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## A Tree for Life at the Government Center



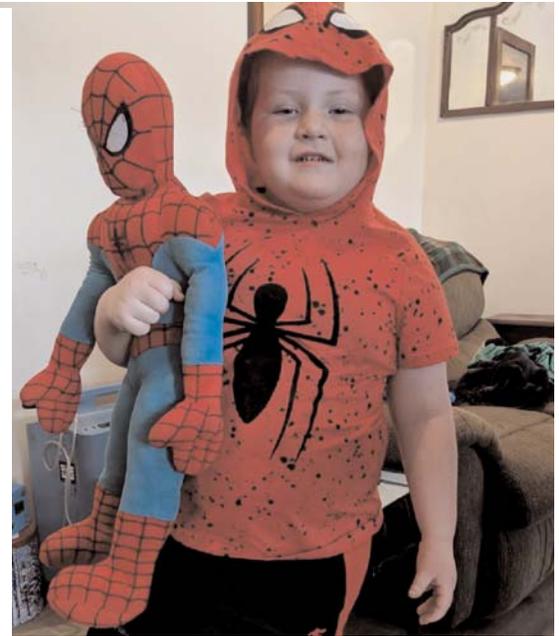
*Surrounded by the staff of the Sullivan County Clerk's and DMV offices, County Clerk Russell Reeves (foreground, with shovel), Deputy County Clerk Doreen Huebner and DMV Deputy Clerk Erin Mason prepare to plant the eastern redbud tree at the Government Center in Monticello, in recognition of April being National Donate Life Month. (Story Pg. 4)*

## PBIS Program Keeps Spirits Soaring During Pandemic



During the past year at FCSD the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Program has continued holding special events every month to honor students and staff in both school buildings for positive behavior in and outside the classroom.

Each month of the school year has a special designation and focus to acknowledge students nominated by school staff with Star Awards and Superhero Virtual Assemblies. At BCES, PBIS Staff e-mail about events, provide resources for bullying prevention, and request nominations for "On a Roll" virtual assemblies to reward students for making positive changes in behavior. (Contd. Pg. 9)



**YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN**

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

*Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman* (USPS #009 398 - ISSN 1558-9013) will be published weekly for \$40.00 per year by **Gnome Home Inc.**

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THE SCENE TOO - Jane Harrison  
OLIVE JAR - Carol La Monda  
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LETTERS TO THE EDITORS:

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 Telephone numbers will not be published.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

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

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

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

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

**ON THE FRONT BURNER:** Recompense to no man evil for evil.  
Provide things honest in the sight of all men.

Romans 12:17

**OBITUARIES**

**Anthony Mario Sibiga**, a longtime resident of Sundown, NY, passed away on Thursday, April 1, 2021. He was 74 years old. Anthony was born on August 7, 1946 in Brooklyn, NY; he was the son of the late Mario and Wanda (Lancucki) Sibiga.

Anthony had worked as a Police Officer in Nassau County and also as an Electrical Inspector, having retired from both careers.

He married Linda Seiler Sibiga on February 12, 1972 in Valley Stream, NY. In addition to his wife Linda, Anthony is survived by their son, Joseph and his wife Amanda and his grandchildren, Jayden, Gabriella, Emily and Rebecca.

A graveside service was held at Grahamsville Rural Cemetery on Wednesday, April 7th.

In lieu of flowers contributions may be made in Anthony's name to Christ Lutheran Church, 105 Center St., Ellenville, NY 12428.

Funeral arrangements under the direction of Loucks Funeral Home.

To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Anthony Mario Sibiga, please visit our floral store.

**Marion E. VanDenberg** of Parksville, NY, the retired co-owner of Hillside Greenhouses in Liberty, NY and a longtime area resident died Sunday, April 4, 2021 at the Garnet Health Medical Center, Harris, NY. She was 92.

The daughter of the late Norman and Janie Mae Ganter Byers, she was born December 1, 1928 in Niagara Falls, Canada.

Marion enjoyed her flower gardens; she was a former member of The Red Hat Society; a former officer and member of The Order of Eastern Star; and she enjoyed her Bible study group with her friends. Marion and Donald traveled all over the world together, in their motorhome.

Survivors include her husband, Donald N. VanDenberg, at home; two sons, Glenn VanDenberg and his wife Bonnie of Claryville, NY and Dale VanDenberg and his wife Carol of Liberty, NY; two granddaughters, Jennifer Pisaniello and her husband Michael of Neversink, NY and Amy Smith and her husband Craig of Holland Patent, NY; three grandsons, Michael VanDenberg and his companion April Wright of Grahamsville, NY, Kevin VanDenberg of Liberty, NY and Daniel VanDenberg of Liberty, NY; five great grandchildren; and her Claryville friends.

She was predeceased by one grandson, Jonathan VanDenberg.

Memorial services will be private. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Harris Funeral Home West St. at Buckley, Liberty, NY 845-292-0001 or 845-439-5200 [www.Harris-FH.com](http://www.Harris-FH.com)

**DAYS OF YORE....****Today's History****April 11, 1951**

Lows Corners and the Sugar Loaf Creek are a scene of great activity this Monday morning. There are two bulldozers, two shovels, a derrick, a grader and a host of trucks and men. The Cooney Bros. are working in the creek above the Grahamsville-Sundown Bridge over the Sugar Loaf. The Walsh-Perini Company is working at the Sugar Loaf Bridge with men and equipment, and the Town and County are working above the bridge. The washed out bridge will be ready for use in a day or two.

From a New York University professor of education comes the warning that church and home are in a sense like Siamese twins - if they are separated, they both may die. There's a challenge there for the many educated parents who today are undertaking the job of bringing up their children without help from any church. Such families have grown away from the idea that the church should play a vital role in family living.

**April 12, 1961**

John Buswell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Buswell of Grahamsville, was on the spring Honor Roll at Orange County Community College, Middletown.

Farm Cadets will again be coming to Sullivan County this season. Seventeen years of experience with New York City high school boys as farm workers has shown that the city boys can and will do farm work.

From four to six inches of sloppy, rain-soaked snow covered the Tri Valley area Monday. Schools were open and roads were generally passable. On Tuesday, the sky was overcast and snow still blanketed the area to the disgust of robins and other travelers returning from the south.

(Contd. Pg. 3)

## DAYS OF YORE....

**Today's History** (From Pg. 2)  
**April 12, 1961**

Mr. and Mrs. William Mahnken of Norfolk, Virginia, are the proud parents of a son, Scott William, born Monday, April 10th. He weighed in at 7 lbs. Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Krum are the grandparents and Mrs. Clarence Krum, the great-grandmother.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Mickelson are the parents of a son, Michael, born at Liberty Loomis Hospital on Sunday, April 9th. He weighed in at 6 lbs.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Carlsen are parents of a son, Kurt Aaron, born at Liberty Loomis Hospital on Sunday, April 9th. He weighed 6lbs. 13 oz.

**April 7, 1971**

On Friday evening two gentlemen made an unexpected visit to Lackawack Hill. They were traveling by airplane from Penn. to Conn. when they found themselves lost in the fog and nearly out of gas. After searching for a place to land, they made a crash landing into a thicket behind the old schoolhouse. The lucky pair escaped without injury.

Several from Grahamsville attended the covered dish supper and farewell party for Miss Eunice Terwilliger of Sundown who has sold her home and is going to live with a sister in upstate N.Y. The party was held at the Sundown Methodist Hall on Saturday evening.

Anniversary wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Atkins, 12 years on the 10th; Mr. and Mrs. Fernald DuBois, 36 years on the 13th.

**April 9, 1981**

Airman Anthony A. Mentnech, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Mentnech of Woodbourne, has been assigned to Lowry Air Force Base, Colorado after completing Air Force basic training.

Francis X. Distel of Ulster Heights, proprietor of D and D Jewelers, Ellenville, died unexpectedly Wednesday at the Ellenville Community Hospital. He was 39. Survivors include his parents, Leonard and Anna Farrell Distel of Ulster Heights; two brothers, Leonard and Dennis Distel, both of Ulster Heights; an aunt and several uncles and cousins.

Warren H. Cole, a Town of Denning Councilman, died unexpectedly Thursday while working at the Willowemoc Camp Grounds. He was 60. The son of the late Harry and Pearl Van Valkenburgh Cole, he was born in Albany on Nov. 3, 1920. Survivors include his mother of Claryville; a son, Larry Cole of Claryville and Ellenville; three brothers: Percy of Claryville, Harold of Woodbourne and Walter of Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Congratulations to Susie Chase, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Chase and J. Robert Kelz Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Robert Kelz who were married on April 4th.

Gary and Beth Muthig of Parksville are the proud parents of a daughter born on April 2nd at Harris Hospital. Jennifer Lynn weighed 6 lbs. 12 oz. The grandparents are Jim and Betty Murray.

## Nature Column - Linda Comando

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

### Delightfully Delectable Leek

The leek in our backyard have poked their way out of the still cold soil and last fall's decaying leaves and starting to develop broad, smooth light green leaves. Deep purple or burgundy tints on the lower stems are now visible.

Leek (*Allium tricoccum*, family Liliaceae) have scallion like bulbs that are strongly rooted just beneath the surface of the soil. If you tear a leaf or stem and take a sniff you will recognize the strong and distinctive onion/garlic-like scent of the Wild Leek

This herbaceous perennial plant produces basal leaves 4-9" long and 1 1/2 -3 1/2" across on short petioles (leaf stalks that joins two or three leaves to the stem). The basal leaves are ovate-oval to ovate-elliptic, light to medium green, hairless, and smooth along the margins.



Their petioles are reddish, hairless, and wrapped in a basal sheath below. The leaves develop during the spring and wither away by early summer. During early to mid-summer, a flowering stalk about 1/2-1 1/2' tall develops. This stalk is cylindrical and slightly tapered, smooth, and reddish to pale green; at its base, there is a papery sheath. The stalk terminates in a single rounded umbel (flower cluster) of flowers spanning 1-2" across; there are typically 20-40 flowers per umbel. At the base of this umbel, there is a pair of deciduous bracts. Each flower is about 1/4" across, consisting of 6 white to translucent white tepals (a segment of the outer whorl in a flower that has no differentiation between petals and sepals), a light green to pale yellow ovary, 6 stamens with pale yellow anthers, and a single white style. At the base of each flower, there is a slender pedicel that is white to greenish white. The blooming period occurs during the summer and lasts about 2 weeks. Both the flowers and foliage exude an onion-like odor. After the blooming period, the ovary of each flower matures into a 3-celled seed capsule; each cell contains a single globoid seed that becomes black at maturity. The root system consists of an ovoid bulb with fibrous roots at its base. Offsets often develop, producing clonal colonies of plants.

They like rich, moist, loose soil high in organic matter and low in pH, which makes mountain hardwood forests perfect. Ramps grow in small sparsely populated patches up to densely populated areas of several acres. They are usually ready to harvest by mid March through April depending on the region and only last a month or so before wilting and disappearing.

It is extremely important to think conservatively when considering ramp harvest. In many areas where ramps were once abundant they are now rare and populations continue to be decimated by over-harvesting for ramp festivals, fundraisers, farmers market sales and by individuals who gather as much as they can for their own use. Please be gentle and use good judgment. The most sustainable way to harvest ramps is by using a knife to gently move the soil from one side of the bulb. Then, taking care not to dislodge the bulb and roots, cut the base off of the bulb leaving it with the roots in the ground. This will ensure new ramps will grow the following season.

### Household Hint:

#### Keep Your Lawn Mower Blades Clean

Grass, has a tendency to accumulate on your lawn mower blades after you cut the lawn. Before you park your mower back in the garage or tool shed, wipe down the blades with a cloth dampened with undiluted white vinegar. It will clean off leftover grass on the blades, as well as any pests that may have been planning to hang out awhile.

## A Tree for Life at the Government Center



(From Pg. 1) Monticello, NY - In recognition of April being *National Donate Life Month*, Sullivan County's Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Office and County Clerk's Office staff planted an eastern redbud tree at the Sturgis

Road entrance to the Government Center in Monticello on April 9.

“One organ donation can save up to eight lives and affect 75 other lives, yet every 10 minutes, another person is added to the national transplant waiting list. We urge everyone to learn more about donating life-saving organs and to say 'yes' to being an organ donor when completing transactions via the DMV,” encouraged Sullivan County Clerk Russell Reeves, whose office oversees DMV operations in Sullivan County. “Nearly 9,000 New Yorkers are currently waiting for a lifesaving transplant, with 1,500 of them waiting for over five years. And around 400 of them will die every year because an organ is not available in time.”

New Yorkers can also enroll when applying for health insurance or via [www.donatelife.ny.gov/register](http://www.donatelife.ny.gov/register). Donate Life NYS is a nonprofit comprised of organ and tissue recovery organizations, health professionals and individuals whose lives have been affected by donation.

## FROM THE CHAIR...

### *A Monthly Roundup of News from the Chair of the Sullivan County Legislature*

Thanks to our Public Health team, we've gotten more than 7400 people vaccinated in Sullivan County as of the beginning of April. (I'm one of them.) And we plan to continue vaccinating as long as there is need and demand. Frankly, that may be for a while, as our number of infected remains stubbornly hovering around 250-260. Deaths have gone past the 70 mark, and we typically have around a dozen people in the hospital due to COVID-19 at any given time. And even while eligibility has opened up to pretty much anyone over 16, the State's lagging behind the national average of people over 65 who have been vaccinated. Plus there's those of us who won't get the vaccine, which doesn't make much sense to me, unless your doctor has ordered you not to take it. It's safe, effective and essential to getting our lives back to normal. Fighting that

won't change the reality and will prolong the suffering in our health and our economy. So we've all got work to do. The County's team of professionals is doing their part. Please join by doing yours.

I haven't been digging around in our garbage, but our Solid Waste employees have, and they tell me that close to a third of the waste we ship out of here every year - at a hefty cost - is made up of "organics" like food and plant material.

That's the kind of stuff you can compost, which is basically letting nature do her thing with decomposition, turning what we don't want into something we do: valuable fertilizer.

Some of us already have a composting pile in our backyards. But plenty of us don't, for whatever reason. So I talked to our Sustainability Coordinator Heather Brown & Recycling Coordinator Bill Cutler about setting up a Countywide composting program.

They ran some figures and discovered that by diverting just 20% of those organics to a local composting initiative, we could save over \$380,000.

And we could sell the compost we make. If you're a taxpayer, business person or government leader, that should be music to your ears.

But it should also ring in the ears of us who are environmentalists, gardeners and lovers of our natural beauty.

'Cause in addition to saving money, it will keep more tractor-trailers from making unnecessary trips. We'd be reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving soil quality, and controlling erosion, all at once.

So this is something I think the entire County can support, and I'm excited to say you'll be hearing a lot more about this.

