVERTISING DEADLINE: 3:00 P.M. FRIDAYS • FIRM - Drop Box, FAX, Mail or Email WEEKLY ADVERTISING RATES

Classified ads - \$5.00 for the first 20 words and 15 cents each additional word. 1" Boxed ad (1" x 3") - \$5.00 per week (\$1.67/ col in) Business card ad (2" x 3") - \$10.00 per week (\$1.67/ col in) (3" x 4") - \$20.00 per week (\$1.67/col in) (3" x 6") - \$30.00 (\$1.67/col in) (4" x 6") - \$40.00 (\$1.67/ col in) 1/4 pg (5" x 7") -\$58 (\$1.67/col in) (6" x 8") - \$80.00 (\$1.67/col in) 1/2 pg (7" x 10") -\$115 (\$1.67/col in) (Full page - 10" x 14") -(\$1.67/col in) \$230 B/W (Full back page - 10" x 14") - \$300 B/W

Rates are based on B/W Camera-ready copy. All other display advertising will be based upon \$2.50 per column inch. Guaranteed placement is available for a 25% surcharge on a first-come, first-served basis on all pages except the front page, page 2 & page 3. All advertising must be pre-paid unless other arrangements have been made.

All inserts/fliers must be pre-paid. Please send the correct amount of money along with 1.000 copies of your flyer. If the insert/flyer is printed only on one side the rate is \$17.00 per week. If the insert/flyer is printed on both sides, the rate is \$32.00 per week. The customer must provide the correct number of pre-printed flyers. If you wish Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman to print the flyers the charge for a one-sided flyer based on 1,000 copies will be \$70.00. If both sides of the flyer are to be printed the charge based on 1.000 copies will be \$125.00.

Deadline for all submissions is 3:00 p.m. Friday. NO EXCEPTIONS

If you are submitting your advertising by email, our email address is: tvtownsman@yahoo.com If you do choose to send ad copy via the internet please send it in either PDF (Acrobat) files or JPG format. All press releases/articles should be sent as Microsoft Word Documents (Word Document with an extension of .doc).

Have a question- please call: Linda Comando (845) 985-0501. As always, thank you for your support.

> Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman P O Box 232 Grahamsville, NY 12740

Email: tvtownsman@yahoo.com Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman on-line:http://thetownsman.com ON THE FRONT BURNER The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding. Proverbs 9:10

OBITUARY

Melodie Lee Emsley, 57, of Jane Lew, West Virginia passed away on Tuesday, October 13, 2009 in Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital following an extended illness.

The daughter of Alex (Luigi) and Kay Slater LaHanko, she was born on January 7, 1952.

She is survived by her mother, of Grahamsville; her fiance of 17 years, Michael Bosley of Jane Lew, two sons, Nathan Mullinex of Portland, OR, and Shawn Mullinex of Buena Vista, CO; and three grandchildren. Also surviving are three brothers, Monty LaHanko and Keith LaHanko, both of Woodbourne and Craig LaHanko of St. Petersburg, FL; and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her father.

Melodie was a homemaker; worked as a waitress and also made glasses for an optician. She was a graduate of Tri-Valley High School in Grahamsville. She was a Baptist

Funeral services were held on Friday, October 16th at the Hardman-Paletti Funeral Home with the Rev. Roger Brown officiating.

Interment followed in the Bosley Cemetery of Braxton County.

THANK YOU

The family of Dennis Akerley would like to thank everyone who attended the flag ceremony at the Grahamsville Rural Cemetery on Nov. 11,

Special thanks to Polly Hill, Miles Ellison, Wayne Zanetti, Pastor William Lamb, Dennis Akerley VFW Post 8648, Boy Scout Troop 97 and Cub Scout Pack 87. Thanks also to girls from Girl Scout Troop 140 and Senior Girl Scouts who attended.

DAYS OF YORE... TODAY'S HISTORY

November 23, 1949

In spite of the rains of recent days, local concern over the ever-decreasing supply of water from wells and springs is mount-ing by the day. The latest case of a rapid depletion of a source of water occurred this week, when the springs that supply the lower limits of Grahamsville failed to provide any more water. Officials of the Standard Water Company, which owns these water sources, reported that there exists only a trickle of water in the springs, and that it will be necessary to regulate the use of whatever water remains. It also is known that the springs which supply the upper reaches of the village are critically low, too.

THANKSGIVING, 1949by Joseph Auslander from the York Herald Tribune

We thank Thee for our daily bread; For faith by which t he soul is fed; For burdens given us to bear; For hope that lifts the heart's despair.

We thank Thee, Lord, for eyes to see The truth that makes, and keeps, men free; For faults-and for the strength to mend them; For dreams-and courage to defend them.

> We have so much to thank Thee for,

Dear Lord; we beg but one boon more; Peace in the hearts of all men living, Peace in the whole world this Thanksgiving.

Several from here were laid off when the Healy job closed down for the winter months.

The tracks have been laid at Lows Corners for the tunnel and there are four locomotives and twelve cars. The channel is being completed and the work on the tunnel will begin in a week or ten days. The bridge over the channel is being begun. It will be a concrete bridge, reinforced by steel. The office build-ing is well under way. The sewage disposal plant is in process of building. A well have been drilled 250 feet deep for drinking water and whatever purposes good water is required. The superintendents say the work is proceeding well and is up to schedule.

November 18, 1959

Private James R. Terwilliger, 17, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Terwilliger of Grahamsville, recently arrive din Korea. He entered the Army in March 1959 and completed basic training at Fort Dix , N.J, Pvt. Terwilliger was a student at Tri Valley Central School .

Al Einert has recently been promoted to Airman 2nd class. He is graduating this week from the Aircraft Radio Maintenance School at Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi, and expects to be sent to McDonnell Air Force Base near Wichita Kansas soon. He graduated from Tri Valley High School and while in Grahamsville he lived with the Sam Messingers.

Mr. and Mrs. James Grey and son Scott Keith of Albany, Georgia, are home with their parents Mrs. Russell E. Grey and family of Sundown and Mr. and Mrs. Wilson VanWagner of Claryville for a months leave. Mr. Grey is in the Air Force.

The Pilgrim's turkey dinner Took several days to make. All of that fuss and feathers

Made it tough for Mom to take, But today's plump well cleaned turkey Is fun to stuff and bake!! KUM TO KRUM'S

November 19, 1969

Sunday marked the 125th year for the Reformed Church in the Chestnut Valley . 185 members and friends joined to An interesting celebrate. Historical Sketch, dedicated to the memory of Reverend William Coombe and Charlotte LaMoree Coombe, was presented to each person in attendance.

Many homes are filled with hunters during this season of the year. Some of the lucky hunters were Wanda Terwilliger, Roger Banta, Harold Knight, Ralph Hornbeck, Robert Stirk, Philip Moore, Earl Moore, Vincent Robinson, and French Harris.

November 26, 1969

Charles Decker, who was killed in a hunting accident, was buried in the Claryville Cemetery on Saturday.

The old bridge on the Nov. 3rd.

Denning Road near Govin's is being replaced by a new bridge. Work is being done by the Ulster County Highway Department.

Mr. Robert Many is driving a new Chevrolet truck pur-

chased recently

Karen Ulrich and Moe Rubenszahl have been named semi-finalists in the National Honor Society Scholarship Awards. They will compete with other winners throughout the country for 175 awards valued at \$1,000 each. Carl Allison was another

lucky deer hunter

November 15, 1979 On December 6th the Grahamsville AARP is hold-Grahamsville AARP is hold-ing their annual Holiday din-ner dance at the Woodbourne Fire Hall and the Sweet Adelines Chapter will be singing for them.

Mrs. Peggy DeWire, Kindergarten teacher at Tri-Valley Central School, is cur-rently writing four film scripts

rently writing four film scripts for Coronet Educational Films in their science series for children in elementary grades. She has written five previous scripts for the same film company, which is based in Chicago.

Before you receive anoth-TOWNSMAN Thanksgiving will have come and gone. In a world torn by strife and discontent, pause a moment and be glad we live in the quiet peaceful Tri Valley area and give thanks for family and friends.

Count your garden by the flowers, Never by the leaves that fall, Count your day by golden hours, Don't remember clouds at all. Count your night by stars, not shadows, Count your life by smiles, not tears, And with joy in each tomorrow Count your AGE by friends, not years!

November 22, 1979 Joann Oliver and Steve Ernst proved to be two of the leading runners in Section 9, as well as New York State Joann, a freshman, placed 20th in the State and was the first freshman to cross the finish line. Steve Ernst was 30th overall on the rain soaked Green Lakes Golf Course in Syracuse .

On November 16, 1979 Mrs. Joan Hall was inducted into the State University College at New Paltz Chapter of Phi-Delta Kappa. Phi-Delta Kappa is an international professional fraternity for men and women in education. Mrs. Hall teaches reading at Tri-Valley

Paul Hnatiw writes from his home station on Kadina Air Force Base in Okinawa to his parents, Walter and Ann Hnatiw in Sundown to tell of his recent trip to the Phillippine Islands .

Birthday greetings to Rosemarie Marsh on Nov. 23rd and to Larissa Pond on

HERE AND THERE

If you're planning your Christmas shopping now, and trying to make practical choices without breaking the family bank, be sure to pay attention to the notices in this issue about the special sale date for the local United Methodist Church Thrift Store. That's right: the Thrift Sale will be open on Saturday, November 28, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mark that date on your calendar right now; there's no Townsman issue next week to remind you.

P.S. - The same notice also announces that they will continue accepting donations during the winter. Please note that they request "new and lightly used clothing and household items." If something is torn/stained/broken beyond repair, please send it

directly to the dump.

In the October 1st issue, we told you about the 54-year old story of a missing 22-month-old local child, Freddie Holmes, who disappeared from his home on Denman Mountain Road. Janet Haiss of Grahamsville and Dorothy Brown of Maine, the only survivors of that family, were told to expect a newspaper article on the case "within a few days." The article finally appeared in the November 8 issue of the Times Herald Record (page 8) under the title "Hope Revives in 1955 Cold Case." The two sisters were able to submit DNA samples, which will be used to create a profile for Freddie. It is this technology, unavailable in the 1950's, which has brought renewed hope of solving their long-endured mystery.

