



PROUD TO BE AN AMERICAN

# Ye Olde TOWNSMAN Valley



"The Best Journal Published by a Dam Site!"



**VOL. 17 NO. 50 GRAHAMSVILLE, NY 12740 DECEMBER 16, 2021 \$1.00**

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## Sullivan BOCES Honors Local Veterans with a Bunch



Liberty: On Dec 2, the students and staff at Sullivan BOCES held a complimentary brunch to honor Sullivan County's veterans.

Dr. Robert M. Dufour, District Superintendent at Sullivan BOCES, officially started the event by welcoming the group and thanking them for their service. Catherine Crespo, a senior from the Liberty CSD, led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Nathaniel Perry, a senior from the Fallsburg CSD, addressed the attendees by welcoming and thanking each veteran for their service. He also described how the students at



BOCES made gifts to show their appreciation.

The students' efforts didn't stop there. The senior class also sold flags in honor or memory of someone who has served to raise over \$575 for local veteran organizations. Students in the career & technical education programs also participated in the event. The culinary arts students prepared the delicious brunch, the welding program

created a beautiful wall art that honored our veterans, and the early childhood and natural resources programs created the centerpieces for the tables.

"It's nice to have young kids come up to you and say Thank you for your service," said Jim Hammond, Vietnam veteran.

For the senior class at BOCES, the brunch not only honored the veterans. It created a platform for each of the students to learn. Throughout the brunch, the students spoke to and interviewed the veterans to understand



better who they are as individuals and hear what these heroes have done to protect our nation. For students like Nathaniel Perry, who is looking to join the military, the day was priceless, as he had the opportunity to talk to veterans from each branch of the service.

According to Sherwood McGibbon, Vietnam veteran, "Today's brunch means a lot to us. It is great to see how the young men and women at BOCES are interested in meeting us and learning about what we have done for our Country."

Sullivan BOCES plans to hold this type of event annually to help give back to those who have given so much for our Country. BOCES would also like to thank the Liberty and Youngsville Fire Departments for creating a grand entrance with their latter trucks to welcome these local heroes.

Thank you, veterans! We can't thank you enough for all of the sacrifices you have made on our behalf. We owe a debt of appreciation to the folks who serve to make our lives safe.



**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

FALLSBURG NEWS - Larry Schafman

MOVIE TRIVIA - Frank Comando a/k/a Knarf

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

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

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

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

**ON THE FRONT BURNER:** Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; and let men say among the nations, The Lord reigneth.

Chronicles 16:31

## OBITUARIES

**Erica Michelle Vilaca of**



Grahamsville, NY, an EMT with Mobile medic EMS died Sunday 5, 2021 in the Town of Neversink, NY. She was 30.

The daughter of Carlos Vilaca and Denise Amy Weinstein, she was born May 17, 1991 in Boynton Beach, FL. Erica had always been active in providing health care. She is a former Volunteer for the Island Park Fire Department and had recently been working a second job at the Ellenville Hospital.

Survivors include her mother and step-father, Denise A. Weinstein Fassi and her husband Luis of Grahamsville, NY; her father, Carlos Vilaca of Florida; her daughter, Avery Michelle Vilaca, at home; one brother, Claudio Louis Vilaca of Florida; her maternal grandfather, Sidney "Papa" Weinstein of Grahamsville, NY; her paternal grandfather, Albano Vilaca of Brazil; and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

The family has chosen to remember Eric's life privately at this time.

Memorial contributions in Erica's name may be made to the GO FUND ME ACCOUNT established for her daughter's college expenses. Please use the following link to the donation page <https://gofund.me/39cbd490>

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

**Willie Grant Bowers**, 71, passed away December 4th peacefully at his home surrounded by his family. Willie is survived by his wife Maureen and his two sons Willie (Augie) and Christian and his grandchildren Jackson, Nikolas and Annalise. Willie also leaves behind his sister Cheryl, brother-in-law Rick and two nieces Bridget and Ashely as well as his grandniece Nataleigh.



Willie was a graduate of Sullivan County Community College with a degree in culinary arts and served as a Sergeant in the United States Army as a Personal Chef/Valet to General Stillwater while stationed in D.C. during the

Vietnam War.

Willie worked with Sullivan County Office for the Aging for 32 years showing compassion, love and respect to all his clients. Through the years, Willie participated in many social and environmental activities. He was a member of the Delaware River Keepers and was a lifelong advocate for peace and social justice.

Willie passed away due to a rare degenerative genetic disorder. Just like he dealt with all experiences in life, Willie managed his illness with dignity, strength and grace.

Willie was a lover of music both playing (fiddle, mandolin, guitar, drum circles, and singing) and listening to all genres of music. Those who knew Willie knew him for his contagious smile and his dancing, if there was music, he would be on the dance floor. Willie loved attending live concerts and festivals and sharing the experience with his family and friends.

Willie loved to spend time outdoors hiking, swimming, canoeing, kayaking, snowshoeing and ice skating. He loved to garden, recycle and compost and always encouraged people to leave the world behind better than they found it.

In his memory we would like to ask for all who knew and loved him to plant a tree this spring in his memory. If you would like to make a financial donation we would ask that you make it to Hospice of Orange and Sullivan Counties, 800 Stony Brook Court, Newburgh, NY 12550. Willie was an inspiration to all who knew him and he left behind a beautiful legacy of compassion, tolerance and unconditional love.

A private gathering will be held for Willie in the months to come.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Harris Funeral Home, Railroad Ave. Roscoe, NY. 607-498-4929 or 845-439-5200 [www.Harris-FH.com](http://www.Harris-FH.com)

## DAYS OF YORE.... Today's History

**November 30, 1949**

A 21 year old Jackson Heights deer hunter, Joseph Donahue, plunged 200 feet down the side of Peekamoose Mountain and then rolled for another 200 feet when he lost his footing on a ledge last Wednesday afternoon. He is in a serious condition in Kingston Hospital this week, having suffered a possible skull fracture, broken ribs, punctured lung, fractures of arm and wrist, and general internal injuries.

Master Sergeant Carl J. Ertz, his wife and two children are expected to arrive here from Japan about the middle of December. (Contd. Pg. 3)

## Christmas Eve Worship Service at Claryville Reformed Church

We are happy to invite you and your family to join in Christmas Eve worship at 5:00 PM at the Claryville Reformed Church. Please note the new time. You will receive a warm welcome and celebrate Christ's birth with carols and candlelight. John Bernstein will be at the organ and Pastor Ken Tenckinck will have an inspiring message.

## DAYS OF YORE....

### Today's History

(From Pg. 2) They were scheduled to leave Japan on November 16th and arrive in Seattle, Washington, in about twelve days. Sgt. Erts expects to be processed in San Francisco and then visit his wife's parents in Arkansas, after which they will come to spend the Christmas Holidays with Mr. and Mrs. William Erts in Ladleton. They would have spent three years in Japan had they remained until January 1st. Mr. Erts expects to make the Army his vocation and to be located in the good old U.S.A.

### December 9, 1959

Death cast a pall of gloom over tunnel workers at Shaft 6, near DeBruce, as three of their fellow workers were killed within a week. The first accident occurred Friday night, Nov. 27th, when George Rieder, 36, of Margaretville, was drowned in the Beaverkill River. Rieder had been sought by state police and others since his demolished car was found in the Beaverkill River Sunday. He was last seen Friday night as he left a "safety party" celebrating a period of accident-free operations in the tunnel, for his home in Margaretville. The car was found near Craig-e-Clare, thoroughly demolished by the strong currents of the river which was in flood and was 4 to 5 feet above normal height. The search for the body continued until it was found nearly four and a half miles west of Roscoe, Tuesday afternoon. The swift current had carried it about 8 miles. Exactly when the accident occurred was not known. The accident which claimed the life of Michael Siska, 27, also of Margaretville took place 26,000 feet west of the Shaft and 783 feet under the ground. The young man was caught between moving concrete cars which allowed but 6 inches of space for his body. He was pronounced dead at 12:45 A.M. Wednesday, December 2nd. On Saturday, December 5th, the third accident took the Life of Donald Dambois, 30, of Kerhonkson. Mr. Dambois, who was an iron worker, was crushed by an elevator on its way down into the 783 foot tunnel. The accident happened at 10:30 A.M. Shaft 6 is part of a New York City Board of Water Supply project under construction to channel water from Cannonsville.

Mr. Robert Ingram, a student at Alfred University, spent the holiday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ingram of Thunder Hill. (Contd. Pg. 4)

## Household Hint:

### Remove Unsightly Film from Small-necked Containers

Unsightly film in small-necked bottles and other containers can be cleaned by pouring vinegar into the bottle and shaking. For tougher stains, add a few tablespoons of rice and shake vigorously. Rinse thoroughly and repeat until clean.

**Nature Column** - 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 and Shirley Davis.

### Are Reindeer Really Deer?

We are familiar with the white-tailed deer that is common in the Catskills and perhaps the most iconic of deer as people associate it from the movie "Bambi". Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer actually was around a few years before Bambi. Rudolph first appeared in 1932 by author Robert L. May.

Both Bambi and Rudolf are actually deer. The difference between deer and reindeer is that the term "deer" refers to a family and reindeer is a particular species. Although the term "deer" usually refers to a common species such as the White-tailed Deer and not reindeer – technically reindeer or caribou are a type of deer.



Rudolph is not the only reindeer with a special nose. All reindeer have special noses that warm the air they breathe in before it reaches their lungs. Another attribute of the Reindeer that allows them to withstand the cold, they have two layers of fur; a thick woolly undercoat and a longer-haired overcoat which consists of hollow hairs that trap the air. This not only provides them with excellent insulation, it also keeps them buoyant in water when they have to travel across massive rivers and lakes while migrating. Reindeer travel the furthest of any land mammal.

Reindeer hooves adapt to the season. During summer when the tundra is soft and wet, the reindeers footpads become sponge-like and cover a larger surface area which allows them to walk on the damp ground. In the winter, the reindeer's footpads shrink and tighten, exposing the rim of the hoof that cuts into the ice and crusted snow to stop the reindeer from slipping. This also enables the reindeer to dig down through the snow to their favorite food, a lichen known as reindeer moss.

Reindeer can be found in the Arctic tundra, forests, and mountains in Russia, Northern China, Canada, Alaska, and Scandinavia. They are very well adapted to the cold and harsh arctic tundra where they migrate great distances each year.

According to the Smithsonian Institute, there were two major types of caribou that were separated during the last glacial period. One group, the caribou was the reindeer that became domesticated in Europe and Asia. Reindeer, one of the earliest domesticated animals, have been tamed for over 3,000 years. A baby reindeer, called a fawn, weighs between 10 and 14 pounds at birth. Reindeer usually grow to 4-5 ft tall not including their antlers that add another 3 feet to their height! Both male (bull) and female (cow) reindeer grow and shed their antlers annually. Their antlers grow as much as an inch a day. The antlers of the males drop off in early winter while the female does not lose her antlers until later in the winter. Like a human's fingerprint no two reindeer antlers are exactly the same.

