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# Tri **GOODREADS** Valley

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**VOL. 19 NO. 50 GRAHAMSVILLE, NY 12740 DECEMBER 14, 2023 \$1.00**

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## 2,000 and Counting: DPL patron meets reading challenge head on!

By Lisa Carroll



GRAHAMSVILLE- A chance sighting of a reading challenge on the Goodreads App had DPL patron Dana Wright thinking.

"I saw it, tried it myself and figured I would do it with the kids as well," Wright said. The girls, nine-year-old Melody and six-year-old Harmony, were onboard. So, she set their first reading challenge at 600 picture books [in 2021] and they exceeded that by over 300. "In 2022, I set a goal of 1000 books but we read 1644. So for 2023, I wanted to see if we could go even higher," Wright said. This year's goal-to be completed between January 1 and December 31-was set at 2,000.

And they did it-with time to spare!

"Reading to my kids is important to me for many reasons. One of the main reasons is because of the craziness of the day, it's the one time that I can actually sit down with both of them and spend time with them," she added. Grandma Diane also gets in the mix-creating cherished memories reading to the girls as well as adding to the final numbers. "I'm hoping it also instills a love of reading in them," Dana said.

(Contd. Pg. 4)

## ERH Auxiliary Luncheon

Ellenville, December 7, 2023 - Incoming Auxiliary President, Haze Gal (left), and Outgoing Auxiliary President, Lillian Green (right), proudly presented a \$24,000 check to Steven Kelley, President and CEO of Ellenville Regional Hospital, on December 5, 2023. The generous donation will be utilized for the acquisition of state-of-the-art Cardiac Stress Test equipment, further enhancing the hospital's capabilities. (Contd. Pg. 4)



**YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN**

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

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OLIVE JAR - Carol La Monda

MYSTERIOUS BOOK REPORT - John McKenna

MOVIE TRIVIA - Frank Comando a/k/a Knarf

COMMUNITY NEWS - Sheila Lashinsky

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

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

**More than ever, thank you for your continued support.**

**On the Front Burner:** I will say of the Lord. He is my refuge and my fortress: my God, in him I will trust  
Psalm 91: 2

## OBITUARY

**Amy Ilene Brasington Brudermann,**



a compliance monitor for the Sullivan County Division of Family Services, passed away unexpectedly on Friday, December 8, 2023 at her home in Harris. She was 45.

The daughter of Arden "Lod"

Brasington and Dona Drobysch Brasington, she was born July 27, 1978 in Harris.

Amy was beautiful, kind, and a loving free spirit who touched many lives in her short 45 years. Family was most important to her. She loved the holidays and any chance to be with all of us. She loved skiing and competing on the MHS ski team. Later, her passion was softball and continued right until this year. Most of all, she loved kayaking whenever she could, always wanting a little more rain so the Neversink River would be running high and fast. She would stop along the river route to see her "Baldy", an eagle she was sure was waiting for her. She was right every time! Her co-workers at DSS will miss her rainbows and unicorns. She made lots of friends all over the County and beyond, sharing her peace, love and happiness.

She is survived by her husband: John G. Brudermann; her parents: Lod & Dona Brasington; a son: Tyler Brudermann (Courtney); a daughter: Taylor Brudermann (Eddy); her siblings: Alice Stanley (Kevin), Ken Whipple (Debra), Judy Edmondson (Ken), and Kate Morgan (Rich); an expected grandchild; niece, nephews, and several aunts, uncles, and cousins; and many, many friends. She was predeceased by a nephew, Jonathan Whipple.

A Memorial visitation followed by a memorial service was held on Wednesday, December 13 from at the VanInwegen-Kenny Funeral Home, 401 Broadway in Monticello. Interment of her ashes will follow at the Messenger Cemetery in

Southwoods, Monticello.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Delaware Valley Raptor Center [www.drvcnline.org](http://www.drvcnline.org)

## DAYS OF YORE....

### Today's History

#### December 3, 1958

Medwin S. Ackerley 24, of Roscoe, a tunnel worker who shot the 50 year old lover of his 17 year old wife last May 23, was given from 1 1/2 to 5 years in Clinton State Prison yesterday by County Judge Lawrence H. Cooke. The Judge suspended execution of the sentence and placed Ackerley on probation for three years.

Mickey's Tri Valley Diner, opened approximately two months ago and operated by Mrs. Vincent Guntlow changed hands on Monday of this week. It is now under the management of Mr. Roger Becker of Grahamsville. Mickey, who is on vacation this week, will return to work next Monday on a part time basis.

The northern half of the tunnel which will link Cannonsville reservoir with existing portion of the New York City water complex is nearing completion. Drake-Graft-Winston-Tecon-Conduit, holders of contracts 451 and 452, expect soon to complete grouting and miscellaneous cleaning up at Shaft II which will wind up work between Cannonsville and Harvard. A force of 832 men are working for D.G.W.T.C and West Delaware Constructors, the latter holders of contracts 454 and 455 for building the southern half of the tunnel. B.W.S. engineers estimate that it costs one and one half million dollars to drive a mile of tunnel. MacLean-Grove-Brewster is holder of contract 453 for a shaft and tunnel running in two directions from Rockland.

Workmen have started dismantling the headframe at Shaft II at Readburn and shaft steel has been removed. The headframe will go to Shaft V near Lew Beach, which is getting nicely under way. West Delaware Tunnel Constructors are building Shaft V, VI, VII and the outlet and tunnel connecting these.

## LOOKING BACK

by Beatrice Akerley

Published December 10, 1998

Every year when December rolls around, I recall the holiday preparations of long ago. Especially making ornaments for our tree while we were living on the "Old Man Davis farm." Each year my stepson Herbert would try to have our Christmas tree standing up in our living room and ready to trim by the first week-end of December.

This would allow at least three weeks for making decorations and trimming the tree. The kids all took part in these holiday activities. I always prepared a large bowl of popcorn which the children and I would string to make garlands for decorating the tree. During the apple season, I always dried some for making sauce and pies during the year. We also used these for garlands for the tree. The kids would loop string through a hole in each slice to put all over the tree. The ornaments made the tree look so beautiful and smell so good. Herbert made the star on the top of the tree from cardboard covered with tinfoil.

The children hung pine cones on the branches.

Christmas mornings were wonderful as there would be a 25 cent gift under the tree for each child; a wrapped pair of socks for dad; stockings for mom and a cluster of grapes and candy for everyone.

What a lovely morning, one child would have checkers, another dominoes and several Mother Goose books to read.

What more could a child ask for? It was Christmas.

Nowadays when I see a decorated Christmas tree, I am reminded of those years spent on "Old Man Davis' farm" as we labored so lovingly to make a beautiful holiday tree and in my heart I know that all the glitter and shine of today can never compare with the sweet simple old-fashioned loveliness of our Christmas trees of long ago.

### Holiday Household Hint:

## Holiday Light Hangers

Instead of poking nails into aluminum soffits and fascia when you're hanging holiday lights, clip the wires to the bottom lip of the fascia with clothespins. But be careful up on the ladder.

## Nature Column - L. Comando

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

## Why is Rudolph's Nose So Red?

This Christmas, like many before it and many yet to come, the story of Santa and his flying reindeer, led by Rudolf with his glowing nose will be told along with how the "jolly old elf" flies on his sleigh, climbs down the chimneys and gives gifts to all the good children.

The evolution of the reindeer has provided some very interesting myths that today are mostly archived on the book shelves as the magical stories of Christmas. But, Rudolph's red nose really is not rooted in myth. There's actually more truth to his or maybe her, red nose than most of us realize. All reindeer have special noses that warm the air they breathe in before it reaches their lungs. The species of deer scientifically known as Rangifer tarandus, native to Arctic regions actually have noses colored with a distinctive red hue. This is due to an extremely dense array of blood vessels, packed into their noses that supply blood to regulate body temperature, protect the reindeer from freezing and regulates the temperature of the reindeer's brain in their extreme environment. A reindeer can regulate its body temperature by changing how it breathes and also changing how the blood flows to the brain. Reindeer have amazing heat exchangers inside their noses where warm air is cooled down before it's vented outside, conserving their body heat. A reindeer can put the whole system into reverse to dump heat, when it is running from a predator. During normal conditions, a reindeer breathes through its nose. The cold air cools the blood near the nasal passages and sends the slightly cooled blood to the arteries in and around the heart. This process helps keep the reindeer's organs cool. Once a reindeer starts breathing up to 260 breaths per minute, it starts breathing from its mouth. The cold air travels over its very large tongue, cooling the large blood vessels and sending the cooled blood into the body.

Reindeer comes from the Old Norse word "hreininn" which means "horned animal". During certain times of year, you can usually tell the sex of a reindeer by checking for antlers. Males lose their antlers in winter or spring, while females shed theirs in the summer. Since reindeer shed their antlers at different points of the year based on their sex and age, leads us to believe Santa's reindeer probably aren't older males, but young male reindeer or female.

And as for the reindeer flying - according to an article in LiveScience, "Up until a few hundred years ago shamans practiced older traditions of collecting Amanita muscaria (the Holy Mushroom), drying them, and giving them as gifts on the winter solstice. With snow blocking doors, the only opening was on the roof through which people entered and exited - thus 'the gifts' were dropped down the chimney." Donald Pfister, a biologist who studies fungi at Harvard University, adds to the story that Siberian tribesmen who ingested the Holy Mushrooms may have hallucinated and saw the reindeer fly.

You may not get to see the reindeer fly, or Rudolf's red blinking nose, but you have to admit that the ability of a reindeer to continually change its body functions adds to our rendition of the stories and myths of our traditions - the reindeer are magical creatures that continue to keep the spirit of Christmas and the season alive.



## 2,000 and Counting: DPL patron meets reading challenge head on!

(From Pg. 1)

Of course, frequent visits to the library are a driving force for reaching their quota. Week in and week out, Dana, the girls and Diane make it a family outing. Dana, who was an avid library patron during her childhood, wanted a similar experience for her girls. She said she found that at the DPL. "I love everything [about the library]. I love the people there. I love how we're always greeted with smiling faces. I love how much everyone at the library does for their patrons. I also love the bond my children have formed with everyone there." The girls couldn't agree with mom more!

Borrowing just the right books from our own library and also utilizing our popular "holds" options-checking out books (and other materials) from any of the other 47 libraries in the RCLS system and having them delivered here-comes down to a few things, Wright said.

"Sometimes, I pick books that look interesting to me [or the girls]. Other times, I use Pinterest or Instagram to find books that look especially good or would help the kids learn something specific," she explained. She is a master at finding unique, beautiful and interesting books during her perusal and will often recommend them to us. So far Dana and Harmony really like the Llama Llama series by Anna Dewdney and the Maple and Willow series by Lori Nichols. Some of Melody's favorite books include If You Give a Mouse by Laura Numeroff, The Boxcar Children series by Gertrude Chandler and the Magic Treehouse series by Mary Pope Osborne.

Next year, the family plans to do the challenge again.

"I was going to keep it at 2,000 BUT I think I'm going to aim for 2,500. I also think I'll add some chapter books into the mix," Dana said. She highly recommends having a quota in mind-and utilizing apps to keep track-when reading! If by participating in a challenge ignites a little competitive spirit to the very important goal of reading regularly to your children, all the better.

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## ERH Auxiliary Luncheon

(From Pg. 1) Ellenville Regional Hospital extends heartfelt gratitude to the dedicated members of the Auxiliary for their unwavering hard work and tenacity in raising funds. These efforts directly contribute to sustaining Ellenville Regional Hospital's commitment to providing exceptional health-care services to the community.

In recognition of her exceptional contributions, Auxiliary member Haze Gal was honored as the Auxiliarian of the Year. Haze's diligent and dedicated service to the Auxiliary has significantly impacted its success, and the organization expresses sincere appreciation for her ongoing support.

To continue supporting the Ellenville Regional Hospital Auxiliary, we invite the community to explore our gift shop and stay tuned for upcoming events. Your participation enables the Auxiliary to make a meaningful difference in the health and well-being of our community.





## News from your Town of Neversink Parks & Rec

Winter is in the air. We've had the cold chill and the snowflakes this past week. But last weekend we were blessed with rain--lots of rain--cold drizzling rain! That didn't hamper our tree lighting celebration which had over 200 people attending the festivities. And Santa & Mrs. Claus heard the Christmas wishes of over 100 little ones! Our tree lighting was a great success, and our Bicentennial Park is beautiful all lit up for the season. A lot of work goes into this event, and I would be on Santa's naughty list if I did not acknowledge and thank everyone that helped. So here goes. Thanks to our Town Highway Dept for getting our magnificent tree to the park, and for giving us the cones to use which hopefully slowed folks down the night of the event. A BIG thank you to our Parks & Rec Team (Dana McCarthy, Jessica Garigliano, Tina Connolly, Danielle Hartman, Nicole Grey, Valerie Brown & Tanya Huggler) who brought their kids and even their spouse (thank you Harold Brown) to help decorate the park. The Team, along with Nicole Gorr our Town Board Advisor put everything together the day of the event so when folks arrived everything was in place and ready to go and then coordinated the Santa escort and the kids visits with Santa & Mrs. Claus. Thanks to all our volunteers who gave their time for this event including Ed McCarthy & Mike Mickelson who did all the grilling; Kristie & Ken Irwin who served up the burgers & dogs; Keith & Leslye Stryker who handled the popcorn, marshmallows and pretzels for us; Ric & Patrick Coombe who tended the fire for our marshmallows; Joan Evans & her Girl Scouts Team who served the cocoa & cookies; Brenda Devore, Geri Gorton & Caryn Mathews who kept the hot cider and coffee flowing and Janis Offringa who was keeping an eye on everything for me.

Once again Santa and Mrs. Claus arrived in our town escorted by the Grahamsville, Neversink & Claryville Fire Departments; our Grahamsville and Neversink EMT's; our Tri-Valley Cheerleading Squad; and our Tri-Valley faculty and TESSA members, all cheering and light up for the holidays. And a special thank you to Mr. Matthew Weyant and his Tri-Valley Band who got us into the holiday spirit with some of our favorite Christmas Carols. Joe Bagley, who is always there for me when I need him no matter what the ask, deserves a BIG Thank you. And of course Walt (Zeitschel), my spouse, who is always there for me and everything I need for all the Parks & Recs events. This year he even had to deal with me unplugging all the lights (not realizing it) so that late at night he was out there with a flashlight and extension cords getting our park all lit up like it was supposed to be. I want to send a thank you to the North Pole to Santa & Mrs. Claus for fitting us into their busy schedule---the kids AND the adults love them. And I must thank Chris Mathews, our Town Supervisor for his ongoing support of Parks & Rec. So Folks--you're probably thinking wow she had to put that all in writing!!!! Yes I did, because I want everyone to understand and appreciate the volunteers and people that help to make these events happen for our town---the tree lighting was a success because of these folks, and I cannot thank them enough! And thank you to all the families who came out in that drizzling weather to help our Town of Neversink ring in the holiday season. If you haven't had a chance to see the park lit up, drive by Bicentennial Park (across from our town hall) at night--it is magnificent!

So on to the next Parks & Rec activity----THE COMMUNITY ICE RINK! Our Town of Neversink Highway Department has worked very hard to get the ice rink up and ready for the season. AND IT IS READY. We are planning the 2023-24 Season Opening Day Event on Sunday, December 17th from 1-4 pm. We will have hot dogs & hamburgers, cocoa & coffee and cookies. I also put in a call to Santa who will be stopping by. We have skates and helmets for you to use if you don't have your own. Don't forget--HELMETS ARE REQUIRED ON THE ICE. And the best part is its all free!!!! So come on out and help us open the ice rink for this year's skating season.

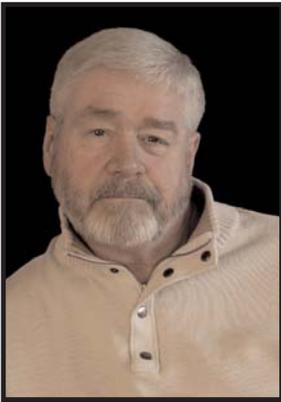
As for the ongoing days/times the ice rink will be open, I am still working on that. I know for sure we will be open on Wednesday nights along with Saturday and Sunday afternoons. I am hoping we will be able to open on more days/times during the season, but that is dependent on getting volunteers to help. Without volunteers to monitor the ice rink, the ice rink cannot be opened. This is the Community Ice Rink, and we need the community to help us keep it going. If you are willing to volunteer to help at the rink or want more information on what is involved with monitoring the ice rink, please reach out to me at [cwparksandrec@gmail.com](mailto:cwparksandrec@gmail.com). The ice rink is a great fun free activity--that doesn't require cell phones---a great way to spend time with the family---lets work together to keep it open.

That's it for this update. Any questions send them to [cwparksandrec@gmail.com](mailto:cwparksandrec@gmail.com). And don't forget to check our Facebook page for current postings.

Happy Holidays Everyone. Be safe, stay healthy, be happy and don't forget to enjoy the season.

Cher (your Parks & Rec Director)

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



## Legacy Mysterious Book Report No. 66 Mysterious Book Report No. 428

Published December 10, 2020  
by John Dwaine McKenna

It takes a rare and awesome talent to be able to invert the forces of good and evil –to make a stone cold serial killer into a good guy –but that's exactly what master wordsmith and Edgar Award-winning author Thomas Perry has done in his newest, and best in our opinion, of the four installments of his *Butcher's Boy* series, which began in 1982.