No birthdays or anniversaries to report, but we do have two retirements, which are also new beginnings! One is Ann Conklin of Loch Sheldrake, who has been giving local women beautiful hair-dos for many years. Ann first came to this country as the Japanese war-bride of Russell Conklin, and raised their two children, Ken and Audrey. Her husband died many years ago, but Ann continued working, eventually setting up a beauty shop in her own home. This year she turns 80, and has decided enough is enough. The second one is Shirley DeWire, who retires on Monday, November 16, after 28 years of faithful service with the New York City Board of Water Supply here in Grahamsville. She has three daughters: Kathy, Denise and Janine. Kathy says that, as far as she knows, her mother has no plans for world travel or riotous living - at least, not right away. Congratulations to both Ann and Shirley; may they enjoy many years of healthy, happy retire-

We were delighted - and overwhelmed - by the number of people who turned out for the Veteran's Day programs! The Flag Ceremony was especially meaningful to the combined families of Preston Kortright and Dennis Akerley, who are inter-related, as it marked the fortieth anniversary of Dennis' death in action in Viet Nam. Dennis would have been proud to know three grand-nephews participated in the program: Brent McKeon, Logan McKeon, and Zack Connor. Logan Ackerley also took part in the flag ceremony, and there were dozens of Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts in attendance. At the Town Hall, a memorial wreath was laid by Jim Richardson, who had just served as Parade Marshall at the Woodbourne Veteran's Day Parade on November 7th. Our thanks to all who participated, and a special thanks to the Town Board for the refreshments after the program. (Please read the added note at the end of this column.)

That's it for now.... Best wishes for a happy, family-filled Thanksgiving holiday! Have a good week. (pah)

LETTER TO THE AKERLEY FAMILY -FORTY YEARS AGO

(Many people said they could not hear this letter, read by Kathy Akerley at the Flag Ceremony, because of traffic. We are reprinting it here for those who missed it,)

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Akerley,

We were the ones closest to Dennis over here, and he was closest to us. His loss was a great personal loss to us too, and we share in your grief

From his first day in this squad he rapidly became friends with all of us. We found him to be an amiable and quiet man who shouldered the hardships over here without complaint.

Many an evening we would lay in our make-shift shelter and talk of home. We found out quickly he loved country-western music and we talked often, as men do, about cars, but mostly it was home and he spoke quietly and often about New York and his

He was always ready with a helping hand and we

got by, by helping each other.

We want you to know he did not suffer in the end. We were setting up on the top of a hill and when he had reached the top and dropped his gear he went back down to help a buddy, because that's the way he was. After helping the buddy up the hill with his gear, Dennis was walking back to his gear when our Artillery Observer stepped on the booby-trap. They both died instantly and we are confident he is waiting for us in Heaven, because Dennis was Dennis.

Again we share in your sorrow and we send you our utmost sympathy. We will miss him too. We will remember him as the best friend a guy could have. He was a son you can always be proud of.

We know you will cherish the memory of Dennis, as we will.

Sincerely yours,

2nd Squad, 3rd Platoon Co. B, 3/187th 101st Abn Div.



Photo courtesy of James Richardson Local veterans of the DENNIS ACKERLEY MEMO-RIAL POST #8648, Jiames Richardson and Richard Stewart, at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall where Dennis Ackerley's name is among names listed on the Memorial.



The Flag Exchange Ceremony was followed by the placing of a wreath at the memorial site in front of the Neversink Town Hall.

TRI-VALLEY HOMECOMING

 by Danielle Conlon Traditionally, homecoming has always been a weekend for the alumnus. It is when most graduates come home to watch a varsity football game at their old high school. Over the past years however, it has changed into an event much more meaningful for the seniors

As a senior athlete I can appreciate how important homecoming is. As we near the upcoming game the pep rally, the bonfire, the dance, the phrase "our seems to be attached to everything.

"The feeling really hasn't hit quite yet," says senior athlete Amanda Martin, "I live on sports during it's basically what keeps me

This is our time, our last chance. This is the mark we're going to leave; this is our legacy. Every senior knows that each goal, each point, every mile, every shot, every cheer, is one step closer to (Next Col.)

being the last.
"Sports are all I know and live by," says Martin, "when things end, I most likely won't know what to

do with myself.

But it's not over yet. It may be our last homecoming but the rest of the year is ahead of us. Senior, Kathryn Schneyer says, "Basketball is something that I absolutely cannot wait for. I hope that this year is our year to prove that all of the hard work has paid off.

As a senior I realize high school sports will be one of the hardest goodbyes. I go this weekend to homecoming with some sadness but also excitement for the rest of the year ahead of me.

... IT TAKES A SPECIAL PERSON



Thank you Polly Hill for all you do to coordinate and make the help Exchange Ceremony a memorable event every May and November.

NEVERSINK NEWS - Hulda Vernooy

No Neversink news this week. Have a good week and God Bless. (Call Hulda at 985-2268 with your Neversink news.)

AMERICAN WILD TURKEY



By Peggy DeWire "Gobble, gobble," said the wild tom turkey sitting on a limb in a maple tree almost hidden in the leaves. caught me resting after my lunch of grasshoppers and seeds. I'm called

Tom Two Toes and I'll tell you how I got named He settled himself more comfortably on the limb

fluffing out his beautiful brown plumage, tail hanging down neatly folded and beard tassel on his chest swinging to and fro.

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



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

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

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

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

Suddenly Mom flew up into a tree and landed on a limb six feet off the ground. From there she called

perk, perk encouraging us to join her.

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

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

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

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

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

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

down fight for this spot.

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

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

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

HOLIDAY HOURS AT THE TOWN HALL

The Town of Neversink will observe the following Holiday Hours. The Town Hall will be closed on November 26th and 27th for Thanksgiving. It will close at noon on December 24th & all day on the 25th for Christmas and will close at noon on December 31st and all day on January 1st for New Years. The Transfer Station hours will be as usual. Please plan your Town Hall business accordingly. The Town of Neversink wishes you a very Joyous Holiday Season and a Healthy and Happy New Year. 11/12, 11/19 & 12/3

ANNUAL TOWN HOLIDAY TREE LIGHT-ING CEREMONY TO BE HELD

On Sunday November 29, 2009 at 4:00 PM the Town of Neversink will hold its Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony in Bicentennial Square on Main Street in Grahamsville.

There will be caroling in the Square, special music, holiday readings and refreshments. This will officially open the holiday season in

Any organization or group that would like to take part should contact the Town Clerk's Office at 985-2262, x-300.

11/12; 11/19

Independent Audit Report Legal Notice

Notice is hereby given that the fiscal affairs of the Tri-Valley Central School District for the period beginning on July 1, 2008 and ending on June 30, 2009, have been examined by (the Office of the State Comptroller or an independent public accountant), and that the (report of examination performed by the Office of the State Comptroller or report of, or management letter prepared in conjunction with the external audit by the independent public accountant) has been filed in my office where it is available as a public record for inspection by all interested persons. Pursuant to S35 of the General Municipal Law, the governing board of the Tri-Valley Central School District may, in its discretion, prepare a written response to the (report of examination performed by the Office of the State Comptroller or the report of external audit or management letter by independent public accountant) and file any such response in my office as a public record for inspection by all interested persons not later than December 4, 2009.

Martha Lee Ter Bush District Clerk October 20, 2009

10/29; 11/19

LEGAL NOTICE Town of Neversink Notice of Budget Adoption

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Town of Neversink Town Board, Sullivan County, New York has met and considered the Preliminary Budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2010 and conducted a public hearing thereon November 4, 2009 as required by Town Law, Section 108, and

FURTHER NOTICE IS GIVEN, that the Preliminary Budget is hereby adopted as the Annual Budget of the Town of Neversink for the fiscal year beginning on January 1, 2010. Copies of said budget are available at the Office of the Town Clerk, 273 Main Street, Grahamsville, NY during normal business hours.

By order of the Town Board Lísa Garigliano Town Clerk November 12, 2009

11/19/09

LEGAL NOTICE

ANNUAL ELECTION OF THE CLARYVILLE FIRE DISTRICT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual Election of the Claryville Fire District will take place on December 8, 2009 between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. at the Claryville Fire House located on Denning Road, for the purpose of electing one Commissioner for a five (5) year term, commencing January 1, 2010 and ending December 31, 2015. All voters registered with the Sullivan County and Ulster County Board of Elections on or Before November 16, 2009, shall be eligible to vote.

Candidates for District Office shall have filed their names with the Secretary of the Claryville Fire District, PO Box 22, Claryville, NY 12725 no later than twenty days before the election, November 19, 2009.

Date: Nov. 12, 2009 Anne-Marie Kremer, Secretary

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS CLARYVILLE FIRE DISTRICT

11/19

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing was held on Tuesday, November 10, 2009 at the Town of Denning Town Hall on the matter of the Preliminary Budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2010. At said hearing any and all interested persons were heard.

ALSO TAKE NOTICE that the budget, having been duly discussed at the Town Board Meeting has been approved and adopted for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2010. This budget is on file and available for inspection at the Town Clerk's Office, during normal business hours, at the Town of Denning Town Hall, 1567 Denning Road, Claryville, N.Y. 12725

BY ORDER OF THE DENNING TOWN BOARD Joy Ann Monforte Town Clerk

THE TRI-VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT'S BOARD OF EDUCATION

Will hold a Regular Board Meeting On Thursday, November 19, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. In the Secondary School Library Lower Level

SC THIRD ANNUAL FARMER'S MARKET HOLIDAY

Start the holiday season with a visit to the Sullivan County Farmers' Markets Association's third annual Holiday Farmers' Market where visitors will find fresh local fruits and vegetables, artisan wines, cheeses, baked goods and prepared foods, maple products and honey, milk and eggs, meats and poultry, as well handmade soaps and personal care products in a comfortable indoor setting in Callicoon on Sunday, December 6, 2009 conveniently located just down the street from Peck's Market and across the bridge at the Delaware Yourth Center, Inc. 8 Cremery Road, Callicoon, NY from 10 am to 2 pm. Admission is FREE.

Expected are vendors selling fresh and locally produced fruits and vegetables, meats, poultry, eggs, cows' milk and goats' milk cheeses, yogurt, nonhomogenized milk, kefir, buttermilk, handmade soaps, face cream and personal care products, maple syrup and other maple products, honey, breads, pastries, croissants, pies, muffins, and other baked goods, jams and jellies, prepared foods (quiches, soups, pesto, dips), artisan wine, handmade jewelry and pottery. Offerings are subject to last minute changes

The regular season Callicoon Farmers' Market continues every Sunday through November 29, 2009, from 11 AM to 2 PM at the Callicoon Creek Park on Audley Dorrer Drive.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT DAY PRESENTA-

TIONS ON-LINE

Fourteen presentations that were delivered at the Ninth Annual Catskills Local Government Day October 15 are now available for viewing on the Catskill Watershed Corporation's (CWC) website, www.cwconline.org.

The presentations, in slide show format, were on the theme "Climate Change Made Local." Writer and performance artist Mimi Katzenbach gave the keynote address about "Transitioning to a New Economy," and a 17-minute video from that talk is also posted on the website. From the home page, click on Special Projects, and Local Government

More than 100 elected and appointed government officials and employees, economic and environmental planners, and interested community members attended the event at Belleayre Mountain Ski Center.