Just recently, researchers at University College London discovered reindeer are the only mammals that can see ultraviolet light. While human vision cuts off at wavelengths around 400 nm, reindeers can see up to 320 nm. This range covers the part of the spectrum we can see with the help of a black light. For the reindeer it helps them see things in the glowing white of the Arctic that they would otherwise miss like white fur, and things that are impossible for humans to see in the snow. For reindeer, they show up in high contrast.

Until Clement C. Moore wrote "A Visit from Saint Nicholas" in 1823, no one in the United States thought about reindeer coexisting with Santa Claus. Moore introduced the world to Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Dunder and Blixem (the last two of which were later changed to German, becoming Donner and Blitzen). While the first six names all make sense in English, the last two actually mean "thunder" and "lightning," respectively. The word Reindeer comes from the Old Norse word "hreininn," which means horned animal.

Since Europe's Reindeer Age, 16,000 years ago, reindeer have been a symbol and a way of life for Northern Europe's oldest surviving indigenous people, spanning parts of Norway, Finland, Sweden and the Kola Peninsula of Russia, in an area that is known as Sapmi – also called Lapland. Primitive humans relied heavily on them for their skins to keep them warm, meat to sustain them, and bones to create tools.

The evolution of the reindeer has provided some incredible solutions to the dark cold of their habitat. The ability to continually change its body functions surely make the reindeer one very magical creature ... and that is according to science!

## DAYS OF YORE....

### Today's History

(From Pg. 3)

Best wishes for your anniversaries to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Cypert, the 5th; Mr. and Mrs. James Mentnech, . the 6th.

The shopping days till Christmas  
Are growing less and less,  
But there's still time to make a  
blouse,  
An apron or a dress!  
KUM TO KRUM'S

#### December 10, 1969

Bill Gross, son of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Dewire, became engaged to Miss Gale Way of Bluepoint, Long Island , over the Thanksgiving Holiday.

The Big Buck Contest of the Grahamsville Rod and Gun Club was won by Harold Buley, Jr. with an eight point rack.

#### December 13, 1979

Congratulations to Joe and Larissa Pond on celebrating their wedding anniversary on Nov. 24th.

On Thursday, about 145 members of the AARP attended their annual Christmas Party at the Woodbourne Fire Hall - a roast beef dinner prepared and served by the Ulster Heights Methodist Church Ladies.

Bertha Ackerley, Connie Dull, Kathleen Rolf and Lena Slater, all members of the Claryville Quilters' Circle went to Puckahuddle on Friday where they stocked up on supplies.

" I am pleased to announce that I have selected Mrs. Georgianna Lepke to serve as Deputy County Treasurer. I look forward to working with Mrs. Lepke and the current personnel to provide for an open, efficient, frugal and responsible treasurer's office." Richard Coombe.

#### December 2, 1982

Cathy Coombe of Grahamsville participated in the National Junior Olympic Regionals this past weekend in Holmdel, N.J. She placed 6th in a field of over 100 runners, to qualify for the National Championship in Cincinnati, Ohio on December 11th.

NYSEG crews are still busy restoring power lines and cleaning up following Sunday night's ice storm which glazed roads, making them a skating rink. As many as 1,000 motorists were stranded in the Livingston Manor, Roscoe area. College students and others stranded spent the night sleeping on floors or anywhere available



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**Due to the rising COVID-19 cases in our area, and to help keep our community safe, the library building will be temporarily closed to patrons as of December 6, 2021.**

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Staff will be available during our normal business hours to answer patron questions and prepare items for curbside pickup. Contact us at (845) 985-7233 to schedule your pick up. Our book drop will remain open for item returns.



**Mother Goose Time** - December 8th - CANCELLED  
**Toddler Time** - December 9th - CANCELLED  
**Story Hour** - December 10th - CANCELLED  
**Completed DPL Family Tree Ornaments** can be dropped off at the library and placed on the curbside table during operating hours.



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Daniel Pierce Library

For up-to-date information, please visit us on Facebook or at <https://danielpiercelibrary.org/>.

Out of an abundance of caution, the Daniel Pierce Library will continue curbside pick up ONLY until further notice.

Please call 845-985-7233 to schedule curbside pick up services.

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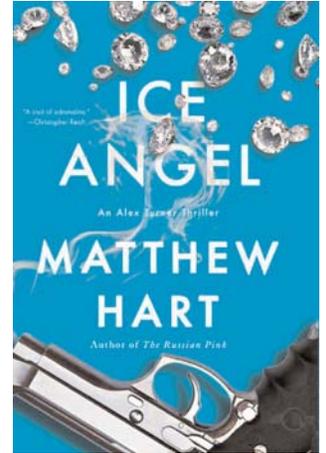
## Ice Angel

### Mysterious Book Report No. 469

by John Dwaine Mc Kenna

Despite its dumb-assed title, *Ice Angel*, (Pegasus Crime, \$25.95, 272 pages, ISBN 970-1-64313-811-4) by Matthew Hart, is a cool piece of crime fiction that has an exciting premise, a dynamic, fast-moving plot and an interesting cast of characters—all of whom are trying to rob, swindle, outwit and kill each other somewhere north of the Arctic circle in the Canadian wilderness . . . where one of the world's greatest diamond fields has been discovered. It's an area teeming with oil, timber and minerals that are just waiting to be exploited.

The yarn begins with the disappearance of a legendary diamond prospector and ethically challenged stock market operator named Jimmy Angel. He's rumored to be sitting on an epic find, one of the richest diamond pipes ever discovered. Then he's gone. That's when a pair of Chinese billionaires—a playboy named Fan and his calculating twin sister Mei, who have ties to China's government and it's military—step in with a dubious maneuver to take over the missing diamond hunter's entire business and all of its staked claims for leases. Because Angel is an American citizen who's already a subject of interest to the U.S. government, treasury agent Alex Turner is sent to find out what's happened to the missing man. Turner's accompanied by his treacherous lover, a Russian diamond thief named Slav Lily, who may in fact be colluding with the enemy. With the takeover of the Angel Companies, higher-ups in Washington, D.C. fear that the Chinese Communist Government is trying to establish a land base on the North American Continent . . . something they want to prevent at all costs. And, when Angel's daughter Mitzi enters the plot, all-out mayhem ensues with airplane chases, machine gun fights and a never-ending assortment of vicious thugs combined with lyrical prose and savage Arctic weather conditions all make this an electrifying hard-to-put-down read that will keep you guessing to the end!

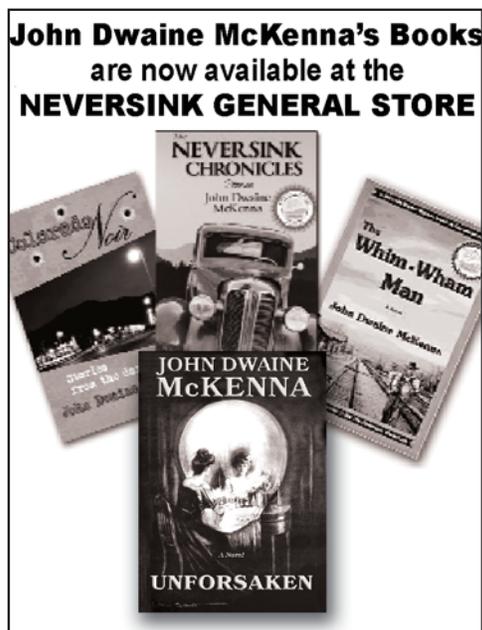


Like the review? Let your friends know, *You saw it in the Mysterious Book Report*, because the greatest compliment you can give is to share our work with others.

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

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

## New Citizens to Take Oath in Ulster County



Ulster County Clerk Nina Postupack announces that a naturalization ceremony will take place in the Legislative Chambers of the Ulster County Office Building located in Kingston on Friday, December 10th at 11:00 a.m.

Approximately 20 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."

Due to the U.S. Customs and Immigration Service's COVID safety protocols, no outside observers will be permitted to attend the ceremony. There are, however, several local elected officials who will be helping to welcome the new citizens by awarding them with congratulatory certificates.

Presiding over the ceremony will be the Honorable Christopher E. Cahill, Justice of the Supreme Court, Ulster County. Judge Cahill will be the keynote speaker welcoming our 20 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.





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**The Last Dove of 2021 Unveiled**

The Sullivan Catskills Visitors Association (SCVA) is excited to announce the unveiling of the final Dove of 2021. The Sullivan Catskills Dove Trail commemorates the 50th anniversary of the 1969 Woodstock festival and celebrates its impact on our Sullivan Catskills.

It's a collection of 60 dove sculptures perched in villages, towns, and at several tourism businesses. Each permanently mounted dove is hand-painted by a professional local artist and inspired by the legendary event held here in 1969.

The newest Dove will be made its landing at Happy Days Campground in Swan Lake on Monday, December 13 at 1 p.m. The artist for this dove is Kim Simons.

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The SCVA previously announced that ten new Doves will be added to the collection and make the Sullivan Catskills their home. The launch of the Dove Trail in 2019 has been met with unprecedented success as visitors have been flocking to the Sullivan Catskills to view the doves and complete the trail, taking photos along the way.

This marks the tenth and final new Dove for 2021. The 50th Anniversary of Woodstock is over, but the SCVA wants to make the Doves a legacy project that will encourage visitors from around the world to appreciate our history and heritage while embracing the new tourism opportunities in the Sullivan Catskills. The Dove Trail is in partnership with Sullivan Renaissance.

**Community Coat Drive for Homeless Veterans**

You can help keep your community of homeless veterans warm this winter. Drop off your new or gently used clean coats, scarves and gloves at Action Toward Independence, 309 E. Broadway in Monticello anytime between December 10 and December 17 (Monday - Friday, please) between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

For more information, call Ryan or Kevin at Action Toward Independence, 794-4228.