*Eddie's Boy*, (Mysterious Press, \$26.00, 288 pages, ISBN 978-0-8021-5777-5) opens in the present, in Yorkshire, England where retired American hit man Michael Schaeffer has been living in quiet and peaceful anonymity with his British wife for the past twenty years. But everything changes in an instant when a trio of unknown assassins strike without warning, and Michael, now in his sixties, must defend himself . . . as well as his wife, Meg.

The first pages of the novel begin with an angry Michael Schaeffer speeding away from his home in a stolen automobile with the three corpses of the inept hit men who've been sent to murder him. Knowing that his past could come back to haunt him at any time, the old hit man has always kept himself in top physical condition and had contingency plans in place to ensure the safety of his wife Meg –who is fully aware of her husband's past. She's now in hiding, while Michael heads out for Australia, hoping to find peace and safety.

He doesn't. No sooner than he's on the ground down under, than new attempts are made on his life, the body count rises, and Schaeffer realizes that his best hope of survival is to return to the United States and confront whatever demon from his past has returned to try and kill him. And as each new attempt is made on his life, Michael recalls an episode from his childhood and the lessons he learned from his substitute father, Eddie the butcher in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, fifty years earlier.

Once he's back in America, Schaeffer reaches out for help to a Justice Department Official named Elizabeth Waring –for whom he was once a confidential informant. By trading information with her, Schaeffer is able to determine who . . . and why . . . someone from his past has re-entered his life, and the action never stops as the old assassin uses all of his wiles and experience, plus every trick he's ever learned, to stay alive.

*Eddie's Boy* is wickedly twisted, dynamic and super well-plotted, leaving no doubt that Mr. Perry is not only at the top of his game . . . he's outdone everything he's written before. It's impossible to put down once you start reading!

**NOTE:** The novels in this series are *The Butcher's Boy*, *Sleeping Dogs*, *The Informant* and *Eddie's Boy*. All are highly recommended.

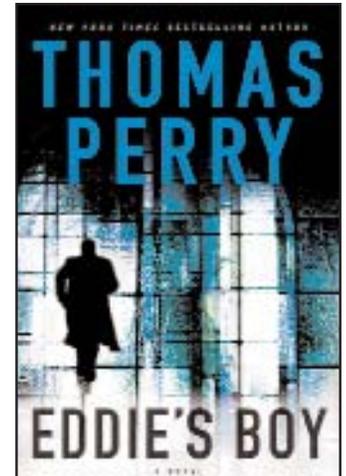
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# The Olive Jar

by Carol Olsen LaMonda

## Donna's Dolls



This is the season of giving, and most of us are shopping and wrapping up presents. My friend Donna doesn't just give at holiday time, she has been giving since she retired from Onteora. She began "My Friend Rag Doll" project and

has since made and donated almost 8,000 sweet, flannel rag dolls to children's hospitals throughout the country.

Donna Kopf began this "Mitzvah" to ensure that children had a huggable doll to love during scary times at the hospital.

To create these dolls, she shops for the cutest cotton flannel, the softest stuffing and begins the long, involved process to create them, mostly single handedly. She traces the outline, embroiders the logo "My Friend Rag Doll" on the heart space, cuts them out, sews them, cuts outside edges that will fluff up, and gets them ready for workshops of friends that do the easy part of stuffing them. These stuffing workshops draw about two dozen men and women who stuff and chat and enjoy a delightful lunch.



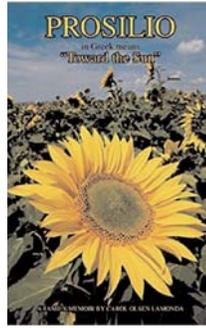
Her work is far from done. Each doll needs to be inspected, sewn up again, fluffed in the dryer, packed in plastic bags and combined with a flyer. Then stapled, packed, and shipped off to various hospitals. All out her own pocket, by the way.

And then she starts over.

As this holiday season starts to be more commercial than ever, Donna's Dolls are a reminder to give unselfishly from the heart.

### 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*



Some of our happy children with their dolls





**Daniel Pierce Library**

*Between the Bookends*

By Lisa Carroll

**Latkes and Applesauce**

Our Latkes and Applesauce program was a beautiful event. 28 children in grades 1-6 came to the library December 5 to learn about the Festival of Lights-Hanukkah-a joyous holiday celebrated for eight nights in December. "It was so lovely and such a fun evening," Pat Doogan, Daniel Pierce Library Board of Trustee, said.



Gaila Weisberg shared interesting facts and the history of Hanukkah, while Sue Mootz read a holiday story and Dee Rosenshein taught the children how to play Dreidel. Many of our fabulous volunteers assisted with the making of latkes, which the children thought were delicious-and each left with the super, secret recipe.



**Owl Felting**

Our Holiday Felting event was well attended on December 7.



Attendees took a moment from the hustle and bustle of the holidays to learn a new craft by felting expert, Christine Adams. During the workshop, "students" learned how to utilize wool fibers and special




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

tools to create their own snow owl. It was a hoot of a good time, Adams said. Everyone made such unique and interesting owls!



**UPK-Puppet Show**

All three Tri-Valley UPK classes visited the Daniel Pierce Library on December 12, participating in activities to wrap up our eight week Fall program.



Students participated in the Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer felt story, checked out books and then watched the play, The Christmas Spider, narrated by DPL Children's Program Coordinator Deirdre McHugh and puppeteered by DPL Community Programs



Associate, Nicole Richardson and Library Clerk, Michelle Goodman. "It was so magical," McHugh said. Children sang traditional holiday songs, enjoyed meeting the puppets and each received a special holiday book as a gift.

# CHRISTMAS

## Menu

Turkey - Wholes and Halves sliced  
avg 7-9 lbs \$7.49 lb

Turkey Breast - Boneless  
avg 3 lbs \$12.49 lb

Center Roast Pork crusted in Herbs and Mustard  
avg 3 lbs \$11.99 lb

Whole Salmon Side Roasted  
avg 3 lb \$19.00 lb

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Apple Herb and Sausage Stuffing  
pint \$5.99 qt \$11.99

Cranberry Apple Sauce  
8 oz \$8.00 12 oz \$12.00

White Wine Gravy  
8 oz \$8.00 12 oz \$14.00

Rosemary Potatoes  
pint \$5.99 qt \$11.99

Roasted Butternut Squash  
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---

Pie - Apple - Pumpkin - Pecan - \$18.99

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## The Scene Too

### — By Jane Harrison

A fantastic afternoon of music, in the midst of an exhibition of the wood fired earthenware pots of the late ROBERT SEGALL, at the SULLIVAN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND MUSEUM this last Sunday, thanks once again to the generosity of THE FREDRICK COOK SOCIETY. Fan favorite LITTLE SPARROW (ALDO TROIANI and CAROL SMITH) took the stage first with the great JEFF ANDERSON on bass, HENRY SIMON on guitar and vocals and ELLEN IOVINO, vocals and percussion. The showstopper here was the rendition of 'TENNESSEE WHISKEY' where it seemed everyone in the audience went quiet.



*Wayne Lopes and Van Manakis*

And was just the warmup. From seemingly note one, incredible Jazz guitarists VAN MANAKIS and WAYNE LOPES had the audience in the palm of their hands. When one would 'come to' one couldn't remember if they had been holding their breath or had simply forgotten to breathe while under the musical spell. Can you imagine?! I'm going to ask Santa to bring back everyone that performed again soon!!!



*Con Queso*

CON QUESO!!! (or 'with cheese', if you are not familiar with the term). When the duo of DAVID MILNER and MITZI MILNER came up with the name, they also had a concept: Choosing the most 'cheesy' songs they can find. To explain this further, I went to a modern dictionary that described the 'informal' use of the term as being "blatantly inauthentic". And dear reader, this describes so many of the love songs over the decades that they had a plethora to choose from.

OK, I get it, which is why when I hear a new song they have chosen, it's not unusual to hear me laughing....which often incurs side-eyes and downright scowls from the surrounding audience. No, I'm not laughing AT them, but in appreciation for the song chosen. (Like the TOM JONES hit



*Laura Garone*

'IT'S NOT UNUSUAL) Or 'RING MY BELL' sung by Dave with Mitzi playing a triangle as part of the accompaniment. It's fun, guys! This duo expanded for the night to a four piece, with the addition of NICK HEARMON on drums and former California professor JIM LOEN on bass last Friday

night in a packed CABERNET FRANK'S in Parksville, which included notables LAURA GARONE and TERI PARIS. Teri will be appearing on that stage on December 29th at 7pm.

This coming Wednesday night, December 13th, at 7pm, CABERNET FRANK'S will host a reading and book signing with LISA TITUS and her new book FIRST TIME, EVERY TIME. I met Lisa a few years back when she was Sullivan County's POET LAUREATE, you may remember reading about it here. I'm looking forward to attending this, because, despite talking with her about her writings, I've never read anything. And I'm pretty sure the book is not self-published, which adds serious credibility to her talent.

Have you tried the Italian lunch meals lately from the NEVERSINK GENERAL STORE? I picked up spaghetti and meatballs last week and was very pleasantly surprised! The sauce tasted fresh with actual chunks of tomato and the meatballs had a texture that appealed to me along with a real Italian taste. Kudos to the consulting chef!!

There is a nasty cold/cold-like something-or-other out here circulating among us humans. Someone who has it has dubbed it "the cold of the century" ...mainly because that's how long it feels like one has had it. I'm going into my 3rd week...still congested, still sneezing, not much of a cough, but off and on feverish and chills. Others in their 3rd and sometimes 4th week have a cough that won't quit, or fatigue, headache and sneezing. There are only a few commonalities, 1. It starts as a common cold, 2. CoVid tests are negative, 3. It does NOT want to go away!! So please be careful out there and in your holiday gatherings.

Stay safe, and get a bigger bottle of hand sanitizer!  
Until next time.....



*Teri Paris*

## Benjamin Cosor Elementary School Announces First Making Period Honors

FALLSBURG - Benjamin Cosor Elementary School is excited to announce their elementary Honor Roll and Superintendent's Honor Roll recipients for the first marking period. Students who made the Honor Roll list earned an overall grade-point average of 3.0-3.5, and students who made the Superintendent's Honor Roll list earned an overall grade-point average of 3.6-4.0. The students who were recognized for their high academic achievements are:

### Grade 4

Honor Roll: Mila Arroyo, Santiago Brito Garcia, Isaiah Crawford, Kadence Duncan, Giada Evangelista, Katherine Giron Cabrera, Leah Glanstein, Jonah Godby, Jase Hermann, Jackson Hockenberry, Eliza Lagos Guardado, Enina Lulanaj, Zoya Meer, Lincoln Oneal, Jax Pillius, Skyla Restrepo, Taylor Simms, Madax Simpson, Elijah Torres, and Tyler Torres.

Superintendent's Honor Roll: Muhammed Kassama, Brianna Johnson, and Mason Li.

### Grade 5

Honor Roll: Dilver Aleman, Arabella Almodovar, Hayden Atkins, Kadija Bamba, Ava Berrios, Isaac Castillo Miranda, Aubrianna Clark-Wheat, Aaron Cubias, Muhammad Dumbuya, Nelson Duque Moroy, Lithsy Fuentes Ardon, Emanuel Granados, Jordan Ketcham, Ashley Leon Santos, Bryan Lopez-Romero, Alexandria Mann, Marvin Martinez Gonzales, Camden McKenny, Theresa Medina, Samuel Melendez, Erick Rivera Moreno, Christian Robles Hernandez, Kendra Rodriguez, Madison Samora, Derrick Saravia, Blerina Selimaj, Blinera Selimaj, Melanie Wang, and Benjamin Wizwer.

Superintendent's Honor Roll: Bryan Balcazar Lavin, Anthony Frunzi, Selina Lazroe, Grayson Mungeer

### Grade 6

Honor Roll: Yasmina Aquil, Giselle Ascencio Martinez, Ellis Basic, Darlin Chub Ujpan, Mylaan Dolberry, Dania Duque Enamorado, Shamiah Foy, Janary Fuentes Ardon, Gensis Gonzalez Alvarez, David Hernandez Martinez, Carsyn Hoefling, Madison Lucas, Hanna Manjarrez Paredes, Victoris Manjarrez Paredes, Jackelyne Mariaca, Reja Meer, Dylan Osbourne

Ariel Payne, Logan Retana, Genesis Reyes-Robles, Makayla Rivers, Malika Rivers, Leon Rodriguez Morales, Leonardo Rojas, Anthony Santos Morales, Zhara Snead, Fernando Turcios Garcia, Heaven Wilson and Allison Yautentzi Reyes.

Superintendent's Honor Roll: Walker Budde, George DiNapoli, Jessica Saciola, and Holly Surerus.



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SULLIVAN COUNTY  
Public Health Services

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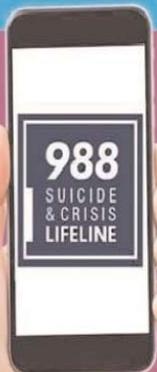
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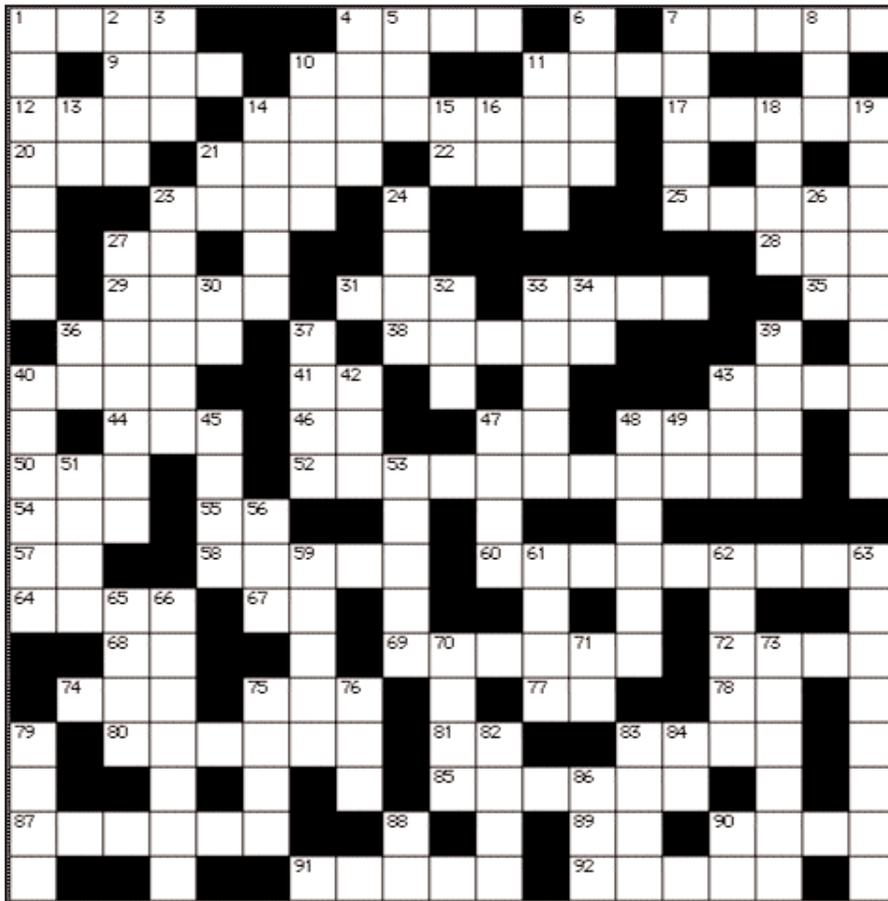


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You Better Not Pout... - L. Comando



**ACROSS**

1 According to Moore, they did not stir on Christmas Eve  
 4 Rural road that Santa may travel down  
 7 Third planet from the sun  
 9 Avenue  
 10 \_\_\_\_\_ Voyage; Good Journey  
 11 Persuade  
 12 Rudolph's was glowing red  
 14 Artist famous for our present day image of Santa  
 17 Formed for a particular purpose (2 wds)  
 20 A single item  
 21 Suspend  
 22 Red and white striped candy  
 23 Without  
 25 Liquid astringent

applied to the skin  
 27 Exclamation of surprise  
 28 Having three parts  
 29 Carbonated soft drink  
 31 Expert  
 33 Scandinavian Yuletide animal  
 35 The same way  
 36 Past tense of give  
 38 Type of canoe you might take to Quincy or Nyack!  
 40 Highly esteemed green stone  
 41 Mystical symbol  
 43 Santa's reindeer troupe  
 44 Gnome-like creature  
 46 Year  
 47 Knock Out!  
 48 Smooth creamy cheese  
 50 Another

name for mother  
 52 German Santa Claus  
 54 Holly and \_\_\_\_\_  
 55 State of being  
 57 One's mother  
 58 Relating to the North Pole  
 60 Custom or belief handed down from one generation to the next  
 64 Expression of concern  
 67 Plural form of archaic thou  
 68 South-west  
 69 Repeatedly going in to something  
 72 Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries  
 74 Fasten  
 75 Allow  
 77 Delaware

(abbrev)  
 78 Long Island  
 80 Respect  
 81 Southeast  
 83 The ordinary people  
 85 Island country off the southeast coast of China  
 87 One of the four divisions of the year  
 89 Artificial Intelligence  
 90 Self-referential  
 91 " 'Twas the Night Before Christmas" author  
 92 Goblet

**DOWN**

1 Sacred candelabrum used at Hannukah  
 2 Covering  
 3 Night before an event  
 4 Of elongated shape  
 5 Combining conjunction  
 6 Where many will be this year for the holidays  
 7 Acclaim  
 8 Duo  
 10 Small sweetened breads  
 11 Shape of a gnome's hat  
 13 Supported by  
 14 This week's Fun Page star  
 15 Before Christ  
 16 Louisiana  
 18 Inkling  
 19 Holiday to honor Christ birthday  
 21 An exclamation of triumph  
 23 An important winter tool  
 24 What Santa carries on his back  
 26 Age  
 27 A school for special instruction  
 30 Language Engineering  
 32 Hearing organ  
 33 Short for alligator  
 34 Exclamation expressing agreement  
 36 Georgia (abbrev)

37 A child's play things  
 39 Meetings for communal work  
 40 Icon that adorns a well-known pancake syrup label created by Hadden Sundblom  
 42 Magnetic Resonance Imaging  
 43 Transient Ischemic Attack  
 45 To turn over  
 47 Retained possession of  
 48 Runners on ice skates  
 49 Egyptian sun god  
 51 Egg-shaped  
 53 Pertaining to medieval Scandinavia  
 56 Leguminous plant native to Asia  
 59 Crowbar  
 61 Tall slender-leaved grass plant

70 Artist known for Civil War Santa  
 71 Regard-ing  
 73 Twelfth sign of the zodiac

75 Member of the Tri-Valley Lions Club  
 78 Decade  
 79 Short examination  
 82 Part of a roof  
 83 Correspondence

84 Indefinite article  
 86 Swish  
 88 In the direction of  
 90 A title before a woman's name

**Cinnamon Salt Dough**

3 cups all-purpose flour  
 1 cup ground cinnamon  
 1 cup salt  
 3/4 cups water

Whisk together the flour, cinnamon, and salt until it is well combined. Mix in the water with a fork or wooden spoon until a dough begins to form. Finish kneading the dough together with your hands. It will be moldable and a bit dry, like play dough. It should not be wet or sticky.