Among the topics covered by agency representatives, municipal officials and other speakers were the potential impacts of climate change on municipal infrastructure and on the economy of New York and the Catskills; hazard mitigation planning; the Community Rating System for reducing (Next Col.) flood insurance premiums; grass and woody biomass projects; new approaches to flood remediation in Delaware County; and the Town of Hunter's efforts to reduce its carbon footprint.

Three presentations from "Promoting Climate Protection Through Land Use Tools," a training session for planning and zoning board members, can be viewed on the CWC website, as can one for highway department heads and other municipal officials that focused on examining the vulnerability of community infrastructure - from buildings and parks to sewer

plants, water systems and street lights. In "Green Means Business," Evadne Giannini of Hospitality Green looked at how businesses can save money using sustainable practices. In "Jobs from the Sun," Vincent Cozzolino of The Solar Energy Consortium discussed the potential for jobs in the

renewable energy field.

Katzenbach, the featured lunchtime speaker, explained the "audaciously optimistic" Transition Movement by which communities work towards locally-based energy, economic and social systems -not unlike the Catskills of the pre-World War II era -as a strategy for meeting a future of weather extremes, fossil fuel depletion and other challenges.

The CWC is a non-profit Local (Next Col.) Development Corporation based in Margaretville. It is committed to protecting water resources, encouraging environmentally friendly economic development and supporting watershed education in the New York City Watershed West of the Hudson River, a region encompassing parts of five counties - Delaware, Greene, Schoharie, Sullivan and Ulster.

For more information on public benefit programs offered by the CWC, go to www.cwconline.org, or call toll-free, 877-WAT-SHED, or 8450586-1400

ORDER FREE PRIORITY MAIL FLAT RATE BOXES FROM THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE

As part of an integrated national advertising cam-paign, 20 million consumers will receive a holiday mailing guide this week with information on how they can simplify their holidays and simplify their shipping with Flat Rate boxes. The guide also contains an offer to order free boxes by returning a card attached to the guide or going online to the Postal Service's website, usps.com/holiday.

Four box sizes are available to fit holiday gifts: Small Flat Rate box, 8 5/8" x 5 3/8" x 1 5/8", shipping starts at \$4.95; Medium Flat Rate box, 11" x 8 1/2" x 5 1/2", shipping starts at \$10.35; Large Flat Rate box, 12" x 12" x 5 1/2", shipping starts at \$13.95 (\$10.95) when shipping to military personnel at APO/FPO addresses overseas); Medium Flat Rate box, 13 5/8" x 11 7/8" x 3 3/8", shipping starts at \$10.35. Prices are

even lower when you pay online at usps.com.
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All of the information contained in the holiday guide can be found at usps.com/holiday, with links to each of the Postal Service's most popular products, services and time-saving features.

> The Townsman Staff wishes you all a wonderful and

Happy Thanksgiving Holiday!



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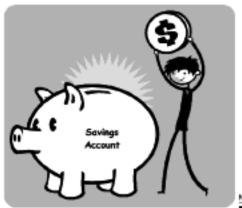
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1962: Graduate: St. Lawrence University 1958: Graduate: Tri-Valley Central School



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GUNTHER: MANDATE RELIEF WILL SAVE NEW YORKERS MILLIONS-REFORM LEGISLATION STREAMLINES SERVICES, CUTS DOWN ON COSTS, PRO-MOTES TAXPAYER SAVINGS

Assemblywoman Aileen M. Gunther (D, C, I - Forestburgh) announced that the Assembly passed mandate relief legislation that will streamline services in New York State, cutting down on wasteful spending and saving taxpayers millions (A.40002).

"This is a sweeping bill that targets several areas in need of mandate reform and relief," Gunther said. "Especially in financially daunting times like these, when New York is grappling with a \$3.9 billion deficit, we need to take a serious look at where we can streamline, consolidate and organize to make government run more efficiently. That's exactly what this legislation does."

County leaders applaud Governor David Paterson and state lawmakers for moving forward on a mandate relief measure that will enact major components of legislation necessary for the more efficient operation

of local governments.

The bill, passed last night, addresses cost saving measures by enhancing intermunicipal agreements for health insurance cooperatives, highway work and public health; and also closes a loophole that allowed injured public employees to double-bill taxpayers for lost wages. (Contd. Pg. 10) Save time.. Call your order in!

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CATSKILL ARTISTS GALLERY (From Pg. 1)

Many visitors make the gallery their first stop for affordable holiday gifts. Sculptures in marble and mixed media. Paintings in oil, watercolor and pastels. Photographs of local scenery and exotic locales. Pins, earrings, bracelets, and necklaces in silver, glass, porcelain, beads and resin. Glass bowls, plates, and sushi sets. Wooden vases and jewel boxes. Fabric hangings, scarves and handbags. A whole range of pottery from functional to decorative. Books, note cards, ornaments for the tree -- and much more. All the work is handmade by local artists in a wide range of style and price. Gift certificates are always available.

And extended hours will make that shopping easier. In addition to the usual hours of Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 12 to 5 p.m., the gallery will be open until 8 p.m. on Friday, December 18, and from 12 to 5 p.m. on December 22, 23, and 24.

The party is also December's special event of "Art a la Carte in the Catskills," a group of nine galleries and art organizations in Sullivan County teaming up for self-guided tours of the rich diversity of the county's art for the cultural gourmet, plus area restaurants for the gastronomical gourmet. More information on Art a la Carte can be found on the website of Sullivan County Visitor's Association, www.scva.net/artalacarte

Little Sparrow is an exciting up-and-coming acoustical musical group playing 60's songs, bluegrass, country and dance tunes. The performers are Carol Smith, Larry Kitzmiller, Jesse Kitzmiller, Aldo Trojani, and Ralph Housman. Their music will add to the festive atmosphere that gallery visitors have come to expect from the holiday party.

Members of the gallery are Robert Friedman, Cate Gundlah, Kathy Jeffers, Buff McAllister, Helena Clare Pittman and Hank Schneider. The gallery also represents more than 30 consignment artists. For more information, call 845-292-0310 or visit the website, www.catskillartistsgallerv.com

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION TO HOLD BENEFIT (From Pg. 1) The play tells the



story of what happens when a woman of a certain age encounters two runaways, a young girl and a Mexican immigrant, at the famed Woodstock concert site on a globally-warmed hot day in November. Rilla Askew performs Aradhna, who finds herself faced with a choice between a latein-life marriage and a risky adventure with two Rilla Askew plays Aradhna near strangers. Dana Priebe performs Faythe

and Richard Traviss is Ramon.

Rilla Askew recently received an Academy Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters for the body of her work, which includes the novels The Mercy Seat, a finalist for the Pen-Faulkner Award, Fire in Beulah, which received an American Book Award, Harpsong and Strange Business, a collection of stories. She was also invited by the magazine World Literature Today to address a conference of world writers in Beijing, China. Her stories and essays have appeared in magazines and periodicals around the country. Dana Priebe is a regular at the Liberty Free Theatre, where she has been seen in Face Divided, Betrayed by Everyone, The Person I once Was and Why We Have A Body. She is currently in rehearsal for a December opening of two one-act plays at the theatre. Richard Traviss is a singer/songwriter remembered for his performance of Harvey White in Dreaming Angel at the Liberty Free Theatre.

Sullivan County Human The Rights Commission was created in 2005 by the Sullivan County Legislature to foster good relations among communities and groups of people in Sullivan County. More information about the Commission can be obtained by calling Executive Director, Eric Monroe, at 845 807- 0189 or email eric.monroe@co.sullivan.ny.us

ASK'S HOLIDAY EXHIBIT: LITTLE GEMS

It's time for good friends, cozy nights, holiday cheer and small treasures. The Arts Society of Kingston (ASK), 97 Broadway, Kingston, presents "Little Gems," small works from our members. Pieces are no larger than 12" x 12", including the

frame. These small pieces are perfect for gift giving.
As original as each artist, these gifts will delight their recipients for years to come. The opening reception will be Saturday, December 5th, 5 to 8 p.m., as part of Kingston's First Saturday events.

The curator will be Vindora Wixom.

December Classes at ASK

Stay warm and active this December by taking a class with the Arts Society of Kingston. Two of these classes will be held at the Shirt Factory, 77 Cornell Street, Kingston, Room 315, thanks to a partnership with Mike Piazza, a generous supporter of ASK.

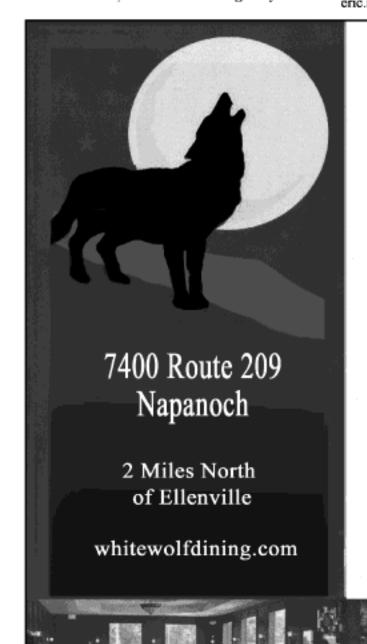
One does not need to be a member of ASK to take a class, but a benefit of membership is a discount on tuition. For more information or to register visit ASKforArts.org or call (845) 338-0331.

Studio Oil Painting - Traditional Realism in Oils Instructor: Paul Abrams-4 sessions, Wednesdays, December 9, 16, 23 and 30 from 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. at The Shirt Factory, 77 Cornell Street, Kingston/Room 315 -Tuition: Non-member: \$144 / ASK Member: \$130

Learn a traditional approach to create professional quality paintings. Learn oil painting techniques and principles necessary for realistic landscapes and still lifes.

Superhero Drawing Class for Kids and Teens Ages 10 and up with instructor, Paul Abrams - 4 sessions, Tuesdays, December 8, 15, 22, and 29.from 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.at The Shirt Factory, 77 Cornell Street, Kingston/Room 315 Tuition: Non-member: \$72 / Child of ASK Member: \$60

Learn to draw action figures, as well as basic drawing principles, in an exciting way through a superhero comic book approach. Students should bring a pad of drawing paper, pencils, pencil sharpener and an eraser. (Contd. Pg. 9)



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ASK Abrams is a graduate of Cornell (From Pg. 8) University with a BFA in painting and of SUNY New Paltz with an MFA in painting. He also studied at the Art Students League in New York City and the Riley League in Westchester. He has been a professional illustrator in the comic book industry (Marvel, D.C. Comics, Malibu, etc.) for over 20 years. He has also taught drawing and painting for over 30 years. His work is included in numerous private collections and is represented by galleries across the U.S. and the Hudson Valley. (paulabrams.com)

Beginning and Intermediate Guitar (All Ages) with instructor Elly Wininger - 6 sessions, Thursdays, Dec. 3, 10, 17, Jan. 7, 14, 21 from 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. at The Arts Society of Kingston, 97 Broadway, Kingston -Tuition: Non-member: \$100 / ASK Member or Child of ASK Member: \$90

Whether you have never picked up a guitar before or you know a few chords already, this class will help you progress to the next level of guitar playing. Because of the limited class size (8-10 people) you will get individual attention from the instructor, pro-fessional guitarist Elly Wininger. By the end of the series, everyone will be able to play several songs, as well as know what to practice should they want to continue playing. Each participant must bring a guitar. For more information about this class, contact instruc-tor Elly Wininger: (845) 679-2258, Wininger: ellywin@hvc.rr.com.