## News from your Town of Neversink Parks & Rec

HAPPY HOLIDAYS EVERYONE! And what a wonderful Tree Lighting Celebration we had to kick off this holiday season. We had good food, lots of music, lots of lights and decorations, lots of peoples and children and best of all a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus! This fun filled evening could not have happened without the support of so many people. So a big shout out THANK YOU to: Our AYSO who donated all of the burgers and hot dogs that were enjoyed by all AND to Bill Richardson and Keith and Pam Zanetti for cooking and serving them up; Joan Evans and our Girl Scouts for donating and serving all the great cookies and hot cocoa--YUM; Matthew Weyant and the Tri-Valley Band for celebrating the season with the Christmas Carols they played throughout the night--YOU WERE GREAT!; Jennifer Edwards and our Tri-Valley Cheerleading squad who led Santa and Mrs. Claus escort cheering all the way; Our Emergency Teams from Neversink, Grahamsville & Claryville for escorting Santa & Mrs. Claus -your vehicles were decorated to the hilt and had the kids so excited when they saw you coming down the road; Keith Stryker, Nicole Gorr and Ric Coombe (our town CEO & Council members) for making sure the fire was always going, the popcorn always warm, and the marshmallows always ready for roasting; Brenda Devore (asst. to our town supervisor) and Jessica, Giata and Griffon Garigliano for serving up the hot coffee and tea AND Griffon did a great job as Keith Stryker's right hand man serving popcorn; Your Parks & Rec Team-Tina Connolly, Dana McCarthy, Jessica Garigliano, Janine Garigliano and Jennifer Pisaniello -who helped to make this event happen; To my better half, Walt Zeitschel, who worked throughout the week to decorate Bicentennial Park -it looked beautiful and so festive; to Chris Mathews, our Town Supervisor, for once again bringing the light to our Holiday Tree; and to Santa and Mrs. Claus who took time out from their busy schedule to spread joy with our kids. Most of all I want to thank our community. You make this event so successful. You come out on a cold night, bundled up, to share time with family and friends. Your children come in anticipation of a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus. And when they see Santa and Mrs. Claus the excitement and joy on their faces makes it all worthwhile. It makes us forget the craziness in the world right now as we share in their happiness. Thank you all for making this year's Tree Lighting Festivities the best to date! Check out some of the pictures on the Townsman Legacy website: <http://tvtownsman.com>

As for our Annual House Decorating Contest, we had some remarkable entries this year. Our winners were: 1st place to the Sharfarsky Family on Myers Rd; 2nd place to the Hunt Family on Smith Lane; and 3rd place to the Scanna Family on Myers Rd. We had two (2) honorable mentions-the Walter's Family on Hastings Drive and the Tompkins Family on Mutton Hill. You all did a great job! And a BIG THANK YOU to our local businesses that donated to the prizes: Thunderview Farms, Zanetti's Service Center, Russian Mule Brewery, Story's Neversink Plant Co. and Catskill Mountain Sugarhouse.

Now on to other news. The ICE RINK COMMETH! Our town staff are working hard to get the ice rink up and running. And this year its going to be a great rink-double in

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

size!!!. I will be posting updates on the Ice Rink opening day and schedule on our Parks & Rec Facebook page. Once again, we need volunteers. The days/hours the rink will be open depends on the volunteers. We cannot operate the rink without a rink monitor and volunteers to help clean the ice after each session. Keeping the ice rink open and operational is dependent on volunteers who will give a few hours per week to help us monitor the rink when it's open. The work involved is not that hard and it doesn't require a lot of physical labor. This is our Community Ice Rink, so we need our community to help support it! If you would like to know more about what needs to be done as a volunteer, send me a note at [cwparksandrec@gmail.com](mailto:cwparksandrec@gmail.com). And to those of you who have already reached out, I have you on our list and will be in touch soon! We are also collecting ice skates again. If you have any, they can be dropped off at Town Hall lobby in the "Ice Skate Box." Keep checking our Facebook page and your weekly Townsman for updates on the Ice Rink. We hope to have some exciting things this year.

If you haven't already marked your calendars, you need to put a big RED mark on February 12, 2022. This is the day of our first Town of Neversink WINTERFEST!! Your Parks and Rec team are working hard to plan this event, which will be held at our Grahamsville Fairgrounds. We hope to have lots of fun activities for everyone; food and drink; and special events. We are looking for vendors from our community that may want to host a booth to sell their wares. If you are interested or if you have any suggestions for activities you would like to see at our Winterfest, send them to us at [cwparksandrec@gmail.com](mailto:cwparksandrec@gmail.com). And keep reading your Townsman weekly and checking our Parks & Rec Facebook page to get updates as we get closer to this fun filled community event.

(Contd. Pg. 12 )

## A Novel Christmas Scene

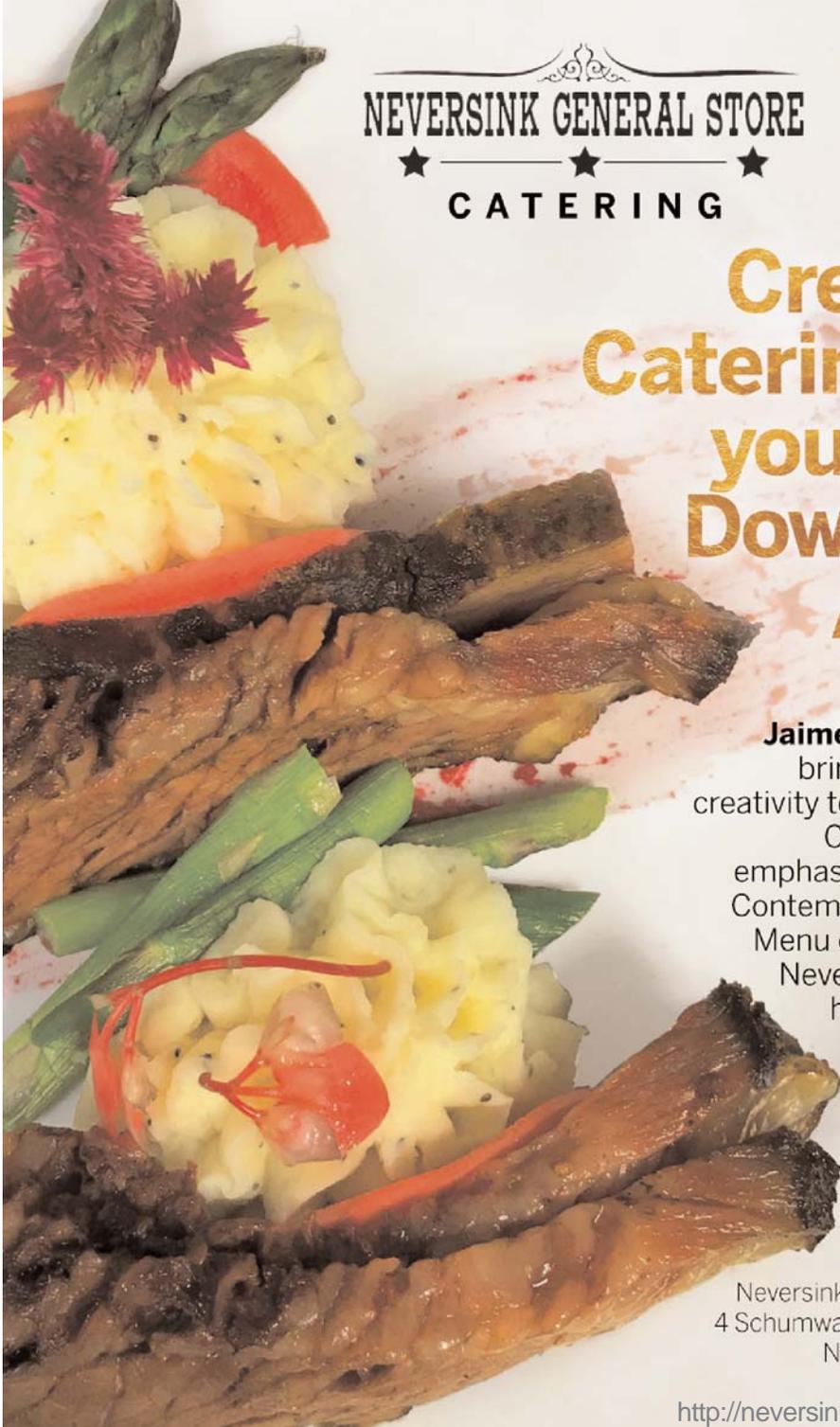
We couldn't have said it any better than the beloved novelist, Charles Dickens. So, how about you pack up the car with your family or friends and head on up to our Sullivan Catskills where the spirit of giving is all around.

First things first, find yourself a cozy, dreamy place for a sleepover. Our hoteliers have put together some fine Winter Specials and our accommodations are as varied and unique as the people you're shopping for... self-service vacation rentals... full-service resorts... charming inns and B&Bs... all with country charm and style.

Start your gift-giving escapade at The Narrowsburg Union, The 2021 Holiday Market, which runs weekends 10 am - 6 pm through December 19 is another not-to-be-missed shopping event. There are 15 vendors inside. Outside Christmas trees will be for sale. And you can have your gifts wrapped at Catskills Curated. The Bethel Woods Holiday Market is open weekends from 2 pm - 9 pm through December 19. Plan your day right, and when you're finished shopping check out Peace, Love & Lights at Bethel Woods- the drive-thru holiday light spectacular. It's bigger and better this year- a 1.7-mile drive. Afterwards head over to the Holiday Hub at the Market Sheds where you can dance by the 30-foot-tall lighted Musical Mega Trees synched to holiday tunes, then have a bite and a beverage. Try the Grilled Cheese sandwich then roast s'mores over the outdoor fire pits. Speaking of food, our restauranteurs throughout the Sullivan Catskills are serving up inventive, irresistible winter comfort food dishes that are simply Catskill-icious.

Remember to go shopping for yourself, too. Whatever your pleasure, we have antiques, general stores, wine and spirits purveyors, pottery makers, and jewelers. And we have award-winning brewers, vintners, cider makers and distillers on our Good Taste Beverage Trail. They love to talk about their craft. All they ask is that when you visit, you drink responsibly.

If anyone in your tribe wants to by-pass the shopping, tell 'em to take a hike! We have dozens of hiking trails perfect for every level of fitness. And don't forget about our Sullivan Catskills Dove Trail. Now,



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CATERING

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featuring 59 hand painted sculptures honoring 50th anniversary of the 1969 Woodstock Music and Art Fair.

Think about a trip up for:

- o December 16: A pre-fix 5-course Catskills Food Truck Chef Tasting at Catskill Brewery
- o December 17: Rock This Town Orchestra- Christmas Show at Resorts World Catskills
- o December 18: Hector's Inn Christmas Party

Your health and wellbeing are important to us. All our proprietors, hoteliers, and restauranteurs participate in Catskills Confidence. It's our way of ensuring social distancing and other health protocols and practices are in place. Please bring and wear a mask and wear it when and where it's requested of you. And remember, some of our proprietors may also ask that you show proof of vaccination.

Bring your shopping list and come to the Sullivan Catskills. We're just 90-minutes from Manhattan. Join us. We're close, clean, confident- and a perfect place for the spirit of giving to others- and yourself.

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## MUS & C ON MARKET

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### MISU Annual Holiday Concert

**Featuring David Fiedler & Anastasia Solberg, violin, and James Fitzwilliam, organ  
Live and on Zoom**

**Thursday, December 16 at 7:30 pm**

MISU Community String Ensemble will present their holiday program featuring works from their classical and pop repertoire, after which our Guest artists will perform the Corelli Christmas concerto as well as Albinoni's Adagio. To reserve your space hover your phone's camera over the QR code. Registration is required for in person and Zoom attendance.



## The Scene Too

### -Jane Harrison

Last Saturday night, I took advantage of the unbelievably warm weather to go out to CABERNET FRANK'S. SLAM ALLEN had been scheduled but had to cancel so THE JOHNNY JULES BAND stepped up for the night.