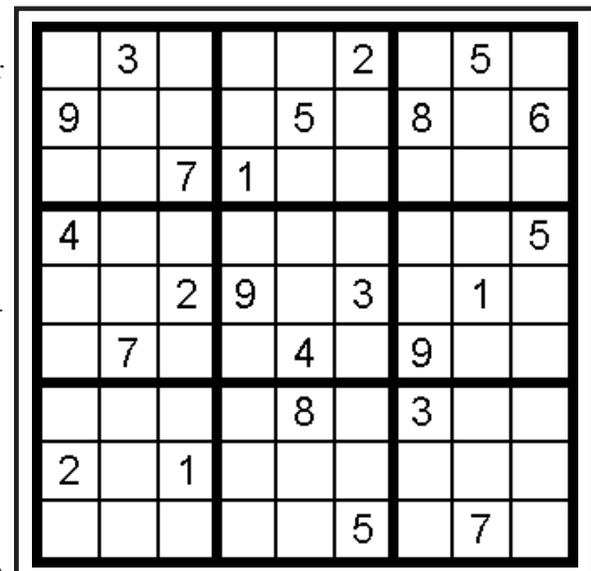
This dough can be rolled and cut out like cookies, or it can be pressed into cookie molds. To make into cookie molds, flour the molds generously and press the dough into the mold so that it is filled fully. With a bench scraper or spatula, scrape away any excess dough. Shake or knock out the molded dough onto the countertop.

To cut out the ornaments, roll the dough to about 1/2-inch thickness and cut out with cookie cutters.

Do not forget to make a small hole in the tops of ornaments with a toothpick before baking!

Bake the ornaments at 200° F for about 30 minutes or until the ornaments are hardened. Let cool completely, place string or twine through the hole, and hang on the tree!

数字は単数に限る



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

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

FIND 7 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE 2 SCENES.

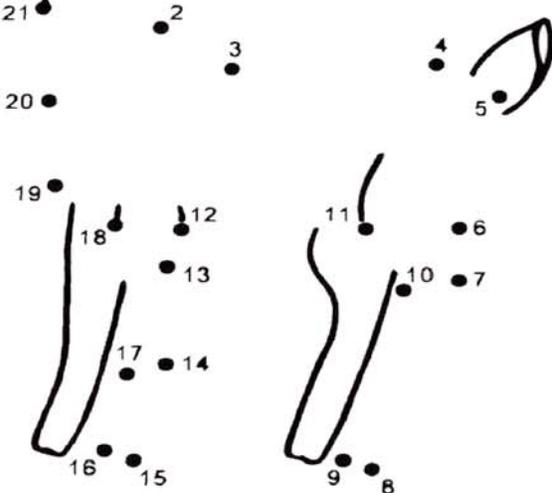


# Kids' Holiday Fun Page

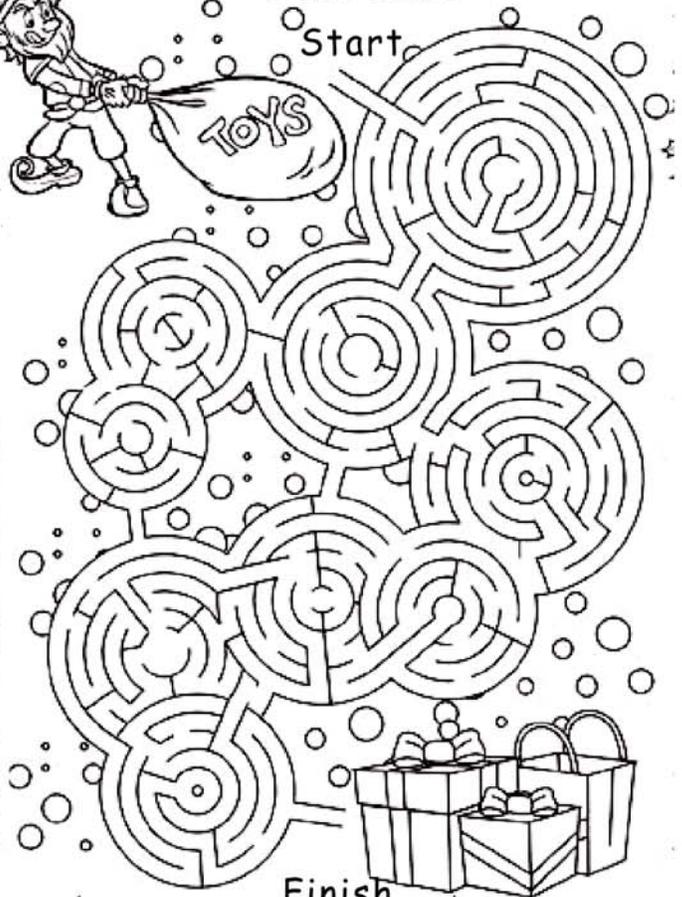
- L. Comando



Connect the dots and see one of Santa's furry friends



Help Santa's helper through the maze



## Word Search

- SLEIGH
- REINDEER
- RUDOLPH
- CUPID
- VIXEN
- DONNER
- FRANCER
- COMET
- SANTA
- CHRISTMAS
- COOKIES
- MILK
- ELF
- SNOW
- BLITZEN
- DANCER
- DASHER

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

## Cryptogram Key

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



# Gotsch

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## *at the Daniel Pierce Library*

*'Tis the season for holiday melodies featuring local musicians  
Special guests: Mrs. Helen Miller, Mr. John Bernstein  
Mr. Clarence Dow-Spielman & Mrs. Keira Weyant*

Let's celebrate the wonders of the season with music in our festive Reading Room! The holidays can be such a hectic time of year, we know you could use a pause. Please come by to sit back and take a moment. We will be providing the sounds of the season, while you enjoy the elegant atmosphere. Take this time to just relax!



Featured musicians 6:00 to 6:45 p.m.

Tuesday, December 12 & Thursday, December 14

Tuesday, December 19 & Thursday, December 21

**In the event of inclement weather, please check our website and social media for cancellations.**



**LEGALS/PUBLIC NOTICES**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing was held on Tuesday, November 14th, 2023 at the Town of Denning Town Hall on the matter of the Preliminary Budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2024. At SAID hearing any and all interested person(s) were heard.

ALSO TAKE NOTICE that the budget, having been duly discussed at Said Town Board Meeting has been approved and adopted for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2024. This budget is on file and available for inspection at the Town Clerk's Office, during normal business hours, at the Town of Denning Town Hall, 1567 Denning Road, Claryville, N.Y. 12725

By the Order of the Denning Town Board  
Nancy Parrow  
Town Clerk  
November 28, 2023

12/14/2023

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**Notice of Resolution Adopted Subject to  
Permissive Referendum**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Claryville Fire District adopted the following resolution:

Be it resolved that a sum of \$5,615.47 will be expended from Equipment Reserves to fund the acquisition of new suction hoses for fire trucks 65-31 and 63-61.

This resolution is adopted subject to a permissive referendum as provided in the General Municipal Law of the State of New York.

Dated: Dec. 5, 2023

By order of the Board of Fire Commissioners  
of the Claryville Fire District,  
Claryville, NY 12725

2/14/2023

---

**Notice of Resolution Adopted Subject to  
Permissive Referendum**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Claryville Fire District adopted the following resolution:

Be it resolved to move \$1,500.00 from Capital Reserves to fund the rent increase, authorized in February of 2023, to the Fire Company for the Truck House. This rent increase was authorized in order for the company to pay for the necessary replacement of the Truck House boiler and associated equipment, and ongoing increases in expenses.

This resolution is adopted subject to a permissive referendum as provided in the General Municipal Law of the State of New York.

Dated: December 5, 2023

By order of the Board of Fire Commissioners  
Claryville Fire District  
Claryville, NY 12725

2/14/2023

**Notification to the Media of Organizational Meeting**

Claryville Fire District  
PO Box 22  
Claryville, NY 12725

The Townsman  
PO Box 232  
Grahamsville, NY 127240  
December 11, 2023

Re: Organizational Meeting of the Claryville Fire District  
Please take notice that the organizational meeting for the Claryville Fire District of the Towns of Denning and Neversink, Counties of Ulster and Sullivan, New York, will be held on the 9th day of January, 2024 at 6:30 PM at the Claryville Fire Department Warren Cole Community Hall. The regular End of Year meeting will be held following the Organizational Meeting on January 9, 2024. These meetings are open to the public. This notification is being given to the news media pursuant to the provisions of Section 94 of the Public Officers Law of the State of New York. The purpose of the Organizational Meeting is to set salaries, establish policies and procedures, as well as handle any other matter that has come before the Board.

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

Anne-Marie Kremer  
Secretary  
Claryville Fire District

2/14/2023

## Tri-Valley CSD Board Meetings:

1) Regular Meeting #12  
**Thursday, December 14, 2023**  
Meeting Opening Call To Order - 7:00 p.m.  
Secondary School Library Lower Level

2) Board Policy Committee Meeting  
**Thursday, January 4, 2024**  
Meeting Opening Call To Order - 5:30 p.m.  
Secondary School Library Lower Level Media  
Center

3) Regular Meeting #13  
**Thursday, January 4, 2024**  
Meeting Opening Call To Order - 7:00 p.m.  
Secondary School Library Lower Level

The Regular Meetings will be on  
Tri-Valley's YouTube LIVE Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/Uckl224vKQ8nAWhR6NVao24w/live>



*Ellenville Regional Hospital Auxiliary Gift Shop*

# BLOWOUT HOLIDAY SALE

# 50% OFF EVERYTHING!

THURSDAY & FRIDAY  
DECEMBER 21 & 22  
10-3:30



**SEASON OPENING**  
**OF OUR COMMUNITY ICE RINK**



**Come join us for the season opening of  
the Town of Neversink  
Community Ice Rink  
(located at the Grahamsville Fairgrounds)**

**on**

**Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>**

**From 1 pm - 4 pm**

**We will have hotdogs & hamburgers, cocoa & coffee  
and some sweet treats.**

**And Santa said he's stopping by for a visit to help us  
celebrate!**

**We have skates and helmets available at no charge  
(helmets are REQUIRED on the ice)**

**COME JOIN US---ITS FREE!**

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**Sundown United Methodist Church**  
**Covered Dish Supper**  
**5:30 pm**  
**Jan 6, 2024**

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

*Sundown United Methodist Church Hall*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Grahamsville United Methodist Church**

**Have a joyful Advent Season!**

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

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

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

*Grahamsville Reformed Church*

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

**Claryville Reformed Church**

Claryville Road  
Claryville, NY 12725  
845-985-2041

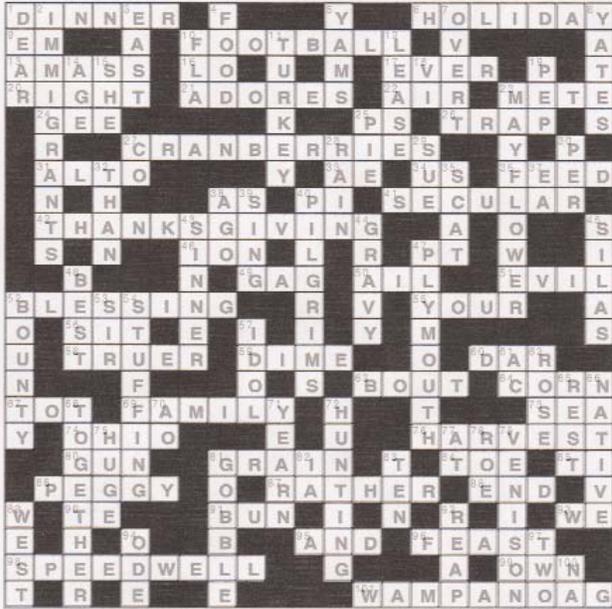


Worship Services @ 10:00 am  
Rev. Ken Tenckinck, Pastor  
Church Hall available for rent  
Call - 845-985-2041 for information

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

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

Ans to last week's Crossword



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

Also **WANTED** People to play cards

SUUJI WA TANSU NI KAGIRU answer

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

**GRAHAMSVILLE UMC THRIFT MINISTRY**

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

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

**Sundown United Methodist Church Covered Dish Supper**  
**Saturday, January 6, 2024 5:30 pm at the Church Hall**  
**Check out the tables with Yard Sale items available for sale**  
 (Covered Dish Suppers are held the First Saturday of each month at 5:30 pm at the Church Hall)

**“Shorts & Sweets for the Holidays”**

Featuring actress *Carol MacAdam* and *Big Sky Productions' Artistic Director Carol Montana*  
 —think of them as the two Christmas Carols!

**December 14 at 5:30 p.m.**  
 Community Room of *Mamakating Library*  
 128 Sullivan Street in *Wurtsboro*.  
 Admission is free, but registration is required by calling 845-888-8004.

**ARTISTS • CRAFTERS**  
 Need a place to show and sell your crafts?  
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 email: [tvtownsman@yahoo.com](mailto:tvtownsman@yahoo.com)  
 or visit our Virtual Mail  
<http://gnomehomeinc.com>

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

12/12/23	Denning Town Board & Business Meeting 6:00 pm Denning Town Hall
12/13/23	Town of Neversink Board Meeting 7:00 pm
12/19/23	Town of Neversink Zoning Board Meeting 7:30 pm
12/21/23	Denning Town Planning Board Meeting 6:00 pm Denning Town Hall
12/21/23	Neversink Fire District Commissioner Meeting 7:00pm
12/22/23	Town of Neversink Holiday - <b>1/2 day Christmas</b>
12/25/23	Town of Neversink Holiday - <b>Christmas Day</b>
12/29/24	Town of Neversink Holiday - <b>1/2 day New Year's</b>
<b>1/1/23</b>	Town of Neversink Holiday - <b>New Year's Day</b>
<b>1/3/23</b>	Town of Neversink Planning Board Meeting
<b>1/4/24</b>	Town of Neversink Organizational Board Meeting 7:00 pm
1/6/24	<b>Sundown UMC Covered Dish Supper 5:30 Church Hall</b>

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

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

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

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

## Ulster County Legislature Weekly Calendar Update

for the Week Of

**December 11 - December 15, 2023**

\*All Legislative Committee Meetings are Livestreamed at  
<https://www.youtube.com/@UlsterCountyLegislature/streams>

### Monday, December 11

**\*4:00 PM - Health, Human Services & Housing Committee**, in the KL Binder Library, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston, and Legislature's Livestream\*

**5:00 PM - Community Services Board**, 239 Golden Hill Lane, 2nd Floor Conference Room, Kingston

**\*6:00 PM - Public Works, Capital Projects & Transportation Committee**, in the KL Binder Library, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston, and Legislature's Livestream\*

### Tuesday, December 12

**\*4:00 PM - American Rescue Plan Act Special Committee**, in Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston, and Legislature's Livestream\*

4:00 PM - Ulster County Economic Development Alliance, in the County Executive Conference Room, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston; 920 Broadway, NY, NY 10010; 44 Bingham Road, Marlboro, New York 12542 & Via Zoom, Meeting ID: 818 8933 3665

**5:00 PM - Ulster County Board of Health**, 239 Golden Hill Lane, 1st Floor Conference Room, Kingston

**\*5:00 PM - Ways & Means Committee, in the Legislative Chambers**, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston, and Legislature's Livestream\*

6:00 PM - Democratic Caucus, in the KL Binder Library, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston

### Wednesday, December 13

**3:00 PM - Ulster County Electrical Licensing Board**, in the Rondout Municipal Center, 1915 Lucas Avenue, Cottekill, 12419

### Thursday, December 14

**No Meetings**

*Please note the Laws & Rules Committee Scheduled for Thursday December 14, 2023 has been rescheduled for Monday December 18, 2023.*

### Friday, December 15

**No Meetings**

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

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

1" Boxed ad (1"x3")-  
\$6.00 per week

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

.. Full Page Flyer for  
Local Municipalities  
and Organizations -  
one time fee- \$20.00

(once the flyer is inserted  
we will publish it each week  
through the week of the event)

**As in the past, there is no fee  
for advertising for our local  
churches**

**Low Rates  
High Visibility!**



# Russian Mule New Years Eve Party at the Claryville Event Center

Saturday, December 30

MENU

\* ASSORTED APPETIZERS

\* MAINS

CHICKEN MARSALA, BAKED  
SALMON, FLANK STEAK,  
MASHED POTATOES, GARLIC  
VEGETABLES, GARDEN SALAD

\* DESSERT TABLE

\$55 per person, plus tax & gratuity

Live Music: BJ Hendrickson

Buffet 4-8pm

make your reservation now as space is limited

(845)985-0247

## Enjoy “Shorts & Sweets for the Holidays” in Wurtsboro on December 14



Carol MacAdam and Carol Montana will present “Shorts & Sweets for the Holidays” on December 14 at the Mamakating Library.