OPEN CALL FOR 2011 EXHIBITION

SEASON PROPOSALS AT CAS

There is a February 1, 2010 proposal deadline for artists interested in submitting an application for the 2011 Exhibition Season. (This is a postmark deadline) deadline.) All proposals must include: a cover letter with 2011 availability; a resume; a short bio (no more than 3 sentences); an artist statement regarding the than 3 sentences); an artist statement regarding the proposed work; and a minimum of ten proposed images in JPEG format with a file size of 800 pixels high on a CD. Please also include a list of work samples with media and dimensions of each piece. No slides please. Proposals must be sent to CAS, c/o 2011 Exhibition Season, PO Box 991, Livingston Manor, NY 12758. All proposals are reviewed by an outside jury panel of independent curators that changes each year. CAS will notify all applicants before the end of April 2010. Please note that artists who presented their work as part of the 2010 Season will not be eligible to re-apply until 2012. Please email Kathryn@catskillartsociety.org or call 845-436-4227 with questions. 4227 with questions.

Catskill Art Society is a non-profit cultivating public interest, participation, and enjoyment of the arts. Through its multi-arts center, CAS explores contemporary art practices and facilitates creative and professional development for estab-

lished and emerging artists.

FROST VALLEY YMCA WINTER WONDERLAND OFFERS OF FUN: FAMILY-STYLE LODGING

Winter in the Catskill Mountain High Peaks is indeed a special time of year. At Frost Valley YMCA, the chilly thrill of winter sports provides entertainment for visitors of all ages.

This winter, visitors have the opportunity to enjoy a special 'Chill Out at Frost Valley' promotion. From December 26-January 3 (Next Col.) and again from February 15-19, guests can enjoy a half-price lodging offer on family-style accommoda-

Frost Valley YMCA is a spectacular gem, situated more than 2,000 feet of elevation. The 'high above it all' location means there's usually plenty of snow-

cover for guests to enjoy.

With miles of groomed cross-country trails, visitors can enjoy the fabulous terrain and breathtaking scenery for countless hours. The trails wind through the woods, fields, near streams and a lake. Wildlife is plentiful and the fresh mountaintop air is priceless.

ing lessons, rentals and guided tours are available

Those who enjoy snowshoeing (or who would like to learn) have abundant opportunities to explore nature's offerings. With snowshoes, there are few limitations for winter travel. Frost Valley's vast acreage offers excellent snowshoeing « from flat terrain to challenging mountain hiking. Frost Valley offers snowshoeing equipment rentals, lessons and guided tours.

When it comes to winter fun, there's nothing better than Frost Valley's snow tube run. Visitors of all ages will enjoy whizzing down the hill on specially crafted inner tubes. Even if natural snowfall is scarce, Frost Valley personnel use snowmaking equipment to ensure that the snow tubing trail is ready for action. Other popular outdoor winter activities at Frost Valley include 'Broomball' (think hockey with brooms) and ice fishing. (Next Col.)

Of course, even the heartiest souls need to come in out the cold sometimes. Naturally, there's ample time for enjoying a warm beverage and reliving the day's outdoor excitement.

But indoor activities are also plentiful. Frost Valley staffers lead an array of arts and crafts workshops, that include things like soap making, candle making, face painting, beadwork and creating model rockets.

Frost Valley also has an assortment of lodging options including rustic cabins, dorm-style lodges, family lodges, super lodges, the inn-style Straus Center and the state-of-the-art accommodations offered at Lakeview Lodge. There's a lodging style to suit every

During late winter and early spring, visitors are Frost Valley can enjoy the wonders of turning maple sap into syrup, candy and assorted other maple products. Guests get an up close and personal view of the maple-producing process, from sap collection to irresistibly sweet finished products.

For additional information, visit: FrostValley.org, call 845 985-2291 or e-mail: info@frostvalley.org.

DIABETES PLANNED EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Wellness Committee of the Auxiliary of Margaretville Hospital and Mountainside Residential Care Center will host a Diabetes Education program on Friday, Nov. 20 at 5 p.m. at the Purcell Center in Margaretville. The program will be held by Dr. Eugene Heslin, director of the Diabetes Education Center at Kingston Hospital. The program focus will be Managing Diabetes Information and resources. This program is for diabetics, their families and others wanting to learn more about this disease. The program will be between 1-1.5 hours, including questions and answers. Diabetic-friendly refreshments will be served. For additional information, please call 845 586-3300. The Wellness Committee of the Auxiliary of For additional information, please call 845 586-3300.

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SEND YOUR HOLIDAY GREETINGSBY WAY OF THE TOWNSMAN

Each year Y e Olde Tri-Valley Townsman publishes holiday greetings to your friends, neighbors and family. This year our holiday issue will be published on December 17th. Each greeting will be approximately 2"x3". The deadline for all holiday geetings is Friday, December 11th, 2009.

Please use our "Holiday Wishes" order blank when ordering your greeting. Thank you and have a wonderful Holiday Season! - Please use the order blank on the bottom of the page.



A A A A A A A

1 -Candle





2 -Sleigh

3 - Snowman





4 -Trees

5-Snow

6-Santa







7 -Santa 2

9-Stocking



12-Pointsetta 11-Ornament

| Pease | print | the | number | of | greeting | you | wish | tο | have | published | (1-12). |
|-------|-------|-----|--------|----|----------|-----|------|----|------|-----------|---------|
| | | | | | | | | | | | |

10 -Pine cone

greeting. Greeting you wish to send: Number Description (name)

Send this form along with your check for \$8.00 for each holiday

greeting you wish to: Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman • P O Box 232, Grahamsville, NY 12740 by December 11, 2009. All greetings will be published in our holiday issue, December 17th, 2009.

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Linda Comendo, Editor Ye Old Tri-Valley Townsman

GUNTHER (From Pg. 6)

The legislation covers a variety of areas, including:

Health insurance. Reduces the number of municipal corporations participating in a cooperative health benefit plan from five to three, extending cooperative health benefits to more New Yorkers.

Collateral source and subrogation. Prohibits public employees and insurance companies from collecting from a wrongdoer for damages that were other-

wise covered by insurance.

• Multi-county health districts. Consolidates the position of public health director by allowing one public health director to serve more than one county. Also, the Department of Health will be required to periodically review approved-director and board-sharing arrangements to verify that such joint membership continues to serve the interest of public health. "Without these reforms, an insured individual who is injured can't recover

"Without these reforms, an insured individual who is injured can't recover damages from the wrongdoer, but the insurance company can. That's not really conducive to healing and getting back on one's feet, but it certainly does serve the insurance company's interests," Gunther said. "This reform legislation not only cuts down on the costly racket of double dipping, but it also allows the injured to collect the damages they deserve and need."

In addition to health-related mandate relief, the legislation addresses procurement and municipal bond bank agency pooling, as well as measures to improve coordination of state and local highway services:

• Procurement. Increases the local competitive bidding thresholds for all contracts for public work involving an expenditure of more than \$20,000 to

tracts for public work involving an expenditure of more than \$20,000 to

 Municipal Bond Bank Agency (MBBA). Allows MBBA to purchase municipal bonds for public improvements provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

 State and local highway services. Gives greater oversight to the state Department of Transportation and also authorizes and expands shared municipal/state services, including right-of-way maintenance, drainage systems, landscaping and mowing. It also allows for lengthening the term of state and local agreements for snow and ice removal on state highways from a term of three years to up to five years.

"The purpose of this legislation is not just to streamline services to save money for the state, but to also provide relief to New York's hardworking families who are paying through the nose in taxes," Gunther said. "Through straightforward measures like this we can make some serious headway in not only making New York run more efficiently but also sparing families the pain of paying excess taxes for services they either don't need or which can be comfortably consolidated or reduced."

The Association of Counties and county leaders have been advocating for these measures for some time and appreciate the Governor's leadership to put this good local government bill on the agenda, and applaud the bill's spon-sors for championing this measure in both the Senate and the Assembly," said NYSAC Executive Director Stephen J. Acquario.

COUNTIES, MANY FACING OWN DEFICITS, CALL ON STATE TO ADDRESS THE DEFICIT

With the Governor and members of the New York State Legislature poised to address a growing state budget deficit, county leaders renew their call on lawmakers to make smart, long term choices to reduce spending at the state level, understanding the plight facing all local governments and New York

State property taxpayers.
"We have the highest property taxes in the nation, growing unemployment, increasing demand for public services and we are losing people and businesses to other parts of the country that offer better economic opportunities," said NYSAC President Thomas J. Santulli, Chemung County Executive. "We must use this economic crisis to make the hard decisions that need to be made

to turn this ship of state in the right direction."

Counties are calling on state lawmakers to make judicious cuts in spending that will have long term, systemic benefits to the economic foundation of

New York
"We need to scale back on our spending, and not shift more of the state's burden to localities and their property taxpayers-that was a failed practice that we need to put into the past once and for all," said Santulli. "The current State and local fiscal crisis highlights the need for government at all levels to reduce spending and transition budgets to the new economic reality," said Santulli.

With the recession driving declining county sales tax receipts, forcing an increased demand for public services, New York 's counties are faced with a double whammy: mid-year 2009 deficits and declining revenue

projections for 2010.

"Counties have no capacity to simply shoulder more of the State's fiscal burden," said Broome County Executive Barbara Fiala, president of the New York State County Executives Association. "As the State Legislature convenes to take up the Governor's Deficit Reduction Plan, counties can relate to the difficult decisions that our lawmakers have to make. We are making those tough decisions at our level of government. Everything must be on the table,

Counties find themselves being squeezed by low sales tax receipts, deflating property values, high employee costs, growing unemployment numbers, population declines and lagging state reimbursement for the state programs and services mandated at the county level.

It is important to emphasize that counties are not looking for more State money. We are instead focused on restructuring and eliminating unnecessary State spending and make a clear distinction between cuts and cost shifts," said NYSAC Executive Director Stephen J. Acquario.