I haven't seen Johnny since early in the summer, so it just seemed to me that the fates were all in my favor to make this gig, especially with the new mask mandate going into effect on Monday. THE JOHNNY JULES BAND, at its core, consists of JOHNNY on guitar and vocals, DAVE D'ARCY on bass and BOB DELASSANDRO on the Dobro. If you're not familiar with this band (and if you read this column, I don't know how you couldn't be) their music is a most pleasant blend of Blues/Country/Pop/Folk/Old/New that appeals across all ages. There was a table of 30-something women celebrating a birthday who had seen them at THE FAT LADY CAFÉ this summer and had heard they were at CABERNET FRANK'S and decided this is where they too wanted to be. Another young man had been at FROGGY DAZE, one of the festivals they played. Another person

So let me tell you how unusual this is. First, it's not unusual for a musician to show up and sit in with any group. It IS unusual for three to join the core group on a stage...and sound like they have all played together forever! Everyone there got to see the group they love...with a coat of frosting!



*Dave, Mike, Johnny and Paul*



*Johnny, Paul, John and Bob*

I spoke to earlier in the week about live music and groups, had told me how much he had liked this band and when I told him where they were going to be...well he and his spouse showed up too. And it's not just with the audiences that they are extremely popular.

Saturday night, it was the core band plus three because it seems everyone wants to add their instruments to THE JOHNNY JULES BAND. MANGO MIKE saw them at a festival and early in the summer and began sitting in with various instruments. For this gig it was the banjo, adding that edgy staccato to even the Christmas songs without being obtrusive or overpowering. I've seen PAUL STARK with them quite often, again with a variety of instruments. Saturday, it was the mandolin which added a brightness to the high notes. And then there was JOHN CONDON, a retired New York City firefighter, who when they have a gig, will drive in with his full set of drums whenever he can. His drumming corresponds well with DAVE D'ARCY's bass enhancing the anchor of the bass within the group.

Well, here we go again folks. This mask mandate did not have to happen

Positive cases are hovering at an average of 72 per day (roughly 500 positive cases per week) in this little county alone. One may no longer enter a business in the state without a mask and you cannot take that mask off until you leave. The mask MUST cover your NOSE AND MOUTH while you are inside. If you choose not to cover both, you can be asked to leave. Some businesses, bars and restaurants are adopting a 'fully vaccinated only' policy. If you are not fully vaccinated, you will not be allowed to enter AT ALL.

Yes, the yarn has been dusted off and stands at the ready for more Pandemic Socks because it looks like a long winter ahead.

Stay well, stay safe and mask up!  
Until next time.....



*There were so many musicians*



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## News from your Town of Neversink Parks & Rec

(From Pg. 8) One final bit of news this week-if you have been to the Grahamsville Fairgrounds lately you may have noticed some changes. The old Horticulture and Sportsman buildings have been removed and will be replaced with newer buildings (thanks to our Neversink Agricultural Society). If you happen to be strolling by the tennis courts, check it out. A big thank you to our Town Board and our Town Highway Dept. for resurfacing the tennis courts, basketball court and pickle ball courts. They will be in the best shape ever when the new season for these sports start. And you may also notice an area all "cut out" alongside the tennis courts. This is for our new BEACH VOLLEYBALL COURT! Yes, we will be having a beach volleyball court by summer for all to enjoy. 2022 is going to have some fun activities at the Fairgrounds with all these improvements and let's not forget the Horseshoe Courts that were installed this past year!

That's it for this week! Keep reading your Townsman every week for more updates and details on these events and activities that your Parks and Rec team have planned. And as always, any questions reach out to me at [cwparksandrec@gmail.com](mailto:cwparksandrec@gmail.com).

Have safe and happy holidays everyone. Be safe, stay healthy and most of all take the time to enjoy the season! Cher (your Parks & Rec Director)



Creating your own art is a form of meditation and a therapy unique to your own self. ***In the Spirit of Sumi-e***, written and illustrated by Linda G. Comando, is an easily understood explanation including simplified drawings that will lead you on a path of relaxation and will reveal your own potentiality and creativity.

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## Wayne County Community Foundation Announces 2021 Q2 and YAC Grant Recipients

The Wayne County Community Foundation is excited to announce its second quarter grant and Youth Advisory Committee mini-grant recipients. This quarter, the following applicants will be receiving funding -

KidsPeace Honesdale Foster Care & Community Programs will be receiving \$4,000 to fund the production of three short videos to educate and inform the county about foster care and the need for more foster families.

The Cooperage Project will be receiving \$3,000 to help with the purchase of new laptops to streamline their connectivity within the community, particularly with their youth programming.

Greene-Dreher Historical Society, Inc will be awarded \$900 to fund the purchase of a "Do-it-Yourself Zoom Room" containing a camera and sound system, allowing them to more effectively hold remote meetings.

Wallenpaupack Area High School Aviation Club through the Wayne Pike Workforce Alliance will be granted \$9,000 to fund the repair and technical instruction thereof of a donated aircraft, with which students will then be able to pursue flight instruction and flight-related career training.

(Contd. Pg. 13)

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## UC Executive Pat Ryan Has Secured 33,000 Rapid At-Home Tests for UC Residents; Tests Will be Provided at No Cost and Distributed Through Schools, Towns, and Non-Profit Agencies

- *33,000 COVID-19 at-home rapid test kits will be distributed directly to residents throughout the county at no cost to better allow our schools and businesses to remain open safely while increasing equitable access to testing*
- *County Executive Pat Ryan announced that the County is doubling their capacity to assist in contact tracing for Ulster County's schools*
- *Next week County Executive Pat Ryan will announce distribution plans for members of the public interested in receiving a kit*

KINGSTON, N.Y. - County Executive Pat Ryan announced today that Ulster County has secured 33,000 COVID-19 at-home rapid test kits in an effort to allow local schools and businesses to remain open safely while increasing testing capacity and access throughout the county. Ulster County will partner with schools, towns, and nonprofits to assist with distribution. The rapid, at-home tests will be provided at no cost to residents, helping to ensure fair and equitable access to vital testing resources.

“Twenty months into the pandemic, we know how essential it is to have access to rapid testing in order to slow the spread of COVID-19 and keep our schools and businesses open,” Ulster County Executive Pat Ryan said. “By teaming up with our schools, municipalities, and community groups, we can make our community safer and keep our economy running. Testing, mask wearing, and receiving the vaccine are essential to helping us emerge from the pandemic.”

County Executive Pat Ryan said additional details about distribution partners and where residents can get their free kit will be announced next week. Each kit has two quick view tests, which provide results in 15 minutes. The tests are shallow nasal swabs.

Additionally, County Executive Pat Ryan today announced that the County will receive a second school specialist from New York State which will help streamline contact tracing for schools in Ulster County.

On Sunday, Ulster County Commissioner of Public Health Dr. Carol Smith issued a public health advisory strongly recom-

mending that all residents wear masks in public spaces, regardless of vaccination status. Last week, County Executive Pat Ryan declared a State of Emergency due to rising positivity and hospitalization rates in Ulster County, days after New York State announced its first case of the Omicron variant, and as Ulster County's active case count jumped to its highest level since April 2021.

Ulster County will continue to hold regular vaccination PODs for residents who need to receive their 1st dose, 2nd dose, or booster dose. Appointments are recommended for the County's vaccination PODs; although walk-ins will be accommodated as capacity allows. Sign up for an appointment at [VaccinateUlster.com](http://VaccinateUlster.com)

## Wayne County Community Foundation Announces 2021 Q2 and YAC Grant Recipients

(From Pg. 12) WVIA will be granted \$2000 for presenting a special radio broadcast by the Bloomsburg Theater Ensemble of a dramatic reading of the classic Christmas story, *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens.

The mission of the Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) of the Wayne County Community Foundation is to familiarize Wayne County youth with the potential of philanthropic activities by providing the opportunity, through cooperative leadership and to give financial support to projects designed to improve the youth community. The YAC has announced the following student and community grants:

Wallenpaupack Area High School  
 Invasive Species Management Plan - \$500  
 Wallenpaupack Area Junior Babe Ruth Team - \$380  
 Guitar Club - \$280  
 Wallenpaupack Middle School  
 WAMS Hydroponics Project - \$410  
 Honesdale High School  
 Health Occupations Health Fair - \$450  
 Honesdale Girls Wrestling & Lawson's Lifting Chicks  
 After-School Strength & Conditioning - \$956  
 World Language Department After School Programs - \$300  
 Keep on Rocking Club - \$635  
 Western Wayne High School  
 Drones for Physics - \$596  
 Pennsylvania Trout in the Classroom (TIC) - \$650  
 Evergreen Elementary  
 Flexible Seating Makes it Fun - \$334  
 Wayne County Arts Alliance  
 WCAA Main Street Gallery / Schools Collaborative  
 Workshops - \$500

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# A Country Calendar

By Ann Higgins



## 2022

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### Country Calendar Order Form:

Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....

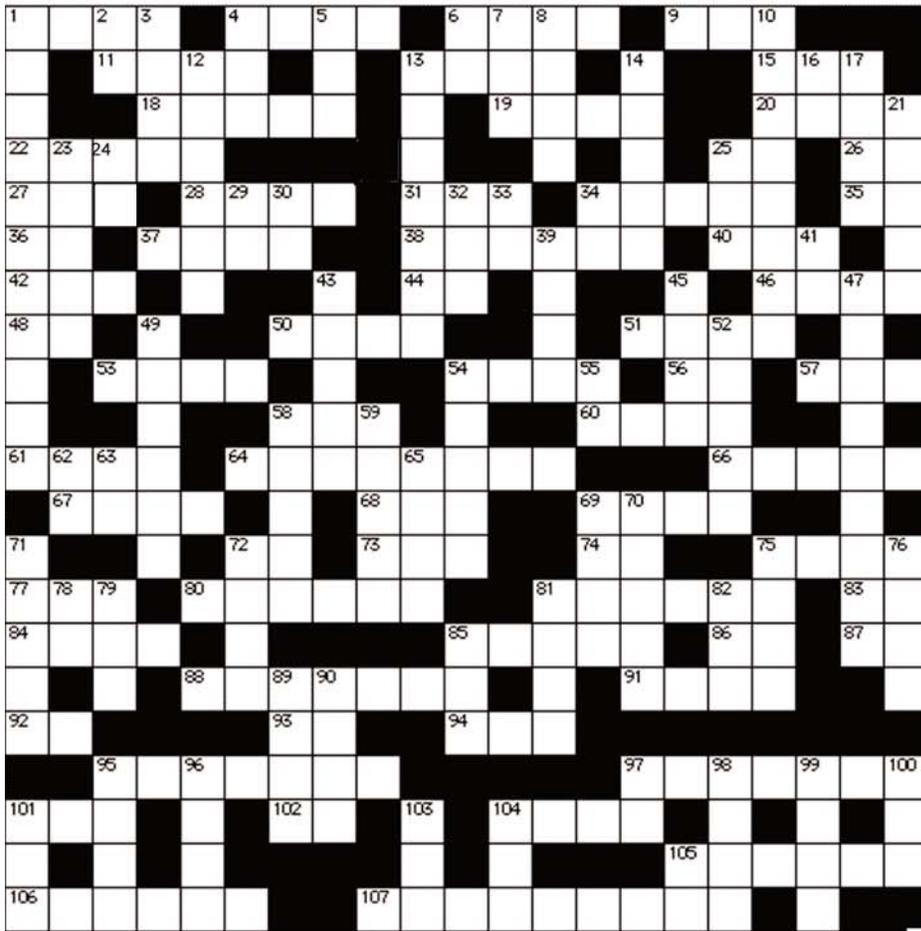
Number of Calendars @ \$6.00 each.....