WURTSBORO, NY - Take a break from your holiday shopping and preparations and enjoy an evening of short stories and jokes when the Mamakating Library presents Big Sky Productions in “Shorts & Sweets for the Holidays.”

The evening will feature actress Carol MacAdam and Big Sky Productions' Artistic Director Carol Montana -- think of them as the two Christmas Carols!

Guests will enjoy jokes and short stories about Christmas, Chanukah and the New Year celebrations, with treats served up courtesy of the Friends of the Mamakating Library.

It's all happening on Thursday, December 14 at 5:30 p.m. in the community room of Mamakating Library, 128 Sullivan Street in Wurtsboro. Admission is free, but registration is required by calling 845-888-8004.

## Zane Grey Plein Air BENEFIT RAFFLE For Tusten Youth Commission

### “Narrowsburg Noël, The Elf Stays in the Picture”

Painting on View: Saturday, December 16 to  
December 23, 5 PM

Narrowsburg Proper: 44 Main St., Narrowsburg,  
NY 12764

Benefit Raffle Drawing: Saturday, December 23, 5  
PM

Tickets: \$10.00

“Narrowsburg Noël, The Elf Stays in the Picture,” a 16 x 20 pastel “nocturne” by Karen Meneghin, is a scenic painting of the Narrowsburg Tree Lighting at dusk, capturing Main Street aglow with holiday revelers celebrating the moment and against the scenic backdrop of The Big Eddy in Narrowsburg NY.

“Narrowsburg Noël,” will be on display at  
Narrowsburg Proper from Saturday, December 16 to  
Saturday, December 23 at 5 PM.

Raffle tickets are available at:  
Narrowsburg Proper, 44 Main St., and Zane Grey  
Gallery, 7 Erie Ave., Suite 105A.

For more information:  
Visit: [www.ZaneGreyPleinAir.com](http://www.ZaneGreyPleinAir.com)  
Email: [info@ZaneGreyPleinAir.com](mailto:info@ZaneGreyPleinAir.com)

## MISU Annual Holiday Concert

Please join us on Sunday, December 17 at 3:00 PM for the MISU Annual Holiday concert. With performances by the MISU Community String Ensemble with guest artists.

There will be a bake sale, raffle, and light refreshments.

This concert will be in-person at St. John's located at 40 Market St. Ellenville, NY.

Donations are gratefully accepted. We hope to see you there!



Carol Montana & Carol MacAdam of  
Big Sky Productions present:

## Shorts and Sweets: **Holiday Edition**

Program of jokes & short stories

Thursday,  
December 14th  
5:30 pm

Plan your holi-date night at the library to enjoy live theater & desserts.

**Registration is required.** Register online or by calling 845-888-8004.

Coffee, tea and sweets are generously donated by the  
Friends of Mamakating Library.



### **Mamakating Library**

128 Sullivan Street

P.O. Box 806

Wurtsboro, New York 12790 | (845)888-8004

<http://www.mamakatinglibrary.org>

# Get Ready for a Musical Holiday Treat: Hartman Sisters Light Up Tusten Theatre DVAA Presents Cozy Catskills Holiday Revue!

On December 16th & 17th, the Tusten Theatre will host the return of Camellia and Odetta Hartman for a weekend of retro holiday music with COZY CATSKILLS HOLIDAY REVUE. This year's lineup includes a mix of well-loved classics and lesser-known festive gems, with a focus on themes of peace and unity as we close out the year.

This Year's Special Guests include Bizzy Coy, Kali Seastrand, Bret Keyser, and Lacy Madden.

SATURDAY evening, December 16th at 5 pm, the Tusten Theatre will be brimming with holiday cheer as DVAA presents a classic cocktail party with the Ladybug Land Entertainers performing your favorite holiday tunes.

SUNDAY afternoon, December 17th at 1 pm, Cozy Catskills will showcase global holiday traditions, featuring special guests sharing their unique cultural festivities. Attendees of all ages will enjoy a sing-along and a heartwarming story time.

Tickets for this special, live musical event are \$25 for adults and \$15 for kids, 12 and under.

## ABOUT THE SHOW



Cozy Catskills Holiday Revue is hosted by Camellia & Odetta Hartman on vocals & strings, and features Evan Tyor on piano and vocals, Jamie Mohamdein on upright bass, Billy Aukstik on Trumpet, Eric Burns on guitar, and Nathan Repasz on drums.

Get in the mood for the holiday shindig with an original Christmas tune by Odetta Hartman, featuring bandmates Camellia & Billy!

"Christmas Together (Maybe Just This Year)"  
<https://odettahartman ffm.to/christmastgether>

## Sun Trail Storage

**Sun Trail** is a local family-owned business  
**God Bless America**

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7 AM - 9 PM  
Every day  
of the week  
Call (845) 985-7923  
or  
(914) 672-3952

Please call for availability first



## ABOUT LADYBUG LAND

Ladybug Land is a blooming artist collective based out of Cohecton Center, NY. Led by sisters Camellia and Odetta Hartman, Ladybug Land hosts musicians, crafters, writers, dancers, and more in exploring modes of collaborative creation and performance. With colorful musical upbringings that spanned classical violin to bluegrass, punk, and soul, the Hartman Sisters aim to create opportunities to experiment with style and form by expanding and strengthening the community through art.

## TICKETS & LOCATION

Performances take place at the Tusten Theatre, 210 Bridge Street in Narrowsburg, NY.

Tickets \$25 adults / \$15 kids 12 and under (\$20/\$12 DVAA Members)

Box office/concession opens 1 hour before showtime.

Tickets may be purchased by calling (845) 252-7576 or online at [delawarevalleyartsalliance.org](http://delawarevalleyartsalliance.org).

## SUPPORT

DVAA's programs are made possible thanks in part to the New York State Council on the Arts, a State Agency with support from the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature; the Sullivan County Legislature; the Nancy Stevenson Memorial Fund; the Fair Games Fund; the Heartland Embers Fund, our 2023 Business Sponsors; DVAA members; and individuals like you.

## CONTACT:

Kacy Colson, Communications Manager (845) 252-7576  
[communications@delawarevalleyartsalliance.org](mailto:communications@delawarevalleyartsalliance.org)

*Vet 2 Vet Sullivan County  
Free Christmas  
Trees for Veterans*

*December 1st-December 15th  
ATI 309 E Broadway, Monticello NY 12701*

*Trees donated by:  
Delaware Valley Farm and Garden*

*Call to reserve a tree!  
Limited quantity available!*



Call 845-794-4228 | [vet2vet@atitoday.org](mailto:vet2vet@atitoday.org)

For more information please visit our website  
[www.atitoday.org](http://www.atitoday.org) or call us!



## New Citizens to Take Oath in Ulster County

Ulster County Clerk Nina Postupack announces that a naturalization ceremony will take place in Vanderlyn Hall at the Ulster County Community College located at 491 Cottekill Road, Stone Ridge, NY on Friday, December 15th at 11:00 a.m.

Approximately 24 new citizens will take their Oaths of Allegiance accepting the responsibilities of an American, while also gaining the rights and privileges afforded to most Americans by birth. "I am honored to be a part of such a special ceremony," states Ulster County Clerk Nina Postupack. "It's a moving experience to watch as people are finally able to realize their dream of becoming a U.S. citizen."

Several local elected officials and organizations will be helping to welcome the new citizens by awarding them with congratulatory certificates and providing them with useful resources and materials.

Presiding over the ceremony will be the Honorable David M. Gandin, Supreme Court Justice, State of New York. Judge Gandin will be the keynote speaker welcoming our 24 participants as newly naturalized American Citizens.

For further information about the ceremony or other programs of the Ulster County Clerk's Office, please call County Clerk Nina Postupack at (845) 340-3040.

## Cilento Participates in National Planning Program City of North Miami, FL benefits from 3rd Annual D-PRAT Workshop

[NORTH MIAMI, FL] Sullivan 180 Community Development & Communications Manager Shannon Cilento, AICP was recently selected from a pool of applicants from across the nation to lead a team of professional planners in the American Planning Association's (APA) 3rd Annual D-PRAT Program in North Miami, Florida in November.

The APA's Urban Design and Preservation Division's Design-Preservation Rapid Assistance Team (D-PRAT) is an annual pro-bono program to provide free planning expertise to under-resourced communities and organizations by collaboratively planning for the future, focusing on urban design and historic preservation issues.

Cilento is leading one of 3 project-based teams in North Miami. Her team is focused on creating and activating vacant lots and underutilized City parks, as well as implementing flood mitigation efforts and native plantings to the parks studied. The teams spent 3 days on the ground in North Miami collecting data, meeting with City and County officials and other stakeholders and creating initial design concepts.

"It has been a wonderful experience to join professional planners from across the country to develop strategies for the City of North Miami to help them accomplish their planning goals," said Cilento. "I am learning a lot from my fellow planners and from the North Miami community-I look forward to implementing what I have learned to my work here in Sullivan County."

The teams will continue to work remotely throughout the next 8 weeks to finalize a plan and recommendations for the City. A draft plan will be presented at the end of January.

Sullivan 180 is working to build a healthy community, one degree at a time, through people, places and policy with support

from Bold Gold Media Group, The River Reporter, The Sullivan County Democrat, Manor Ink and WJFF Radio Catskill. Learn more at [Sullivan180.org](http://Sullivan180.org) or [Facebook.com/Sullivan180inc](https://Facebook.com/Sullivan180inc).

## Trivia Update at The Tango Cafe

Attention all campers! Here is your Trivia Update for the month.

Okay, this past year has been anything but trivial on the world stage. But let that go for a couple of hours, raise a glass to the holidays, and enjoy some trivia.

Help me close out the year with a bang!

And mark your busy calendars. The next Trivia Night at The Tango Cafe will be Thursday, December 21st! 7pm go time. Pre-registration is highly recommended to ensure your team gets a table. Reservations can be made at [tangocafe@hacny.org](mailto:tangocafe@hacny.org) or 845-520-5453

This one's a bit more nerdy but, then, so am I. See the attached flyer for the evening's theme.

Both evenings are free. Food and drink available and advised.

## Golden Hill Project Awarded \$15 Million in State Homeless Housing Assistance Program Funding County initiative to create 164 units of affordable housing on former jail site moves forward with support from nys office of temporary and disability assistance

KINGSTON, NY - The proposed Golden Hill affordable housing development received a major boost with a \$15 million Homeless Housing Assistance Program (HHAP) grant from the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA), the largest possible award by the program. This award, combined with previous Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative (ESSHI) awards, serves as an affirmation from NYS OTDA that the project will help meet a dire need in the county for both affordable and supportive housing. The project is a partnership of the County, affordable housing developer and manager Pennrose, and Family of Woodstock, which will provide supportive services and hold 51 percent ownership of the project.

HHAP funding is dedicated to projects providing emergency, transitional, or permanent supportive housing for homeless households in New York State. HHAP awards are made based on project readiness to proceed, documentation of need, and applicant's qualifications. This \$15 million award will account for over 18 percent of the more than \$80 million expected development cost and represents the final needed element of the funding package assembled from dozens of private equity and public program sources to finance the development of the Golden Hill community. Golden Hill was awarded the funding at the Homeless Housing and Assistance Corporation's December 6th meeting. (Contd. Pg. 3 3)

# SHADOWLAND STAGES

"This show is a holiday gift!"  
- Houston Chronicle



"An unstuffy, highly entertaining  
and warm-spirited work,  
the kind of thing multiple  
generations can enjoy together..."  
Chicago Tribune

BY LAUREN GUNDERSON and  
MARGOT MELCON

The MainStage at SHADOWLAND STAGES

157 Canal Street, Ellenville NY 12428

**FRIDAY, SATURDAY at 7PM**  
**SATURDAY, SUNDAY at 2PM**

FOR TICKETS - CALL 845.647.5511

BUY ONLINE AT SHADOWLANDSTAGES.ORG

**DEC 1 - 17**

# SULLIVAN 180

## WALK-THRU MONDAYS

as part of Peace, Love & Lights  
at Bethel Woods Center for the Arts

November 27; December 4, 11, 18, 25  
5–9 PM | Last Entry: 7:30 PM

Adult (12+): \$12; Youth: Free

To support the Sullivan County Federation for the Homeless, guests who bring a new, unwrapped toy will receive complimentary admission for one adult.

Explore Peace, Love & Lights up close and personal, out of the car and in the midst of the magic. Zip up your coat and take a walk with Sullivan 180 at the spectacular holiday lights display!



## THEMED NIGHTS:

- December 4: **School Spirit Night** – Get creative and show off your school spirit!
- December 11: **Healthcare Night** – Take a much-deserved break and enjoy a walk with your healthcare colleagues.
- December 18: **Healthiest Fire Department Challenge Night** – Kick off the 2024 Sullivan 180 Healthiest Fire Department Challenge with your department.



Scan for walk details  
& to plan your visit.

# Golden Hill Project Awarded \$15 Million in State Homeless Housing Assistance Program Funding

(From Pg. 30)

"We urgently need to expand affordable and supportive housing in Ulster County to meet the dire need, and this major award through the State's Homeless Housing Assistance Program will enable the Golden Hill development to move to construction," said Ulster County Executive Jen Metzger. "This is a model project in many ways, providing on-site community daycare and services to vulnerable seniors, and is well-aligned with the County's climate goals, with an energy-efficient, all-electric design and close proximity to public transit and the rail trail."

"We are incredibly grateful to New York State for their continued support of the Golden Hill project, including the HHAP grant which successfully moves the development nearer to the financing goal line," said Dylan Salmons, Regional Vice President at Pennrose. "With high-quality housing, on-site social services programming, and amenities for residents of all ages, the brand-new community will bring much-needed affordable homes to households of Kingston."

"This is a wonderful award that will guarantee that the Golden Hill project is going to move forward," said Michael Berg, Executive Director of Family of Woodstock, Inc. "The project is the first real effort by the county to not only take care of people that need supportive housing, but also workforce housing. We have not built housing for the people who work in our community in a very long time, and this is a very important step. The fact that the county moved this property to be available for affordable housing indicates the importance the county leadership places on addressing the housing issue. Family of Woodstock is excited to be part of this initiative."

"I am pleased to see that NYS OTDA has recognized what we have known here in the City of Kingston for quite some time - that Kingston has a housing shortage and the Golden Hill development will bring much-needed housing that Kingston families, seniors, and singles can afford," said City of Kingston Mayor Steve Noble. "In addition to the vital housing the Golden Hill community will bring to the city, the development agreement that the City of Kingston has reached with the project team will include millions of dollars of new funding for our people, parks, and programs. This partnership will truly be a benefit for our whole community, and I am excited to see this \$15 million HHAP grant move the Golden Hill project one step closer to becoming a reality."

Family of Woodstock and Pennrose were selected to redevelop the former Ulster County jail site into an inter-generational mixed-income and mixed-use community based on the joint venture's vision for the project and extensive experience in the development of affordable and workforce housing throughout New York State. By partnering with Pennrose, Family is able to leverage its expertise and 50-year history of serving the community as a local nonprofit partner and housing operator with Pennrose's 50-year experience as a renowned developer and op

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ESTATES & TRUSTS • INJURY & MORE**

**Daniel Pierce Library**

**Live Webinar for Adults**



**How Money Works**

Free Live Webinar

**Saturday, December 16, 2023**

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

Presenter: James Farnham, MS, MBA, Licensed Agent

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

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

For more details, please check out our website at [www.danielpiercelibrary.org](http://www.danielpiercelibrary.org)  
Advanced online registration required.



**Daniel Pierce Library**  
320 Main Street | P.O. Box 260  
Crahanville, New York 12740-0268 | 845-985-7233  
[www.danielpiercelibrary.org](http://www.danielpiercelibrary.org)

## Golden Hill Project Awarded \$15 Million in State Homeless Housing Assistance Program Funding

(From Pg. 33) The Golden Hill project, situated at 63 Golden Hill Drive in Kingston, will include the development of 164 housing units with 249 beds, approximately 5,000 square feet of community service facility space, a 600 kW solar power system, six playgrounds designed for a variety of ages, and a trail connection to the Empire State Trail. Notably, 48 of these units will provide permanent supportive housing for domestic violence survivors and frail elderly individuals through the Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative (ESSHI). The inclusive design also serves a diverse range of age groups and income levels (30-80 percent of Area Median Income) to meet the varied needs of the local population. Family of Woodstock selected the target population based on the severe lack of housing for domestic violence survivors and frail elderly individuals in the county. Golden Hill aims to be more than just a housing project; the goal is to build a holistic community, addressing critical gaps in housing services and fostering a supportive environment.