I'm proud to say that in collaboration with the Town of Highland and the Eldred Central School District, Sullivan County worked out a reasonable deal with one of the largest taxpayers in our area, Millennium Pipeline.

Millennium initially wanted their \$86.3 million assessment lowered to \$27.8 million and the difference refunded, which would have been a huge hit to all our budgets.

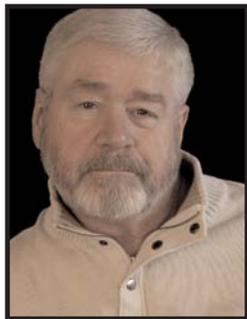
Instead, we approached them with a settlement to avoid expensive lawsuits, and they agreed to not ask for any refunds on taxes paid if their Highland assessment was reduced to \$62 million. We insisted it stay at that level through at least 2025.

We agreed with Millennium that that's a fair assessment, and we were happy to avoid digging into our pockets to refund previously paid taxes (which can easily happen in these cases).

While Legislature meetings are viewable online, not everyone has the time or ability. So let me fill you in on our activities in February and March... (Contd. Pg. 10)



*Rev. David Coon of White Lake gets his second Moderna vaccine shot at SUNY Sullivan in Loch Sheldrake, where our Public Health staff has already doled out over 7,000 doses of various COVID-19 vaccines. To be notified of upcoming clinics, visit [www.sullivanny.us](http://www.sullivanny.us).*



## The Reflecting Pool

### Mysterious Book Report No. 444

by John Dwaine McKenna

Although *The Reflecting Pool*, (Oceanview, \$26.95, 352 pages, ISBN 978-1-60809-411-0) by former diplomat and foreign service officer Otho Eskin was published late last year, it was only recently brought to our attention by Mike Durell at the Mysterious Book Shop in New York City . . . and we're very glad that he did . . . because this debut novel starts off with a hot bang, then grows more intense with every chapter. And along the way, it touches upon a radioac-

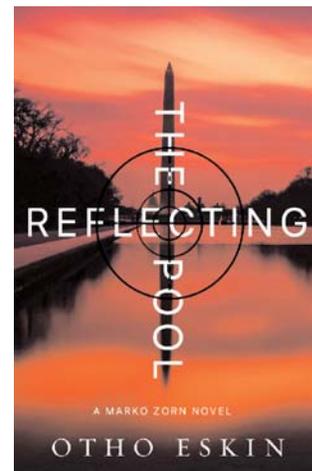
tive issue in our contemporary world – the two-tiered system of justice that's engineered by and for a powerful elite at the expense of ordinary citizens.

The novel begins when a shifty, but brilliant, Washington, D.C. homicide detective named Marko Zorn is called out at 3 a.m. to the reflecting pool on the Washington Mall, where the body of a Secret Service agent named Sandra Wilcox has just been found floating face down in the water. A turf war breaks out between Zorn, representing the D.C. Metropolitan Police Department, and the Secret Service, who had assigned Wilcox to the prestigious and elite Presidential Protection Detail. Homeland Security tries to assume control of the case and is fought off by Zorn. He then continues as the lead investigator despite the interference and a lack of help from the FBI and Department of Justice. They only vaguely inform him of Wilcox's disturbed brother, a U.S. Army vet and trained killer with ties to a group calling itself the Brotherhood of the Aryan Dawn. But not even a warning from a Presidential Advisor who knew Sandra Dixon, telling him that the investigation is putting national security at risk, deters Zorn from getting to the bottom of the case and solving the murder. At the same time however, an ever expanding pool of thugs, threats and plots take this propulsive whodunnit and thriller to an electrifying conclusion that will leave readers saying, Damn, I never saw that coming . . . and wondering how soon the next Marco Zorn story will get here!

Like the review? Let your friends know, *You saw it in the Mysterious Book Report*, because the greatest compliment you can give is to share our work with others.

And Hey! Check out our combined website that's simple to use and easy as pie to leave your comments! We're looking forward to hearing from all of you.

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



## Interview With The Author: Otho Eskin

by  
John Dwaine McKenna

Mr. Eskin is a talented, well traveled and accomplished author whose exciting first novel is reviewed in Mysterious Book Report No. 444. He has much to share with us, so let's begin. Here's our first question:

*When do you write?*

I try to write six hours a day, six days a week, from noon to six. Mornings I reserve for normal, real-world activities such as reading and sending emails, paying bills etc. I try to avoid these activities in the afternoon when I write fiction. I find it best to devote myself single-mindedly to writing. When I work on a writing project I want to get into a groove, undistracted. After six I tend to collapse. Obviously, this schedule is aspirational, not rigid.

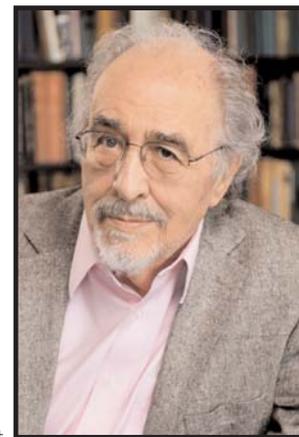
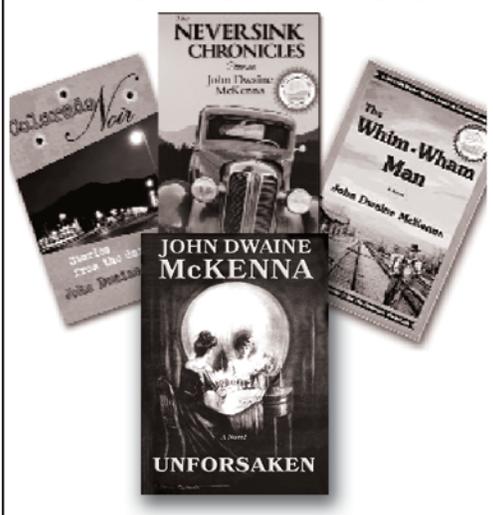
*Are any of your characters autobiographical?*

None are strictly autobiographical. I am not my main character, Marko Zorn, although probably at some subconscious level I project something of myself onto my characters. My main character, Marko Zorn, has nerves of steel and is cool and fearless when faced with danger. If I were faced with these threats, I would be a pussycat. I do share with Marko Zorn a taste for cool jazz and vintage sports cars, and a warped sense of humor. The similarities probably end there.

As to other characters, I have known and worked with many different people over the years, some very unusual, some even eccentric, and I take bits and pieces of the people I know or have met using the personal or social mannerisms that I think fit a scene.

(Contd. Pg. 11)

**John Dwaine McKenna's Books**  
are now available at the  
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*Otho Eskin*

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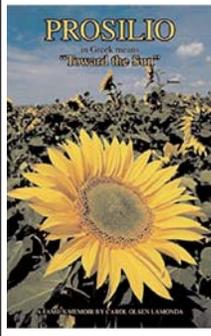
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## The FamilyMemoir, PROSILIO...

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



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## Tetta's

Samsonville is a small hamlet in the Town of Olive. They no longer have a post office and share the zip code with Olivebridge. The anchor of the town was Tetta's owned and operated by Fred Tetta whose family was known by everyone. Fred Tetta purchased it from his dad, Joseph Tetta, and operated it from 1971 to 2019. Fred,

# The Olive Jar

By Carol Olsen LaMonda

intersection of County Route 2 and the Krumville Road, was the place to get tires, gas, the newspaper, cigarettes, milk, eggs and bread. When Fred Tetta passed on, it left a big hole in Samsonville in more ways than one.

Now Fred Tetta's grandson, Primo Stropoli, along with wife Shani, mom (Joanne) and dad (Richard) and sister Cara, manages the new Tetta's, an expanded, upscaled version. Primo, has kept the "old-timey" charm mixed with humor and excellent taste in local products. The gas pumps are new and shiny, and the parking is clearly delineated for accommodate the increased business.



The addition boasts the top of the line cold-cuts in the deli with a few tables and chairs to enjoy breakfast, lunch, or dinner. When my husband visited there last week, we ordered the "Primo Supremo." I was about to order two when I was cautioned that one would be enough for the two of us. It was with a bit left over.



himself, was a bit of a local legend who starred in a Men's Softball League well into his seventies. Tetta's store, at the

(Contd. Pg. 7)



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## The Olive Jar Tetta's

(From Pg. 6) I loved the sandwich board that has its sandwich specialties named after local people. There's one called POP POP (I am guessing named after Fred) that sports liverwurst, onions, mustard, on an onion roll with a side of sarcasm. The Ana Garcia is the vegan specialty named after his grandmother who must be very proud of her grandson. Another is called DONNIE "PEACH", named after Donnie Beesmer who is affectionately known as "Peaches." Some have speculated that HOT MOMMA might be Mama Joanne, but she denies it!

We met Eddy Calhoun and wife Trang there, who gave us a "Covidly-correct" hug and said we should try the Calhoun Club. You can even get a five-foot Stromboli there.

It is not only a deli/convenience store, it is a gathering place for activities. There might be a deer pool, a wood-carving by Hoppy Quick, or a book signing. It is a magnet for neighbors and tourists. I am going back today to pick up some Bread Alone and one of the specialty sandwiches. I might get a calzone that my friend Elise raved about or one of the authentic Italian pizzas my friend Martha recommended.

Perhaps Primo will name a sandwich after his old English teacher. It would be the Schoolmarm Sub or English muffin, ham, baloney, sharp cheddar cheese, Greek olives, and a side of un-asked-for advice. Actually the BIG GUY, named for giant Tommy Pedersen, sounds better with roast beef, ham, American cheese, onions, oil and vinegar, or, perhaps, I might try the DRY BROOK ROADKILL.



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## Take Out Chicken Barbeque Fundraiser

Saturday, May 22, 4 to 6:30 p.m.

Time and the Valleys Museum

The 2nd annual Take Out (contactless!) Chicken Barbeque will be held on Saturday, May 22nd, from 4 to 6:30 p.m. at the Time and the Valleys Museum parking lot, 332 Main Street (St. Rt. 55), Grahamsville NY.

The BBQ includes Murray's Chicken, BBQ'd to perfection by the Neversink Fire Department, delicious sides (baked beans, baked potato, corn bread, coleslaw and brownie) by Chef Jaime of Neversink General Store and ice cream from Gillette Creamery. It also includes a trivia booklet for activities to do at home after your delicious BBQ. Enjoy a delicious dinner, support the Museum and never leave your car!



Board President Richard I. Coombe at the 2020 Drive Through Chicken BBQ. Photo by Dennis Muthig

Tickets for the Chicken Barbeque are \$13 per meal and are available on line: [www.timeandthevalleymuseum.org](http://www.timeandthevalleymuseum.org), or by sending a check to: Time and the Valleys Museum, P.O. Box 254, Grahamsville NY 12740. A limited number of



Museum Trustees Anne-Marie Kremer, Cher Woehl, Dorothy Muthig, Barbara Garigliano and Diana Weiner helping at the 2020 Drive Through Chicken BBQ. Photo by Dennis Muthig

tickets will also be available at the door. Please call 845 985-7700 or email [info@timeandthevalleymuseum.org](mailto:info@timeandthevalleymuseum.org) for more information.

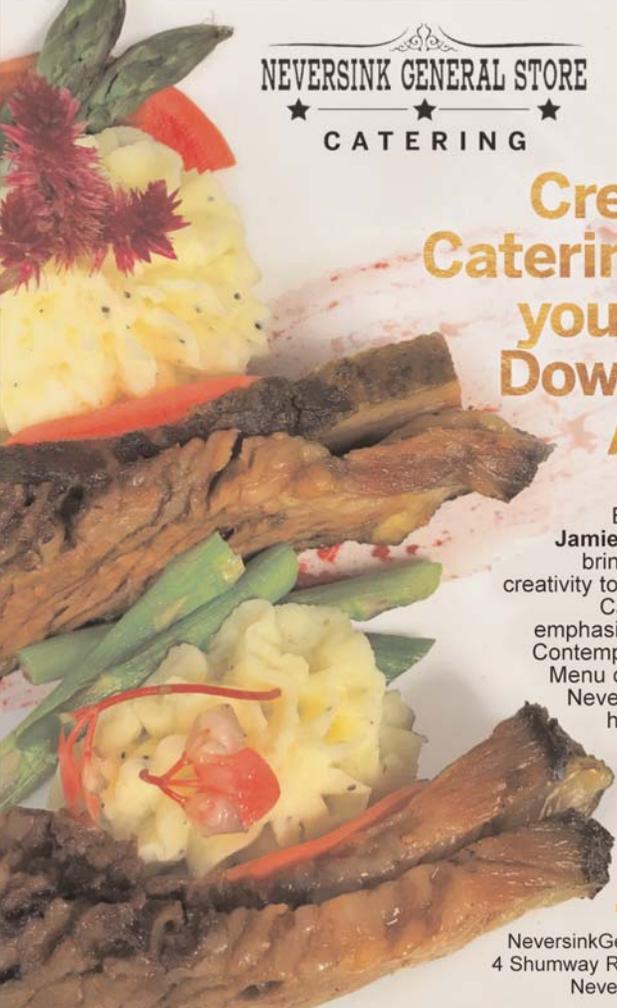
**About the Time and the Valleys Museum:** Connecting Water, people and the Catskills, the Time and the Valleys Museum is open Memorial Day to Labor Day, weekends, from noon to 4 p.m.

**Exhibitions:**

- Water and the Valleys, an exhibit on the history of the Rondout and Neversink watershed area from early geological times to the 20th century. This newly renovated exhibition includes interactives such as a Native American artifact guessing game, grinding corn with a mortar and pestle, videos and more.
- Tunnels, Toil and Trouble: New York City's Quest for Water and the Rondout-Neversink Story, an interactive exhibit on NYC water supply system and the towns that were removed to build the system, which includes computer interactives, games, puzzles, videos and building a dam and tunnel.
- 1930s Lost Catskill Farm an outdoor experience with farm house, 1870s barn, electric plant, milk house, outhouse and workshop with working waterwheel!
- One Teacher, Eight Grades, One Room a temporary exhibition on one room schools in the Tri-Valley area.

The Museum is located at 332 Main Street (St. Rt. 55) in Grahamsville, Sullivan County. Adults admission is a suggested donation of \$5, Children under 16 \$2, and children under six are free. As a Blue Star Museum, the Museum offers free admission to active duty military members and up to five family members.

For more information call 845 985-7700, e-mail [info@timeandthevalleymuseum.org](mailto:info@timeandthevalleymuseum.org) or visit [www.timeandthevalleymuseum.org](http://www.timeandthevalleymuseum.org)



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# PBIS Program Keeps Spirits Soaring During Pandemic

(From Pg. 1) Also, BCES celebrated the 100th Day of School when kids and staff chose their own special costume.