**Ann Higgins**

**34 Walker Rd.**

**Grahamsville, NY 12740**

It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas -L. Comando



**ACROSS**  
 1 To cry out  
 4 Corona  
 6 To keep out of sight  
 9 Color of our contemporary Santa suit  
 11 Use the teeth to cut into something  
 13 Walking stick  
 15 Gnomish creature  
 18 Type of Christmas pie  
 19 Wine-making valley in California  
 20 Applaud  
 22 Frequently  
 24 Supported by  
 25 Archaic exclamation  
 26 Railroad  
 27 Egyptian sun god  
 28 Frozen water vapor  
 31 Rondout or Neversink  
 34 Excellent  
 35 Missouri  
 36 Author of "The Greatest Miracle in the World"  
 37 Adorn festively  
 38 Decorative illuminations  
 40 Father  
 42 Prisoner of War  
 44 Elevated railway  
 46 Type of book  
 48 High tension  
 50 Therefore  
 51 Not naughty  
 53 In accordance with fact  
 54 Baton  
 56 Los Angeles  
 57 What metal is extracted from  
 58 Make a first time acquaintance  
 60 Friends  
 61 Money-lending  
 64 England's first Christmas trees were centered around this play  
 66 Hacks  
 67 Contest  
 68 Trench  
 69 Distinct periods of history  
 72 Numerical ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter  
 73 The night before Christmas  
 74 Mother  
 75 Ale  
 77 Take action  
 80 Decipher  
 81 Symbolic color of tinkling bells  
 83 Negative response  
 84 Loud ringing of a bell  
 85 Home  
 86 Rhode Island  
 87 Expressing location  
 88 One of Santa's reindeer  
 91 Male parent of an animal  
 92 Pseudo-archaic form of the'

**DOWN**  
 1 Green pigment in pine needles  
 2 Pound  
 3 Citrus fruit  
 4 What one may have received on the third day of Christmas  
 5 Untruth  
 6 Used to express triumph  
 7 Public house  
 8 Bargain  
 10 Make attractive by adding ornaments  
 12 Thin strips of shiny metal foil used for decorating  
 13 Cylinders of wax with a wick  
 14 Roman mythology's guardian of doorways  
 16 Lines (abbrev)  
 17 Area of land where Christmas trees may be one of the crops  
 21 Type of written or spoken language  
 23 Bundle of sticks bound as fuel  
 25 Showed the way  
 29 North Carolina  
 30 Satisfactory, but not exceptional

32 Trouble  
 33 Morrison's Garage  
 34 Saint  
 39 German chemist and co-founder of nuclear fission  
 41 Perform  
 43 Shout of joy  
 45 To make full  
 47 Gaiety and fun  
 49 Part of a tree  
 52 Assigns a part in a play  
 54 Color of Snow  
 55 Displaced Person  
 58 Sorcery  
 59 Recorded  
 62 Used to link alternatives  
 63 Alcoholics Anonymous  
 65 Plummet  
 69 Amongst  
 70 Heavy winds  
 71 Joyous  
 72 The tree where the partridge was  
 75 Soft, mild creamy cheese  
 76 Tuber  
 78 Common Era  
 79 Spout  
 81 One and only King  
 82 Make a mistake  
 85 Expression of human creativity  
 89 At a distance  
 90 Annoy with persistent fault-finding  
 95 Close fitting waist-length garment worn by elves and gnomes  
 96 Shakespeare's legendary  
 97 Masculine pronoun  
 98 Large tawny cat  
 99 Having drawn  
 100 Affirmative  
 101 Possessive adjective  
 103 Revolutions of an engine per minute  
 104 Evergreen coniferous trees  
 105 General Electric

**Swedish Pepparkakor Cookies**

*Paper-thin and spicy, these cookies are a beloved Swedish Christmas tradition.*

- 8 ounces butter
- 1 1/2 cups white sugar
- 1 tablespoon light corn syrup
- 1 egg
- 3 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 2 teaspoons ground ginger
- 2 teaspoons ground cloves
- 1/4 cup orange juice
- 2 teaspoons orange zest

Preheat oven to 400 degrees F.  
 In a large bowl, cream the butter and sugar. Stir in egg, corn syrup, orange juice, and orange zest. Sift together the flour, baking soda, cinnamon, ginger, and cloves; stir into the creamed mixture until combined.

Roll dough out to 1/8 inch thickness, and cut into shapes with cookie cutters. Bake for 8 to 10 minutes in the preheated oven.

Cool cookies on wire racks

数字は単数に限る

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# Kids' Holiday Fun Page

- L. Comando

## Cryptogram

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
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12 15    14 11 2 1 16 15 20 12 16    12 21 21  
 2 23 12 18 16    21 10 12 18    11 23 20 10

## Christmas Tree Wordsearch



Can you help Santa find the right path through the tree farm to his house?

Follow the dots to see another pretty Christmas Tree



What are five differences between the two pictures?



## Cryptogram Key

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

# NEW HERITAGE BAKING BOOK

## JUST IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

The new 68-page

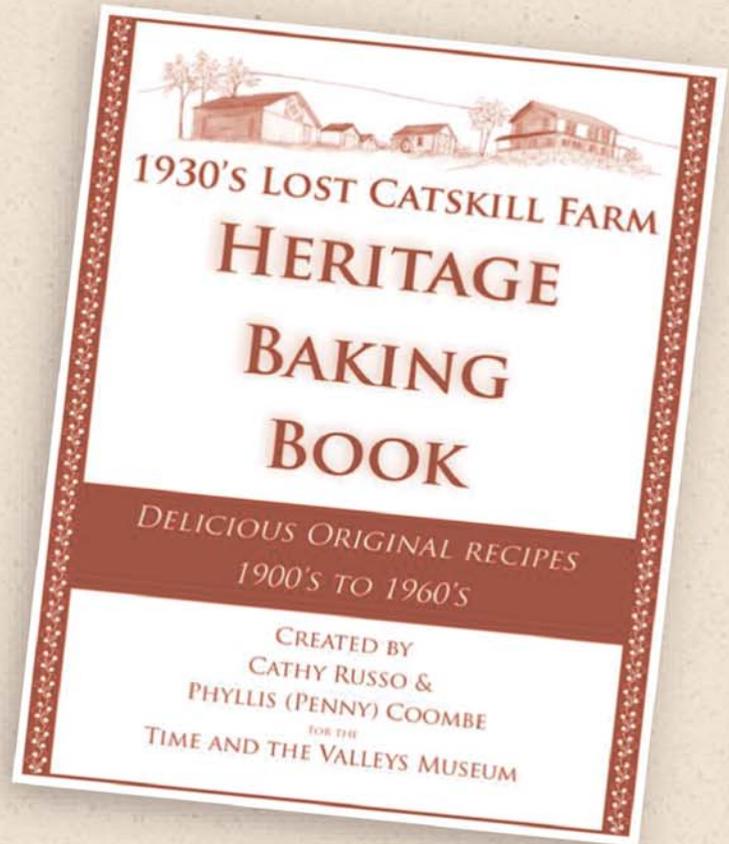
### Heritage Baking Book

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

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

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Total enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ \*\*Books can also be picked up by appointment to eliminate shipping - Just call 845 985 7700 or email [info@timeandthevalleymuseum.org](mailto:info@timeandthevalleymuseum.org)

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**LEGALS/PUBLIC NOTICES****NOTICE OF  
PERMISSIVE REFERENDUM**

NOTICE IS HEARBY GIVEN that the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Neversink Fire District in the Town of Neversink, Sullivan County, New York, at a meeting held on the 18th day of November 2021, duly adopted the following Resolution, subject to a permissive referendum.

**RESOLUTION #1**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS OF THE NEVERSINK FIRE DISTRICT, TOWN OF NEVERSINK, SULLIVAN COUNTY, NEW YORK, TO UTILIZE SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND (\$75,000.00) DOLLARS FROM THE CAPITAL RESERVE FUND TO PAY FOR MISECELLANEOUS ROOF REPAIRS FOR THE FIRE HOUSE

This resolution is adopted subject to a permissive referendum.

By Order of the  
Neversink Fire District  
Board of Commissioners  
Tawny Shamro, Secretary  
Dated: November 18, 2021

12/9 &amp; 12/16/2021

**LEGAL NOTICE****REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR  
THE NEVERSINK FIRE DISTRICT**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Neversink Fire District is requesting proposals from qualified independent certified public accountants or independent public accountants to audit its financial statements for the fiscal years ending December 31, 2021, 2021, 2023, 2024, and 2025 in accordance with Neversink Fire District Request for Proposal for Professional Auditing Services, which can be obtained from the Secretary of the Neversink Fire District by contacting Eileen Delaney, Treasurer via email at [nfdtreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:nfdtreasurer@gmail.com) or to Howard Petro Chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners at 845-720-2458.

There is no express or implied obligation for the District to reimburse responding firms for any expenses incurred in preparing proposals in response to this Request. Any inquires concerning this RFP must be in writing and should be addressed to Howard Petro, Chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners at P. O. Box 394, Neversink, New York 12765. Inquiries

must be postmarked by December 31, 2021. District responses to all inquiries will be distributed to each potential proposer.

The District reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted.

By Order of the  
Neversink Fire District  
Board of Commissioners  
Tawny Shamro, Secretary

Dated: December 16, 2021

12/16

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

DUE TO THERE BEING NO BUSINESS, THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN OF NEVERSINK ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS, SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 21, 2021 HAS BEEN CANCELLED

BY ORDER OF THE ZONING BOARD  
OF APPEALS  
TOWN OF NEVERSINK  
MICHAEL DEAN, CHAIRMAN

**NOTICE**

Be advised that Tri-Valley Central School will have the BOCES Fire Inspector perform our Annual Fire & Safety Inspection on Tuesday, January 11, 2022

JB/am

12/16

**TOWN OF NEVERSINK  
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY****Clerk to Planning and Zoning Boards**

The Town of Neversink is accepting applications for the position of Clerk to the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals. The position is a paid part-time position.

The candidate would be required to attend and take minutes at the Planning and Zoning Board meetings which are held one evening a month. In addition to attendance at meetings, the candidate is required to perform regular clerical duties on an as needed agreed upon basis.

Applications must be received by Thursday, December 23, 2021 and are available at the Town of Neversink Town Hall or on the Town of Neversink Website, [www.townofneversink.org](http://www.townofneversink.org) under documents.

Please send applications to: Chris Mathews, Supervisor, Town of Neversink, PO Box 307, Grahamsville, NY 12740, or drop it off at the Town Hall.

12/16

**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 4th day of January, 2022 at 6:30 PM on that day at the Warren Cole Claryville Fire Department Community Hall.