Cost shifting is a change in reimbursement for state mandated programs and requires county governments through their taxpayers to provide the same

level of state services, just with less state reimbursement.
Governor Paterson's proposed DRP advances painful spending reductions across the board, but it has, in large part, carved out state mandated programs delivered by counties-a plan supported by county leaders from across the state.

We need to accept the need for spending reductions to close the current and future state budget deficits, and we are committed to working with the Governor and State Legislature to ensure that our mutual goals of closing the State deficit, maintaining critical services and protecting the property taxpayers are achieved," said Santulli.

FROM THE SULLIVAN COUNTY MANAGER'S OFFICE

RE: Questions Concerning the new proposed Solid Waste User Fee System

Dear Sullivan County Residents,

There have been numerous questions asked about the new proposed Solid Waster User Fee system, and at the request of Legislature Chairman Jonathan Rouis, I would like to take the opportunity, in advance of Thursday's Special Full Board meeting, to answer and discuss some of these questions. A Brief Background:

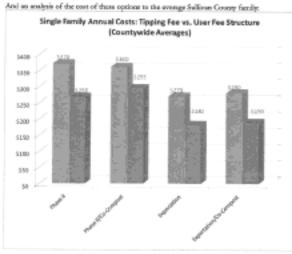
Sullivan County's Solid Waste system, which handles approximately 66,000 tons of waste each year, currently costs approximately \$9.4 million annually, \$4.5 million of which is subsidized through taxpayer dollars through the County's General Fund, as well as \$2.50 per bag and \$75 per ton tipping fees at the County Landfill and Transfer Stations.

In January 2008, the Legislature formed a Solid Waster Task Force to explore our Solid Waste options moving forward. This task force included myself, Solid Waste, Public Works and Management and Budget Commissioners, Department Heads and staff, as well as input from Legislators Hiatt, LaBuda, Sager and Sorensen, County Treasurer Ira J. Cohen, County Attorney Sam Yasgur, Shirley Felder and Paul Walsh as Industry Representatives and Janet Newburg of SPECS and Darryl Roberts as Community Representatives. The task force met for 15 months and explored the following options:

- Phase Tow Expansion of the Sullivan County Landfill, with and without
- Closing the landfill and forcing the residents of Sullivan County to find their own ways of disposing of their refuse.
- Closing the landfill and exporting all refuse.
- Closing the landfill and expand the recycling efforts while exporting most refuse.

This is the cost-analysis completed on these options:

| Option | Tores Coffocted | - Tipping Pate | Total \$ Callected | Gen. Fund Selectly | Substitly SuTax Lowy |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Phose II. | 80,080 | \$15.06/ton | \$6,000,000 | \$9,080,666 | 19% |
| Phose I & Importation | 200,000 (pernit max) | \$50.06/ton | \$10,000,000 | \$0,543,897 | 1986 |
| Phase II & Ca- Composit/69F | MO,000 | \$75,00/ten | 56,000,000 | \$0,450,242 | 10% |
| Exportation | 80,000 | \$75.00/bm | \$6,000,000 | \$4,370,134 | 9% |
| Expertation & CCMRP | 80,000 | \$75.00 | \$6,000,000 | \$4,850,900 | 10% |
| Expertation | 86,800 | \$1000er* | \$8,000,000 | \$2,379,134 | 5% |



(Blue in Cost Under Tipping Foe Structure, Red In Cost Under User Foe Structure)

In March of 2009, after meetings with legislators and discussions during several Legislative Committee meetings, the Task Force made the following recommendations:

The Sullivan County Solid Waste System should:

- Be self-sufficient, with subsidy from County's General Fund;
- Generate adequate revenue to cover all expenses, including existing and new debt service, capping and closing costs, and capital operating costs; and
- Consist of a revenue system in which all users of the solid waste system pay for the system.
- 4. Comply with the County Charter and "Green Visioning Resolution: to incorporate an advanced process to reduce the amount of solid waste to be land-filled.

Subsequently in April, a presentation of these recommendations, with a

question and answer period at the end, was made to the Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce and the Sullivan County Partnership for Economic Development, as representatives of our business communities.

Ultimately, during the July Committee process the Legislature chose to move forward with exporting most of the County's waste while increasing our recycling efforts, the MSW Consultants were hired to determine how best to proceed with this decision. MSW Consultants reviewed information from several Sullivan County townships, information provided to the Task Force by local haulers, as well as several other municipalities who have a similar system already in place and those the Legislature had an interest in mirroring, if possible, including both Delaware and Rockland Counties.

The options were narrowed to four scenarios, whose costs are as follows:

- 1. Cost of entire system was subsidized by Real Property Taxes (No user fee or
- \$13.9 million dollars or a 30% property tax increase.
- System As Is with a \$75/ton tip fee and a user fee to cover operating costs: \$6.7 million to be raised through user fee.
- Enact waste-flow control with tip fee to cover all costs:
- The fourth option, which calls for a user fee to be assessed on all improved properties within Sullivan County, includes tax-exempt and not-for-profit organ-

on Sundays from 11 am - 2 pm at Callicoon Creek Park through November 29, 2009

Lucky Dog Farm will have a great selection of certified organic veggies. Winter squash-delicata, butternut, acorn, and more, lettuces, onions, carrots, brussels sprouts on the stalk, cabbages, many varieties of potatoes, beets, broccoli, cauliflower,

erated in County stays in the Solid Waste system with no outside importation. This option calls for:

izations. Furthermore, this option calls for a closed system, where all waste gen-

- An exportation of all non-recyclable waste from Sullivan County.
- An increased recycling effort at our MRF in Monticello, NY, which will gen-
- An end to tipping fees or "per bag" fees at the Sullivan County Landfill and Transfer Stations.
- The implementation of an annual "Solid Waste User Fee," to be levied to each property owner in Sullivan County. This fee would apply to all "improved properties", as well as all not-for-profit and tax-exempt properties in Sullivan County, and would be levied on the basis of real property tax code and waste generation potential of each property, using a formula utilized in many other municipalities, as stated in the MSW report.

This formula, coupled with information provided by local haulers during the Task force meetings, indicates that this new user fee system will provide for residential property taxpayers to pay less or almost the same to dispose of their waste as they pay now.

| Customer Class | Subclass | Solid Waste Fee Revenue Requirements | Billing Units | Solid Waste Fee per Billing Unit |
|---------------------------|------------------|--|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | Single Family | \$6,349,919 | 35,165 | \$180.57 |
| Year-round Residential | Apartment | \$654,127 | 3,623 | \$180.55 |
| | Mobile Home | \$244,549 | 1,354 | \$180.61 |
| Seasonal Residential | | \$267,061 | 2,958 | \$90.28 |
| Cotteges/Bungalows | | \$1,744,744 | 12,813 | \$136.17 |
| | Low | \$882,270 | 6,410 | \$137.64 |
| Non Projection | Medium | \$404,388 | 1,416 | \$285.58 |
| Non Residential | High | \$536,393 | 805 | \$966.33 |
| | Very High | \$786,978 | 471 | \$1,670.87 |
| Total | 1 | \$11,870,429 | | |

Currently operating our Solid Waste System and taking in roughly 66,000 tons each year costs \$9.4 million dollars annually, \$4.4 million of which is subsidized through County's the General Fund. This new system, with waste control measures, would take in roughly 80,000 tons and

cost \$13.8 mil-

lion dollars. Revenue from enhanced recycling efforts and C&D waste is estimated to generate \$2 million dollars annually. The proposed fee structure to find the remainder of this operation is:

Local haulers indicated that approximately 50% of their monthly fees were tipping fees, while the other 50% was transportation, administration, etc. A family currently spending \$45 per month to dispose of their waste through a private hauler pays \$540 annually. Under the user fee system and taking into account a 50% reduction in fees associated with tipping costs, that same family would pay \$270 for disposal and \$180 in user fees, for a total of \$450 or a \$90 reduction in their household expenses.

After testing the formula and software, we became aware of several issues that will have to be worked out and clarifications needed prior to sending the user fee bills to the non-residential parcels. Of the 68,000 real property tax parcels in Sullivan County, about 45,000 are improved and subject to the user fees. Of that number, approximately 4,800 parcels are classified as non-residential and require additional calculations, including the mixed-use properties with commercial and residential space, which will also be taken separately.

With this need for further calculations and clarifications, I have requested that the billing for the residential properties begin in January, but that the billing for the non-residential properties be delayed until May of 2010, payable on July 2010. This will allow County staff time to prepare a comprehensive, working database, taking into account surveys we will send to local haulers and commercial property owners.

Via communications during last Thursday's meetings and with several townships, I am aware of concerns with this user fee overcharging residents or being utilized as a revenue generator for the General Fund. The Special Revenue Fund that would be created for revenues from this user fee would prohibit the revenues from being used for any other purpose than solid waste all-in costs. Also, the fee schedule would be revisited on an annual basis to allow for the adjust-

Furthermore, questions about recycling, and concerns that this new system would lead to a decrease in recycling were raised. The County of Sullivan adopted a mandatory recycling law in 1992. There has been a consistent commitment by the County to increase and improve our recycling efforts, including expanding offerings and household hazard waste and tire amnesty days. However, clearly much more must be done to aggressively enforce recycling in Sullivan County. The associated solid waste user fee schedule should include significant penalties and fines that would be levied upon those solid waste generators who fail to comply with the mandatory recycling law.

Copies of the MSW report and Solid Waste Task Force Reports are available in the County Manager and County Legislature Offices. If I can provide further clarification on this system, please do not hesitate to contact me.

David P. Fanslau, ICMA-CM

County Manager

LUCKY DOG AT THE CALLICOON FARMERS' MARKET The Callicoon Farmer's Market is in full fall

swing, with plenty of fruits and vegetables, milk, cheeses, other dairy products, meats and poultry, eggs, breads and pastries, wines, and prepared foods turnips, kale, chard, collards, broccoli leaf, leeks,

garlic, celery, celeriac, radishes.
The Special Indoor Callicoon Holiday Farmers' Market will be Sunday December 6, 2009 the special hours will be 10 am - 2 pm at The Delaware Youth Center, Inc. 8 Creamery Road, Callicoon, New York 12723

REMEMBERED TODAY AND FOREVER-MORE.

All it takes is one visit, two words and three seconds. "Thank You" seems so understated and underrated, yet there are no other words more appropriate for the many who have long passed on.

Rusted, five pointed GAR markers, some broken and lying beside a headstone, covered with the earth's fallen seasons, tells a story of who this man was. He was an American Civil War Veteran;'61-'65 says it all.

A sense of bewilderment comes over me when I realize how many American Civil War Veterans there are buried in such a small town as ours.