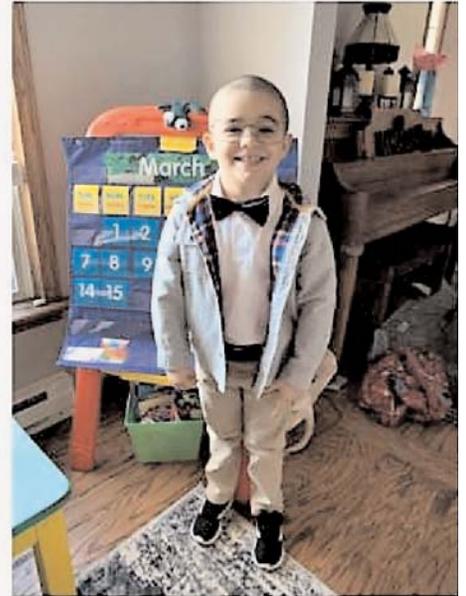
## Swap Day



Miss. Aubrey



Mr. Ethan



Mr. Noah



Spirit Week this year was March 15-March 19. Monday was "Swap Day" where teachers dressed up like students and students dress up like teachers. Tuesday was "Celebrity Day" where you dressed as a favorite celebrity. Wednesday was when everyone wore green in honor of St. Patrick's Day. Thursday was "Decades Day" when each grade level was assigned a decade and dressed according to the styles of that era.



The week ended with Sports Day where everyone dressed in favorite sports gear.

FCSD Staff received monthly GOOSE Awards. Staff nominated colleagues for their hard work, willingness to help students, and for dedication to the success of our students.

A new way to honor the entire staff was to host a special Staff Luncheon in the BCES School Gym, with proper social distancing. Everyone enjoyed a buffet lunch of sandwiches, chips, soft drinks and cookies made by the PBIS team. PBIS was thanking the BCES staff for their tireless work to make this year a success for all students. The Staff appreciates PBIS for bringing a sense of normalcy and lifting the spirits of everyone in the Fallsburg Central School District.



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### *A Monthly Roundup of News from the Chair of the Sullivan County Legislature* (From Pg. 4)

We authorized the annual Countywide Litter Pluck, when you can dump roadside trash at our waste stations for free from April through June.

We executed agreements to launch a major rebuild of East Broadway (County Route 173) in Monticello.

We enacted a Human Rights Law that paves the way for a new, Legislature-appointed nine-member advisory board.

We kept the Certified Home Health Agency (CHHA) in house, rather than continuing to consider selling it to a private firm.

We renegotiated the Sullivan County Visitors Association's (SCVA's) contract, in order to ensure they have ample operating funds while also utilizing some of that funding for an expansion of tourism infrastructure initiatives.

We supported the creation of a volunteer Vaccine Coalition which will help local people learn more about COVID-19 vaccinations.

#### HOW TO GET IN TOUCH

Looking for the Chairman?

845-807-0435 or [Robert.Doherty@co.sullivan.ny.us](mailto:Robert.Doherty@co.sullivan.ny.us)

General question? 845-794-3000

Need a specific name or number? [www.sullivan.ny.us/countydirectory](http://www.sullivan.ny.us/countydirectory)

### SC Fraud Task Force Announces Arrests

Liberty, NY - The Sullivan County Welfare Fraud Task Force has made the following arrests:

- March 12 - Bridget K. Sattler, 34, of Monticello was arrested and charged with the Class E Felony of Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree and Theft of Services, a Class A Misdemeanor. It is alleged that Sattler stole \$816.52 by taking Medicaid Transportation for non-medical reasons and then filing fraudulent vouchers for the trips. Sattler was released on an appearance ticket to appear in the Town of Liberty Court at a later date.
- March 16 - Melanie I. Powell, 41, of White Sulphur Springs was arrested and charged with



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the Class E Felony of Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree and Theft of Services, a Class A Misdemeanor. It is alleged that Powell stole \$985.98 by taking Medicaid Transportation for non-medical reasons and then filing fraudulent vouchers for the trips. Powell was released on an appearance ticket to appear in the Town of Liberty Court at a later date.

- March 24 - Joshua T. Lessard, 37, of Monticello was arrested on an outstanding Parole Violation Warrant issued for violating the conditions of his Parole. Lessard was remanded to the Sullivan County Jail pending a Parole Hearing.

- March 31 - A joint investigation with members of the New York State Department of Financial Services Frauds Bureau and Sullivan County Welfare Fraud Task Force has resulted in the arrest of Roy L. Elliot, 54, of Monticello and Bertha L. Greene, 56, of Liberty. Both Elliot and Greene were arrested and charged with the Class C Felony of Forgery in the First Degree, the Class E Felony of Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree, the Class E Felony of Grand Larceny in the Fourth Degree, the Class E Felony of Welfare Fraud in the Fourth Degree, the Class E Felony of Misuse of Food Stamps in the Fourth Degree and the Class A Misdemeanor of Conspiracy in the Fifth Degree. Elliot and Greene allegedly conspired to forge a SNAP re-certification document and continued to collect benefits in Elliot's name in the amount of \$1,950, even though Elliot was incarcerated at the Sullivan County Jail and ineligible for services. Both were arraigned in the Town of Liberty Court. Elliot was returned to the Sullivan County Jail, and Greene was released on her own recognizance. Both Elliot and Greene are scheduled to return to the Town of Liberty Court at a later date.

## The Scene Too

-Jane Harrison

Jane continues to wish you all well. Plans are, she will be finished with her current project and be back next week.

### Interview With The Author: Otho Eskin

*From Pg. 5)*

*What makes a character endearing?*

My main character, Marko Zorn, cannot be said to be endearing. He's far too dangerous for that, but I do try to make him interesting and sympathetic. There are many popular books where the main character is an outright villain. Readers are sometimes drawn to that. Think of Patricia Highsmith's character Tom Ripley. There is nothing endearing about him, but many readers find him fascinating. The aim of any writer, in whatever genre, is to make the main character engaging, even if flawed; someone the reader cares about and can identify with. But they have to be interesting. In my experience as a reader, I find characters who are unblemished and perfect turn out to be uninteresting.

*How long, start to finish, do you take to write a finished novel, on average?*

It's hard to say exactly. I am a fast writer and could probably complete a first draft of a novel in six to eight weeks. But I am an obsessive rewriter. I can't seem to leave my text alone. I am always tinkering with it. Not the main plot. That is usually fixed. But paragraphs and sentence I tend to rework. And there are the contributions from other readers who often have valuable suggestions and advice that can lead to further rewrites. As an estimate, it probably takes me a year from when I put the first words on paper until I have a finished product.

*Do you plot-outline or wing it?*

I plot outline but only in my head. I have never written out a plot outline on paper. When I start a writing project I know who the main characters are. I know the opening scene, I know the final climactic scene, and I have a general sense of how the narrative progresses. As I do the actual writing, new scenes and events and even new characters may occur to me, and I incorporate them. Most scenes I pre-write in my head long before putting them down on paper. I don't think I have ever written a scene before I have imagined the entire scene in my head first. Then writing becomes more like transcribing my thoughts.

*Do you write in more than one genre?*

Before writing thrillers, I wrote plays. Maybe for that reason I use lots of dialogue to tell the story. And stage directions in play scripts are always in the present tense and maybe that influenced me to write my novels in the present tense.

*What method do you use to keep track of plot details?*

I always maintain a separate manuscript on my hard drive with details about the story including characters' names, dates, and time lines that I refer to constantly as I write.

*Where do you get most, some, or any your story ideas from?*

Many of the ideas in my fiction are drawn, loosely, from current events. One of the main themes in *The Reflecting Pool* involves a plot by a white supremacist militia to assassinate the President of the United States and start a revolution. My next novel, *HEAD SHOT*, features a 'Me Too' incident and the violent climax is drawn from a real event that occurred in Washington

involving an international diplomatic assassination.

*Are you more comfortable writing in the first, or third person POV?*

My novels have all been written in the first person (and present tense). Everything that happens is seen through the eyes of the protagonist, Marko Zorn. I feel for this kind of fiction, the first person form adds urgency and immediacy to the narrative.

*Where could you be reached on the World Wide Web?*

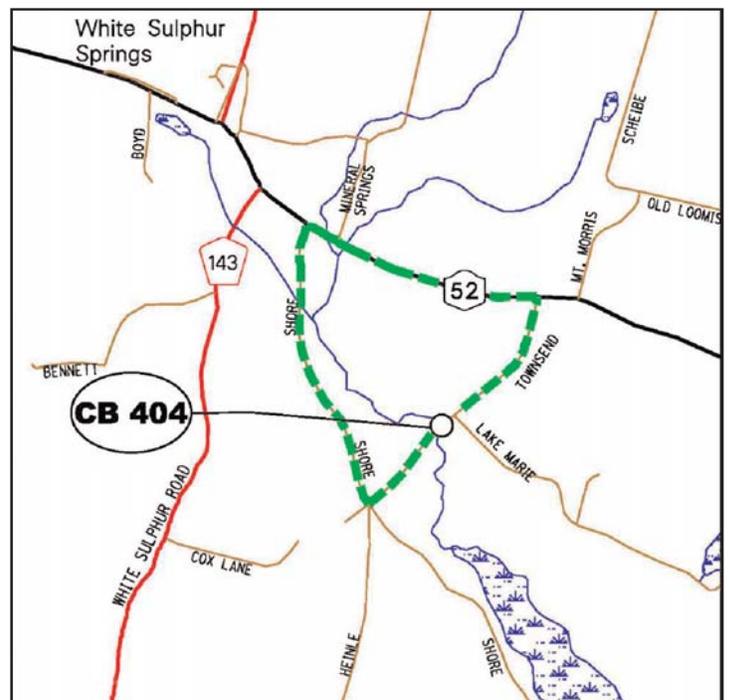
[www.Othoeskin.com](http://www.Othoeskin.com)

Whew! What a list of accolades! Thx again for taking time to speak with our audience today. Please keep us in your contacts list and let the MBR know about your next literary project.

A lawyer and former diplomat, Otho Eskin served in the US Army and in the United States Foreign Service in Washington and in Syria, Yugoslavia, Iceland and Berlin. He was Vice-Chairman of the US delegation to the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, participated in the negotiations on the International Space Station, was principal US negotiator of several international agreements and was US representative to the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. He speaks French, German and Serbo-Croatian. He was a frequent participant at conferences and has testified before the US Congress and commissions.

Otho Eskin has written many plays including: *Act of God*, *Murder As A Fine Art*, *Duet*, *Julie*, *Final Analysis*, *Season In Hell*, among others, some of which have been professionally produced in Washington, New York and in Europe.

## SC ROAD CLOSURE



Liberty, NY - The Sullivan County Division of Public Works is **closing a portion of Liberty Town Highway 70** (Townsend Road), in the Town of Liberty, to replace **County Bridge 404**.

County Bridge 404 is located approximately 0.6 miles southwest of the intersection of State Route 52 and Townsend Rd. This section of Townsend Road is scheduled to be closed to all traffic starting at 8 a.m. April 26, 2021, and **will remain closed for approximately 5 months**.

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(pre-registration required)

April 15

Ellenville Jazz Trio

May 20

Latin Chamber Jazz  
Roland Vasquez Sextet

June 17

Mozart!  
Trio-Solitude with guest artists

### MOM IN MISU

(Coffee House)  
FB 1st Saturdays

March 6

Two Voices from Beyond

April 3

"Blue Haiku"  
Folk/Funk

May 1

Hudson Valley Bluegrass

June 5

TBA

### LITE BITES

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April 8 and 22

May 13 and 27

June 10 and 24

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## Tri-Valley Lions Calico Geese Quilt Raffle - June 1, 2021

The Tri-Valley Lions organization is pleased to announce a fund-raising raffle of a beautiful quilt donated to our group by Sally Abrams, President of the Calico Geese Quilters group, which has 45 talented members and meets at the Cornell Cooperative Extension in Ferndale. Per Sally, the Calico Geese Quilters have donated their handmade, gorgeous quilts in the last year to the Sullivan County Veterans Alliance, Foster Children of Sullivan County, Ride to Survive, Allyson Whitney Foundation, The Liberty Fire Department, Cornell Cooperative Extension, and now to the Tri-Valley Lions.

Sally tells us that the quilt donated to the Lions for its raffle is a 60" X 70" Bed Topper, and she hopes "that everyone opens their hearts and wallets to support the Tri-Valley Lions."

The drawing will be held on June 1, 2021, and the winner does not need to be present to win. Raffle tickets are \$5 for 1 ticket or \$10 for 3 tickets. Tickets will be available from Gene Froehlich at 845-439-4921; Mary Lou Vernooy (Membership Chairperson) at 845-434-7781 or Terry Delaney at 845-434-8696.

All funds raised from the sale of the raffle tickets will go right into the Tri-Valley Lions Charity Account so our group can continue its mission to support Guiding Eyes for the Blind, Lions Cancer Awareness, 5 local food pantries, eye tests and glasses for those in our community who are unable to afford these on their own due to lack of insurance, assistance to those in our community that have had catastrophic illnesses, or the misfortune of loss due to fire, The Heart-A-Thon, Diabetes awareness, and so many more causes.

The Tri-Valley Lions group was chartered in 1977 and has been serving our community for more than 40 years. While we have lost many members over the years, we are proud to say that we still have several members who have been with our group since its inception. To those members we lost over the years, we still think about them, miss them, and continue to acknowledge the dedication of all members, past and present, and we know our community is appreciative of the contributions we've made since 1977.

**Due to Covid 19, The Tri-Valley Lions group has been unable to perform our major fundraising efforts,** which include running the soda booth at the Fairgrounds,

our Annual Tri-Valley Journey For Sight and Tag Day. We look forward to the day we can once again interact in person, open our soda booth, and do our Journey For Sight Walk, which will increase our Charity Account so we can be even more responsive to those who need our assistance. To help get there we hope that all will continue to be tested, get the vaccine when available, wear your mask, practice social distancing, wash or sanitize your hands frequently, and stay home when you are ill.

Thank you for your support and of course we are always looking for new members to join The Tri-Valley Lions. For additional information about the Quilt or raffles or becoming a member of The Tri-Valley Lions, please call Gene Froehlich at 845-439-4921.