The development plans were crafted directly from community feedback received during five separate community input sessions and 10 months of reviews conducted by the City of Kingston's planning board. The development prioritizes accessibility, walkability, and active open space, and includes amenities like a daycare center, fitness center, resident lounges, on-site trails, a community garden, and future connectivity to the UCAT bus network. A 100% electric, Department of Energy Zero Energy Ready Home certified community, the development aligns with Ulster County Executive Jen Metzger's Climate Action Commitment, which was an Executive Order signed by Metzger in her first 30 days in office creating the most robust and aggressive climate targets of any county in New York.

## Governor Hochul Signs Legislation to Improve Health Care Access for New Yorkers

- *S.1839A/A.2609A Requires Health Equity Council to Advise Commissioner of Health on Sickle Cell Disease and Create Recommendations to Promote Sickle Cell Screening and Detection*
- *S.1451/A.782 Expands Upon Collaborative Models to Address Disparities in Health Care Access*
- *S.3609B/A.3113A Enhances Scope of Health Equity Impact Assessments to Require Consideration of Reproductive Health Services and Maternal Health Care*
- *S.4097B/A.5817A Organizes Collections of Health Care Claims Data to Publish New York State Benefit Plan Hospital Pricing Report*

Governor Kathy Hochul today signed a legislative package to strengthen health care in New York State. Legislation S.1839A/A.2609A requires the Health Equity Council to advise the Department of Health Commissioner on Sickle Cell Disease and create recommendations to promote the screening and detection of Sickle Cell. Legislation S.1451/A.782 expands upon collaborative models to address disparities in health care access across the state. Legislation S.3609B/A.3113A enhances the scope of equity impact assessments to require the consideration of repro-

ductive health services and maternal health care. Legislation S.4097B/A.5817A organizes the collections of health care claims data to publish a New York State benefit plan hospital pricing report.

"As Governor, I'm committed to ensuring every New Yorker has access to high-quality, affordable health care," Governor Hochul said. "With this legislative package, we're taking a major step forward in addressing health care disparities in our state and ensuring all New Yorkers can find the care that they need and deserve."

Legislation S.1839A/A.2609A requires the Health Equity Council to advise the Department of Health Commissioner on Sickle Cell Disease and also create recommendations to promote the screening and detection of Sickle Cell, which is the most commonly inherited blood disorder, and which disproportionately affects Black and Hispanic people. The legislation will require the establishment of a statewide public education and outreach campaign to publicize evidence-based Sickle Cell Disease screening, detection and education services.

State Senator James Sanders said, "While there is no cure for sickle cell disease, early detection and education are essential to improving the lives of those affected by this devastating condition. This bill will help to ensure that all Americans, regardless of their race or ethnicity, have access to the information and resources they need to make informed decisions about their health."

(Contd. Pg. 35)

**BECOME  
SOMEONE'S  
Angel**

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

**HOPE**  
not HANDCUFFS  
www.hopenothandcuffshv.com

## Governor Hochul Signs Legislation to Improve Health Care Access for New Yorkers

(From Pg. 34) Assemblymember Alicia Hyndman said, "Thank you Governor Hochul for signing into law Bill A2609A, a landmark piece of legislation focused on Sickle Cell disease detection and education. This crucial step forward exemplifies the Governor's unwavering commitment to the health and well-being of our community."

Legislation S.1451/A.782 expands upon a collaborative program to include programs that will address disparities in health care access and treatment, or address conditions with a higher prevalence in defined populations across New York State. Some of these conditions include cardiovascular disease, hypertension, diabetes, chronic kidney disease, obesity, asthma, sickle cell disease, sepsis, lupus, various types of cancer and substance abuse.

State Senator James Sanders Jr. said, "Addressing health disparities is not only a moral imperative but also a strategic investment in the future of our state. By empowering healthcare providers to collaborate and innovate, this bill has the potential to improve health outcomes for underserved populations and reduce overall healthcare costs."

Assembly Majority Leader Crystal Peoples-Stokes said, "Thank you Governor Hochul for signing A.782/S.1451. Allowing hospitals, home-health agencies, and other healthcare providers the opportunity to collaborate and innovate towards finding solutions to address existing health disparities can only help improve patient outcomes and draw us closer to our goal of healthier communities. I can't wait to see the needle move forward to benefit New Yorkers."

Legislation S.3609B/A.3113A enhances the scope of health equity impact assessments to require the consideration of reproductive health services and maternal health care. Health equity impact assessments are required when a hospital submits an application for approval to change, merge, or close its services or facilities, and assesses how the proposed action will have an impact on consumers in the hospital's service area.

State Senator Lea Webb said, "We have fought to protect access to reproductive healthcare here in New York, but there is still work to be done to ensure that those protections are equitable and accessible for all women. This legislation will help address barriers to reproductive and maternal care that impact women in all regions of our state, particularly in rural areas, urban areas, and communities of color. I am grateful to my colleague, Assemblywoman Clark, for her partnership on this issue. I thank Governor Hochul for demonstrating her steadfast commitment to maternal and reproductive health by signing our legislation into law today."

Assemblymember Sarah Clark said, "Across New York, we have faced reductions and elimination of reproductive health services and maternal health care as providers merge, are acquired, or change ownership. We have a responsibility to protect access to this vital care by guaranteeing communities affected understand the impact these changes will have on all maternal health services. Modifying the existing Health Equity Impact Assessment to include explicit consideration of these services is a critical step to ensure New York remains a leader in reproductive health rights."

Legislation S.4097B/A.5817A directs the President of the Civil Service Commission to organize the collection of health care claims data that relates to the price and utilization of hospital benefits by active employees, retired employees, and their dependents in order to publish a New York State benefit hospital pricing report. The New York State benefit hospital pricing report will help to increase transparency and showcase health

care expenses, trends, and variables that influence health care spending and hospital costs.

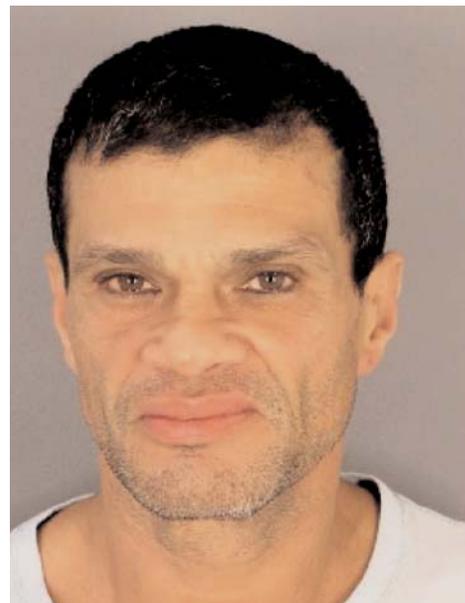
State Senator Andrew Gounardes said, "The state has been needlessly in the dark when it comes to what we're paying for sky-high hospital prices. With this bill, we can ensure better tracking and more transparency that's needed to save taxpayers billions of dollars and ultimately bring down the cost of care. I commend Governor Hochul for signing this bill into law and thank my colleague Assemblywoman Solages for her efforts getting it passed."

Assemblymember Michaelle C. Solages said, "As an advocate for transparent healthcare pricing, I am delighted by the signing of this bill, representing a significant leap forward in empowering consumers. This legislation emphasizes our steadfast commitment to ensuring patients receive the clarity they rightfully deserve. My sincere gratitude goes to Governor Hochul for her support, and I extend appreciation to Senator Gounardes and 32BJ for their invaluable collaboration in bringing this essential law to fruition."

This legislative package builds on Governor Hochul's commitment to expanding health care in New York. Earlier this month, the Governor announced more than \$4.6 million in state funding for programs to expand access and eliminate disparities in health care while helping to increase diversity among the physician workforce throughout New York, representing a \$1.2 million increase over the previous year's allocation. The goal of the programs, managed by the Associated Medical Schools of New York (AMSNY) and funded in part through the state Department of Health and in part through the State Legislature, is to improve access to care and eliminate health care disparities in New York State by diversifying the physician workforce.

## Monticello Man Charged with Robbery in the First Degree and Menacing

On Saturday December 2, 2023, Sheriff's Deputies responded



to the Monticello Police Department to interview a victim of a violent domestic incident which took place in the Town of Thompson. The investigation revealed that the victim was robbed of cash and a cellphone at knife point. Deputies located the defendant some time later on Anawana Lake Rd. and took him into custody without incident. Deputies charged Frank Velez-Miranda, 54, of Monticello with Robbery in the

First Degree and Menacing.

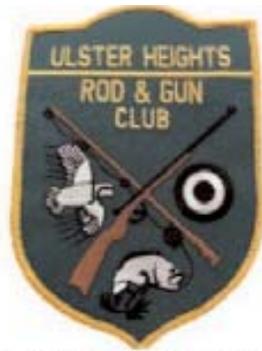
The defendant was arraigned before Judge Robert Scheinman in the Town of Fallsburg Court and sent to the Sullivan County Jail in lieu of \$25,000 bail. He is due back in the Town of Thompson court on December 11, 2023 at 5pm.

... a few more pictures from Tri-Valley Lions Christmas Holiday-Party at the Paper Mill Restaurant in Napanoch



Wishing you all  
Happy Holidays and  
a Merry Christmas





# ULSTER HEIGHTS ROD & GUN CLUB

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SUPPORT OUR CLUB AND FUTURE YOUTH EVENTS  
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**8.5"x11" Portrait**  
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 ← Turn LEFT onto Monument Road  
 Continue onto NY-28A West 1.8 Miles  
 ← Turn LEFT onto NY-213 1.1 Miles  
 → Turn RIGHT onto Krumville Road/CR-2A 0.8 Miles  
 Gun Shop on LEFT

---

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

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

## DEC Forest Rangers - Week in Review

### Recent Statewide Forest Ranger Actions

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

Town of Wawarsing -Ulster County

Training: On Dec. 10, Forest Rangers Quinones and Rusher taught the Basic Wildland Search Skills course at Sam's Point Preserve. The course is designed to familiarize participating volunteers and staff with the Forest Ranger Search and Rescue program and help ensure uniform instruction throughout the state. Volunteers play an important and active role in DEC's search and rescue mis-



Basic Wildland Search Skills course at Sam's Point Preserve

sions statewide. Sam's Point Search and Rescue volunteers and Sam's Point Preserve and Minnewaska State Park staff participated in the training.

Be sure to properly prepare and plan before entering the backcountry. Visit DEC's Hike Smart NY, Adirondack Backcountry Information, and Catskill Backcountry Information webpages for more information.

If a person needs a Forest Ranger, whether it's for a search and rescue, to report a wildfire, or to report illegal activity on state lands and easements, they should call 833-NYS-RANGERS. If a person needs urgent assistance, they can call 911. To contact a Forest Ranger for information about a specific location, the DEC website has phone numbers for every Ranger listed.

# WANTED

## White and Black T-shirts or T-Shirt Fabric



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

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

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

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



### MISU Annual Holiday Concert

Sunday, December 17, 2023

St. John's Episcopal Church, Ellenville at 3:00 PM

MISU Community String Ensemble  
with guest artists



*Holiday  
Greetings*

*from*

*Neversink Parks  
and Recreation*



2023 – 2024  
- WOODSTOCK FARM FESTIVAL -  
WINTER MARKET

OVERLOOK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
233 TINKER STREET

SATURDAYS, 10 – 2

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



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Sundown  
United  
Methodist  
Church



**January 6, 2023**  
**5:30 pm**

Bring a covered dish to share  
Enjoy good food and fellowship

and don't forget to check out the tables  
filled with a variety of collectibles,  
household items and more  
that will be available for sale

**Sundown United Methodist Church Hall**  
(Intersection of Sundown Rd., Peekamoose Rd. & Greenville Rd., Sundown, NY 12740)

## Posting Poachers - Sullivan County

Got it done this afternoon shot this nice 5 pointer. Finally let the 450 bush master let one fly

89

21 comment

Like

Share



On Nov. 22, ECOs Lovgren and Boyes conducted a compliance inspection of a wild game butcher shop in Wurstboro, Sullivan County, and observed a four-point buck that appeared to have been taken from an area with a minimum three-point (on at least one side) antler restriction. The hunter's license and tag were purchased on the afternoon of the harvest. Lieutenant Bello checked social media for the name on the license and discovered it belonged to a woman in Monticello, Sullivan County. The Officer then visited the subject's husband's social media page and found a picture of the husband with the same four-point buck identified in the butcher shop. Officers interviewed the husband who admitted to shooting the deer in Wildlife Management Area (WMA) 3K, which has an antler restriction. He went on to admit that he called his wife after shooting the deer and instructed her to purchase tags. Both husband and wife received several citations including the illegal take of big game without three points on one side and lending tags to another.

## Grandpa's Tags - Sullivan County



On Nov. 18, ECO Boyes and Lieutenant Bello stopped individuals headed to a butcher shop with a four-point buck, a doe, and a black bear. All the game had been harvested by 10 a.m. that morning on opening day of the regular deer and bear hunting season in New York's Southern Zone. The two subjects transporting the deer claimed it was harvested by their grandfather. Suspicious of this early-morning success, Lieutenant Bello pried open the buck's jaws to find a mouth full of ground corn. A subsequent investigation revealed the property where the deer was harvested had been baited with 150 pounds of goat corn by at least five hunters using their grandfather's tags. The subjects were charged with the illegal take of protected wildlife, hunting deer and bear with the aid of bait, lending tags to another, and possession of a loaded gun in a motor vehicle.

## Twice in One Week Orange County

A hunter in Orange County accused of taking deer illegally on two occasions in one week is facing several charges. On Nov. 17, Police Officers in the town of Deerpark requested assistance from ECOs after receiving reports an individual had shot a deer from the roadway. ECO Doroski responded to the location and spoke to the subject who claimed he shot the antlered deer from the roadway with his crossbow because it appeared to be injured. The ECO located the deer and determined it had been shot twice. The Officer then found a second antlered deer taken by the subject with the same crossbow without the license and tags required. Officer Doroski issued several tickets to the hunter for taking two deer illegally, shooting deer from a public roadway, hunting during the crossbow season without a license, and failure to tag as required. Three days later, Deerpark Police contacted ECOs again about an individual hunting deer over bait from the second floor of a residence. ECO Parker and New York State Police Trooper Vonderheide responded to the location and observed an open second-floor window overlooking two bait piles. Officer Parker interviewed the subject and determined it was the same individual charged by ECO Doroski a few days earlier. The Officers located a loaded crossbow and two loaded firearms next to the window, as well as a spent shell casing inside the room. They did not find any deer during the investigation but had enough evidence to charge the subject for intentionally feeding deer and hunting with the aid of bait.

# **Kiwanis Club of Monticello 2023**

## **Bernie Shore/Rose Raimond**

### **Fundraising Dinner**

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

Dinner choices (choose one):

Roast Beef Dinner

Grilled Chicken Platter

Gyro Platter

Vegetarian Crepe

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

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

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

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

# WHAT ARE THE CRITICS SAYING ABOUT *MISS BENNET: CHRISTMAS AT PEMBERLEY?*

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

"Mr. Burke's production doesn't miss any of the script's numerous laughs... the production is festive, charming, and attractive..."  
-Nippertown

Read the full Nippertown Review Here

[https://nippertown.com/2023/12/03/lauren-gundersons-diverse-theater-marie-curie-to-miss-bennet/?mc\\_cid=d0cfc09c0d&mc\\_eid=138a9b9d06](https://nippertown.com/2023/12/03/lauren-gundersons-diverse-theater-marie-curie-to-miss-bennet/?mc_cid=d0cfc09c0d&mc_eid=138a9b9d06)

"Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley is a fast-paced, sharp, poignant and joyous story, which seamlessly creates unique holiday magic."

-Sullivan County Democrat

Read the full Sullivan County Democrat Review Here

[https://nippertown.com/2023/12/03/lauren-gundersons-diverse-theater-marie-curie-to-miss-bennet/?mc\\_cid=d0cfc09c0d&mc\\_eid=138a9b9d06](https://nippertown.com/2023/12/03/lauren-gundersons-diverse-theater-marie-curie-to-miss-bennet/?mc_cid=d0cfc09c0d&mc_eid=138a9b9d06)

Read an Interview with Star Laura Cable Here [https://frontmezzjunkies.com/2023/12/05/jane-austen-in-the-catskills-an-interview/?mc\\_cid=d0cfc09c0d&mc\\_eid=138a9b9d06](https://frontmezzjunkies.com/2023/12/05/jane-austen-in-the-catskills-an-interview/?mc_cid=d0cfc09c0d&mc_eid=138a9b9d06)



Photo by Jeff Knapp

Michael Raver and Lena Pepe

Don't miss your opportunity to see this festive holiday show for the whole family!