There are approximately 400 servicemen memorialized within the confines of the Town of Wawarsing and its' neighboring hamlets. Most of the men were born and raised here, but some were from outside the US. The towns making up the valley had an eclectic mix of Dutch, German, Irish, English and Italians, many of whom worked on the D&H Canal, the Glass Factory and the many tanneries which employed hundreds at that time.

Majority of the able men from our local community enlisted when President Lincoln called for the initial 75,000 troops in April of 1861. A three month obligation for most of the first enlistees turned out to be a four year tour of duty - to honor, protect and defend the Union, a Union which many of their ancestors fought to establish. An additional 300,000 were called for afterwards, and

many answered the call. Letters from the front, written by the commanders of the regiments, made their way home and to the local newspapers, where the residents were able to follow the progress of the War. A gathering in town would have been the best way to relay messages and read off the names of the wounded and dead as well as the victories they were responsible for creating with the sacrifice of their lives. Sunday services were attended with heavy hearts and weeping mothers, wives and friends found comfort in each other during this tumultuous period in American history. Some of these men returned, but in an altered state, and were never the same again. After reading hundreds of obituaries and the scarcely found letters written home by these soldiers, one can only believe that what they saw and what they had to endure, must have had long lasting effects on the mind, body

and soul. It is my honor and duty to locate and document for future generations, all of these brave men who gave of themselves so that we can continue to live free from the evils of slavery and free from the horrors that bring man to the act of War. Remembered today and forevermore...

Thank You Gentlemen. ... Laura Smith Warwarsing, NY civilwarveteransny.ning.com Find A Grave L Smith page



Sundown United Methodist Church

Sunday Worship Service • 8:30am

Grahamsville United Methodist Church

Sunday Worship Service 10:30am

985-2283

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The Grahamsville United Methodist Church

THRIFT STORE will continue receiving donations fnew and lightly used clothing and household items through the winter. The ThriftStorewill be OPEN for a special. pre-Christmas sale on Saturday,November 28, 2009 9am-2pm with puchees by donetion. Thank you for your continued support of this community outreach

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Hymn Sing & Covered Dish Supper 5:30/630 P.M. - 1st Sunday of the Month

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Neversink, Sundown and Ulster Heights)

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Saturday afternoon: 5:00. Sunday morning: 9:00 am and 11:30 am

Holy days of obligation: as announced in church bulletin. Daily Mass schedule; Monday afternoon 5:45 (Holy Rosary at 5:30); Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday mornings: (includes Morning Prayer)- 8:50 am Saturday afternoon confessions: 4 to 4:45. Rev. John J. Lynch, Ph.D., Pastor. 434-7643.

UC EXECUTIVE ASKS FOR MEDICAL EXAMINER'S RESIGNATION

Dr. Michael Sheran, Ulster County's Medical Examiner, was cited last night, by the New York State Police, on the charge of Driving While Intoxicated. At the time the charge was issued, Dr. Sheran was on duty at the scene of an accident that he had been called in to investigate and had driven to in his own vehicle.

"As County Executive I take the issue of drink-ing and driving very seriously. Drinking and driving has had a tragic impact on families throughout the county and here in Ulster County. This incident is unacceptable and I have asked for Dr. Sheran's immediate resignation," said Ulster County Executive Mike Hein.

> Grahamsville United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall

Holiday Craft Fair and Luncheon

Saturday, December 5, 2009 from 10:00 to 3:00

Watercolors, pottery, stained glass, baked goods, etc. & The Christmas Cafe will be open serving soups, sandwiches and desserts for lunch

985-7427 or 985-2283 for info

CHURCH FAIR LUNCHEON

Saturday, November 21st

Ulster Heights United Methodist Church 1264 Ulster Heights Rd. Ellenville, NY



FAIR: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. LUNCHEON: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. (Chili, hot dogs, apple crisp, beverage)

For info, call 647:7688 434-4228 647-5389

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"Homewade Jams & Jellies"
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SUNDAY, NOV. 29 Serving 7:00 until 12:00 Noon ADULTS \$7 CHILDREN 5-11 \$3. UNDER 5 FREE \$50 FROM THE BREAKFAST IS DONATED TO USMC SGT EDDIE RYAN



Dec. 5, 2009 5:30 pm Sundown United Methodist Church at the Sundown Church Hall

JONATHAN RUIS LEADS TALK ABOUT FUTURE OF APOLLO PLAZA

The Apollo, which has stood empty for the past several years, was officially deeded to the County following foreclosure proceedings in early November. The Apollo site is prime for development, said Rouis, and it would be remiss of the Legislature to simply offer this property up at the next real property tax auction.

"This is a unique property in that it is already zoned for commercial purposes, and has water and sewer readily accessible. Rather than simply selling this property, I'd like to see the County develop the property, with the assistance of our economic development agencies, into a mixed-use property that increases our tax base, brings additional sales tax revenues and provides affordable housing alternatives, as well," said Rouis.

County legislators heard from the county's Economic Development agencies, including The Sullivan County Partnership for Economic Development, the Sullivan County Visitor's Association and the Sullivan County Industrial Development Agency, as well as Marissa Brett, the Vice President of the Hudson Valley Economic Development Corporation, about how other properties are being marketed throughout the Hudson Valley, and how the Apollo property could be developed.

"Through the consensus of my colleagues during the Executive Committee meeting, these organizations will be working in the days and weeks ahead to develop a strategy for how to market this property to developers and other interested parties. We look forward to hearing back from them by the end of December," said Rouis.

GILLIBRAND CALLS ON USDA TO MAKE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAIL-ABLE TO MORE NEW YORK VINE-YARDS

U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand today called on the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to expand credit for farm wineries in New York and across the country. While the Farm Service Agency (FSA) provides loan guarantees to local farmers, there is an eligibility issue that limits some farm operations from taking advantage of the USDA program. Farms that buy produce from other farms are currently not eligible for FSA loan guarantees in certain situations. Senator Gillibrand asked that the USDA review the FSA loan guarantee program and expand it to include farms that purchase produce.

"New York is known for its world-class vineyards - from Long Island and the Hudson Valley to the Finger Lakes and Western New York, and even the North Country," Senator Gillibrand said. "During these tough economic times, New York's agriculture sector has been hit hard. It is critical that our grape growers be allowed to take full advantage of credit opportunities. New York's farmers are a vital part of our economy and we must ensure their success."

In New York, it is common for farm wineries to purchase a portion of their grapes/juice from other growers. Sometimes the amount purchased exceeds the amount grown on the farm. Senator Gillibrand called for a modification that would allow FSA loan guarantees for the percentage of the farm and processing operation that relates directly to the farm's production.

In her letter to Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, Senator Gillibrand wrote, "As you know, agriculture is a vital part of the economy of New York State. I would appreciate your review of this matter and informing me if USDA can implement a...change to address this issue, or if this will require legislation. Thank you for your efforts in support of the farm families in New York State."

The grape industry is crucial to New York State. According to New York Department of Agriculture and Market, New York ranks third in the country for wine and grape juice production. Cornell cites that grape industry tourism and associated industries have a statewide economic impact of \$6 billion - primarily produced around Lake Erie, the Finger Lakes, Hudson Valley and the eastern end of Long Island

HUDSON VALLEY SENATORS PUSH MTA HEAD ON PAYROLL TAX; GOP URGES ACTION ON BUDGET REDUC-TIONS

State Senator John J. Bonacic (R/I/C - Mt. Hope), along with Senators Jeff Klein, Tom Morahan, Ruth Hassell-Thompson, Vincent Leibell, Suzi Oppenheimer, Stephen Saland, and Andrea Stewart-Cousins met on Thursday with Jay Walder, Chairman of the MTA.

"We let the Chairman know that the service the MTA offers those of us who live on the West side of the Hudson River is miserable. You can just about get into Times Square on horseback faster than on an MTA train from Port Jervis," Senator Bonacic said. The Senators pressed Mr. Walder on the need to both enhance service and end the MTA payroll tax. Last week, Republican Senators offered an alternative to the MTA tax - service reductions on the Connecticut lines unless riders from Connecticut pay their fair share to operate the MTA.

"I voted against the payroll tax. Every Republican voted against the payroll tax. Thruway users pay to operate the Thruway and those who use New York City's subway and the MTA should pay to operate it. We cannot have two sets of transit rules - one for people who need cars to go to work and one for people who use trains," Bonacic said.

Republican Senators also urged the State's Democratic leaders to force votes on budget reduction programs. Bonacic released a chart comparing Governor David Paterson's plan with the plan proposed by Senate Republicans to close the budget deficit. "I applaud Governor Paterson for understanding there is a deficit and proposing a solution to close the deficit. Senate Republicans have also proposed a solution. It appears the Senate and Assembly Democrats, however, are studying at the Bernie Madoff school of financing - building a giant ponzi scheme in an effort to forever put off the day of reckoning." Bonacic said.

MORE THAN 14 PERCENT OF YOUNG VETERANS UNEMPLOYED, GILLI-BRAND MAKES PERSONAL PITCH TO BUSINESSES: HIRE A VET, GET A TAX RDFAK

With unemployment among young veterans in New York topping 14.6 percent, U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand is making a personal pitch today to New York business to hire veterans and receive a tax break from the federal government in return. The Work Opportunity Tax Credit, which was expanded earlier this as part of the Economy Recovery Plan, can help thousands of veterans who are returning home from Iraq and Afghanistan to find a still-reeling economy and scarce jobs.

To provide additional economic assistance for veterans, Senator Gillibrand is also introducing the Veterans' Business Center Act of 2009 - legislation that would help veterans gain access to capital and federal grant money to start new businesses and grow existing ones, as well as new a proposal to provide assistance for homeless veterans.

"Too many veterans are coming home to a very bad job market and unable to find work," Senator Gillibrand said. "They fulfilled their duty to our country, and now it's time for us to fulfill our duty to them by making sure they have access to a good-paying job. The tax breaks we put in place earlier this year are a win-win for businesses and veterans, but we need to make sure businesses know they are available and take advantage of them by hiring more veterans. I'm making a personal pitch to the business owners I meet to hire a vet and take advantage of the tax credit."

According to a new report from Senator Gillibrand, 7.3 percent of all veterans across New York State are unemployed.

GUNTHER COMMENTS ON ASSEMBLY PASSING MEASURE MANDATING CON-SECUTIVE SENTENCES FOR CLASS A-I OFFENDERS/END EARLY REVIEW FOR PAROLE RELEASE Measure ensures that law does not allow for the premature parole release of class A-I offenders

Assemblywoman Aileen M. Gunther (D, C, I - Forestburgh) announced that the Assembly passed legislation to ensure that those convicted of class A-I offenses are not eligible for early release on parole. Under the agreement reached with the governor and Senate, repeat class A-I felons must serve their new sentence consecutively to any undischarged prior sentence of imprisonment and cannot be paroled early due to credited time served for previous offenses (A.40005).