## Tri-Valley Lions Calico Geese Quilt Raffle



**Drawing- June 1, 2021**

*(Winner does not need to be present to win)*

**Raffle tickets are \$5 for 1 ticket  
or \$10 for 3 tickets.**

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Simply Spring Cleaning - L. Comando

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**ACROSS**

- 1. "A Man's Home"
- 5. Pair
- 8. Canine
- 9. Pail
- 12. Soup dish
- 14. Held
- 15. Garbage
- 19. Annual Spring chore
- 23. Cubicle
- 24. Either
- 25. Crone; old woman
- 27. Dust off
- 29. Post Office (Abbr)
- 31. Offers
- 32. Slate; floor covering
- 35. Coat of powdery dirt
- 37. Froth
- 39. Swollen
- 40. Ach!
- 41. New; invigorating
- 44. Job

- 45. Scarce
- 46. Saint (Abbr)
- 47. Each
- 48. Ourselves
- 49. Person who consumes food
- 52. Weight (Abbr)
- 53. Corridor
- 55. People that clean
- 56. That thing
- 57. Written group of items

**DOWN**

- 1. Male swan
- 2. Gone by
- 3. Provisions
- 4. Moist
- 6. Previously existed
- 7. Northeast (Abbr)
- 9. Exist
- 10. Connecticut (Abbr)
- 11. Path
- 13. Tepid
- 16. Cognizant

- 17. Light source
- 18. Pins
- 19. To such a great extent
- 20. Render a finish
- 21. Framework
- 22. Dirt
- 26. Anno Domini
- 28. Tugs
- 30. Preposition
- 31. Tavern
- 32. Spasmodic contraction
- 33. August sun sign
- 34. Enlist
- 36. Absorbent cloths
- 38. Frequent
- 42. Stitches
- 43. Head covering
- 46. To pierce
- 48. United

- Parcel Service (Abbr)
- 50. Autoexposure
- 51. King
- 53. Hawaii (Postal Abbr)
- 54. Near

**Impossible Coconut Pie**

Springtime is a very busy time - running the kids to baseball practice, sprucing up the yard, and of course spring cleaning, just to name a few of the season's activities!

This week's recipe comes from my sister, Elise, who gave me the recipe back in the '60's.

Not only is it delicious, but it is quick and easy. Just the type of dessert you need for this busy time of the year

- 2 cups milk
- 1/2 cup baking mix\*
- 1/4 cup butter
- 3/4 cup white sugar
- 4 eggs
- 1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1 cup flaked coconut

**DIRECTIONS:**

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Grease a 9 inch pie plate.
  2. Combine milk, sugar, biscuit mix, eggs, butter or margarine, and vanilla in blender container. Cover, and blend on low speed for 3 minutes. Pour into prepared pie plate. Let stand about 5 minutes. Sprinkle with coconut.
  3. Bake for 40 minutes. Serve warm.
- \*Jiffy Mix, Bisquick or your own mix

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The butterflies are helping in the Fairy Garden. What are the differences between the two pictures?

Flowery Cryptogram

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

25 17 8 9 15 5 9 25 17 8 9 15 18 1

25 3 1 3 25 14 15



FLOWERY WORDSEARCH

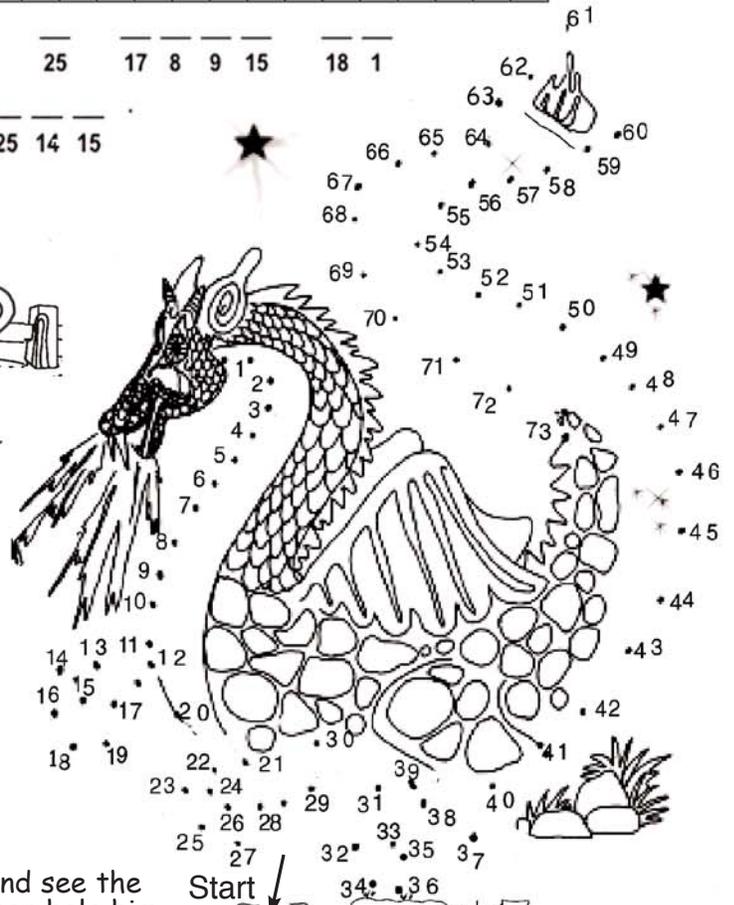
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| LAVENDER | GARDEN    |
| PLANTS   | FLOWERS   |
| POPPY    | BUTTERFLY |
| FERN     | BEE       |
| MUSHROOM | ROSE      |

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

# Kids' Spring Fun Page

L. Comando

Follow the dots and see the magic dragon. Then help him through the maze to get back home to his castle.



Cryptogram Key

25	18	26	4	15	13	6	12	5	20	23	22	14	3	8	16	10	17	9	7	2	19	11	24	1	21
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z



## Letter to the Editor: Virus Susceptibility Of Our Navy

As a former Navy enlisted and officer who served on 13 ships in the 1950s and 1960s I am very concerned with the preparedness of our ships in light of the COVID19 pandemic..

CAPT. Crozier, the commanding officer of the USS Theodore Roosevelt (TR) was relieved of command because he publicly criticized the Navy's response to the COVID19 outbreak on his ship. He showed poor judgement by publicizing the event to our potential adversaries who could possibly take advantage of the TRs situation, but his concern for his crew and the viability of his ship was valid.

Our ships house anywhere from about 25 to 5000 naval personnel in cramped quarters depending on the size of the ship, e.g. minecraft versus aircraft carriers. When the TR was laid up we had one of only 11 attack carriers out of commission. Typically there are five or six carriers in port undergoing repairs, routine maintenance, refurbishment and other requirements. This leaves only five or six carriers available to cover the vast corners of the world with forward deployment of our sea power. If one or more carriers are laid up due to serious health conditions, we might not be able to respond in a timely manner to threats around the world.

The Pentagon has been working on plans to combat viruses within our armed forces, including vulnerable ships. Part of the solution to combat viruses is to restrict visits to foreign ports in countries that have virus outbreaks. We can't restrict the movement of personnel in home ports because of the need to refresh on land after deployments at sea. A possibility is to temporarily change home ports of ships for short periods to avoid virus hot

spots, and if available and useable, utilize former facilities that were shut down or drawn down. Civilian shipyards and docking facilities might be able to be used on a temporary basis. Even with virus vaccinations the Navy might have to conduct routine testing of personnel on board ships, especially when they are ashore and come back aboard ships. Personnel infected with a virus would then be quarantined ashore. If sailors contract a virus while at sea the Navy has to have a separate space in each ship with negative pressure, and must have adequate ventilators and ppe available. .

All naval personnel must be required to receive COVID vaccinations and other virus vaccinations when they become available, and they should not be allowed to opt out. Our national security hinges on the readiness of our military. Unfortunately, I do not see how our Navy can implement personnel distancing. We might be able to reduce the size of crews with more automation and possibly have less contact in working spaces but they would still have to work and eat in crowded settings. However, we still need a minimum complement to run the ship and man the aircraft on carriers.

The virus enemy is upon us, and it will require innovative adjustments within our armed forces, especially the Navy, to provide our country with a viable national security posture. Communist China accidentally unleashed a highly contagious and lethal virus on the world and it could try to use biological warfare against our military in the future. China is currently expanding its military, including its Navy, and It has more naval vessels than the United States, especially frigates and destroyers. By 2025 China will have more aircraft carriers and amphibious assault ships in the Pacific than the United States. We need to evaluate our Naval strategy in the Pacific in light of the expansion and threat of China's Navy.

Donald Moskowitz  
Londonderry NH



**Music on Market presents**

**John Simon's Greater Uptown Ellenville Jazz Orchestra**

**Thursday, April 15, 2021 at 7:30 PM**

Featuring special guest Steve Raleigh, guitar and the Rhythm section of Jeff "Siege" Siegel, drums, and Rich Syracuse, bass

A virtual concert streamed on Zoom, pre registration is required. Scan your phone's camera over the QR code in the top right corner to get your tickets today!

To register go to:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/john-simons-greater-uptown-ellenville-jazz-orchestra-tickets-149620931233>

## LEGALS/PUBLIC NOTICES

## NOTICE

The Town of Neversink will be accepting applications for Lifeguard positions at the Grahamsville Fairgrounds Pool for the 2021 season.

Application forms are available at the Town Hall, Grahamsville, NY Monday thru Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. **Applicants must include copies of all current certifications, length of time available to work and any needed time off when submitting their applications.** (Photocopies of certifications can be made at the Town Hall when the application is brought in.)

**PLEASE NOTE: THE CUT-OFF DATE FOR RECEIVING APPLICATIONS WILL BE 4:30 PM ON FRIDAY, MAY 14, 2021.**

Town of Neversink Summer Swim Program is also requesting applicants for WSI Instructors. For further information on either please call Town Hall at 985-2262, ext. 319.

4/15

## Fallsburg School District

### 2021-2022 Pre-K Registration 2021-2022 Registración de Prekinder

• Pre-K students must be 4 on or before December 1, 2021.

• **Pre-K Registration will take place from April 6th-April 23rd.**  
**Registration will take place online. Please visit**

<http://www.fallsburgcsd.net/parents/registration> for instructions and to reach our online registration form

\*Please note: ALL incoming Kindergarteners MUST register, even if registered for Pre-K last year.

-----  
• Los estudiantes de Prekinder deben tener 4 años el 1 de diciembre de 2021 o antes  
• La registración de Pre-K se llevará a cabo del 6 al 23 de abril.

• La registración se realizará en línea. Por favor visite:  
<http://www.fallsburgcsd.net/parents/registration> para instrucciones y acceder a nuestro formulario de registro en línea

\* Tenga en cuenta: todos los estudiantes nuevos de Kinder DEBEN registrarse, incluso si se registraron para Prekinder el año pasado.

## As Americans Struggle to Recover from COVID-10 Crisis, Gillibrand announces Legislation to Break Down Barriers to Essential Social Services

### HOPE Act Would Ensure Families Can Access Vital Benefits To Reduce Food and Housing Insecurity, And Obtain Health Care, Job Training and Unemployment Assistance Programs

WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand announced legislation to break down barriers to essential social services as Americans struggle to recover from the COVID-19 crisis. Gillibrand will reintroduce the Health, Opportunities, and Personal Empowerment Act, or HOPE Act, comprehensive legislation to break down barriers for low-income individuals and families so they can access the social services and benefits they need to make ends meet. Throughout the pandemic, millions of recently unemployed Americans have turned to government support services - many for the first time - in order to keep food on the table and pay their bills. The HOPE Act would modernize and streamline how eligible recipients access critical nutrition, housing, health care, job training, and unemployment assistance programs. Companion legislation was reintroduced in the House of Representatives by Congressman Joe Morelle (D-NY).

“Throughout the course of the pandemic, millions of Americans have lost their jobs and are struggling to support their families,” said Senator Gillibrand. “Now, in this critical time of recovery, the federal government has a responsibility to make anti-poverty, health care, nutrition, housing, and work support programs accessible to as many people as possible. The HOPE Act would remove barriers for low-income and underserved Americans to access government services, and streamline our safety net programs. I’m proud to reintroduce this legislation with Congressman Morelle and I will continue to prioritize support for New Yorkers in need.”

“Every day, families rely on government programs to help put food on the table and meet basic needs-and these services have been in even greater demand during the COVID-19 pandemic,” said Congressman Morelle. “Unfortunately, there are significant barriers that too often hold individuals back from accessing the benefits they need and deserve. I’m proud to partner with Senator Gillibrand on our legislation, the HOPE Act, to help empower Americans with the tools to succeed and ensure no one is left behind.”

Joel Berg, CEO of Hunger Free America, a nationwide direct service and advocacy organizations said, “Given that the newly-enacted recovery act authorizes additional, live-saving hunger and poverty assistance, it’s particularly urgent for advance the idea, which Hunger Free America has long championed, of making it easier for low-income people to apply online for a wide variety of benefits, and enable them to voluntarily agree with government and nonprofit agencies on plans to increase their long-term economic opportunity. We are very grateful that Congressman Morelle and Senator Gillibrand are taking the lead in turning this idea into reality. HOPE accounts and actions plans have the potential to dramatically improve and modernize safety net programs both during the crisis and beyond - thereby both reducing poverty in America and ensuring more program efficiency for taxpayers. This effort is also perfectly in-line with the Biden Administration’s push to upgrade the nation’s digital infrastructure. As always, we appreciate Senator Gillibrand being one of the nation’s top leaders on hunger and food issues.”

More than 82 million people have applied for unemployment benefits since the beginning of the pandemic. However, the process has been mired in administrative challenges including unreasonably long wait times, misinformation regarding eligibility, dropped calls, and the inability to start the application process. Additionally, while demand for nutrition services like SNAP has skyrocketed, many states and counties are struggling with significant backlogs. Hardworking families are relying on these programs more than ever, yet they have faced unacceptable delays or have been turned away for benefits for which they qualify. The HOPE Act would provide meaningful change to the administration, application, and distribution of key benefits at a time when they are needed the most.



# JOIN THE SULLIVAN RENAISSANCE VOLUNTEER CORPS

*Help make a difference in your community.*



**Wednesday, April 21**  
**at 12:30 pm or 7:00 pm**  
**via Zoom**

**The same information will be offered at both sessions**  
**Registration is required**

The Sullivan Renaissance Volunteer Corps offers diverse opportunities for grassroots engagement while connecting people with places and one another. Volunteers are assigned based on individual skills, interests, and availability.

**Register Online @ [SullivanRenaissance.org](https://SullivanRenaissance.org) or call 845-295-2445**  
**Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for seminar and event updates.**

6<sup>th</sup> Annual

# Wings & Wheels for Warriors



**Dash Plaques for first  
150 Vehicles Registered!  
6 Categories!  
Over 50 Trophies!**

**Saturday, May 15<sup>th</sup> 2021**  
 Rain date: Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup>  
 9am to 3pm  
 Judging begins at 11am  
**Joseph Y. Resnick Airport**  
 199 Airport Road  
 Ellenville, NY 12428

**Benefiting the Disabled American Veterans**  
 Family Fun • Plane Rides • Food •  
 DJ Brian • Kid's Choice Award

Proudly  
 Hosted By:   
**SPRAGUE & KILLEEN**



The participant cost for this event is \$10 in advance or \$15 on the day of the show. If you wish to pre-register please fill in the form below and mail it to our office along with a check or money order **written to Disabled American Veterans**

**Thank you for your support, we look forward to seeing you there!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Club Affil (if any): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, St, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle Type (Please Circle One):  
 Car Truck Bike Jeep Plane Tractor  
 Vehicle Year: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Vehicle Make: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Vehicle Model: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Applicants Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Upon signing this form, the applicant agrees to release Sprague & Killeen, Inc. and anyone connected with this show, from any and all known and/or unknown damages, injury, losses, judgements, and/or claims that may be suffered by the entrant to his/her person or property.