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW

[https://shadowlandstages.easy-ware-ticketing.com/calendar?mc\\_cid=d0cfc09c0d&mc\\_eid=138a9b9d06](https://shadowlandstages.easy-ware-ticketing.com/calendar?mc_cid=d0cfc09c0d&mc_eid=138a9b9d06)



Photo by Jeff Knapp

Ben Williamson, Michael Raver, and Matthew Zimmerman

## ***MISS BENNET: CHRISTMAS AT PEMBERLEY***

By Lauren Gunderson and Margot Melcon

Directed by Brendan Burke

December 1 - 17

on The MainStage at SHADOWLAND STAGES

One of the most popularly produced plays in the country since its premiere, this hilarious sequel to Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* is set two years after the novel ends. Bookish Mary has grown tired of her role as the dutiful middle sister in the face of her siblings' romantic endeavors. But things change when an unexpected guest shows up for the family's Christmas gathering at Pemberley, sparking Mary's hope for independence, an intellectual equal, and maybe even love. This energetic and witty romantic comedy is a new holiday classic!

### **HOLIDAY PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE:**

FRIDAYS, SATURDAYS at 7 PM

SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS at 2PM

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW

[https://shadowlandstages.easy-ware-ticketing.com/calendar?mc\\_cid=d0cfc09c0d&mc\\_eid=138a9b9d06](https://shadowlandstages.easy-ware-ticketing.com/calendar?mc_cid=d0cfc09c0d&mc_eid=138a9b9d06)

# HOLIDAY CONCERTS

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

11 a.m., December 6, 2023

10:45 a.m., December 7, 2023

1 p.m., December 7, 2023

10:30 a.m., December 8, 2023

12:30 p.m., December 8, 2023

11 a.m., December 11, 2023

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

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

11 a.m., December 15, 2023

11:45 a.m., December 18, 2023

11 a.m., December 19, 2023

10:30 a.m., December 20, 2023

12 p.m., December 20, 2023

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

12 p.m., December 21, 2023

Fallsburg Senior High School Band

Sullivan West HS Select Choir

Fallsburg Junior High Chorus

Chase Elementary School Chorus

Livingston Manor High School Band  
and Chorus

Sullivan BOCES Student Chorus

Benjamin Cosor Elementary School  
Chorus

Sullivan West Elementary Chorus

Liberty High School Mixed Choir and  
Honors Choir

Liberty High School Band

Tri-Valley High School Jazz Combo

Monticello Middle School 6th Grade  
Chorus, 7th-8th Grade Chorus and  
String Ensemble

Monticello High School Emerging  
Ensembles and Chamber Singers

Eldred 6th Grade Chorus, 6th Grade  
Band, High School Chamber Groups

Minisink Valley HS Mixed Choir,  
Treble Choir, Chamber Choir, and  
Bass Ensemble

## SCDW Valentine Cabaret Audition Notice

The Sullivan County Dramatic Workshop is preparing for its popular annual Valentine Cabaret to be performed on February 9, 10 & 11, at the Center Stage in Hurleyville. Director Richy Chiger and Producer Dawn Perneszi are seeking folks who love to sing. Auditions will be held at the Fallsburg Senior Center on Laurel Avenue, in South Fallsburg, on Friday, December 15, from 6:00 to 8:00PM and on Saturday, December 16, from 1:00 to 3:00PM. This year's theme will be classic Broadway, movie & show tunes. Think Irving Berlin, Cole Porter, Chicago, etc. Auditioners should bring the song(s) you want to sing and the sheet music for it.

For more information, please call the Director: 845-794-7966.

## Get Ready for a Musical Holiday Treat: Hartman Sisters Light Up Tusten Theatre DVAA Presents Cozy Catskills Holiday Revue!



On December 16th & 17th, the Tusten Theatre will host the return of Camellia and Odette Hartman for a weekend of retro holiday music with COZY CATSKILLS HOLIDAY REVUE. This year's lineup includes a mix of well-loved classics and lesser-known festive gems, with a focus on themes of peace and unity as we close out the year.

This Year's Special Guests include Bizzy Coy, Kali

Seastrand, Bret Keyser, and Lacy Madden.

**SATURDAY** evening, December 16th at 5 pm, the Tusten Theatre will be brimming with holiday cheer as DVAA presents a classic cocktail party with the Ladybug Land Entertainers performing your favorite holiday tunes.

**SUNDAY** afternoon, December 17th at 1 pm, Cozy Catskills will showcase global holiday traditions, featuring special guests sharing their unique cultural festivities. Attendees of all ages will enjoy a sing-along and a heartwarming story time.

Tickets for this special, live musical event are \$25 for adults and \$15 for kids, 12 and under.

### ABOUT THE SHOW

Cozy Catskills Holiday Revue is hosted by Camellia & Odette Hartman on vocals & strings, and features Evan Tyor on piano and vocals, Jamie Mohamdein on upright bass, Billy Aukstik on Trumpet, Eric Burns on guitar, and Nathan Repasz on drums.

Get in the mood for the holiday shindig with an original Christmas tune by Odette Hartman, featuring bandmates Camellia & Billy!

"Christmas Together (Maybe Just This Year)"

<https://odettahartman.ffmpeg.to/christmastgether>

### ABOUT LADYBUG LAND

Ladybug Land is a blooming artist collective based out of Cohecton Center, NY. Led by sisters Camellia and Odette Hartman, Ladybug Land hosts musicians, crafters, writers,



dancers, and more in exploring modes of collaborative creation



and performance. With colorful musical upbringings that spanned classical violin to bluegrass, punk, and soul, the Hartman Sisters aim to create opportunities to experiment with style and form by expanding and strengthening the community through art.

### TICKETS & LOCATION

Performances take place at the Tusten Theatre, 210 Bridge



Street in Narrowsburg, NY.

Tickets \$25 adults / \$15 kids 12 and under (\$20/\$12 DVAA Members)

Box office/concession opens 1 hour before showtime.

Tickets may be purchased by calling (845) 252-7576 or online at [delawarevalleyartsalliance.org](http://delawarevalleyartsalliance.org).

### SUPPORT

DVAA's programs are made possible thanks in part to the New York State Council on the Arts, a State Agency with support from the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature; the Sullivan County Legislature; the Nancy Stevens Memorial Fund; the Fair Games Fund; the Heartland Embers Fund, our 2023 Business Sponsors; DVAA members; and individuals like you.

## Attention all campers! Trivia Update for the month

Okay, this past year has been anything but trivial on the world stage. But let that go for a couple of hours, raise a glass to the holidays, and enjoy some trivia.

Help me close out the year with a bang!

And mark your busy calendars. The next Trivia Night at The Tango Cafe will be Thursday, December 21st! 7pm go time. Pre-registration is highly recommended to ensure your team gets a table. Reservations can be made at [tangocafe@hacny.org](mailto:tangocafe@hacny.org) or 845-520-5453

This one's a bit more nerdy but, then, so am I.

The evening is free. Food and drink available and advised.

## Eleventh Annual Herd the Curd Race Raises \$22,000 a New Record for the Michael J. Bryant Memorial Fund *In 11 years, event proceeds total \$157,000*

The families of Calkins Creamery distributed \$22,000, the record-setting race proceeds of the eleventh annual Herd the Curd 5K, to the Michael J. Bryant Memorial Fund. With this year's contributions, Herd the Curd sponsors and runners have raised \$157,000 for the Fund since the race began in 2013.



Nearly 275 runners and walkers participated in the race on scenic Highland Farm. Michael Sikorski, 42, of Equinunk was the male 5K winner with a time of 20:18, and April Rutledge, 35, also of Equinunk captured the women's 5K crown with a time of 23:50. Bryce Shannon, 16, of Sparrow Bush, NY, won the male 10K title with a time of 39:57, and Jennifer Nolan, 42, Narrowsburg, NY, was the female 10K winner with a time of 47:55.

Generous sponsors contributed to the event's success, listed below, with several individuals and businesses annually donating to the cause for 11 years.

Platinum Curds: Fall Music Festival and Wayne County Ready Mix.

Golden Curds: Bluestone Environmental; Bradly T. Murray CPA LLC; Buselli Solutions; Calkins Creamery; Carbondale Veterinary Hospital; Delaware Valley Farm & Garden; G5 Agency; Jade Energy; Manhattan Bagel; Marshall Machinery, Inc.; Mike and Amy Holloway; Precision Eye Group; Ralph and Annie Smith with Geraldine Petrone; RE/MAX Wayne and RE/MAX Best; Septic Surgeons LLC; State Representative Jonathan Fritz; Top Notch Distributors & Excab, Inc.; Valley View Venue; Wallenpaupack

Veterinary Clinic LLC; Wayne County Community Foundation and William and Debra Bryant.

Silver Curds: American Dairy Association Northeast; Beach Lake Bakery; Camp Umpy's Bagels & Stuff; Cohecton Mills Inc.; Diehl Trucking Inc; Dirlam Bros Lumber Co Inc; Dowling Family Eye Care; ElmTree Physical Therapy; Firmstone Lakewood Fuels; FNCB Bank; Garry and Irma Sheard; Grimm Construction, Inc.; Henderson Farms; Highland Valley Apiaries; Honesdale Spreading; Hook Well Drilling Inc; Hop Barons LLC; Maciejewski Landscaping Inc.; Murray Physical Therapy, Inc.; Paulie's Hot Dogs; Rutledge Photography; Ridgeview Lawncare; S.R Price Excavating Inc; Sage Investments LLC; Stephens Pharmacy/Northeast Med-Equip; The Ashley Family; The Honesdale National Bank; Town & Country Energy Corp; Turano Insurance; Varcoe Excavating; Wayne County Storage LLC and Wayne Memorial Hospital.

The Michael J. Bryant Memorial Fund was established in 2008 in memory of the Calkins Creamery co-owner. Since reaching endowed status, the Fund awards grants to Wayne County residents and nonprofit organizations with documented needs. The Wayne County Community Foundation manages the Fund.

The twelfth annual Herd the Curd 5K and 10K will be held Saturday, August 31, 2024 at Highland Farm. Find more race details and virtual runner pictures at [Facebook.com/HerdtheCurd5K](https://www.facebook.com/HerdtheCurd5K). Learn more about the Michael J. Bryant Memorial Fund at [www.calkinscreamery.com](http://www.calkinscreamery.com).

# SAVE A LIFE! DONATE! SHARE OUR STORY!



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

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

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

### More about our warrior Nick....

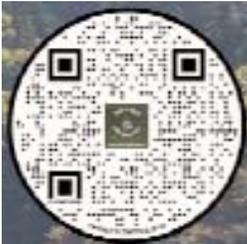
Nick was diagnosed with Tuberous Sclerosis Complex (TSC) at birth. TSC is a neurological disorder that produces seizures, tumors, and lesions that effect the organs of the body and can cause Autism. Nick has been battling with seizures his whole life from infantile spasms to adult grand-mal seizures.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

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

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

*For any other questions  
845.798.2077 [nickneedsokidney@gmail.com](mailto:nickneedsokidney@gmail.com)*

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



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

# **WEEKLY WARRIOR WALK**

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

**THURSDAYS @ 1500 (3 PM)**

**VETERANS AND THEIR  
FAMILIES ARE WELCOMED**

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

For more information, or to register,  
please call 845-794-4228  
or email [smurphy@atitoday.org](mailto:smurphy@atitoday.org)

CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK OR ONLINE @ [WWW.ATITODAY.ORG](http://WWW.ATITODAY.ORG)





### News from Representative Ryan

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

#### HONORING OUR FIRST RESPONDERS

When a catastrophic gas explosion injured 15 in Wappingers Falls last month, our brave first responders risked their lives to save Hudson Valley families.

This week, I had the honor of recognizing some of those heroes on the House floor - watch here .

<https://twitter.com/RepPatRyanNY/status/1732796049868177766>

#### BRINGING MY OFFICE TO YOU

Help and relief in your own neighborhood - that's the service everyone deserves from their representative.

The CARES Van is bringing help with federal agencies to every municipality in NY-18. This week it marked its 50th community visit in Chester!

Whether you need assistance cutting through bureaucratic red tape, want to discuss Hudson Valley priorities, or just want to meet my team, stop by one of the December C.A.R.E.S. Van events!

#### WISHING NY-18 A HANUKKAH FILLED WITH LIGHT

In this time of darkness, it is more important than ever to spread light.

Wishing everyone in the Hudson Valley a Happy Hanukkah. May this be a holiday filled with peace and joy with your loved ones.

#### CELEBRATING THE SPIRIT OF GIVING

This is what the Hudson Valley is all about:

Bethany made and delivered thousands of "Happy Bags" containing staple items and handwritten notes to those in need over the past year.

My office presented her with a certificate for her outstanding service to NY18!

Way to go, Bethany!

#### MY STATEMENT OF H.RES 894

##### PROTECTING STUDENT LOAN RELIEF

Hudson Valley families are hurting to make ends meet and the far right is piling on.

Now, they want to eliminate the new income-driven student loan repayment plan that the Biden Administration rolled out, going out of their way to hurt those who need relief the most.

Absolutely not. I'm fighting for the 9,700 borrowers in NY-18 currently enrolled in the SAVE plan and will continue to battle against the far right's cruelty.

If you need assistance with your federal student loans or have questions about the SAVE plan and other income-driven plans, contact my office at (845) 443-2930 or here on my website . <https://patryan.house.gov/services/help-federal-agency>

#### FIGHTING FOR OUR SERVICE MEMBERS

Earlier this year, I introduced legislation calling on Senator Tommy Tuberville to end his dangerous and irresponsible hold on military nominations.

This week, he finally relented by dropping part of his hold, allowing for 425 military leaders to finally step into their roles at the head of our armed forces.

This is a victory for the men and women who have waited far too long to secure the promotions their service has earned. With these vacancies filled, America is safer and more secure.

Now, the Senator must fully end his blockade and allow the remaining confirmations to go forward.

#### SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESSES

Our local businesses are the lifeblood of our communities' economies.

My staffer Maria spoke at the grand opening for New Middletown, which will give life to the former Tompkins Department Store.

Proud to always support our small businesses!

#### REMEMBERING PEARL HARBOR

Thursday, we solemnly remembered the 2,403 service members and civilians who lost their lives 82 years ago at Pearl Harbor.

They made the ultimate sacrifice to protect our freedoms as Americans. We must honor their memory today and every day.

#### GRANTS CORNER

##### WEBINAR THIS WEEK!

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)'s Specialty Crop Block Grant program is now accepting proposals for projects that work towards the following outcomes: improved pest and disease control, develop new seed varieties and specialty crops, expand specialty crop research and development, and improve environmental sustainability of specialty crops. The potential grant award was recently increased to \$250,000 and the last webinar for interested applicants will be held this Tuesday, December 12, 2023 from 9:00 am - 10:30 am . Register for a webinar here and learn more about this grant and others here .

##### IMPORTANT DEADLINE SOON!

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

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

#### APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is accepting applications on a rolling basis for \$2 billion in Inflation Reduction Act funding available through its Community Change Grants Program to support community-driven projects that build capacity for communities to tackle environmental and climate justice challenges, strengthen their climate resilience, and advance clean energy. This opportunity will be available for a year, closing on November 21, 2024, and EPA will review applications on a rolling basis. This allows applicants to utilize technical assistance and possibly resubmit a new application if not initially selected. EPA encourages applicants to apply as early as possible.

The USDA's Patrick Leahy Farm to School Grant Program is designed to increase the availability of local foods in schools and help connect students to the sources of their food through education, taste tests, school gardens, field trips, and local food sourcing for school meals. (Contd. Pg. 53)

## Pat Ryan

(From Pg. 52)

Grants can launch new farm to school programs or expand existing efforts. The deadline to submit applications is January 12, 2024. Learn more about the Seeding Success Webinar Series is hosted by the Patrick Leahy Farm to School program that provides technical assistance to support Farm to School grantees to develop, expand, and maintain robust farm to school projects here .

New York was awarded \$13.5 million from the Inflation Reduction Act's Federal Urban and Community Forestry Program. This grant program is designed to increase equitable access to trees and green spaces in urban and community forests to support building a clean energy economy, advance environmental justice, and create economic opportunity. All projects must take place in disadvantaged communities as identified by any of three Federal and State tools listed in the Request for Applications (RFA). The deadline to submit applications is Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2024. Learn more here .

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) is now accepting applications for \$1.5 billion in grant funding through the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) discretionary grant program for 2024. The popular program helps communities around the country carry out projects with significant local or regional impact. RAISE discretionary grants help project sponsors at the state and local levels, including municipalities, Tribal governments, counties, and others complete critical freight and passenger transportation infrastructure projects. Application due by February 28, 2024.

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

New York State recently announced more than \$60 million in capital grant funding will be available to nonprofit human services organizations through the Nonprofit Infrastructure Capital Investment Program to support the delivery of critical services to New Yorkers. Eligible nonprofit organizations that provide direct programs and services to New Yorkers may receive grants ranging from \$50,000 to \$500,000 for the completion of small- and large-scale construction projects. Learn more here .

The Corps Water Infrastructure Financing Program (CWIFP) enables local investment in infrastructure projects that enhance community resilience to flooding, promote economic prosperity, and improve environmental quality. Through CWIFP, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) will accelerate non-federal investments in water resources infrastructure by providing long-term, low-cost loans to creditworthy borrowers. Application open until December 19. Learn more here.

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

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

I look forward to hearing from you soon!