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

Anne-Marie Kramer  
Secretary

Claryville Fire District

12/16

**Tri-Valley CSD  
Board Meeting**

Regular Meeting #12 -  
Thursday,

**December 16, 2021**

Call to Order - 6:00 p.m. -  
Secondary School Library  
Lower Level

Anticipated Proposed  
Executive Session - 6:00 p.m.  
Secondary School Library  
Upper Level

Regular Meeting resumes -  
approximately 7:00 p.m. -  
Secondary School Library  
Lower Level

Regular Meeting #13 -  
**Thursday, January 6, 2022**  
Call to Order - 6:00 p.m. -  
Secondary School Library  
Lower Level

All Board Meetings will be broadcast on our YouTube Live Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkI224vKQ8nAWhR6NVa024w/live>

**Fallsburg CSD  
Board of Education  
December  
Meeting  
December 15, 2021**

## The New York State Department of Transportation announces capital improvement in the Town of Neversink Anticipated to Begin the Summer of 2023

The New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) announces a capital improvement project that proposes to replace an existing culvert in the Town of Neversink, Sullivan County, NY. The culverts will be replaced with new structures that meet current design standards. Minor landscaping will be completed. Guide rail and traffic signs will be replaced within the immediate vicinity of culvert sites.

It is anticipated that this project may begin as early as the summer of 2023, however this project is subject to change depending on project details and as overall capital program resources dictate.

This project will result in the closure of State Route 55 between Shields Road and Myers Road in Neversink, NY. Traffic will be managed using an off-site detour. Motorists will be diverted to State Route 42 in the Town of Neversink (Hamlet of Grahamsville) and State Route 52 in the Town and Village of Liberty. The detour will add approximately 4.5 miles or an additional 7 minutes to travel time. NYSDOT has discussed the project with local officials. Signage and traffic calming measures will be further evaluated during final design. NYSDOT anticipates including notes in the construction

Construction and work zone schedules may vary. NYSDOT will coordinate with the contractor to discuss scheduling and opportunities to mitigate impacts at the site. Weekend and nighttime operations may be used to accelerate construction.

The Department welcomes your feedback to consider in the project's development. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Project Manager, William Bagley, P.E. by email at [William.Bagley@dot.ny.gov](mailto:William.Bagley@dot.ny.gov); by phone at 607-721-8204; or by mail at NYSDOT Region 9 Design Unit, 44 Hawley Street, Binghamton, NY 13901.

## Where Should Move Sullivan Go Next?

### Survey Asks Public to Weigh in on Expansion of Bus Service

Monticello, NY - Due to increasing interest in the Move Sullivan public transportation service, Sullivan County leaders are planning to add stops and/or hours.

"The Tentative 2022 County Budget includes an additional \$200,000 for an expansion of hours and/or routes," noted Sullivan County Manager Josh Potosek. "We want to prioritize that expansion where there's the greatest demand."

"So we've created a survey to gauge the thoughts and feelings of both riders and riders-to-be," added Community Resources Commissioner Laura Quigley, who oversees the popular bus service. "We did a similar survey two years ago that helped us determine where best to expand this service, and I hope many people share their thoughts with us again."

The eight-question survey can be completed anonymously at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/Z8TTR3Z](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Z8TTR3Z). Answers will solely be used to determine the future growth of Move Sullivan. Those who do and do not ride the bus service are welcome to respond

MOVE SULLIVAN WANTS TO KNOW...

**WHERE CAN WE TAKE YOU?**

Tell us in our new survey, because we're getting ready to EXPAND!

**MOVE** 

**SULLIVAN**

Connecting Our Communities

[WWW.SURVEYMONKEY.COM/R/Z8TTR3Z](http://WWW.SURVEYMONKEY.COM/R/Z8TTR3Z)

Trouble filling out the survey?  
Don't have computer or Internet access?  
Call our Community Assistance Center  
at 845-807-0925. We'll fill it in for you!

# UC Executive Pat Ryan Signs 2022 Budget

## For the third year in a row, the 2022 Budget includes a 0% tax increase and zero layoffs

- *The 2022 Budget includes investments in mental health services, dedicating resources to build a more equitable economy, and addressing the urgent need for housing as Ulster County builds for future generations*
- *The 2022 Budget includes transformational re-investments in mental health and addiction recovery systems and resources, including the re-establishment of an Ulster County Department of Mental Health and a state-of-the-art Mental Health and Addiction Recovery Center to deliver integrated services for inpatient, outpatient, and crisis intervention*

KINGSTON, N.Y. - County Executive Pat Ryan signed the 2022 Budget today, which again held the line on taxes while re-investing in mental health and addiction recovery systems and resources, including the re-establishment of an Ulster County Department of Mental Health and a state-of-the-art Mental Health and Addiction Recovery Center to deliver integrated services for inpatient, outpatient, and crisis intervention. At approximately \$353 million, for the third year in a row the 2022 budget includes a 0% increase in the tax levy and no layoffs to county employees. The budget includes transformational re-investments in mental health services, dedicating resources to build a more equitable economy, and addressing the urgent need for housing as Ulster County builds for future generations.

"I am proud to have delivered a county budget that for the third year in a row holds the line on taxes, bolsters mental health services, addresses the housing crisis, and provides direct financial support to our small businesses," said Ulster County Executive Pat Ryan. "I want to thank the Legislature for their partnership and leadership. I look forward to continuing to work together to deliver for the residents of Ulster County."

"This year's budget was a major step forward for Ulster County. This smart plan brings together our shared priorities and delivers for all residents," said Majority Leader Jonathan Heppner. "It would not have been possible without working together, and I want to especially thank the Members of the Democratic Majority for advocating tirelessly on behalf of their constituents and Executive Ryan for both his leadership and partnership. I look forward to delivering more results ahead."

"This budget bolsters much needed programs and delivers new initiatives to benefit the people of Ulster County," said Majority Whip Abe Uchitelle. "This could not have been possible without a strong partnership between the executive and legislative branches, a partnership I hope will only grow in the critical years ahead."

"We continue to face challenges as a county due to COVID-19 and its far reaching impacts. Our 2022 county budget holds the line on taxes while addressing an increased need for services," said Legislator Tracey Bartels. "I look forward to implementing our critical investments in mental health services and infrastructure as well as working with my colleagues in the Legislature and the County Executive to further define the programming of federal American Rescue Plan Act funds that will have a direct impact on the lives of Ulster County residents. Together, I am confident that we will deliver."

"I am pleased that Ulster County's budget is fiscally respon-

sible and fair," said Legislator Heidi Haynes. "It puts us back on track after a challenging year and will continue to move the county forward while investing in programs and services that our residents depend on."

Despite another year of the pandemic, the County was able to hold the line on taxes due to strong fiscal management in response to the crisis. Once again, Ulster County received a strong credit rating of AA in the most recent ratings by S&P Global, issued in August. Ulster County is tied for third among New York State's 62 Counties for Fiscal Stability, according to the New York State Comptroller's Office (OSC). The 2022 Budget again maintains a strong fund balance to ensure the county maintains financial flexibility going forward.

### 2022 Budget Initiatives

#### Grow and Diversify our Economy for All: Ulster County Center for Economic Innovation

To continue to accelerate the Ulster 2040 strategy - supporting both existing and new businesses - the Ulster County Executive Budget invests \$2,000,000 to build and launch the Ulster County Center for Economic Innovation at the former IBM site in the Town of Ulster. This new hub will bring together key economic development agencies and partners from education and workforce development sectors, the County team, along with anchor tenants from a number of key economic cluster areas.

#### Grow and Diversify our Economy for All: Direct Aid to Business

Over the next two years, the Ulster County Executive Budget dedicates \$2,000,000 to small businesses in Ulster County. With a focus on Minority- & Women-Owned Businesses and Veteran-Owned Businesses, these funds will be critical to businesses for the purchase of new equipment, assistance with rent and even to make payroll costs.

#### American Rescue Plan: Housing Smart Communities

The Ulster County Executive Budget directs an additional \$1.5 million to the County-led Housing Development Corporation to accelerate the demolition of the old Ulster County Jail and support the construction of 160+ units of much-needed senior and workforce housing. The budget also proposes an investment of an additional \$2 million over the next two years to work with town, city, and village leaders across the County - along with trusted development partners - to accelerate the siting and construction of more housing for seniors, frontline workers, veterans, and more. Additionally, in this year's budget, for the first time, the County will hire a full-time planner dedicated to housing issues and focused on implementing the Ulster County Housing Action Plan.

#### Infrastructure: Trails and Recreation

The Ulster County Executive Budget proposes to dedicate \$1.9 million dollars to substantially improve two of the major recreational rail trails in Ulster County and complete ongoing work that has spanned over a decade. Major improvements will be made to the 27-mile-long O&W Rail Trail, which runs from Kingston south to the Village of Ellenville, and to the 22-mile-long Wallkill Valley Rail Trail, which runs from Kingston to the southern border of the Town of Gardiner. An additional \$200,000 will be made available to municipalities in Ulster County to expand other recreation facilities for residents.

#### Make County Government More Responsive and Responsible: Government Operations Center

The Ulster County Executive Budget proposes to construct a state-of-the-art emergency management and government operations facility that centralizes critical functions from across County government in a hardened and energy self-sufficient structure. An expanded 911 Center will better serve residents during emergencies. (Contd. Pg. 44)

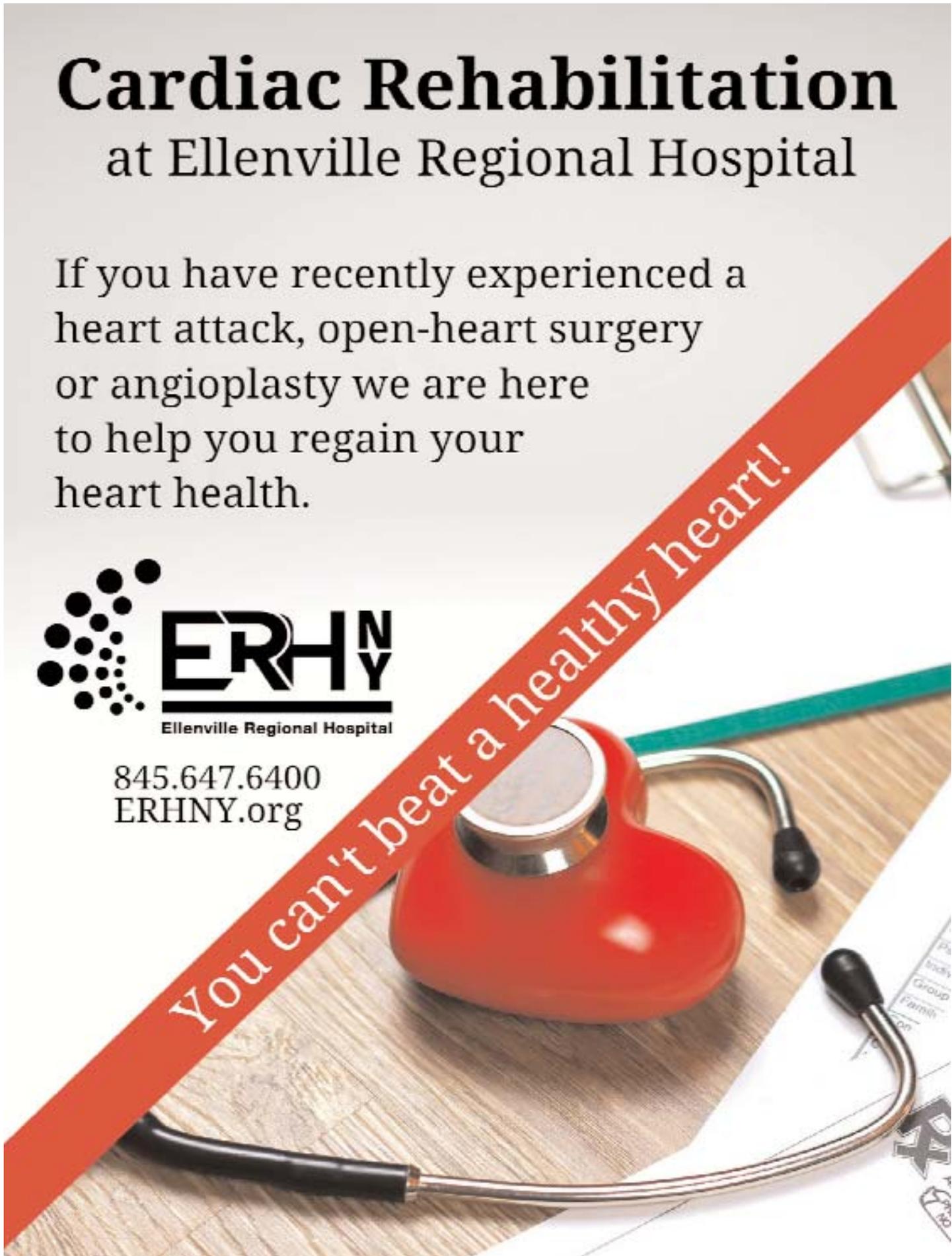
# Cardiac Rehabilitation at Ellenville Regional Hospital