The applicant assumes full responsibility for his/her vehicle.

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

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

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

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



Sundown United Methodist Church

**Covered Dish Supper**

5:30 pm

To be Announced

*Sundown United Methodist Church Hall*



**Grahamsville United Methodist Church**

**Saturday Thrift Sale**

9:00 am to 12 noon  
To be Announced

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



**COLONIAL FAMILY of FUNERAL HOMES**

**PRE-PLANNING, FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICES  
VETERAN'S CARE, MONUMENTS & ENGRAVING**

LOCATIONS IN WOODBOURNE, LIBERTY, MONTICELLO, LIVINGSTON MANOR & KAUNEONGA LAKE

434-7363 292-7160 794-2700 583-5445 439-4333

<http://www.colonialfamilyfuneralhomes.com>

MONUMENTS INSTALLED IN ALL CEMETERIES  
CREMATION MEMORIALS & BENCHES, MONUMENT LETTERING & CLEANING



**ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL MISSION**

The Little Church with the Big Heart

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

Music by Fred VanWagner  
Coffee hour follows service  
All are welcome!

5277 State Rt. 42 • South Fallsburg  
845-436-7539  
[www.standrewsepiscopalmission.org](http://www.standrewsepiscopalmission.org)

**CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**  
(Embraces Fallsburg, Neversink, Sundown and Ulster Heights)

6317 Rte. 42, Woodbourne, NY

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

**Daily Mass Schedule:** Monday morning 8:50 am; Tuesday morning 8:50 am; Wednesday morning No Mass; Thursday afternoon 5:45 pm; Friday morning 8:50 am and Saturday morning 8:50 am.

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



Grahamsville & Sundown United Methodist Churches

**House Worship Plan  
Worship Service & Tuesday Evening Bible Study Zoom Link**

Join Zoom Meeting - Worship Service & Tuesday Evening Bible Study Zoom Link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2029912673?pwd=R2lJYUhyTVdsQWdMUXZvTEtCeGdLZz09>  
Meeting ID: 202 991 2673 Passcode: 012740

Dial by your location  
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)  
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

**The Bible Study continues every Tuesday at 7 pm.**  
The next meeting will be a Seventh-week gathering. If you are interested in joining the Bible Study, please feel free to contact the pastor, Seung Jin Hong. 845-985-2283

*Grahamsville Reformed Church*

*The Church with a friendly welcome*

**Pastor Kenneth Ronk**  
Sunday School 9:30 am  
Worship Service 9:30 am  
P O Box 238 - Route 55  
Grahamsville, NY 12740  
845-985-7480

**Claryville Reformed Church**



Claryville Road  
Claryville, NY 12725  
845-985-2041

Worship Services @ 10:00 am

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

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

Sunday Mass - 9:30 am  
Holy Days 5:30 pm

Penance 9:00 am, 2nd Sunday of the month  
Rev. Thomas P. Kiely, Pastor

**Loucks Funeral Home**

**Geoff and Heather Hazzard**

**"Celebrating Life, One Family at a Time"**

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

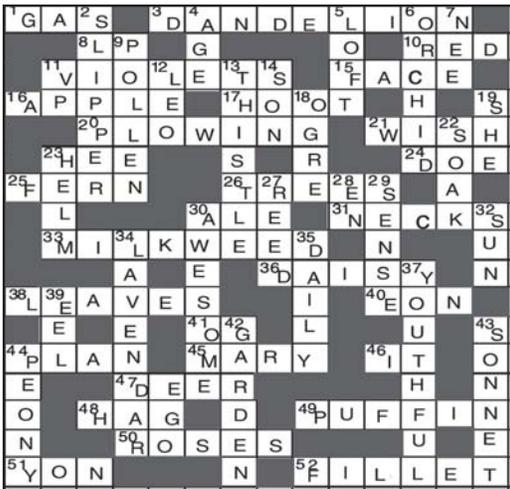
**AL-ANON MEETINGS-** <http://www.al-anon.alateen.org>  
 Mon- 7:00 p.m. United Methodist Church, 170 N. Main Street, Liberty • Thurs- 7:00 p.m. Immaculate Conception Church Annex, 6317 Rt 42, Woodbourne  
 Sat- 8:00 p.m. United Methodist Church, 170 N. Main Street, Liberty

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

## Catskill Fly Fishing Center and Museum Free Virtual Conservation Series: Catskill Mountainkeeper's *Forests for the Future*

With lands & forest expert Kate O'Connor from the Catskill Mountainkeeper Join us and Catskill Mountainkeeper on Wednesday April 7 at 6pm EST to learn about the Catskill forest and its dynamic system that has supported human needs and interests for thousands of years. Today our forests face the emerging threats of pests & disease, increased human impact, and climate change. Just how healthy are your woods? Join Kate O'Connor of Catskill Mountainkeeper and the Beaverkill Valley Land Trust to learn how to evaluate the health of your forest and engage in active management strategies for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations. 45 min program 15 min Q&A. To register go to: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJApfuqtpjooH9RmwME0tqrjDvx-uFmZWOYY>

### Ans to last week's Crossword



## Olive Free Library Association Annual Summer Group Show

The Olive Free Library Association will be presenting its annual summer group show this year juried by well-known regional artist Tom Sarrantonio. The exhibition will open on Saturday, July 24, 2 - 4 pm, and will run through September 11, 2021. All Hudson Valley artists aged 16 and over are invited, and all genres of art are considered but work must be wall-hung. Image files must be submitted by Monday, June 7, 2021.

Submission guidelines have been attached and can be found at <https://www.olivefreelibrary.org/call-for-art/>

**All Aboard!**  
 Join the Fun!  
**Play Mexican Train**  
 FREE FUN every FRIDAY 1- 4 pm  
 in the upstairs meeting room at the Neversink Town Hall

Also **WANTED** People to play cards

SUUJI WA TANSU NI KAGIRU  
 answer

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

## Chick-E-Ribs Rib & Brisket BBQ to benefit Tri-Valley Little League-

Saturday, April 24, 2021  
 from 3:30 to 7 pm (or until sold out)  
 at the Little League Fields, Rte 42, Grahamsville.

Half rack of rib meal-\$15,  
 Full rack of rib meal-\$21,  
 Beef brisket meal - \$15  
 (all meals include fries and coleslaw).

Walk-ins accepted but advance orders strongly suggested by April 19.

Order using link on TV Facebook page or call Jen at 845-663-1689.

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

## Attorney General James Issues Alert Urging New Yorkers to Report Unlawful Vaccine Charges

NEW YORK - New York Attorney General Letitia James today issued a consumer alert to remind New Yorkers that coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) vaccines are free of charge, and urged any resident of the state who has been charged a fee to report it to her office immediately.

"As we continue to make progress in recovering from this public health crisis, it is vital that every individual has access to this free, lifesaving vaccine and that there are no barriers to New Yorkers receiving their dose," said Attorney General James. "The vaccine is free of charge for all New Yorkers, and I encourage everyone to get vaccinated as soon as they are eligible. My office is committed to protecting New Yorkers and enforcing the law, which is why I urge anyone who has been charged a fee for receiving the vaccine to report it immediately to my office."

COVID-19 vaccines are now available to all New Yorkers over the age of 16, and must be administered free of charge. Individuals who have been charged a fee for vaccination are encouraged to file a complaint online with the Office of the Attorney General or call 1-800-771-7755.

Late last month, Attorney General James issued another alert to New Yorkers to beware of scams making fraudulent promises to consumers, promising them the ability to cut COVID-19 vaccine lines or receive additional stimulus payments. Additionally, earlier this month, Attorney General James and a bipartisan coalition of attorneys general sent a letter to the CEOs of Twitter, eBay, and Shopify, asking the CEOs to act immediately to prevent the sale of fake COVID-19 vaccination cards on their platforms.

## Statement from Governor Andrew M. Cuomo on Johnson & Johnson Vaccines

"Vaccines are the weapon that will win the war against COVID, and with over 11 million shots in arms - including 1.4 million doses administered in just the last seven days - New York's vast distribution network is firing on all cylinders. As has been the case since the beginning of our vaccination effort, the X-factor is supply, supply, supply, and like every other state, our allocation of Johnson & Johnson doses will be significantly lower next week.

"In Week 18, New York will receive just 34,900 Johnson & Johnson shots - a drop of 88% week-over-week and the first decrease in weeks - while no appointments should have to be cancelled, we will not be able to get as many shots into New Yorkers' arms as we would like. We hope the production issues are resolved as soon as possible, and that production ramps up quickly so we can expand the number of New Yorkers who are vaccinated. In the meantime, we thank the Biden Administration for their herculean efforts to vaccinate all Americans, and look forward to continuing our partnership to stamp out COVID once and for all. As we continue to roll out vaccines, everyone must remember to wear masks, socially distance, wash their hands, and stay New York Tough."

## Governor Cuomo Updates New Yorkers on State Vaccination Program

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo updated New Yorkers on the state's vaccination program Sunday evening. 189,820 doses have been administered across the state's vast distribution network in the last 24 hours, and nearly 1.5 million doses have been administered over the past seven days. The week 17 allocation of 1,727,225 first and second doses, New York's highest allocation to date, is expected to finish arriving today.

"While we remain in a footrace against the infection rate, we know the vaccine works and are making steady progress in get-

ting more New Yorkers vaccinated," Governor Cuomo said. "I urge everyone who has not yet signed up for an appointment to do so. Our providers are working around the clock to get shots into arms, and getting vaccinated is how you can show your support for them and for your community."

New York's vast distribution network and large population of eligible individuals still far exceed the supply coming from the federal government. Due to limited supply, New Yorkers are encouraged to remain patient and are advised not to show up at vaccination sites without an appointment.

The '**Am I Eligible**' screening tool has been updated for individuals with comorbidities and underlying conditions with new appointments released on a rolling basis over the next weeks. New Yorkers can use the following to show they are eligible:

- o Doctor's letter, or
- o Medical information evidencing comorbidity, or
- o Signed certification



## Why wear a mask?

Out of respect.

When you wear a mask you are saying,

I respect my neighbors.

When you wear a mask you are saying,

I respect nurses and doctors.

When you wear a mask you are saying,

I respect other people.

We all need to show respect to one another in difficult times.

Wearing a face covering is a small inconvenience to protect others. We have gotten through this crisis by standing together and doing the right thing. The right thing - the respectful thing - is to wear a mask.

## CALENDAR OF LOCAL EVENTS

- 4/13/21 Town of Denning Town Board and Business meeting at Denning Town Hall 6:00 pm (Please note: 2nd Tuesday)  
 4/14/21 Town of Neversink Town Board Meeting - Regular  
 4/20/21 Town of Neversink Zoning Board of Appeals 7:30 pm  
 4/15/21 Town of Denning Planning Board Meeting - 6:00 pm Denning Town Hall  
 5/4/21 Claryville Fire District 6:30 pm Warren Cole Hall in Claryville  
 5/5/21 Town of Neversink Planning Board Meeting 7 pm (App submission Dt. 4/21/21)  
 5/9/21 Claryville Fire Dept **All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast** 7 am until noon  
 5/15/21 Boy Scout Troop 97 **Fish/Chicken & Chips Dinner** 4:30-6:30 pm Grahamsville Fairgrounds (See ad on pg. 27 for details)

**Save the Date!**

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

**TOWN OF OLIVE MEETINGS ARE AS FOLLOWS:**

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

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

PLEASE CONTACT A MEMBER OF EACH ORGANIZATION FOR UPDATES ON OPENINGS

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

## Weekly Update Ulster County Legislature For The Week Of April 12 - April 16, 2021

**Monday, April 12**

- o 5:00 PM - Community Services Board Powered by Zoom Meeting, Meeting ID: 936 9554 3061, Passcode: 948888, By Phone (646) 558-8656
- o 6:30 PM - Ulster County Board of Health Powered by Zoom Meeting, Meeting ID: 995 2964 7493, Passcode: 763694, By Phone (646) 558-8656

**Tuesday, April 13**

- o 3:30 PM - Workforce Development Board Via Teleconference. To register contact lsny@co.ulster.ny.us, or call (845) 340-3170
- o 5:00 PM - Ways & Means Committee Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 963 7265 6182, By Phone Dial: (646) 558-8656
- o 6:00 PM - Special Informational Meeting of the Legislature: Ulster County Housing Action Plan Powered by Zoom Meeting and available via vimeo livestream at: <https://livestream.com/accounts/1512750/events/1824203> To Attend Via Phone Dial 205-ULSTER-0 or (205) 857-8370 to be connected
- o 6:30 PM (or immediately following the Special Informational Meeting) - Caucus: Democrats Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 969 9754 7533, By Phone Dial: (646) 558-8656

**Wednesday, April 14**

- o 6:00 PM - Commission on Reapportionment, Powered by Zoom Meeting, Meeting ID: 956 1062 6098, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656

**Thursday, April 15**

- o 5:00 PM - Special Meeting of the Energy & Environment Committee, Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 946 4308 4889, By Phone Dial: (646) 558-8656
- o 5:30 PM - Youth Board, Powered by Zoom Meeting. Meeting ID: 997 2737 2088, Passcode: 178045, Dial in Number: (646) 558-8656
- o 6:30 PM - Caucus: Republicans Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 956 7303 4944, By Phone Dial: (646) 558-8656

**Friday, April 16**

- o No Meetings

## Tri-Valley Elementary School **WANTED:**

**Local establishments to display student KINDNESS artwork**

Contact Penny Hennessey in the Main Office at 985-2296 ext. 5306 or [pennyhennessey@trivalleycsd.org](mailto:pennyhennessey@trivalleycsd.org)

All artwork and frames will be provided by the District and refreshed bi-annually.

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

Classified ads - \$6.00 for the first 20 words/

20 cents each additional word  
 1" Boxed ad (1" x 3")  
 - \$7.50 per week

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

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

(3" x 6") - \$45.00

(4" x 6") - \$60.00

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

(6" x 8") - \$120.00

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

Full Page - 8" x10" - \$160

**Low Rates - High Visibility!**

# 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee

# 2021 Spaghetti Dinner



4pm, 4:45pm, 5:30pm & 6:15pm

Takeout Encouraged

RESERVATIONS ONLY by noon 4/23/21

647-5963 or [joecath69@hotmail.com](mailto:joecath69@hotmail.com)

**Sat., April 24th**

## Elks Lodge

Route 55, Napanoch

**\$7 per person**

Under 5: FREE with Parent



No cancellations for inclement weather



# ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATIVE NEWS

ULSTER COUNTY NEWS INFORMATION  
OFFICE OF ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE  
244 FAIR STREET  
KINGSTON, NEW YORK, 12401

PHONE: 845.340-3900  
FAX: 845.340.3651  
[www.ulstercountyny.gov](http://www.ulstercountyny.gov)

April 9, 2021

## **ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE DELIVERS PUBLIC COMMENT TO FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION (FERC) ON PROPOSED ASHOKAN PUMP STORAGE PROJECT**

**Kingston, NY** – The Ulster County Legislature submitted a letter, signed by all 23 members, to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) as official Public Comment in the matter of Premium Energy Holdings LLC Preliminary Permit application for the Ashokan Pumped Storage Project.