A-I felonies include first or second degree murder

and first degree kidnapping, arson, and criminal possession or use of a chemical or biological weapon, as well as those convicted of first degree manslaughter. Additionally, those convicted of a second child sexual assault would be required to receive a consecutive sentence.

"If we hadn't acted, a violent felon could have been paroled after serving 10 years on a sentence, committed an A-I felony while on parole, and received 10 years of credit on the new sentence if the court imposed the sentence concurrently instead of consecutively or didn't specify," Gunther said. "This legislation will mandate consecutive sentences for these crimes and will ensure that these most dangerous of criminals serve their full sentences."

The legislation also addresses the issue of medical parole for offenders convicted of certain serious offenses by ensuring that such inmates are required to serve at least half their sentence in order to be considered for medical parole. Medical parole is only available to inmates who are permanently incapacitated and no longer present any danger to society.

"This legislation is a simple, commonsense remedy to a serious problem," Gunther said. "With this new law in place we can help to prevent future serious crimes by making sure those who commit them are kept safely behind bars and are not prematurely released to the streets."

ULSTER COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER INVITED TO SERVE ON THE PRESTIGIOUS NEW YORK STATE JUSTICE TASK FORCE

Ulster County Executive Mike Hein is pleased to announce that Ulster County Public Defender, Andrew Kossover has been invited to become an Advisory Group member of the New York State Justice Task Force.

On May 1, 2009, Jonathan Lippman, Chief Judge of the State of New York, announced the creation of the Task Force to reduce, and ideally, eliminate the convictions of actually innocent persons in New York. One of the first permanent task forces addressing wrongful convictions in the United States, the Justice Task Force was established to provide a forum to review new exoneration cases and examine the patterns and practices that may contribute to wrongful convictions. In addition, the Justice Task Force will create and implement recommendations to reduce the occurrence of wrongful convictions in New York.

A letter sent by the Honorable Theodore T. Jones, Associate Judge of the New York State Court of Appeals, referred to Mr. Kossover's experience, insight and expertise as valuable attributes that would assist the Task Force in achieving its important goals.

"I'm proud of the outstanding professionals that we have working in many areas of our County government. Andy Kossover does an excellent job on behalf of the people of Ulster County and it's nice to see that acknowledged by officials at the very highest levels of the New York State judicial system," said County Executive Hein.

SENATOR GILLIBRAND'S OFFICE TO HOSTS SENIOR FRAUD WORKSHOP U.S.

Senator Kirsten Gillibrand's office recently hosted a Senior Fraud Workshop. As a member of the Special Committee on Aging, Senator Gillibrand is committed to ensuring that New York's senior citizens are protected in this challenging economy.

In September, Senator Gillibrand released a report estimating that in the Hudson Valley, nearly 60,000 seniors have been hit by consumer fraud - losing an estimate of more than \$20 million. In response to the alarming report, Senator Gillibrand is pursuing a full crack down on fraud against seniors, including:

Increased penalties for people who commit fraud against seniors;

 New measures to protect social security and veterans benefits from debt collectors;

 Broad efforts to stop abusive mail, telemarketing and internet fraud against seniors;

 A national grant program for states to protect seniors from misleading financial advisors claiming to specialize in seniors; and

Special workshops across the state on financial literacy to empower and protect seniors.

Senator Gillibrand's Senior Fraud Workshop consisted of sections on financial management and senior fraud, led by a panel of experts who will help seniors gain a basic understanding of financial literacy, recognize risk factors for financial exploitation and learn about who can help them if they are exploited.

Town of Neversink Parks & Recreation Department

www.townofneversink.org (845) 985-2262 extension 312 Games & Socializing FREE fun every Friday afternoon 1 pm - 4 pm in the upstairs meeting room in the Town Hall. -

14 0 40 0

FREE BINGO Friday November 20 Town Hall 7 pm Bring a non-perishable food item for the local food pantry.

FREE Pizza & Christmas Craft Friday December 4. 5:30 pm Town Hall. Quick dinner & decorate Gingerbread cookies. All supplies will be provided. FREE to residents/S8 non-residents must be signed up no later than November 10.

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CWC PROVIDES STORMWATER HELP, EDUCATION, GRANT, BUSINESS LOAN

The Catskill Watershed Corporation (CWC) Board of Directors on November 3 approved funding to assist two non-profit organizations and a Tannersville business.

· The Mountain Top Library and Learning Center, which is renovating the 8,000-square-foot former Marian Center on Main Street, Tannersville, will receive a \$240,000 Stormwater Retrofit Grant to control and treat runoff

from the one-acre site. The grant will kick in after \$284,000 in federal stimulus money is utilized for green stormwater infrastructure. The Center was previously awarded a \$250,000 CWC grant to help pay for the renovation project, including installation

of green energy systems.

The Roxbury Arts Group was awarded a grant of \$8,835 from the Special Program Fund of the Education Program for a project titled "Trees and the NYC Watershed: An Educational and Cultural Collaboration for Watershed Stewards." RAG, working with the Catskill Center for Conservation and Development, will present two performance of "The Man Who Planted Trees" in March of 2010. Public and school-based forestry education will be also be provided, culminating in a tree planting project.

Vaughn and Jody Wilkie of Grand Gorge were approved for a low-interest loan to acquire and renovate the former Power Image Gym in Tannersville,



Comfortable country cape is nestled in nature. 3 BR's 2 BA's, bar room with wet bar, large family room with fireplace and beamed ceilings, deck with hot tub, coal stove, 4 + acres, gardens, privacy, small barn. Very special serene setting with babbling brook in Neversink and close to

Tri-Valley School. Motivated Seller... Asking \$224,900 MalekProperties.com 845-583-6333

THE TOWNSMAN CALENDAR OF LOCAL EVENTS

| 11/18/09 | Tri-Valley AARP #1604 Meeting- 1:30pm Town Hall Grahamsville | | | | | |
|----------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| 11/18/09 | Neversink Rondout Antique Tractor Meeting - 7:30 Neversink Fire House | | | | | |
| 11/18/09 | Neversink Fire Dist Meeting - 7:30 pm - Public Meeging 8:00 pm | | | | | |
| 11/21/09 | Warwarsing Christian Academy Holiday Craft & Bake Sale 10am-3 pm (see our ad on Pg. 13) | | | | | |
| 11/21/09 | Claryville Fire Dept. Spaghetti Supper 4-8 pm - Hunters Welcome! | | | | | |
| 11/21/09 | Ulster Heights UMC Church Fair & Luncheon 10am-4 pm call 647-7680 | | | | | |
| 11/22/09 | Grahamsville Jubilee at Sullivan County Adult Care Center from 2:30 to 3:30 pm. All are welcome | | | | | |
| 11/26/09 | In observance of Thanksgiving the Townsman will not be published this week. Happy Thanksgiving! | | | | | |
| 11/26 & 27/09 | Town of Neversink Holiday - THANKSGIVING | | | | | |
| 11/29/09 | Claryville Fire Dept. Monthly Pancake Breakfast 7 am - Noon | | | | | |
| 11/29/09 | Grahamsville Jubilee at Sullivan County Adult Care Center from 2:30 to 3:30 pm. All are welcome | | | | | |
| 11/29/09 | ANNUAL HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY 4 pm Bi-Centennial Square Grahamsville | | | | | |
| 12/2/09 | Town of Neversink Planning Board Meeting | | | | | |
| 12/5/09 | Grahamsville UMC Holiday Craft Fair | | | | | |
| 12/5/09 | Sundown Methodist Church Covered Dish Supper - 5:30 pm Sundown Church Hall | | | | | |
| 12/5/09 | Tri-Valley AARP #1604 Christmas Luncheon 12:00 noon-tentative Albert's | | | | | |
| 12/8/09 | Claryville Fire District Elections 6-9/Fire District Meeting 7:00 pm | | | | | |
| 12/8/09 | Town of Denning Bill Audit meeting 7 pm | | | | | |
| 12/9/09 | Town of Neversink Planning Board Meeting | | | | | |
| 12/10/09 | Dept. of Motor Vehicles - Neversink Town Hall - 10 am - 2 :30 pm | | | | | |
| 12/10/09 | Town of Denning Board Meeting 7:30 pm - Denning Town Hall | | | | | |
| 12/15/09 | Town of Neversink Zoning Board of Appeals | | | | | |
| 12/16/09 | Tentative - Neversink Rondout Antique Tractor Meeting - 7:30 Neversink Fire House | | | | | |
| 12/16/09 | Neversink Fire Dist Meeting - 7:30 pm - Public Meeging 8:00 pm | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| SAVE THE DATE! | | | | | | |

SAVE THE DATE!

14th Annual Women's Conference to be held on Saturday, April 17, 2010 at Sullivan County Community College

Town of Denning Message Board: http://www.denning.us Town of Neversink Website: http://town of neversink.org Daniel Pierce Library - http://www.danielpiercelibrary.org Time and The Valleys Museum - http://timeandthevalleysmuseum.org Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman On-Line Edition: http://thetownsman.com

To find out what is happening at Tri-Valley CSD: http://tvcs.k12.ny.us
Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman is now available at the following retail stores and restaurants:

SUNDOWN CAMP & BAIT SHOP GRAHAMSVILLE DELI LAGUEUX HARDWARE CANNIE D'S BLUE HILL LODGE

ARATI GIFT SHOP (Brickman Rd.)

E & H PAINTBALL (Loch Sheldrake) VALERO MINI MALL (Loch Sheldrake) WOODBOURNE CITGO STATION MO'S GAS STATION (Woodbourne)

LIGHTHOUSE DELI NAPANOCH FLORIST JAME'S NAPANOCH GROCERY MATTHEW'S PHARMACY NAPANOCH APPLIANCE PETER'S MARKET

and re-open it as Club Fitness. The 24-hour fitness center will also feature salon and spa amenities and a juice bar.

The CWC is a non-profit Local Development Corporation based in Margaretville. It is committed to protecting water resources, encouraging environmentally friendly economic development and supporting watershed education in the New York City Watershed West of the Hudson River, a region encompassing parts of five counties - Delaware, Greene, Schoharie, Sullivan and Ulster.

For more information on public benefit programs offered by the CWC, go to www.cwconline.org, or call toll free 877-WAT-SHED, or 845-586-14

LEADERSHIP DRIVES TOUGH AND REALISTIC BUDGET CHOICES- County Executive Calls Upon State Legislature to Follow Suit

An independent evaluation of the Ulster County Executive's budget for 2010 has concluded that the budget is balanced, reasonable and makes many tough decisions. In turn, Ulster County Executive Mike Hein has called upon the New York State elected officials to address the State budget gap in much the same way; without gimmicks that simply shift the burden to local taxpayers. He said, "It is important for all elected officials to recognize that we serve the same taxpayers and difficult choices, such as the ones reflected in Ulster County's budget, are needed at the State level."