Patrick K. Ryan

Member of Congress

New York's 18th District

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



### Our Local Universities MUST Condemn Calls for the Genocide of Jews

Since October 7th, anti-Semitic attacks and protests have been on the rise, causing 73% of Jewish students to say they've felt unsafe on their own campuses. Yet this week, Presidents from esteemed institutions like Harvard, MIT, and Penn have failed to condemn blatant anti-Semitism. It is more important than ever that we show our unwavering support for the Jewish community. That's why I am sending a letter to nine universities in our region, including the University of Buffalo, the University of Rochester, Rochester Institute of Technology, Syracuse University, Cornell University, SUNY Geneseo, SUNY Oswego, SUNY Brockport, and St. John Fisher College calling for them to answer a simple question: Does calling for the genocide of Jews violate their university's code of conduct? We cannot continue to allow genocidal, anti-Semitic, and pro-Hamas speech and demonstrations to spread across campuses, endangering Jewish students and faculty. Every university President in our region must condemn this anti-Semitism.

**READ MORE: EXCLUSIVE: Tenney Demands NY Colleges Clarify Whether Calls For Genocide Violate Their Codes Of Conduct** <https://dailycaller.com/2023/12/08/claudia-tenney-suny-antisemitism-demands-answers/>

Protecting Americans from Biden's Unconstitutional Loan Scheme and Detering Foreign Influence on College Campuses

87% of Americans do not have any federal student loan debt, but thanks to President Biden's student debt "cancellation" scam, they will be stuck footing the bill for others' student loans. Yet, for the Americans who do attend college, they are now vulnerable to malicious anti-American propaganda being paid for by foreign entities who dump billions of dollars into our universities and colleges. This week, I voted in favor of two bills, one to reaffirm Congress's power of the purse, protecting non-collegegoers from shouldering the loans of those who chose to attend college. The second is the DETERRENT Act, which aims to enhance transparency, safeguard academic integrity, and defend students against foreign influence schemes in our education system.

**READ MORE: Tenney votes for increased college funding transparency, against student loan forgiveness** <https://www.fingerlakes1.com/2023/12/08/tenney-votes-for-increased-college-funding-transparency-against-student-loan-forgiveness/>

Introducing the ROBERT MALLEY Act to Hold Federal Bureaucrats Accountable

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

The Special Envoy for Iran, Robert Malley, was recently placed on leave for mishandling classified material, yet for months, the administration has withheld critical information regarding his suspension. The State Department's failure to inform Congress is deeply troubling and underscores the need for robust Congressional oversight to restore accountability and transparency. (Contd. Pg. 54)

## This Week with Claudia (From Pg. 53)

The ROBERT MALLEY Act aims to uncover the full story behind Special Envoy Malley's Iranian spy ring and prevent future coverups by the Biden administration. I remain committed to ensuring Congress can properly oversee federal agencies and government officials.

READ MORE: Rep. Claudia Tenney wants easy access to records on suspended Iran envoy Robert Malley <https://nypost.com/2023/12/07/news/rep-tenney-wants-to-compel-records-on-suspended-iran-envoy/>

### The facts don't lie, but Joe Biden does

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5TAd2kShCz8>

Once again, evidence reveals that the President was intimately involved in Hunter Biden's business dealings. The evidence released at the Ways and Means Committee hearing this week further corroborates previous testimony, highlighting the incredible level of access Hunter Biden and his foreign business partners had to Joe Biden while he was Vice President. Here's what we know from the additional information that was released:

- 327 emails revealed Joe Biden used an alias to communicate with Hunter's associate.
- 54 emails showed Joe Biden communicated one-on-one with Hunter's business partner, who set up the Biden family shell companies.
- 38 emails from the White House to Joe Biden's aliases CC'd Hunter.

All roads, or in this case, all emails, lead back to the President, further emphasizing the need to impeach Joe Biden.

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

To read more about my votes and see the full list with explanations of all the legislation considered this week by the House, please click here <https://tenney.house.gov/about/my-votes-explained>

I voted "Yes" on H.J.Res. 88, Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to "Improving Income Driven Repayment for the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program and the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program". H.J.Res. 88 overturns the Biden administration's unlawful student loan forgiveness rule. After President Biden's previous unilateral trillion-dollar bailout was declared unconstitutional, this rule represents his new attempt to circumvent Congress and the American people. The Income-Driven Repayment (IDR) rule would worsen our nation's student debt burden and increase the cost of higher education, while costing taxpayers over \$500 billion. Additionally, the Penn Wharton Budget Model found that the IDR rule would incentivize certain college students to collectively borrow billions more dollars per year due to the expectation that they would not have to repay the debt. This is yet another example of the Biden administration attempting to usurp Congressional power, going around Congress to enact their unpopular far-left policies unilaterally. I was honored to be an original cosponsor of this resolution and to vote in favor of it when it passed the House by a vote of 210-189.

I voted "Yes" on H.Res. 914, Censuring Representative Jamaal Bowman. H.Res. 914 censures Representative Jamaal Bowman (NY-16) for unlawfully pulling a fire alarm during active Congressional proceedings. During an important vote, which Democrats at the time were actively attempting to delay, Representative Bowman pulled a fire alarm because he alleged-

ly believed it would "open the door". There was no threat of a fire, nor an active emergency occurring at the time. Under the law, pulling a fire alarm when there is no fire is a misdemeanor, to which Representative Bowman pled guilty. Members of Congress must be held to a higher standard of conduct, and he was rightfully punished for his unlawful actions. H.Res. 914 passed the House by a bipartisan vote of 214-191 with 5 members voting present.

I voted "Yes" on H.R. 4468, the Choice in Automobile Retail Sales Act of 2023. Earlier this year, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a proposed rule - the "Multi-Pollutant Emissions Standards for Model Year 2027 and Later Light-Duty and Medium-Duty Vehicles" - proposing strict emissions standards for criteria pollutants and greenhouse gasses for certain vehicles. If enacted, this rule overrides the needs of American consumers, mandating two-thirds of all new vehicles to be electric by 2032. H.R. 4468 works to stop this reckless rush-to-green agenda by prohibiting the enactment of this rule and protecting consumer choice. It is vital that we stand against this unprecedented and inappropriate expansion of federal power and continue to stand with Americans as they decide what car suits their needs. H.R. 4468 passed the House by a bipartisan vote of 221-197.

I voted "Yes" on H.R. 5933, the DETERRENT Act. H.R. 5933 addresses the long-standing issue of colleges and universities accepting foreign gifts without properly disclosing them, allowing for foreign influence to run amok on American college and university campuses. Specifically, this bill requires the disclosure of any foreign gifts over \$50,000 and any gift from a country or entity of concern. Further, the bill closes existing reporting loopholes and requires the disclosure of gifts to individual staff at research-heavy colleges and universities to help prevent foreign influence over research. Lastly, H.R. 5933 imposes strict penalties on institutions that fail to properly disclose these gifts. Over the years, we have seen unprecedented foreign influence campaigns targeting American colleges and universities, such as the Confucius Institutes, funded by the Chinese Communist Party. It is critical to crack down on foreign adversaries influencing American higher education, and I am thrilled to see over 30 of my Democratic colleagues cross the aisle to vote for H.R. 5933. This bill passed the House by a vote of 246-170.

I voted "Yes" on H.R. 3848, the Housing our Military Veterans Effectively (HOME) Act of 2023. H.R. 3848 strengthens the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) home loan guaranty program, ensuring it can continue serving veterans for years to come. Specifically, it increases the per diem rate for VA programs that offer housing and other support to homeless veterans. This will enhance the effectiveness of these programs and offer veterans vital housing aid and services; no struggling veteran should ever be left on the street. H.R. 3848 passed the House by a vote of 408-10.

I voted "Yes" on H.R. 1547, the One Seat Ride Act. H.R. 1547 mandates that the Department of Transportation carry out a study on the advantages of commuter rail transportation, as well as the challenges that must be addressed to provide commuter rail transportation without requiring commuters to transfer lines. The study would evaluate aspects related to the economy, logistics, and quality of life. Additionally, it would include a cost-benefit analysis of single-seat journeys on the New Jersey Transit Raritan Valley Line during peak hours, as well as an analysis of the impact that such excursions would have on other New Jersey Transit lines. H.R. 1547 will improve the efficiency and convenience of commuter rail services, enhancing access to jobs and housing, while boosting economic growth. This bill passed the House by a vote of 356-61. (Contd. Pg. 55)

## This Week with Claudia

(From Pg. 54)

I voted "Yes" on H.R. 542, the Elizabeth Dole Home Care Act 2023. H.R. 542 expands community-based services for veterans and their caregivers. With an increasing number of veterans reaching retirement age, they will require additional assistance, whether from a nursing home or a form of noninstitutional home care. It is essential that veterans are able to grow older where they feel most comfortable, and still receive the care they need from caregivers or home nurses. Those who fought for our country should never be forgotten, especially as they continue to reach retirement age. H.R. 542 passed the House by a vote of 414-5.

I voted "Yes" on H.Res. 894, Strongly condemning and denouncing the drastic rise of anti-Semitism in the United States and around the world. H.Res. 894 expresses the sense of the House of Representatives that anti-Zionism is anti-Semitism. Zionism is a belief that the Jewish people have the fundamental right of self-determination in their ancestral homeland. This belief makes no assertion on the final boundaries of Israel, nor does it exclude the possibility of a Palestinian state. However, arguing that the Jewish people do not have the right to live in their ancestral homeland is unquestionably anti-Semitism. As anti-Semitism is on the rise, reaffirming the United States commitment to protecting Jewish Americans and the state of Israel is critical. Over 1.5 million Jewish Americans live in New York alone, and each person deserves to feel safe and supported in their community. I am disgusted that 105 of my Democratic colleagues could not bring themselves to support this commonsense resolution and stand with the Jewish people in this difficult time. H.Res. 894 passed the House by a vote of 311-14 with 92 voting present.

### Worth Fighting For - Energy Independence

Since President Biden took office, sky-high energy prices have burdened far too many New York families, making it unaffordable for many. The Biden administration blames the energy crisis on Vladimir Putin and America's energy producers. In reality, it's the result of a failed approach that pursues unattainable green-energy goals instead of unleashing American Energy Independence.

Home to three nuclear power plants and four reactors, NY-24 is critical to the nation's energy production. As demand for energy remains steady and domestic supplies are cut off, cost of living rises, good jobs disappear, and our reliance on imported energy increases.

This week, I also voted in favor of the CARS Act, which I co-sponsored, to prohibit President Biden's Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from finalizing, executing, or enforcing its proposed rule, which aims to ban the sale of new vehicles powered by gasoline and other liquid fuels. President Biden and Governor Hochul continue to force their radical Green New Deal agenda on Americans by telling them how to heat their homes, cook their food, and now, what car their family can drive. The Left doesn't care that EVs are more expensive or less reliable than gas-powered cars; they care about expanding their power and control over Americans, and I will continue to fight against their unconstitutional and burdensome policies.

READ MORE: Tenney's Energy and Environment Plan  
<https://tenney.house.gov/issues/energy-and-environment-plan>

### Ensure a Seamless Journey to Your Holiday Festivities!

The holiday season is the most wonderful time of the year, full of family, friends, and travel. To ensure you make it to your festivities in time, be sure to check your passports before you head on your merry way! My office has helped over 125 constituents with their passports this year and is ready to help you as well!

Please contact any of our district offices in Oswego, Victor, or Lockport if you need assistance with an expired passport!



## American Flood Coalition Recognizes Representative Marc Molinaro as a Federal Champion for Bipartisan Solutions on Flood Mitigation As New York faces stronger storms, Rep. Molinaro commits to leading on smart, proactive flood solutions.

Washington, DC - U.S. Rep. Marc Molinaro (NY-19) today was recognized by the American Flood Coalition (AFC) as a Federal Champion. AFC Federal Champions recognizes members of Congress on both sides of the aisle who are dedicated to advancing solutions to stronger storms, more frequent flooding, and higher seas.

Rep. Molinaro said, "100-year floods are supposed to happen once every 100 years. That's no longer the case. Our climate is changing and a lack of focus is leaving Upstate New York and the nation more vulnerable than ever to costly flooding. I've been proud to partner with the America Flood Coalition to deliver common sense, bipartisan solutions to bolster flood resilience, particularly for farmers and rural communities, who are on the frontlines of flood disasters. I'm very honored to receive this bipartisan recognition."

Melissa Roberts, Executive Director of the American Flood Coalition, said, "Congressman Molinaro is a leading champion for farmers in rural communities, consistently fighting to strengthen flood resilience across the state and country. As communities in Upstate New York face stronger storms and more frequent flooding, Mr. Molinaro's leadership, dedication, and unique perspective will strengthen our efforts to build long-lasting flood solutions."

Native to Upstate New York, Mr. Molinaro's service in the New York State Assembly and as a County Executive, as well as his leadership in the New York State Association of Counties and the New York State County Executives Association demonstrate his long track record of supporting flood solutions at the local and state levels, especially on behalf of agricultural communities.

As a member of the House Agriculture Committee, Rep. Molinaro has shepherded federal efforts to empower farmers to protect rural communities from flooding, including his introduction of the bipartisan Flooding Prevention, Assessment, and Restoration Act, which would deliver solutions at the watershed level to help communities better prepare for, respond to, and recover from flood events.

# Veteran Peer Support



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309 E Broadway Suite A

Monticello, NY 12701

# UC Executive Jen Metzger's 2024 Operating Budget Approved by Ulster County Legislature with Minimal Changes

*The 2024 operating budget prioritizes infrastructure, housing, and climate with no property tax increase; new capital reserves will be considered at December 18 meeting*

KINGSTON, NY - The Ulster County Legislature voted today to approve the 2024 Ulster County Operating Budget submitted by Ulster County Executive Jen Metzger with minimal amendments - giving the green light to the County Executive's plans for investing in infrastructure, combatting the housing crisis, and addressing the climate emergency, among other priority areas. The 2024 Operating Budget is the first prepared by Metzger since taking office, and the County Executive now has five days to consider signing the budget as passed by the Legislature or exercising her line-item veto authority on any amendments. The budget passed with an overwhelmingly bipartisan supermajority vote of 18 to 3 with two absences.

The 2024 Operating Budget keeps property taxes and sales taxes flat and maintains a maximum fund balance as permitted by County policy, reserving 20% of operating expenditures in a "rainy day" fund to protect taxpayers from any economic uncertainty next year.

"The County government is in a strong financial position going into next year, and the 2024 Operating Budget makes smart investments in infrastructure, housing, climate, mental health, and so much more - all while keeping costs down at a time when our residents are facing high costs everywhere," said Ulster County Executive Jen Metzger. "I want to thank Chair of the Legislature Tracey Bartels, Ways and Means Chair John Gavaris, Minority Leader Ken Ronk, and Members of the Legislature for passing this budget, and for their diligent review and thoughtful input. I've had truly great partners in this budget process."

"The 2024 budget is a testament to our dedication in addressing the diverse needs of our community," said Chairwoman of the Ulster County Legislature Tracey Bartels. "With significant investments in roads, bridges, housing, climate, and mental health, this budget reflects a forward-thinking approach that underscores Ulster County's commitment to strategic growth and improved quality of life for our residents. This budget process was an exercise in true collaborative government and I want to thank the County Executive for her partnership in charting a path towards a more transparent and inclusive government for the benefit of Ulster County."

The 2024 Operating Budget reflects a forward-thinking approach to addressing the diverse needs of the community and underscores the County's commitment to strategic investments in key areas that will foster growth, enhance infrastructure, and improve the overall quality of life for its residents.

Recognizing the critical importance of robust infrastructure, nearly \$20 million has been earmarked for comprehensive improvements to roads and bridges. This substantial

investment not only ensures safer transportation but also contributes to the County's economic vitality.

Addressing the pressing issue of housing and homelessness, the budget funds a new office in the Department of Social Services (DSS) that will provide proactive, personalized assistance to clients who are experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity. Targeted assistance will be provided to residents to help them access available resources for emergency housing and support services, and connect to permanent housing options.

In the realm of mental health, the 2024 budget continues to prioritize the well-being of Ulster County's youth. The budget sustains funding for a successful pilot program initiated last year to provide extra mental health support to middle schools and makes a \$3.8 million investment in a County Community Behavioral Health Center. This center will offer 24/7 crisis stabilization services, reinforcing the county's dedication to mental health care accessibility.

Recognizing the transformative power of education, the 2024 budget allocates \$6.9 million in operating assistance for SUNY Ulster. This investment aims to ensure equitable access to higher education for all residents, fostering a skilled and empowered workforce for the future.

To expand access to vital services in the western part of the county, the budget earmarks \$700,000 for Phase 1 improvements to the Trudy Resnick Farber Building in Ellenville. This strategic investment aims to transform the building into a community service hub, facilitating equitable access and enhancing the overall well-being of residents.

Moreover, the budget acknowledges the importance of sustainable practices by creating an Energy & Electrification Manager within the Department of Public Works. This key position will oversee energy improvement projects at county facilities, aligning Ulster County with environmentally conscious initiatives.

Recognizing the value of a skilled and empowered workforce, the budget establishes a robust training program for employees and introduces the Ulster County Leadership Academy. This academy will cater to emerging leaders within the county workforce, fostering professional development and ensuring the continuity of effective leadership.

The 2024 Operating Budget includes additional expected revenues from an increase in the occupancy tax, which is levied on hotel, motel, and short-term rental stays within the County. Earlier this year, the County Executive recommended to the County Legislature to increase the County's occupancy tax from 2% to 4%, which is comparable to surrounding counties, and still lower than neighboring Dutchess County's occupancy tax which is 5%. The 2024 Operating Budget seeks to dedicate 25% of annual revenues from the new occupancy tax to the Housing Action Fund, and 25% of annual revenues to the UCAT system.