In their letter the Legislature highlighted numerous concerns by residents, elected officials, environmental professionals and community stakeholders including: flooding of residential communities, damage to trout spawning areas, blockage of popular hiking trails, encroachments on “Forever Wild” lands and unknown and unexplored effects on underground aquifers and private wells. Chief among concerns was the lack of notice that a project was being proposed.

“Ulster County's mountain communities have understood and willingly participated in supplying the best water in the world to the best city in the world. We're proud of that legacy,” stated Legislator John Parete (D-Denning, Hardenburgh, Olive & Shandaken). “This proposal was floated because of our unique location and topography. From the beginning the plan was poorly thought out and poorly presented and most certainly lacked transparency.”

The letter was sent directly to FERC Director Vince Yearick, as well as the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation and New York City Department of Environmental Protection who issued their own opposition to the project on April 8 and requesting regulators deny the project.

The full letter from the Ulster County Legislature follows on the next 3 pages.

(Contd. Pg. 26 a)

## ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE



P.O. Box 1800  
KINGSTON, NEW YORK 12402  
Telephone: 845 340-3900  
FAX: 845 340-3651

DAVID B. DONALDSON  
*Chairman 845-340-3699*

TRACEY A. BARTELS  
*Vice Chair 845-340-3900*

JONATHAN R. HEPPNER  
*Majority Leader 845-340-3900*

KENNETH J. RONK, JR.  
*Minority Leader 845-340-3900*

VICTORIA A. FABELLA  
*Clerk 845-340-3666*

April 9, 2021

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
Attention: Vine Yearick, Director  
888 First Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20426

RE: P-15056 Premium Energy Holdings LLC Preliminary Permit application for the Ashokan Pumped Storage Project

Dear Director Yearick,

We, the below signed members of the Ulster County Legislature, hereby unanimously submit the following to be considered public comment in the matter of Premium Energy Holdings LLC Preliminary Permit application for the Ashokan Pumped Storage Project: P-15056.

Our commitment to sustainable, renewable power enterprises notwithstanding, projects of this nature should not, and cannot be initiated under a shroud of secrecy. We are appalled at the lack of transparency demonstrated thus far for a proposal of this size and scope located in one of New York State's most protected regions. For the past month we have received repeated protests from local and state officials and community stakeholders who were caught off guard and by surprise. Regrettably we must count ourselves among those who were blindsided by the existence of a permit application for a Pumped Storage Hydroelectric power system under and upstream of the Ashokan Reservoir.

It is incumbent upon us as Ulster County elected representatives to make sure that there is no harm caused to our communities. Even under the best of circumstances this proposal will cause serious upheaval to residents and visitors alike. It's sad that Olive and the mountain communities have, for the last 100 years, worked with New York City to supply and protect one of the best water resources in the world. Now Ulster County communities, already stripped of 118,000 acres owned by NY City and another 250,000 owned by NYS, are once again being asked to cede more property both public and private.

The current proposal appears to raise more questions than answers. Each of the proposed sites for the new upper reservoir present numerous concerns and questions. A quick and cursory reading of the proposal point to the blocking of spawning areas of a number of trout fisheries, potential, if not assured flooding of residential communities and access points to popular hiking trails, and serious encroachments on constitutionally designated forever wild lands. Additionally, there are unknown effects on underground aquifers and private wells upon which hundreds Ulster County's rural residents depend, and question as to how will this plant effect the turbidity in the Ashokan and by consequence the Lower Esopus; an issue this body has been struggling to have adequately addressed for more than a decade?

(Contd. Pg. 26b)

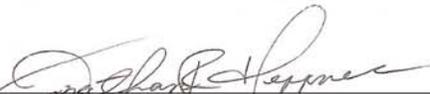
We understand that this proposal is in its infancy and at a very preliminary point in the environmental review process. With that said, there has been an inexcusable lack of public notice and transparency. A project of this size and scope demands and deserves review and comment by elected representatives, residents, and community stakeholders. We take seriously our responsibility as the stewards of Ulster County's unique and amazing natural resources and will continue to advocate for their preservation and protection.

We appreciate your time.

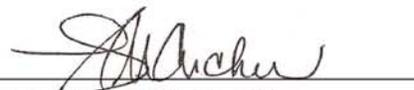
Sincerely,

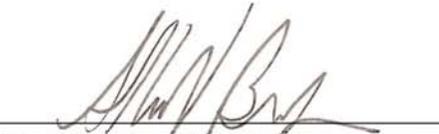
  
David B. Donaldson, Chairman

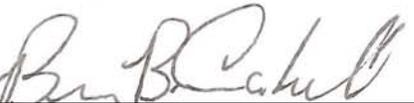
  
Tracey A. Bartels, Vice Chair

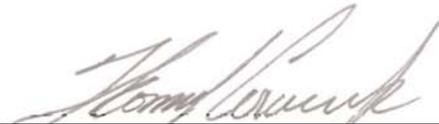
  
Jonathan Heppner, Majority Leader

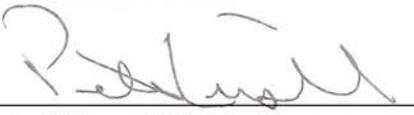
  
Kenneth J. Ronk, Jr., Minority Leader

  
Lynn Archer, District 21

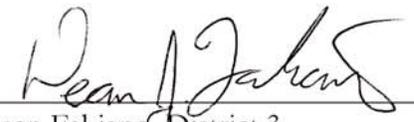
  
Albert Bruno, District 2

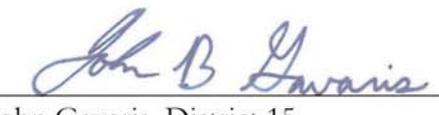
  
Brian Cahill, District 4

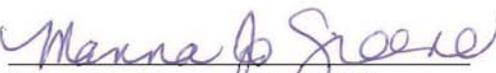
  
Thomas Corcoran, District 11

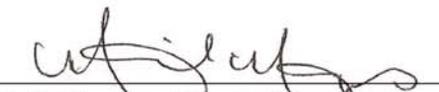
  
Peter Criswell, District 7

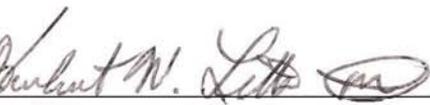
  
James DeLaune, District 17

  
Dean Fabiano, District 3

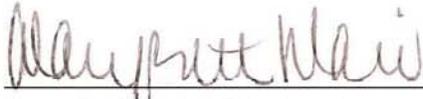
  
John Gavaris, District 15

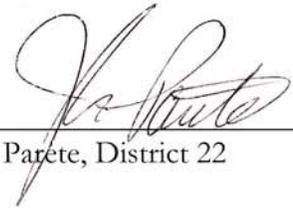
  
Manna Jo Greene, District 19

  
Heidi Haynes, District 18

  
Herbert W. Litts, III, District 9

  
Craig V. Lopez, District 14

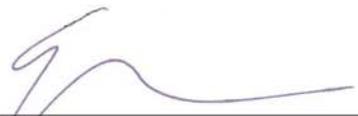
  
Mary Beth Maio, District 10

  
John Parete, District 22

  
Laura Petit, District 8

  
Kevin Roberts, District 12

  
Abe Uchitelle, District 5

  
Eve Walter, District 20

  
Mary Wawo, District 1

cc: Paul Rush, Deputy Commissioner – NYC DEP Bureau of Water Supply  
Kelly Turturro, Regional Director, NYS DEC, Region 3

## UC Executive Ryan announces Over 72,000 Residents have Received a COVID-19 Vaccine

**40.6% of residents have received  
at least their first dose, the highest percent-  
age of any County between Albany  
and New York City**

KINGSTON, N.Y. - County Executive Ryan announced that with 40.6% of Ulster County residents having received a COVID-19 vaccine, Ulster County now has the highest percentage of vaccinated residents between Albany and New York City. Thus far, 72,496 people have received at least one dose and 43,963 people have completed the vaccine series. Ulster County has a total population of 178,599. This week Ulster County received 7,700 doses.

"This is a significant milestone in our pandemic response as we continue to ramp up our vaccination efforts in response to expanded eligibility," County Executive Pat Ryan said. "Ensuring that we can vaccinate all of our residents in a safe, rapid, and equitable way remains my top priority as we continue to work to increase access to this life-saving vaccine. While the increase in vaccinations is welcome news, we can not forget that we are still not through this. I am encouraging all residents to continue to wear masks, socially distance, and take necessary precautions to stop the spread."

Following expanded eligibility for all residents over the age of 16 to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, County Executive Ryan announced that Ulster County will list all available appointments on VaccinateUlster.com along with the County's various social media channels. Residents are still encouraged to sign up for the email list to receive important information from the Department of Health.

## UC Executive Ryan announces Free Transportation for those with Vaccine Appointments at the Ulster County Pod Sites

UCAT will offer free rides on fixed routes for anyone seeking a ride to their vaccination appointment with curb-to-curb transportation being made available to seniors over the age of 60 and those with disabilities

With all residents over the age of 16 eligible for the vaccine, residents can now directly sign up for appointments when they are available at VaccinateUlster.com

KINGSTON, N.Y. - On the first day of eligibility for residents over the age of 16 to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, County Executive Pat Ryan announced that Ulster Area Transit (UCAT) will be offering free rides to those who have a vaccine appointment along with special

curbside pickup for seniors over the age of 60 and those with disabilities to the Ulster County vaccination POD located at the Hudson Valley Mall. In addition, County Executive Ryan announced that available vaccine appointment schedules will now be available for residents to view and sign up for at VaccinateUlster.com.

"Ulster County will continue to do everything within our power to ensure that the distribution of available vaccines is done in an equitable and accessible way for all residents," Ulster County Executive Pat Ryan said. "Transportation should not be the difference between someone getting or not getting a vaccine. We are proud to offer free rides and curb-to-curb transportation to qualifying residents."

Starting immediately, UCAT will offer free rides on fixed routes for anyone seeking a ride to their vaccination appointment. UCAT will also accommodate those over the age of 60 and those with disabilities with curb-to-curb transportation. All rides must be reserved in advance by calling (845) 334-8120 between the hours of 9AM and 4PM, Monday through Friday at least one day before their vaccination, and on the Friday before a Monday appointment.

Additionally, due to expanded eligibility, starting today Ulster County will list all available appointments on VaccinateUlster.com along with the County's various social media channels. Residents are still encouraged to sign up for the email list to receive important information from the Department of Health.

This week Ulster County received 7,700 doses, with 39.4% of Ulster County residents having received at least their first dose, Ulster County now has the highest percentage of vaccinated residents between Albany and Manhattan.

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**845.292.2000**



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Counsel in the  
Catskills*

25 Darbee Lane, Liberty



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ESTATES & TRUSTS • INJURY & MORE**



# Spring Online Storytime 2021



Storytime is a fun learning experience that parents and children can share together. These classes are filled with stories, songs, movement, and crafts for pre-school children of all ages. We truly hope you can join us for our 8 week virtual storytime via Zoom, from the comfort of your home.

Give your child a head start by enrolling him/her in one of these valuable programs today and help your child get ready to read!

- **Mother Goose Time (12-23 months) Beginning Wednesday, April 14th**
  - **Toddler Time (24-35 months) Beginning Thursday, April 15th**
  - **Story Hour (3, 4, and 5 year-olds) Beginning Friday, April 16th**

All programs will begin at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom and run through Friday, June 4th. After registering your child for their program, we will email you information specific to your program; including dates and times for curbside pick-up of program material and weekly Zoom invitations.

**Registration is open to Tri-Valley residents.  
Please register online at [www.danielpiercelibrary.org](http://www.danielpiercelibrary.org)**



**These programs are free and made possible through the generosity of our wonderful community!**

To sign up for children's programs go to:  
<https://danielpiercelibrary.org/childrens-programs-online/>

## Ellenville-Wawarsing 4th of July Committee Annual Spaghetti Dinner

The Ellenville-Wawarsing 4th of July Committee will be holding its annual Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, April 24th starting at 4:00pm at the Elks Lodge in Napanoch NY. Dinner includes salad, spaghetti, Italian bread, soft drinks, dessert and coffee/tea. Proceeds from the event will benefit the 4th of July Celebration, including a parade and amazing fireworks on the 4th!

In light of the COVID 19 pandemic, and to maintain social distancing, there will be 4 seatings this year and reservations are required by noon on April 23rd. To make a reservation, please call 845 647-5963 or email joecath69@hotmail.com. Take out orders are suggested.

The cost of the dinner is \$7.00 per person, children under age 5 eat free when attending with a parent. The Elks Lodge is located on Route 55 in Napanoch. There will be no cancellations for inclement weather.

Catskill Center Praises Strong Commitment to the Catskills in the New York State Budget  
April 7, 2021 - Arkville, NY: The Catskill Center praises Senator Michelle Hinchey's leadership on Catskill Park funding, and Governor Andrew Cuomo, the New York State Assembly, and the New York State Senate for passing a budget with a clear commitment to our environment, and more specifically a strong commitment to the Catskill Park. The final budget includes a \$500 million Clean Water Infrastructure Act, \$300 million Environmental Protect Fund, and the approval of a \$3 billion environmental bond ballot initiative set for the November 2022 ballot.

"New York State leaders have passed a budget that will directly benefit the protection of the Catskill Park, help communities within the Park, and help to address high-use challenges in the region." said Catskill Center Executive Director, Jeff Senterman.

"We applaud Senator Michelle Hinchey's leadership for the Catskill Park and are grateful for the support of the Governor, Assembly and Senate in ensuring that the Catskill Park and its communities receive the funding and support that they need to protect wild areas, and help our local economies thrive."

## Catskills Visitor Center Funding

Under the Environmental Protection Fund, this year's budget includes \$150,000 to help fund operations and programs of the Congressman Maurice D. Hinchey Catskills Visitor Center (CVC).