The firm of Bennett, Kielson, Storch, DeSantis delivered their report, on the County Executive's budget, to the legislature at their meeting on Tuesday of this week.

County Budget Director Art Smith said, "The independent evaluation confirms the strong and honest leadership the County Executive is providing during these very difficult times. No gimmicks were used in preparing the budget and tough decisions were made. The County Executive set a priority for us to minimize the tax burden on residents and families who are already struggling to make ends meet. The nearly \$6 million in cost cuts implemented by the County Executive this year allowed us to do just that.'

GOOD NEWS

It's time to update our list of men and women who are in the armed services. Please bring in their name and address to Grahamsville Hardware, 171 Main Street, PO Box 417, Grahamsville, NY 12740 and we will post them so everyone can send a letter or package. Getting something from us will let them know we support them. If you can't bring the information to the store, you can mail it to the above address.

Let's remember we are at war and they need our support.

THE JEWELRY WOMEN WANT SHOPPING WITH EASE FOR MEN

Ladies Make Your Wish List

Dream out loud, make a wish list of exquisite jewelry

When: Sun (11/29) Time: 12 pm - 6 pm

Where: 312 Reynolds Road, Loch Sheldrake

Gentlemen Make Her Wish Come True

Avoid the malls and select a piece from her list that is sure to dazzle her.

When: Mon (11/30) & Tues (12/1)

Time: 5 pm - 9 pm

Where: 312 Reynolds Road, Loch Sheldrake

Lifetime Guarantee

Free Gift Wrapping

For more info, contact local lia sophia® advisors Sandra Bragg (845) 985-7272 Cindy Garlinghouse (845) 807-3693

PAGE 16 THE TOWNSMAN NOVEMBER 19, 2009



Daniel Pierce Library

HOURS: Tuesdays & Thursdays - 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Wednesdays & Fridays - 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays 9 á.m.-5 p.m. Closed Sundays and Mondays

The Library Board of Trustees meets at 7:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month.

On occasion, a meeting date is changed. Please call ahead to confirm. 845-985-7233

Time and the Valleys Museum has copies of every Townsman printed since the beginning in loose-leaf binders classified by year for anyone to research. For further information, contact the historian's office in Grahamsville at 985-2262 x313, e-mail: historian@townofneversink.org, or visit www.timeandthevalleysmuseum.org

REAL ESTATE



New York State Licensed Real Estate Broker 135 Peekamoose Road Sundown, NY 12740 grahamsvillerealty@yahoo.com

http://www.grahamsvillerealty.com

LISTINGS WANTED

FOR SALE: Desirable Grahamsville rental investment property, 1 acre +/-, 4-1 bedroom apartments, good condition, great location, rented. Present capitalization rate 14.2 % asking \$199.000.00. Listing # com4-1BR

WANTED ASAP - Hunting property, acreage with cabin preferably near state land. BUYER WAITING!

RENTALS

BUILDING FOR RENT: In Grahamsville (Old Post Office) Rent - 985-7411.

CABIN for rent - secluded road. Grahamsville. Needs some work. Rent-\$500 month. Available immediately. 845-985-7411.

Large 3 room Apartment in the heart of Grahamsville. 2nd Floor. Tenant pays own heat. Available now \$500. 646-331-7114 tm

Tri-Valley School District - for rent d/w 3 br. 2 bath on 2.7 acres. No pets. \$850 month + utilities - security. Call 845-434-2731. utilities - security. Available Dec. 1, 2009. pd12/3

Apartment for rent. 2 bedroom, L.R., kitchen. Call 985-0107

WANTED

House wanted to Rent - 3 bedroom, Tri-Valley School District. Good References. Call (845) 647-4093 oglesbysee@aol.com

PET BOARDING

Pet Boarding- Small boarding facility. Heated, well ventilated, 4x6 stalls with access to an outdoor run several times daily, 845-985-5036

FOR SALE

FOR SALE: 1997 Pontiac Van, Transport, 7 passenger, 4 extra wheels w/snowtires; dependable, reasonable. 1997 Subaru Legacy wagon, good shape, extra snowtires. 985-7564.

1998 Dodge Grand Caravan. Needs some repairs. Reasonable. Call 845-985-0501.

SERVICES

STUMP GRINDING - Certified Arborist -Winter Discounts - call LUCKY DOG -985-7689

"Helpful Neighbor" - Basic, gardening, painting, carpentry and repair services available. Low costespecially for senior citizens. Call Bob at: 845-985-7441.

LawnCare by Victoria - Fall Clean-ups and snow removal. 985-7218 or 866-1194. Please leave message. pd 12/3

CONTRACTOR

K & A CONSTRUCTION - affordable General Contracting Company. Reliable, reasonable, hardworking & negotiable. FREE ESTIMATES & DESIGN IDEAS! Call and leave a message (845)985-5004

HELP WANTED

Reliable, detail-oriented house cleaner for busy vacation rentals company. Must be a selfstarter interested in joining a growing enterprise. Flexible hours. Advancement potential if desired. Please call Jennifer at 985-7153.

HEALTH FOOD/CLASSES

YOGA • REIKI

Close to Neversink Dam on Lindholm Road

Morning YOGA classes include gentle stretches to ease and prevent back and joint pain

REIKI Spiritual Energy Healing Sessions and classes by appointment Call: JOY @ 845-292-7870

Learn about exciting new Health Products and how you can become part of the Waiora team and enjoy the benefits of an extra income.

http://www.mywaioro.com/581155

Denning Democrats

Happy Thanksgiving!

See you in two weeks Send suggestions to Denning Dems 135 Peekamoose road Sundown NY 12740 Town of Denning, Denning Dems email: denningdems@yahoo.com or call 845.985.0501

Democratic Committee Chair Frank Comando

Knarf's "Classic Movie Trivia"

A Man for All Seasons, (1966) is an historically favorite film with some real history still intact. It is the story of Sir Thomas More, a devout scholar, who is caught in the middle between ethics and loyalty. Sir. Thomas More stands firm to his ethic, thus further angering the wrath of his best friend King Henry VIII, who is planning to break with the Catholic Church. Cast: Paul Scofield, Robert Shaw, and Wendy Hiller. Dir: Fred Zinnemann. C-120 mins, TV-PG, CC, Letterbox Format on Sunday, November 22, 2009 @ 12:15 AM on TCM Quiz:

A. Name the actor who played the character of Cardinal Woolsey?

B. Name the actor who played the character of Thomas Cromwell?

ANSWER TO KNARF'S MOVIE TRIVIA

B. Leo McKern A. Orson Welles

TRI-VALLEY PROPERTY FOR SALE

CLARYVILLE:

 NEW Renovated 3 bed/1 bath farmhouse with creek on approx. 1 acre \$299,000; with 6.42 acres \$329,000

 NEW Two guiet, pretty, level 1 acre, buildable lots. \$22,500 each. (1 lot is under contract)

 NEW 3 bed/2 bath restored farmhouse on 1.3 acs with dramatic ultra-modern addition, fine fixtures \$395k

- RENTAL Elegant 4 bed/5 bath home on 150 acre estate with Neversink frontage. \$1,900/mo + utils.

GRAHAMSVILLE /LOCH SHELDRAKE/JEFFERSONVILLE: NEW 3 bed/1+ bath farmhouse on 1 ac with stream. Beautiful floors, deck, views. \$159,000

 NEW 4 bed/2.5 bath single fam, home + two 1 bed/1 bath apts in attached bldg. In quiet section of Jeffersonville Village. Short walk to school. \$249,000

 Mini-estate with indoor pool, 2 ponds, manicured grounds and 9 private acs. 4 bed/3 bath \$749,000

- Dreamy 4 BR eyebrow colonial on 15.73 acres with views & stream next to city land. \$399,000.

Jennifer Grimes REALTOR®, GREEN, Frank Lumia Real Estate Home Office: (845) 985-7153 • Cell: (646) 258-2602 or visit www.JCGprops.com

What's going on Gneighborhood I this week? the Gnome

Let me think- snow, Christmas and Loye are in the air as we are in preparation for our Thanksgiving



Day celebration. Shopping long hours, before the big "Turkey Day" on the 26th, while waiting not only for the kick-off of football, but also reflecting on the wonderful dreams of gift-giving and Santa, as well.
Oh! You don't believe in Santa?
Well, believe it, or not, he will officially open the holiday season in New York City at the Macy's Parade.
As we gather locally at the Annual see Lighting in Bicentennial Park as we

Christmas Tree Lighting in Bicentennial Park as we hear the voices of children and adults singing and listen closely, we may just hear sleigh bells in the distance. While Santa gets closer, the people of our town will happily light the way as we begin to put on Grahamsville's holiday face!

But first, let's think back to November 26, 1620 at

Plymouth Rock. Actually, the pilgrims first landed near the site of the modern city of Provincetown located at the tip of Cape Cod, where the first Thanksgiving Day took place.

Plymouth Rock, before it was moved to Plymouth, was located about 650 feet (200 m) from where it is generally accepted that the initial settle-ment was built, on nearby Leyden Street. leading up toward Burial Hill, Cape Cod.

Now, a little family history on how we bring back the Christmas spirit with our family and friends. Adnil begins Thanksgiving Day, the day before, when she takes out the turkey. On Thanksgiving after our morning coffee with the Macy's Day Parade on NBC at 9:00 am, the cooking begins. Next, with our DVD pre-loaded we watch the original "Miracle on 34th Street," starring Edmond Gwen as Santa, and for the toughest, softhearted classic movie lovers, another treat, the 1935 version of "Scrooge," with Alistair Sim who is the most superbly convincing character of 'Scrooge' ever played. The film is based on Dickens' classic "A Christmas Carol."

Then, after a busy day of not only stuffing the turkey, but ourselves, we finish off the day with the film "The Bishops Wife," a Loretta Young, David Niven, and Cary Grant film of a romantic Christmas

classic tale that will tug on the strings of your heart.

Don't forget - See you there! Where? At the

Annual Town Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony on November 29th at 4:00 pm at Bi-Centennial Park. This event will transform the park into a "Winter Wonderland" complete with nearly twenty Christmas trees decorated by various community organizations and businesses. The trees have been donated by the Mancuso Tree Farm in Yeagerville N.Y. Please join us for the tree lighting ceremony followed by a time of caroling, special music, and refreshments. The holiday display will remain for our enjoyment throughout the month of December. Any organization or group that would like to take part should contact the Town Clerk's Office at 985-2262, x-300.

Adnil and I wish you all, a very "Happy Thanksgiving," and see you in two weeks.

Knarf Odnamoc Gnome