If you have recently experienced a heart attack, open-heart surgery or angioplasty we are here to help you regain your heart health.



845.647.6400  
ERHNY.org

You can't beat a healthy heart!



**ST. MARK'S UMC**  
Napanoch  
**INDOOR YARD, CLOTHING AND HOLIDAY SALE**  
Special Holiday Openings

Fri & Sat 12/17-12/18  
10 am-3 pm  
Closed 12/24 & 12/31  
Reg. Friday hrs resume 1/7/22  
"Something for Everyone"



## COLONIAL FAMILY of FUNERAL HOMES

**PRE-PLANNING, FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICES**  
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MONUMENTS INSTALLED IN ALL CEMETERIES  
CREMATION MEMORIALS & BENCHES, MONUMENT LETTERING & CLEANING

**Sundown United Methodist Church**

**Sundown Ladies**

*See you next year!*

*Sundown United Methodist Church Hall*



**ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL MISSION**  
The Little Church with the Big Heart  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**  
**Sunday, 8:00am Service of Holy Communion**  
**Music by Fred VanWagner**

5277 State Rt. 42 • South Fallsburg  
845-436-7539

For information contact:  
**The Reverend Diana Southwick Scheide**  
Canon Missioner of the Delaware Catskill Episcopal Ministry  
PO Box 296 Callicoon, NY  
vicardcem@gmail.com  
845-887-3201 • 717-870-7874 cell

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

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

**Daily Mass Schedule:** Monday morning 8:50 am; Tuesday morning 8:50 am; Wednesday morning No Mass; Thursday afternoon 3:00 pm; Friday morning 8:50 am and Saturday morning 8:50 am.

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

**Grahamsville United Methodist Church**

**Thrift Sales will reopen in the Spring**

**See you then**



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

Join Zoom Meeting - Worship Service & Tuesday Evening Bible Study Zoom Link  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2029912673?pwd=R2lJYUhyTVdsQWdMUXZvTEtCeGdLZz09>  
Meeting ID: 202 991 2673 Passcode: 012740  
Dial by your location  
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)  
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

**The Bible Study continues every Tuesday at 7 pm.**  
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"**

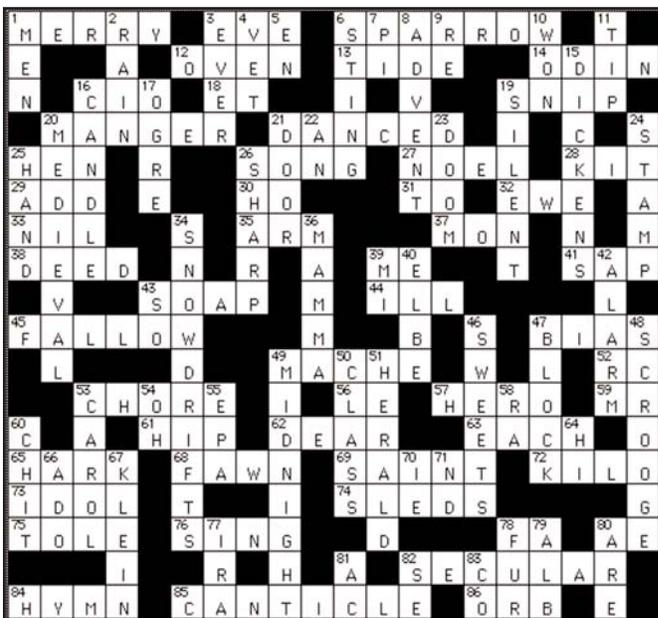
79 North Main Street  
Ellenville, New York  
(845) 647-4343

**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



# 2021 Town of Neversink Holiday Hours

The Town of Neversink will observe the following Holiday Hours: Christmas - close at noon on 12/23 and all day on 12/24. New Years - close at noon on 12/30 and all day on 12/31.

The Transfer Station will be CLOSED on Christmas Day - Saturday 12/25. It will be OPEN on Monday 12/27 from 11 am to 7 pm. Wednesday's 12/29 hours will remain as usual.

The Transfer Station will be CLOSED on New Year's Day - Saturday 01/01/2022. No additional hours will be added.

Please plan your Transfer Station and Town Hall business accordingly. The Town of Neversink wishes you a very Joyous Holiday Season and a Healthy and Happy New Year.

## Grahamsville United Methodist Church

The GUMC held their final 2021 Thrift Sale on November 6th. Even when we are closed we want the community to know that, by appointment, our Thrift items are always available to anyone in case of an emergency by calling 845-985-2283. Because of storage space we are **NOT ABLE** to receive items again until next spring. Please help us by storing your treasures at your house until then.

Thanks to everyone who has helped our church keep this Mission open throughout the uncertain 2021 season.

Community Coat Drive for Homeless Veterans

## ATI Winter Coat Drive

Drop off your new or gently used clean coats, scarves and gloves at Action Toward Independence, 309 E. Broadway in Monticello anytime between December 10 and December 17 (Monday - Friday, please) between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. For more information, call Ryan or Kevin at Action Toward Independence, 794-4228.

SUUJI WA TANSU NI KAGIRU answer

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

## PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

(Never known to fail)

Oh most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my Mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in this necessity. (Make request)

There are none that can withstand your power. Oh show me herein you are my Mother. Oh Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. (3x).

Holy Mary I place this cause in your hands. (3x).

Say this prayer for 3 consecutive days. You must publish it, and it will be granted to you.

LLCMC

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 Call us at 845-985-0501  
 email: [tvtownsman@yahoo.com](mailto:tvtownsman@yahoo.com)  
 or visit our Virtual Mail  
<http://gnomehomeinc.com>

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

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

**LOCAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

- 12/14//21 Town of Denning Town Board & Business meeting at Denning Town Hall 6:00 pm  
 12/16/21 Town of Denning Planning Board Meeting 6 pm  
 12/21/21 Town of Neversink Zoning Board of Appeals 7:30 pm- – **CANCELLED**  
 12/23/21 Town of Neversink Holiday - 1/2 Day - CHRISTMAS  
 12/24/21 Town of Neversink Holiday - CHRISTMAS



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

Please remember to send us your **Events Calendar for 2021** so that we may continue to post your meetings and events thru out the coming year. You may email them to: [tvtownsmen@yahoo.com](mailto:tvtownsmen@yahoo.com) or USPS Mail - The Townsman, PO Box 232, Grahamsville, NY 12740 or Drop them in the Drop Box at the Grahamsville 1st Aid Building

#### **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.

**During these uncertain times - PLEASE CONTACT A MEMBER OF EACH ORGANIZATION** for updates & changes

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

## Ulster County Legislature Weekly Update

### December 13 - December 17, 2021

#### **Monday, December 13**

- o 12:00 PM - Ulster County Industrial Development Agency Audit Committee, Powered by Zoom Meetings. Meeting ID: 816 4111 9687, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656
- o 1:00 PM (or immediately following the UC IDA Audit Comm.) Ulster County Capital Resources Corporation Audit Committee, Powered by Zoom Meeting. Meeting ID: 816 4111 9687, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656
- o 1:30 PM (or immediately following the UC CRC Audit Comm.) - Ulster County Industrial Development Agency Governance Committee, Powered by Zoom Meetings. Meeting ID: 816 4111 9687, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656
- o 2:30 PM (or immediately following the UC IDA Governance Comm.) Ulster County Capital Resources Corporation Governance Committee, Powered by Zoom Meeting. Meeting ID: 816 4111 9687, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656
- o 5:00 PM - Ulster County Community Services Board, Powered by Zoom Meetings. Meeting ID: 936 9554 3061, Passcode: 948888, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656
- o 6:30 PM - Ulster County Board of Health, Powered by Zoom Meetings. Meeting ID: 849 0261 0293, Passcode: 153744, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656

#### **Tuesday, December 14**

- o 2:00 PM - Recycling Oversight Committee, Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 833 7454 8189, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656
- o 4:30 PM - Ulster County Economic Development Alliance Board Meeting, Administered by Microsoft Teams, Click [HERE](#) to join the meeting. By Phone Dial (845) 768-3864, Phone Conference ID: 487 082 409#

#### **Wednesday, December 15**

- o 8:00 AM - Ulster County Soil & Water Conservation District Board, at 271 Main Street, New Platz, NY 12561
- o 9:00 AM - Ulster County Industrial Development Agency, Powered by Zoom Meetings. Meeting ID: 816 4111 9687, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656
- o 10:00 AM (or immediately following the UC IDA) Ulster County Capital Resources Corporation, Powered by Zoom Meeting. Meeting ID: 816 4111 9687, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656

#### **Thursday, December 16**

- o 5:30 PM - Youth Board, Powered by Zoom Meeting. Meeting ID: 997 2737 2088, Passcode: 178045, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656

#### **Friday, December 17**

- o No Meetings

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

Classified ads - \$6.00  
for the first 20 words/  
20 cents each additional word

1" Boxed ad (1" x 3")  
- \$7.50 per week

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

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

(3" x 6") - \$45.00

(4" x 6") - \$60.00

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

(6" x 8") - \$120.00

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

Full Page - 8" x10" - \$160

**Low Rates -  
High Visibility!**

## Winter Wish List Drive

UlsterCorps will be compiling a list of Holiday Wish List items requested by local service agencies. Items listed below should be dropped off with the specific agency that requested them. For more information or to add your agency to the list, please contact UlsterCorps at 481-0331 or email [info@ulster-corps.org](mailto:info@ulster-corps.org).