A partnership between the Catskill Center and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), the Catskills Visitor Center is the official visitor center for the 700,000-acre Catskill Park. Located in Mt. Tremper, New York on State Rte. 28 near the entrance to the Park, it welcomes thousands of people each year to the region. CVC visitors can experience exhibits, special programs and events, pick up local maps, guides and gear, and get friendly advice from CVC staff and volunteers.. The CVC's 60-acre property has accessible nature trails, including a path along the Esopus Creek, and an 80-foot fire tower overlooking the area. (Contd. Pg. 32)

**EYE to EYE** fourth annual juried summer group show

July 24 - Sept. 11

Juried by Tom Sarrantonio

Call for art: submit by June 7

OLIVE FREE LIBRARY  
olivefreelibrary.org/call-for-art

**PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS IN ADVANCE**

**DRIVE THRU TAKEOUT ONLY**

**FISH OR CHICKEN & CHIPS DINNER**

**MAY 15th**

**4:30pm to 6:30pm**

**Grahamsville Fairgrounds • Rt. 55**

**Adults \$14.00 • Children Under 12 \$8.00**

FOOD PROVIDED BY TASTEFULLY BRITISH

Each single serve meal ticket includes:  
Fish OR Chicken and Chips, Dessert.

For advanced tickets contact:  
Neil Terwilliger at (845) 798-3328  
Bernie Lange at (845) 532-7607

Proceeds Benefit Boy Scout Neversink Troop 97

## ROAD CLOSURE

North Branch, NY - The Sullivan County Division of Public Works is closing a portion of Town Highway 37 (Peters Road), in the Town of Fremont, to replace County Bridge 431. The bridge is located approximately 1.6 miles north of the intersection of County Road 121 (North Branch Road) and Pleasant Valley Rd.

This section of Peters Rd. is scheduled to be closed to all traffic starting at 8 a.m. on April 19, 2021, and will remain closed for approximately 8 weeks.

# The Catskill Mountain Classic Car



The 36th Annual Car Show  
Sunday, June 27th 2021

## Big Indian Valley Park

Route 28, Big Indian, NY 12410 "Special Awards  
"Special Awards "Fireman's choice, Presidents  
choice and Best of Show

DJ, Food, 50/50 and just good old fun  
Registration if your entering a car 8am to 12:30  
Music, Food 50/50

The CMCCC is dedicated to the preservation and appreciation of the vintage and late model automobiles. To be a member is \$10.00 a year

We invite any enthusiasts to join us for the show either as an entry or to enjoy seeing all the vehicles in our beautiful Park

For more information call Frank at 845-254-4238 or [cheifrun@aol.com](mailto:cheifrun@aol.com)



## Beware of Malicious COVID-19 Phishing

Protect yourself from identity theft and fraud during pandemic recovery.

Confirm any SBA disaster assistance emails by contacting **(800) 659-2955**, TTY **(800) 877-8339**, or **[disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov)**.

Avoid scams and fraud, visit **[sba.gov/COVIDfraudalert](https://sba.gov/COVIDfraudalert)**



Tri-Valley Elementary School  
INSPIRE SUCCESS TOGETHER



### Tri-Valley Elementary School

#### Kindergarten REGISTRATION

If you have a child that will be 5 years old by December 1, 2021, please call us at

985-2296 ext. 5405 or email to: [registration@trivalleycsd.org](mailto:registration@trivalleycsd.org)

and leave your name, your child's name and phone number where you can be reached.



Tri-Valley Elementary School  
INSPIRE SUCCESS TOGETHER



### Tri-Valley Elementary School

#### UPK REGISTRATION

If you have a child that will be 4 years old by December 1, 2021 please call us at

985-2296 ext. 5405 or email to: [registration@trivalleycsd.org](mailto:registration@trivalleycsd.org)

and leave your name, your child's name and phone number where you can be reached.



## Ulster County Clerk Recognizes National Donate Life Month

Kingston, NY - Ulster County Clerk Nina Postupack is partnering the Ulster County Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) with Donate Life New York State to recognize April as National Donate Life Month, an annual observance highlighting the critical need for increased organ, eye and tissue donation in New York State.

During the month of April, the Ulster County Clerk urges all residents to learn more about organ, eye and tissue donation and to say yes to donation while completing transactions at the DMV. Brochures, posters and enrollment forms will be on display in the lobby of the County Office Building throughout National Donate Life Month as a reminder of the importance of the gift of life. Stop by the table for more information and promotional items!

Nearly 9,000 New Yorkers are currently waiting for lifesaving organ transplant and 1,500 have been waiting for five years or longer. Each year, an estimated 400 men, women and children in New York State die because an organ does not become available in time.

Approximately 42% of New Yorkers are enrolled in the New York State Donate Life Registry, the electronic database that documents a person's consent to be an organ and tissue donor at the time of their death. While more than 6 million New Yorkers are registered donors, this represents the second lowest percentage of registered donors in the country. Ulster County residents are encouraged to make a difference and give hope to all those in need of a transplant by enrolling in the Registry at the DMV, where nearly 80% of donors sign up.

"The staff at the DMV engages with the public on this critical health issue more than any other agency," says Aisha Tator, Executive Director of Donate Life NYS. "The promotion of organ and tissue donation during Donate Life Month has a lasting impact on the number of registered donors and the lives that will be saved through transplantation."

"Ulster County is proud to be one of the counties throughout the state participating in this vital program," said Ulster County Clerk Nina Postupack. "Currently there are 75,835 Ulster County residents on the registry, accounting for 51.7% of total residents. It is my hope that by raising awareness, we can increase this number and promote saving lives by encouraging our fellow New Yorkers to say yes to being an organ or tissue donor."

All New Yorkers age 16 and older can enroll in the New York State Donor Registry, regardless of their medical history. The enrollment option is available on forms used to apply for or renew a driver license or non-driver identification card. New Yorkers can also enroll in the Registry while applying for health insurance through the New York State Department of Health and on voter registration forms. In addition, online enrollment is available at any time at [donatelife.ny.gov/register](https://donatelife.ny.gov/register).

Donate Life NYS is a non-profit organization comprised of organ and tissue recovery organizations, health professionals and individuals whose lives have been affected by donation. Their mission is to increase organ, eye and tissue donation in NYS through collaborative advocacy, education, promotion and research.

Learn more about National Donate Life Month and Donate Life NYS at [donatelife.ny.gov](https://donatelife.ny.gov). To make an appointment at the Ulster County DMV, please visit <https://clerk.ulstercountyny.gov/countyclerk/motor-vehicles> and click the "Make an Appointment" link.

For further information on this or other outreach programs of the Ulster County Clerk's Office, please contact County Clerk Nina Postupack at (845) 340-3040, visit the office online at <https://clerk.ulstercountyny.gov/countyclerk>, or find us on Facebook.

## Catskills Visitor Center Funding

(From Pg. 29)

In the short-term, this funding will assist the Catskill Center in continuing to develop online resources, programs and events to allow visitors to virtually visit the Catskill Park or to better plan their next in-person visit. In the longer term, this funding will help support on-site staffing and expanded programming, including new curriculum and activities for visiting school groups.

### Environmental Protection Fund

The Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) will be funded at \$300 million this year, including \$30 million for new open space land protection projects, some of which could be in the Catskill Park.

Funding for "state land stewardship" increased slightly. This funding supports ongoing efforts to care for Catskill Park Forest Preserve lands and infrastructure, and could support shuttles, education, and other components of a strategic effort to manage visitor traffic to high-use areas in the Catskill Park. The funding could also support the recommendations of the Catskill Strategic Planning Advisory Group, of which the Catskill Center is a member, and who will produce recommendations to help manage areas of high-use by the end of 2021.

\$13 million in funding for invasive species controls is available in the EPF. In the Catskills, these funds support efforts like the Catskill Center's Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership (CRISP) and the Invasive Species Strike Team.

The EPF includes \$100,000 for the Catskill Science Collaborative at the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, \$500,000 for the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Project at Cornell University, \$1 million for Belleayre Mountain, \$1,550,000 for Visitor Safety and Wilderness Protection in the Adirondack and Catskill Forest Preserves, and \$2 million for community Smart Growth Grants in the Catskill and Adirondack Parks.

In addition to these specific categories, the EPF pays for open space, parks, solid waste and recycling facilities, environmental justice programs, and climate change mitigation/adaptation measures throughout the Catskills and across New York State.

### Aid to Localities Funding

Thanks to the hard work and leadership of Senator Michelle Hinchey for the Catskills, \$100,000 was secured for Catskill Park Stewardship under the Aid to Localities Funding. This funding is directed to the Catskill Center and to Catskill Mountainkeeper to expand the number of seasonal Catskill Stewards in high-use areas across Catskills.

### Environmental Bond Act

Included in the Budget is a historic \$3 billion Environmental Bond Act, which will provide funding for key investments in local infrastructure and environmental restoration. These investments will help communities across New York prepare for flooding, rising seas, and dangerous extreme heat. The bond act will go to voters for approval on the ballot in November of 2022.

# The Daniel Pierce Library



offers

{Coding from Home}

Start Anytime!

## Calling ALL Techies Grades 5th and Up

Are YOU enthusiastic about technology and especially coding?  
This is for YOU!

Learn to create memes, video games and more from your HOME.  
This is a FREE self-guided learning platform.

- ◆ Vidcode courses teach computer science, object oriented programming, web programming, design, & JavaScript.
- ◆ Learn to upload photos, illustrations, videos and audio - and manipulate them with code right away, allowing students to connect computer programming to the media they interact with every day.
- ◆ Earn certificates to track learning.
- ◆ Skills learned can be applied anywhere.
- ◆ Students can participate with a Chromebook, laptop, desktop, or tablet.
- ◆ Emails will be sent out once registered with link to join.



Open to Tri-Valley residents. Online registration is required at [www.danielpiercelibrary.org](http://www.danielpiercelibrary.org)

# Claryville Fire Dept.

1500 Denning Road Claryville, NY 12725

## All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast



## Sunday, May 9

Serving 7:00 until 12 Noon

Adults: \$9

Children Ages 5-11: \$5

Under 5 Yrs. Free

**\*\*\*\*\*REMINDER Masks are required and limited seat capacity!  
\*\*\*All customers who are dining in will be required to sign the Covid-19 waiver  
form and have their temperature taken\*\*\***

**Take-outs are available 985-7270**

\$50 from the Breakfast is donated to the Claryville Reformed Church Food Pantry

# Assemblymember Kevin A. Cahill Offers Statement on the Final 2021-22 State Budget

“The guiding principle of the Assembly was to deliver a spending plan that sets New York on the right track to pandemic recovery, invests in a green economy, funds primary education and ensures the wellbeing of our most vulnerable neighbors. With the assistance of a generous stimulus package under the leadership of President Joe Biden and Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, we responsibly allocated these monies to secure their best use.

Rather approve a prescription of austerity rife with cuts to services needed now more than ever, we put forth a budget that extends programs to assure that those requiring assistance will get it. We included record funding for schools and provided support for municipalities, mental and child healthcare, public universities and increased environmental protections.

During this process, my office met with constituents and advocacy groups to listen to their concerns about what should be included in the State Budget. This package, while far from perfect, represents a responsible approach to our unique times. As we conclude, I remain committed to advocating for the many issues facing our families and neighbors.”

## **Cahill: Budget Advances Key Health Reforms**

The final state budget includes several measures that will make healthcare more accessible and affordable to all New Yorkers including funding for the Entertainment Workers Demonstration Program, Community Health Advocates, Spinal Cord Injury Research Program and other important services. Assemblymember Kevin A. Cahill (D-Ulster, Dutchess) has served as a lead advocate for these initiatives for several years and his support was more important than ever during a year of heightened hardships surrounding medical treatment and coverage.

Entertainment workers are uniquely susceptible to inadequate healthcare coverage. Due to the often-extensive travel requirements, the specific nature of work-related injuries and the growing lack of participating mental healthcare providers, entertainment workers need to have access to out-of-network healthcare. The legislature has approved over \$2 million in funding for the Entertainment Workers Demonstration Program, which provides the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act, commonly referred to as COBRA subsidies to out of work members of the entertainment industry.

“This modest subsidy prevents the uncertainty and healthcare vulnerability which can arise from continually having to alternate between private insurance and the Exchange, particularly during this time when the industry has been shuttered,” said Assemblymember Cahill.

“On behalf of our members in New York, we are so grateful to Assemblymember Cahill for this much-needed aid to cover COBRA and allow our workers to stay on union insurance,” said Kate Shindle, President of the Actors' Equity Association, “Equity stage managers and actors earn their health insurance one week of work at a time, and many of them have been unemployed for over a year. The theatre industry is just beginning to return, but we're a long way from normal, and this program is critical.”

SAG-AFTRA is thrilled that New York has continued, and expanded, their COBRA Coverage for Eligible Entertainment Industry Employees Program through 2022. Our industry was hard hit by the pandemic and this program is a bridge for our

members to stay covered under our Health Plan until the industry fully recovers. We thank Assemblymember Cahill, Speaker Heastie, Assemblymember Joyner, Assemblymember O'Donnell and Assemblymember Gottfried for their tireless efforts to get this done,” said Rebecca Damon, New York President of SAG-AFTRA.

Additionally included in the final spending plan is \$4,109,000 for Community Health Advocates (CHA), who can continue to provide guidance and valuable educational resources for consumers who need help navigating the healthcare system. CHA assists over 30,000 New Yorkers every year in reducing overburdening medical arrears, which is one of the fastest sources of growing debt in the country.

The Legislature has stood firm in its commitment to funding the Spinal Cord Injury Research Program (SCIRP) despite repeated attempts by the governor to decimate its resources. By allocating \$8,500,000 to SCIRP for the 2021-22 Fiscal Year, this will allow New York to remain the global leader in the field of spinal research and development of key breakthroughs in wearable exoskeleton technology.

“We thank Assemblymember Cahill and the Legislature for restoring funding for the Spinal Cord Injury Research Program. Since its inception, SCIRP has made significant advancements towards a cure for paralysis and other neurological impairments. Renewed funding will allow us to continue this critical work and give hope to thousands of New Yorkers,” said Nancy Lieberman of New Yorkers to Cure Paralysis.

“The last year has illustrated the role to which health care access serves in preventing or overcoming emergencies. The funding associated with these organizations is incorporated daily to the lives of the public, allowing folks to best utilize the many resources New York has to offer. There is no reason to which any resident of this State should be faced with the decision to feed their families or visit a Doctor. By funding these common-sense programs and research, New Yorkers can better understand their coverage, receive available relief and avoid skipping out on necessary appointments,” concluded Cahill.

## **State Budget Includes Funds for Programs & Services in Dutchess & Ulster Counties**

The Assembly today approved the final budget for FY 2021-2022, which includes much needed funding for several indispensable organizations in Ulster and Dutchess Counties. As a result of advocacy from Assemblymember Kevin A. Cahill (D-Ulster, Dutchess) and his colleagues, the budget ensures that essential local programs and services can continue to operate and serve the needs of the community.

Local organizations receiving funding through the budget this year include:

### **Agribusiness Child Development**

The Legislature has approved \$9,300,000 in funding for Agribusiness Child Development (ABCD). The organization provides quality childcare and early education to the infants and small children of agricultural workers across the state, with locations in New Paltz and Kingston. Assemblyman Cahill has long been a champion of ABCD and their efforts to support farm workers and their families.