The 2024 Executive Budget submitted in October included additional priorities of the County Executive that involve making improvements to County buildings and constructing new facilities to enhance public safety, increase public access to services, and decrease long-term operational costs while lowering emissions. These capital improvements include dedicating \$18M to a Government Operations Center capital reserve fund that will cut bonding costs for the facility in half and creating a Decarbonization Capital Reserve fund to be used to transition County facilities away from expensive and climate-damaging fossil fuel systems like oil and gas. These new capital reserves are expected to be considered at the December 18 meeting of the County Legislature.

## Statement from Governor Kathy Hochul on Incident at Temple Israel in Albany

Referring to an incident that took place in Albany, “Earlier today, there was an incident where shots were fired on the premises of Temple Israel in Albany and federal, state and local law enforcement are conducting an investigation. We will update New Yorkers as we know more, but thankfully, there have been no injuries or fatalities. I have spoken to the Rabbi at Temple Israel and assured her the State will do everything in our power to restore the sense of security her community needs.

“I am immediately directing the New York State Police and New York National Guard to be on high alert and increase the existing patrols of at-risk sites we had planned for the Hanukkah holiday, including at synagogues, yeshivas and community centers, and working closely with local law enforcement. This builds on the significant efforts we have taken to protect religious communities in the wake of the October 7 attacks. Make no mistake: the safety of Jewish New Yorkers is non-negotiable.

“Any act of antisemitism is unacceptable, and undermining public safety at a synagogue on the first night of Hanukkah is even more deplorable. As New Yorkers, we must stand united: this is not who we are. We reject hate, antisemitism and violence in all forms. And we have no tolerance for the forces of evil who are trying to tear our communities apart.”

## New Law Requires Credit Card Companies to Provide Consumers a 90-day Grace Period to Use Up Any Points

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced a new state law will take effect that protects credit card holders from losing earned credit card rewards. Starting Sunday, December 10, credit card companies must take additional steps to protect consumers from losing accrued points when rewards programs are modified or terminated.

“Protecting New Yorker’s wallets is a top priority and we’re helping families save money this holiday season,” Governor Hochul said. “With this law taking effect, New Yorkers can rest assured that they won’t lose the credit card rewards they’ve earned.”

Pursuant to the new law, credit card issuers have 45 days to provide notice to cardholders when any existing credit card account or rewards program is cancelled or closed or modified in a way that is less favorable to the consumer. This includes any change that eliminates or reduces the value of a consumer’s points, makes it harder to accumulate points, limits rewards availability, or otherwise diminishes the value of the rewards program. From the day the credit card issuer sends this notice, consumers have 90 days to redeem their accrued points or rewards in accordance with the program’s original terms and conditions. While consumers often cash in their rewards before closing their accounts, the law requires a grace period after any account is closed.

Many consumers strategically save up credit card rewards, like points, airline “miles,” and cash back rewards to fund trips, vacations, large purchases, or other goals. Unexpected termination of rewards programs or unfavorable modifications can cost consumers who save their points the equivalent of hundreds and, in some cases even thousands of dollars in lost value. Even when a consumer voluntarily decides to close their credit card account, additional time to redeem points can prove valuable for consumers to make the most of their points.

### Tips For Using Credit Card Rewards:

Make the most of your points: Many rewards programs give multiple options for consumers to redeem points, like cashback, airline “miles,” or “pay with points” options. Compare the value of each potential reward and pick the option that provides the highest dollar value per point.

Review reward expiration policies: While most credit card rewards do not expire as long as you keep your credit card account open, certain

airline and hotel reward “miles” and points expire after 12 to 36 months. Read the terms and conditions of any rewards card to understand the expiration policy. Even if the terms provide for the expiration of points in some circumstances, remember that the credit card company cannot deny consumers a 90-day grace period to redeem points after modifying or ending a reward program.

Avoid becoming delinquent on your account: Losing credit card rewards is only one aspect of the negative impact that making late payments can have on your financial wellbeing. Most credit card issuers require consumers to maintain their accounts in good standing with on-time payments to access points. Making purchases to gain rewards can be tempting, but never spend more than you can afford just to earn points or rewards.

Close accounts strategically: If you decide you need to close a credit card account, plan to redeem all your points before the end of your 90-day grace period. In some cases, you may also be able to transfer the points to a spouse or another card in your name.

About the New York State Division of Consumer Protection  
The New York State Division of Consumer Protection provides resources and education materials to consumers, as well as voluntary mediation services between consumers and businesses. The Consumer Assistance Helpline 1-800-697-1220 is available Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 4:30pm, excluding State Holidays, and consumer complaints can be filed at any time at [www.dos.ny.gov/consumer-protection](http://www.dos.ny.gov/consumer-protection).

For other consumer protection tips and consumer alerts, consumers can visit the DCP website or follow DCP on social media via Twitter at @NYSConsumer or Facebook at [www.facebook.com/nysconsumer](http://www.facebook.com/nysconsumer).

## Cilento Participates in National Planning Program City of North Miami

### FL benefits from 3rd Annual D-PRAT Workshop

[NORTH MIAMI, FL] Sullivan 180 Community Development & Communications Manager Shannon Cilento, AICP was recently selected from a pool of applicants from across the nation to lead a team of professional planners in the American Planning Association’s (APA) 3rd Annual D-PRAT Program in North Miami, Florida in November.

The APA’s Urban Design and Preservation Division’s Design-Preservation Rapid Assistance Team (D-PRAT) is an annual pro-bono program to provide free planning expertise to under-resourced communities and organizations by collaboratively planning for the future, focusing on urban design and historic preservation issues.

Cilento is leading one of 3 project-based teams in North Miami. Her team is focused on creating and activating vacant lots and underutilized City parks, as well as implementing flood mitigation efforts and native plantings to the parks studied. The teams spent 3 days on the ground in North Miami collecting data, meeting with City and County officials and other stakeholders and creating initial design concepts.

“It has been a wonderful experience to join professional planners from across the country to develop strategies for the City of North Miami to help them accomplish their planning goals,” said Cilento. “I am learning a lot from my fellow planners and from the North Miami community—I look forward to implementing what I have learned to my work here in Sullivan County.”

The teams will continue to work remotely throughout the next 8 weeks to finalize a plan and recommendations for the City. A draft plan will be presented at the end of January.

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

# Time and the Valleys Museum

## Grahamsville, NY

### Are you interested in local history?

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

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



## Join now & get 10% off!

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

Time and the Valleys Museum, P.O. Box 254, Grahamsville, New York 12740  
845 985-7700 [www.timeandthevalleymuseum.org](http://www.timeandthevalleymuseum.org)

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

Thank you for supporting local history and the Museum.



## BONUS - Free Art Catalogue!

## Ulster County Human Rights Commission Invites Community to Celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

KINGSTON, NY - The Ulster County Human Rights Department will celebrate the 75th anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) with a week-long schedule of community engagement events in Kingston and Ellenville.

Joe McDonald, Director of the Ulster County Human Rights Department stated, "Ask anyone, 'what is a 'human right?' You may find that you get many different answers from many different people. In a nutshell, human rights are the rights we all have just because we are human. Human rights are the way we all wish to be treated."

Eleanor Roosevelt, then Chair of the United Nations Human Rights Commission, was instrumental in getting the Universal Declaration signed on December 10, 1948. The Declaration consists of 30 different articles of rights and is the most translated document in the world with over 550 translations.

Ulster County Human Rights Director Joe McDonald and members of the Human Rights Commission will meet with residents at the following dates, times, and locations between December 11-15:

- o Monday, December 11 from 12 PM to 2 PM in the lobby of the Ulster County Office Building (DMV), 244 Fair Street, Kingston
- o Tuesday, December 12 from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM in the benefits lobby of the Department of Social Services, 1061 Development Ct., Kingston
- o Wednesday, December 13 from 12 PM to 2 PM in the main lobby of the Departments of Health and Mental Health, 239 Golden Hill Lane, Kingston
- o Thursday, December 14 from 12 PM to 2 PM in the lobby of Ulster County's Trudy Resnick Farber Building, 50 Center Street, Ellenville
- o Friday, December 15 from 12 PM - 2 PM in the Kingston Center of SUNY Ulster lobby, 94 Mary's Ave, Kingston

The public is invited to drop in at any of the five events to learn about the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the work of the Ulster County Human Rights Commission. The program includes engaging short videos on human rights and information on the procedures for filing local complaints in case of alleged rights violations. Light refreshments will be served, and staff and members of the Human Rights Commission look forward to meeting community members!

## Olive Free Library

**A Town Shaped by Water**

A Bicentennial Exhibit—  
200 Years of Olive History

CLICK HERE  
to view the  
VIRTUAL  
EXHIBIT from  
anywhere!

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

*Trivia  
Night*

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

**Makers**

**Open Hours!**

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

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

### Sullivan County Intervention Line for Parents and Teens

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

**Help is available now!**

We are here anytime you need to talk.

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



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

Calls and texts are answered 24/7

A program of the DRC

### Sullivan County Text For Teens

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



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



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

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

**Text "Start" to:**  
**845-637-9486**

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



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



accessupports.org

Rewarding lives. Healthy communities.

### COVID-19 Vaccines Save Lives

Who will you protect?



Friends

Amigos

Family

¿A quien protegerás?

Get the facts.



Familia

Obtenga los hechos.

Talk to your healthcare provider about the COVID vaccine.



Comunidad

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

**#VaccinateSullivan**

For more information, visit [www.sullivanyny.us](http://www.sullivanyny.us)



GET SIGNED UP TODAY FOR OUR UPCOMING CERTIFICATION CLASS !!

Contact:

Alyssa Wowk  
(845) 645-6544

[awowk@chowc.net](mailto:awowk@chowc.net)

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



# FOSTER HOMES NEEDED!



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



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



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



**Get online and get going**  
Free WiFi

**Dorrow movies, documentaries, TV series and more**

**Learn something new 24/7**

Learn a new language FREE with Rosetta Stone

Online classes and research materials ready when you are

Download the Libby App

**Borrow instead of buy**

Check out books, magazines, cds, DVDs and audiobooks from all 47 RCLS libraries

Download the RCLS Gateway App

**Entertain your kids – or yourself!**

Passes to Mohawk Preserve and the Jimmie and I Valleys Museum

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

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

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

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



**The Old Stone House in Hasbrouck**  
282 Hasbrouck Road, Hasbrouck, NY 12788

# ORNAMENT WORKSHOP

with Liz Kolansky

**Sat Dec 16th & Sun 17th 2:00-4:00**

bring your favorite family photos memorabilia and crafting supplies that we will incorporate into a unique personalized ornament to decorate your home or give as a treasured gift.

All other materials will be provided




for ages 6 and up  
children must be accompanied by an adult

Suggested Donation \$5.00

Pre registration is required 845 707 6446 lizstudio42@gmail.com

VOICESUNITED4CHANGE'S VIRTUAL

# YOUTH SUPPORT GROUP



**JOIN US!**

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

Contact Rebekah at [rumarbashar@asfl.org](mailto:rumarbashar@asfl.org) for more information.

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





VOICESUNITED4CHANGE'S VIRTUAL

# PARENT SUPPORT GROUP



**JOIN US!**

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

Contact Anne-Marie at [afreitas@asfl.org](mailto:afreitas@asfl.org) for more information.

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







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

# THE JARED PROYECT MEMORIAL ICE FISHING CONTEST

**Saturday, January 20, 2024**

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

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

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**WARM UP WITH A  
CHILI LUNCHEON @**

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

Salad, Chili, Rice, Corn bread, Desserts

---

**Contact:**

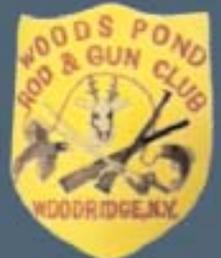
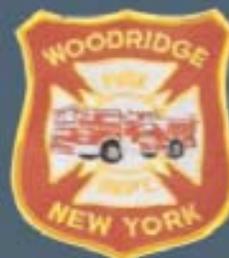
**Eric Akerley - 845.707.1483  
for more information.**

**DONATIONS  
ACCEPTED AT  
GOODWILL**

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

*Sponsored by:*

*Woodridge Fire Department  
Woods Pond Rod & Gun Club*



# FOR A CHILI LUNCHEON IN MEMORY OF JARED PROYECT

**SATURDAY  
JAN. 20, 2024**



**2PM-5PM**

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

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**DONATIONS ACCEPTED  
AT GOODWILL**

---

**SALAD - CHILI - RICE - CORN BREAD - DESSERTS**

**RAFFLES**



**50/50**

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



# The Health Benefits of Open Space

## A Municipal Planning & Zoning Seminar

**As a Planning, Zoning or Town Board member, you can positively influence the health of your community.**

Join Shannon Cilento, Community Development & Communications Manager, for a discussion on the important relationship between health and open space. Learn about resources and opportunities for improving access and inclusion in parks and public spaces.

**Wednesday, December 6  
6:00 PM via Zoom**

Municipal planning and zoning board members will receive 1 hour of training credit.

To register, visit [Sullivan180.org](http://Sullivan180.org) or scan the QR code.



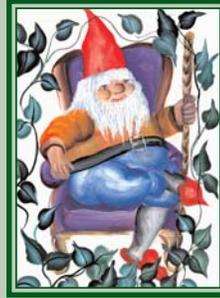
*Building a healthy community, one degree at a time*



[Sullivan180.org](http://Sullivan180.org) • 845.295.2680

**RENTALS**

Store for Rent in Grahamsville (845) 985-7411

**FOR SALE****Sundown Camp and Bait Shop!  
Firewood for sale****HELP WANTED****Typing Help Wanted**Experienced or Student. Full/Part time. Work in Grahamsville. Busy Law Office.  
William Brenner  
(845) 985-7411**“KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE  
CHRISTMAS AT ITS BEST!  
BISHOP'S WIFE**A 1947 Samuel Goldwyn romantic comedy feature film directed by **Henry Koster** and starring **Cary Grant, Loretta Young, and David Niven**.

The plot is about an angel who helps a bishop with his problems creating a hilarious romp through

the pitfalls of religion, love, attraction, jealousy, money, and the need for opulence, in negotiations.

Also a belly laughing skating adventure that will have you in the enchanting world of the 1940's celebration of the coming of JESUS THE CHRIST.

Loretta Young, is dazzlingly



beautiful and highly effective as a conservative Bishop's wife trying to support her husband's efforts in finding the way through the predicament as the purity of an angel saves the day. David Niven as the Bishop delivers a wonderful sermon, one of my favorites, and I'm sure one of yours.

**THIS IS THE STORY OF AN EMPTY STOCKING**

Once upon a midnight clear, there was a child's cry. A blazing star hung over a stable and wise men came with gifts. We haven't forgotten that night down through the centuries; we celebrate with stars on a Christmas trees, the sounds of bells and with gifts. But especially with gifts. You give me a book; I give you a tie. Aunt Martha always wanted an orange squeezer, and Uncle Henry could do with a new pipe. We forget nobody, adult or child. All the stockings are filled - all that is except one. And we have even forgotten to hang it up. The stocking for the child born in a manger. It's his Birthday we are celebrating. Don't ever let us forget that. Let us ask ourselves what he would wish for most, and then let us each put in his share. Loving kindness, warm hearts, and the stretched out hand of tolerance. All the shining gifts that make peace on earth.

(Contd. Pg. 67)

Answer to last week's Trivia Question: *Kurt Russell***This weeks' Trivia question:** True or false: Robin Williams plays Peter Pan in the movie *Hook*.Sell your handcrafted items  
online from your own little  
virtual shop  
at the**Gnome Home  
Virtual Mall**

Interested?

Send an email to:  
**[gnomehomeinc@yahoo.com](mailto:gnomehomeinc@yahoo.com)****... or if you just want  
to have some  
'gnome made' fun..**Visit the gnome's  
virtual on-line local shop  
at:**<http://www.gnomehomeinc.com>**

*(From Pg. 66)***KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE**

AVAILABLE ON AMAZON, IMOB, NETFLIX

**A CHRISTMAS CAROL**

(RELEASE / DEC 02, 1951, TV - PG / CC / 1HR. 26 MIN.)

<https://www.imob.com/title/tt0044008>A *Christmas Carol*— Directed by Brian Desmond Hurst. Starring Alastair Sim, Kathleen Harrison,

Mervyn Johns, Hermione Baddeley.

Ebenezer Scrooge, a curmudgeonly, miserly businessman, has no time for sentimentality and largely views Christmas as a waste of time until one Christmas Eve when he was visited by three "Christmas spirits" the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Future, who show him the errors of his ways.


**KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE**  
 AVAILABLE ON AMAZON, IMOB, NETFLIX  
**IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE**


(1946 / Rated - G / 2 hr. 10 min. / CC)

A heart warming wonderful tale of the acceptance of humanities frailties, that arise in each of us, and produce extreme reactions to difficult circumstances. Sort of like "Political Correctness," limiting communication, robs a person of their self esteem. By not understanding and developing our own experiences fully when faced with heavy problems, some go to the extreme – suicide. In today's world this belief has caused a 70% rise in adolescent, and teen suicide. For this reason this film is more important to today's youth then ever before it reinforces hope, and a way out of devastating problems



*Merry Christmas*  
*Stay safe, and stay well*  
*Knarf Odnamoc*  
*Gnome*