Maggie M. Evans, ABCD CEO said, “Assemblyman Cahill is a longstanding champion for ABCD's programs and services. He is tenacious in his work to secure funding for the children and families of NYS agriculture, including the ABCD centers in Kingston and New Paltz. We are tremendously grateful for his support! We are thrilled that the NYS Legislature has prioritized agriculture, early childhood education, health, and mental wellness. These are investments in the future that will pay dividends for generations to come.” (Contd. Pg. 36)

## Assemblymember Kevin A. Cahill Offers Statement on the Final 2021-22 State Budget

(From pg. 35)

### Legal Services of the Hudson Valley

The enacted budget allocates \$151,667 to Legal Services of the Hudson Valley (LSHV). In the last year LSHV has greatly increased its caseload and provided thousands of Hudson Valley residents with much needed legal representation. This funding will go toward projects related to domestic violence.

### Catskill Center

The final budget includes \$150,000 for the Maurice Hinchey Catskill Visitor Center. As the gateway to our region, this facility provides locals and tourists alike with the necessary information to safely recreate in the Catskills. The Center also hosts dozens of educational programming on the flora, fauna and ecological health of our open spaces.

### Belleayre Mountain Ski Center

Belleayre Mountain Ski Center has been allocated \$1,000,000 in the state budget for necessary facility upgrades. These funds will ensure that Belleayre remains a premier Catskill recreation area.

### Astor Services

Astor Services received \$225,000 in this year's budget to fund their programs geared toward helping children. For years, this nonprofit has provided children and their families with mental health, child-welfare and child development services.

### Cary Institute

The enacted budget includes \$100,000 for the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, which has long served as the centerpiece of cooperative environmental research in the Hudson Valley. Through the Catskill Science Collaborative, the institute awards grants to fund the study the ecological health of our region and host educational presentations about our local environment.

"The Cary Institute of ecosystem Studies thanks Assemblymember Cahill for his support in securing critical funding for this five-year investment to understand how to reduce instances of tickborne diseases," Dr. Joshua Ginsberg, President of the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies.

### Public Utility Law Project

The State Budget allocates \$1,070,000 to the Public Utility Law Project (PULP) for their continued work in advocating for utility consumers. PULP works to protect tenants and their families from utility shut offs, service denials and other unscrupulous practices, and advocates for low income gas and electric rates for consumers.

"A huge thank you and congratulations to Assemblymember Kevin Cahill for succeeding once again in securing vital funding for the Public Utility Law Project ("PULP") in the New York State Budget," said Richard Berkley, Executive Director of PULP. "We are busier than ever in energy and water rate cases across the state, and PULP's advocacy for low-income and fixed-income utility consumer rights was more important in the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic than it has been in many years. We are grateful to Assemblymember Cahill, the Assembly and Senate for increasing our support as we fight to maintain consumers' access to water and energy despite the crushing arrears

afflicting the Hudson Valley, while working to create access to affordable broadband."

"As we continue to deal with a global pandemic, worsening climate change and dramatic economic inequality, our local community groups are more important than ever," said Assemblymember Cahill. "It has been a difficult year for New York. But when times are tough the programs and services provided by many Ulster and Dutchess county organizations help keep many from falling through the cracks. I applaud their efforts and am very pleased that this budget provides them well deserved funding."

## Illegal Burning Contributing to Numerous Brush Fires

Monticello, NY - With departments across the region scrambling to contain 31 brush fires in just the last month, Sullivan County Fire Coordinator John Hauschild is re-emphasizing the fact that a burn ban is in effect through May 14

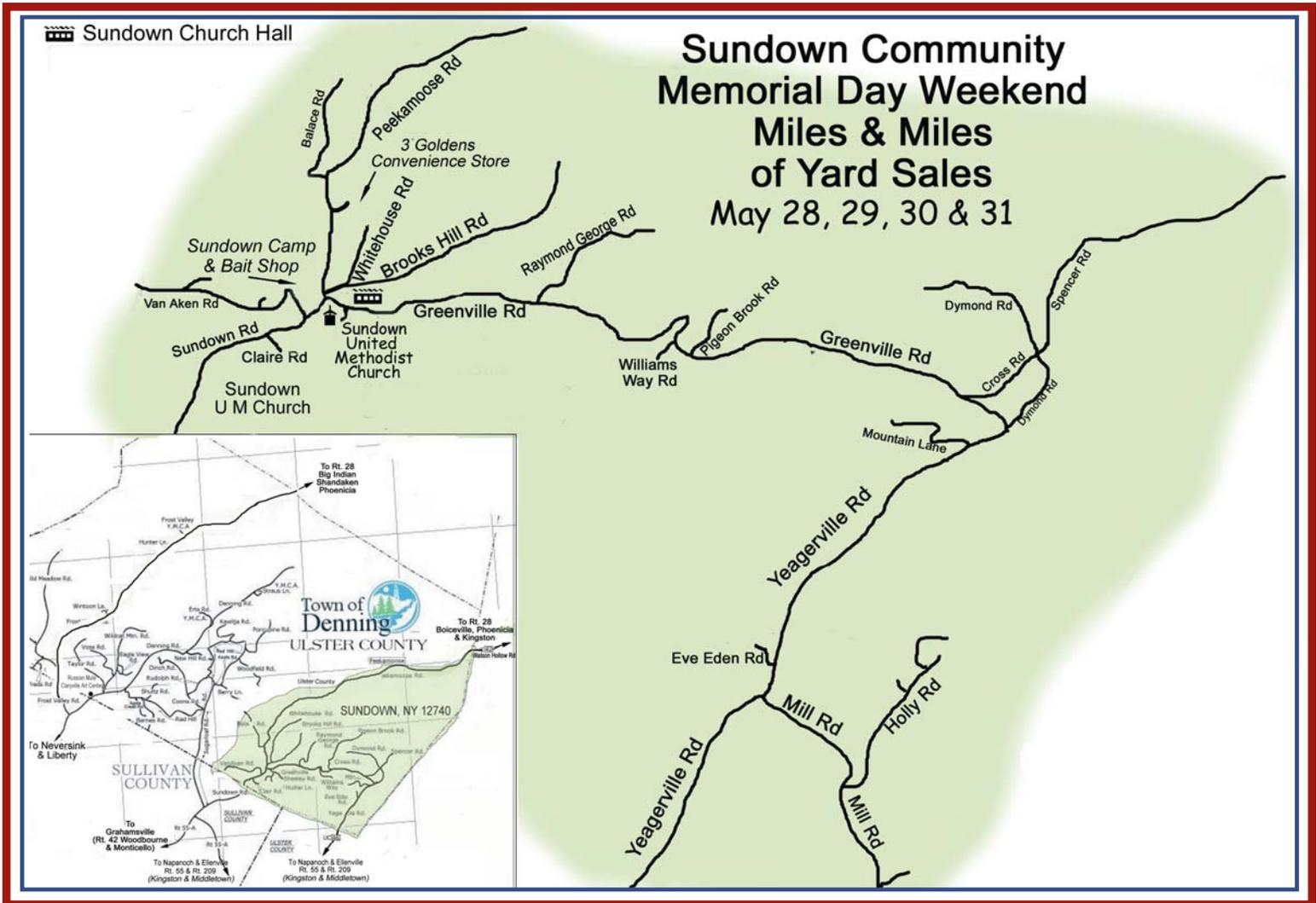
"The snow is gone and temperatures are rising, but vegetation is still dry and easily set aflame by sparks and ash -



which is exactly how every one of these brush fires was ignited," he explained. "There is a statewide ban on open burning through mid-May, and I cannot stress enough the need to follow it - no exceptions.

For details on the burn ban, visit the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation's website at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/58519.html>.

Were it not for the rapid response of the Westbrookville Volunteer Fire Company earlier this month, this structure would likely have gone up in flames due to a brush fire that was so perilously close, it melted the building's siding. (Photo from the Westbrookville Volunteer Fire Company's Facebook page)



In 2016 a few of the Sundown residents put some ideas together and we decided we would celebrate our **1st Sundown Community Memorial Day Weekend Miles and Miles of Yard Sales**. It was very successful, and the idea grew into the start of a ‘tradition’ and a lot of fun over the next few years. Like most activities last year, we did not hold the **4th Annual Sundown Community Memorial Day Weekend Miles and Miles of Yard Sale**, however, this year we will do our best and we will have a **4th Annual Sundown Community Memorial Day Weekend Miles and Miles of Yard Sale!** Please be sure to maintain all of the COVID safety precautions whether holding a yard sale or attending the various yard sales.

If you live in the Sundown community and are planning on a Yard Sale over the weekend, please download the map/information form. (Go to: <http://thetownsmen.com/Sundown> ) Make an “X” on the map locating where you will hold your Yard Sale and fill in the form and mail it to us at: **The Townsman, P O Box 232, Grahamsville, NY 12740**, or send us your information by email to: [vtownsmen@yahoo.com](mailto:vtownsmen@yahoo.com).

For all our friends and family in neighboring communities, we also invite you to join us. If you are planning a **Yard Sale** over the Memorial Day Weekend, please fill out the form (To download go to: <http://thetownsmen.com/form> ) and we will list the address where your sale will take place (be sure to include your zip code for those who use GPS), the dates, times and anything special about your event. Mail it to: **The Townsman, P O Box 232, Grahamsville, NY 12740**, or send us an email at [vtownsmen@yahoo.com](mailto:vtownsmen@yahoo.com) with your information.

Please get us your information by **Friday, May 14, 2021** so that we can post all the Memorial Day Yard Sales in the **May 20th and 27th issue of The Townsman**. Please feel free share this information with your friends and neighbors. Let them know they too can be part of this year’s **4th Annual Sundown Community Memorial Day Weekend Miles and Miles of Yard Sale**

NAME & TELE # (only if we need to get in touch with you; not for publication): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS WHERE YARD SALE WILL BE HELD: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates & Time of your Yard Sale: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional information about your Yard Sale: \_\_\_\_\_

## DEC Announces Winner of Annual Arbor Day Artwork Contest

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos today announced that Dave Marshall, from the Monroe County town of Webster, is the winner of DEC's annual Arbor Day Artwork Contest.



*Photograph by Dave Marshall of Webster, NY. Selected for 2021 State Arbor Day Poster*

"Over the past year, all of us have been reminded how important trees and green spaces are to our mental and physical wellbeing," said Commissioner Seggos. "This Arbor Day, DEC encourages all New Yorkers to celebrate the trees in their communities. Whether visiting the backyard, local park, or nearby State Forest, I encourage you to safely get outside to appreciate the countless benefits urban and rural trees provide us. Congratulations to Dave Marshall for taking this year's honor in capturing the beauty and magnificence of New York's trees."

DEC's annual Arbor Day Artwork Contest accepts artwork and photography submissions of trees in New York State. The winning poster design is featured on the State's official Arbor Day poster and is selected by a committee comprised of representatives from DEC, New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, International Paper, Empire State Forest Products Association, and the New York State Arborist Association. Marshall's design stood out among 324 submissions for successfully capturing the charismatic and inspirational qualities of trees. Posters are available at regional DEC Forestry offices.

Arbor Day is a nationally celebrated observance held on the last Friday of April each year. Originally established in 1872 to encourage farmers and homesteaders to plant trees for shade, fuel, and beauty in open areas, today Arbor Day is an opportunity to celebrate the vital role of trees in our lives.

While some traditional Arbor Day ceremonies are postponed to reduce the potential spread of COVID-19, there are many ways communities and families can celebrate Arbor Day while practicing social distancing. Visit DEC's website for ideas about how to celebrate Arbor Day 2021 on April 30 safely and responsibly.

The annual State Arbor Day Poster contest is announced each September and runs through December. Those interested in participating in the 2022 contest should visit DEC's website for more information.

## Arrest Made in Fatal Hit and Run

On Saturday April 10, 2021 at about 9:45 PM Deputies were called to 2642 State Route 52 in the Town of Liberty for a report of a car/pedestrian accident. At the scene deputies found Dennis Toscano, 60, deceased on the shoulder of the highway. He was pronounced dead by Sullivan County Coroner Michael Speer.

The investigation revealed that the victim was unloading groceries from his car when a vehicle, traveling westbound towards White Sulphur Springs, struck him and fled the scene.

Detectives found pieces from a Subaru Legacy at the scene which led them to 34 year old Joseph Maxwell, Jr. of Liberty. Maxwell was taken into custody Sunday evening at his residence on Eagle Drive.

The District Attorney's Office prepared a search warrant which Sheriff's Detectives executed at the suspect's residence early Monday morning. A 2012 Subaru Legacy with a smashed windshield and front end damage was recovered from the garage. Maxwell was charged with the class D Felony of Leaving the Scene of a Fatal Motor Vehicle Accident.

He was arraigned Monday morning before Town of Liberty Judge Harold Bauman and sent to the Sullivan County Jail in lieu of \$50,000 bail.

Sheriff Mike Schiff said that the investigation is continuing and that additional charges are being considered. He thanked the public for the confidential tips that came to his office in during the investigation. Sheriff's deputies were assisted by the Liberty Fire Department, NY State Police uniform and BCI members, Village of Liberty Police, District Attorney's investigators and State DOT.



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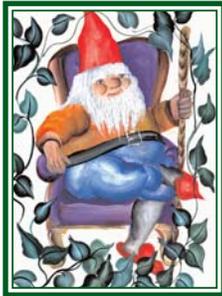
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**Sundown Camp and Bait Shop**  
 We are sorry to announce the closing of **Sundown Camp and Bait Shop**. It has been a pleasure working with our many customers throughout the years. We will certainly miss you all! We still have quite a bit of fishing, hunting and camping supplies. We also have a large chest freezer, glass cabinets and some peg boards for sale. If you are interested in taking a look at what we have, please call Jim at 845-985-7560.  
 Thank you all for your many years of support for Sundown Camp and Bait!!

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**4th Annual Sundown Community Memorial Day Weekend Miles and Miles of Yard Sale!**  
**Good News!**  
 There is a growing interest in having the **4th Annual Sundown Memorial Day Weekend Miles and Miles of Yard Sale** this year. If you are interested and want to be included on our Sundown Memorial Day Weekend Miles and Miles of Yard Sale Map in the May 27, 2021 issue please send us an email with your information to: [tvtownsmen@yahoo.com](mailto:tvtownsmen@yahoo.com)



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(Contd. Pg. 40)

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(From Pg. 39)

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*Star Trek is an American science fiction media franchise originating from the 1960s television series Star Trek, created by Gene Roddenberry. That series, now often known as "The Original Series", debuted on September 8, 1966 and aired for three seasons on NBC. It followed the voyages of the starship USS Enterprise, a space exploration vessel built by the United Federation of Planets in the 23rd century, on a mission "to explore strange new worlds, to seek out new life and new civilizations."*

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Gnome*