### **Holiday Gift Drive For The Washbourne House & Family Domestic Violence Services—A Program of Family of Woodstock Inc.**

Calling all Elves! It's time for our 2021 Holiday Gift Drive. It is a large undertaking & our small staff could use some help! If you're a local business looking to have a donation box at your location, or would like to donate new gift items, gift wrap supplies, or perhaps volunteer to help with gift & food distribution please message us here or email [kmontalbo@familyof-woodstockinc.org](mailto:kmontalbo@familyof-woodstockinc.org)

#### **This is the wish list for our Holiday gift-drive!**

We are now accepting donations at the following businesses listed below! Donations of any kind are accepted, but we are encouraging gift cards as it keeps everyone safest during this time.

If you could like to drop off at Family of Woodstock: 39 John St Kingston, NY, please call ahead to schedule a drop-off time. Please call our main line at (845) 331-7080 and ask for DV services.

Donations of unwrapped gifts for the many families served through Family of Woodstock's walk-in centers and shelters are also welcome and can be dropped off at any of Family's Walk in Centers:

FAMILY of Ellenville - 221 Canal Street, Ellenville - 647-2443

FAMILY of New Paltz - 51 North Chestnut Street, New Paltz - 255-8801

FAMILY of Woodstock - 16 Rock City Road, Woodstock - 679-2485

## Time is Running out...



If you have ever considered adopting a dog, have you thought about the perks of adopting an older dog? Older dogs are already housebroken, don't chew up your furniture or slippers like a puppy and you will have a good clue as to what their personality is. Life is tough for all of us when you get older.

This senior Lab/Shepherd mix is presently calling the local dog pound home. It wasn't so bad when it was sunny and warm. Now, the nights are longer and it is starting to get chilly out. The nights at the dog pound are lonely and cold for this female dog who is the only guest at the pound.

While the radio that the Dog Control Officer plays, does break the silence of the long cold nights, this poor lonely pooch is just waiting to lay by someone's feet, for a pat on the head, and to become someone's faithful companion.

Think about it. And... if you are not able to have a dog at this time, maybe you know someone who is.

If you want to make this senior female dog happy and warm for the holidays, why not call the Town of Neversink DCO at 845-985-7281 today and arrange to adopt her. It certainly would become a happy story for the Holidays 2021.

**See page 49 for further information.**

### **People's Place Project Santa**

Every December, we gift local Ulster County children between the ages of newborn - 14 years old with a package containing toys, board games, books, stocking stuffers, and winter weather clothing. People's Place 773 Broadway, Kingston 338-4030

### **Toys for Tots**

It might seem like just another toy, to you. But for a child in need, a brand-new toy can deliver a message of hope that will assist them in becoming responsible, productive, and patriotic citizens. The mission of the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program is to collect new, unwrapped toys during November and December each year, and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to needy children in the community in which the campaign is conducted. (Contd. Pg. 30)



Coat

WINTER

D R  O V E

COATS • SCARVES • GLOVES

*Accepting New or Gently Used for Homeless Veterans*

DECEMBER 10-17 2021  
BETWEEN HOURS 9AM-5PM

*Drop-Off Location:*

VET2VET ATI (RYAN OR KEVIN)  
309 E BROADWAY, MONTICELLO, NY 12701  
CONTACT INFO: SHARON TONEY-FINCH 845-701-9429  
RYAN OR KEVIN 845-794-4228



# Gotsch

## Christmas Tree Farm

Blue and White Spruce

Cut-Your-Own Tree: \$30 any tree

Fresh Pre-Cut Tree: \$35 any tree

**Open:** 9:00 am to 4:30 pm (Weekends Listed Below)

November 26, 27, & 28

December 4 & 5

December 11 & 12

December 18 & 19

Closed Christmas Eve

Weekdays by Appointment Only

**86 Knight Road, Grahamsville, NY 12740**

**Phone: 845-985-7902**

Daniel Pierce Library Patron

# WINTER READING "AlphaBOOKbet" CHALLENGE

December 1st - March 1st

Read (or listen) to a book--26 actually--with titles that start with every letter of the alphabet. Fill in the reading log provided after each book, return the completed log to the library by March 1st, and receive a book to keep!

Visit the library to pickup a reading log  
or go to our website to print it.

<https://danielpiercelibrary.org>



WIN PRIZE BOOKS | ALL AGES WELCOME TO READ

## Public Comment Deadline January 7, 2022 - Policies on Climate Change and DEC Action

DEC's Office of Climate Change, in partnership with its Office of General Counsel, Division of Permits, and Division of Air Resources (DAR), has made draft revisions to the existing Commissioner's Policy on Climate Change and DEC Action (CP-49) to provide guidance regarding complying with the specific requirements of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act of 2019 ("CLCPA") and the Community Risk and Resilience Act of 2014 ("CRRA") as amended by the CLCPA. Most notably, the draft revised guidance sets forth Department Policy for compliance with Section 7(2) of the CLCPA. Additionally, DEC is proposing to adopt a companion program policy, Division of Air Resources Policy, DAR-21 - The Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act and Air Permit Applications.

The CLCPA includes economy-wide requirements to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in New York State by 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030, and 85 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. It requires DEC to specify economy-wide emissions limits that correspond to those reduction requirements, which have been promulgated under 6 NYCRR Part 496.

Section 7(2) of CLCPA requires all state agencies to consider whether agency administrative decisions are inconsistent with, or will interfere with, the attainment of the statewide GHG emission limits. Further, if deemed inconsistent, the state agency must provide a detailed justification and identify alternatives or GHG mitigation measures to be imposed. For purposes of the CLCPA, statewide GHG emissions include upstream out-of-state GHG emissions associated with the generation of electricity imported into the State, or the extraction, transmission, and use of fossil fuels imported into the State.

The revised CP-49 lays out the roadmap for staff and the public on how DEC will implement Section 7(2). You can find the full text and pdf printable version of this policy on DEC's website.

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

Located on the Corner of Hill Top Rd  
and Route 55 Grahamsville, NY



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

**Please call for availability first**

Submit written comments by mail or email by 5 p.m. January 7, 2022. Include "Comments on CP-49" in the subject line. Contact: Maureen Leddy, NYSDEC Office of Climate Change, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-1050, (518) 402-8448, climate.regs@dec.ny.gov.

The new policy DAR-21 establishes the types of air pollution control permit actions required to prepare an analysis as part of the permit application process and describes the content of analyses required by the DAR pursuant to the requirements of Section 7(2). It further describes the procedures staff in DAR will follow when reviewing those analyses for conformance with the requirements of the CLCPA. You can find the full text and pdf printable version of the DAR-21 on DEC's website.

Submit written comments by mail or email by 5 p.m. January 7, 2022. Include "Comments on DAR-21" in the subject line. Contact: Mark Lanzafame, NYSDEC Division of Air Resources, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-3254, (518) 402-8403, air.regs@dec.ny.gov.

**Monti Elks Bingo**  
**7:00 -pm Every Tuesday**  
**at the Lodge • 46 North Street • Monticello**

**Full payout and a progressive jackpot with weekly door prizes**  
**• Food is also available in the Bingo kitchen**

*The Lodge supports local veterans, scouts, Little League and the Homeless Federation, as well as providing coats and gloves to elementary school children.*

For information Contact Bingo Chair  
and Past Exalted Ruler Lisa Muller at: 914-799-1831

## Winter Wish List Drive

(From Pg. 25)

### New Beginnings Church of the Hudson Valley

69 Center Street Ellenville NY

Holiday Toy Giveaway- we are excepting donations of toys ,games,and stocking stuffers for children of any age.

**Annual Coat Drive-** we are excepting coats, gloves, hats and blankets of all sizes.

Thank you, any help would be appreciated..

Please call ahead of time to schedule a drop off time.

845-420-5340 845-428-3616

### Ulster County Community Action

Sign ups closed December 1st. Documentation at time of sign-up: Last 4 weeks income, ID for ALL household members, Birth Certificates for children Birth - 12 years.

Ulster County Community Action - 70 Lindsley Ave - Kingston, NY 12401

(845)338-8750 Ext 105

<https://uccac.org/>

### UCSPCA Wish List

#### Cats

Wet/dry cat food (Friskies, 9 Lives, PurinaOne)

Wet kitten food (Fancy Feast)

6 1/2 paper plates

Cat litter

Individual cardboard cat scratchers

#### Dogs

Dry dog food (Pedigree, Iams, Blue Buffalo)

Soft training treats

Nylabones

Lavender essential oil

General

Laundry detergent

Bleach

Latex free gloves (all sizes)

20 Wiedy Road, Kingston, NY 12401 845-331-5377

<http://www.ucspca.org>

## Handle with Care First Review

The first review for HANDLE WITH CARE has been published, just in time to share it with you while we still have TWO weekends left for you to come see the show! We couldn't be more proud of this charming, heartfelt holiday romance! Read on!

"It's a play about friendship. . .

And family relationships. . .

There's a mystery to solve. . .

Holidays to celebrate. . .

And toward the end, there's even. . . well you'll have to go see it to find out what else happens. "

"HANDLE WITH CARE is a unique and quirky story that will leave you with a warm and cozy holiday feeling.

And couldn't we all use a dose of that right about now?"

- *Sullivan County Democrat*

<https://shadowlandstages.us1.l1st-manage.com/track/click?u=e8d346ddc79d43e705ba8113a&id>

## Two Grahamsville Men Arrested

KIAMESHA LAKE - The Sullivan County Sheriff's Office has arrested two men in connection with an armed home invasion robbery.

On Monday November 29, 2021 at approximately 9:20 AM,



*Clifford D. Gildersleeve*

Sullivan County 911 received a report of an assault that had just occurred on the grounds of the Hebrew Day School in Lake Kiamesha. Units from the Sheriff's Office, Fallsburg and Monticello Police Departments converged on the scene where they learned that when the school's caretaker returned to his residence, he was attacked by a subject who came out of his bedroom wearing a ski mask and armed with a pistol.

The suspect struck the victim in the head and fled with several thousand dollars in cash. The suspect was chased on foot, down Gibbers Road, by one of the school administrators who got a partial license plate and description of a getaway vehicle. Deputies conducted a search of the area and learned that the getaway vehicle struck a tree stump while fleeing the scene on a back road. Using a special computer search, deputies matched up the car parts left at the scene with the partial license plate reported by the witness.



*Robert A. Guadagno*

The investigation led them to a trailer park on Route 55 in Grahamsville. Over the next week, Sheriff's Detectives cast a wide net, conducting numerous interviews, reviewing local video surveillance and executing several search warrants. On Monday December 6, 2021 Sheriff's Deputies arrested Clifford D. Gildersleeve, 58, of Grahamsville. He was charged with the felonies of Burglary 1st degree, Robbery 2nd degree, Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2nd degree, Grand Larceny 3rd Degree and the misdemeanor of Menacing 2nd degree. Gildersleeve was arraigned before Town of Thompson Judge Sharon Jankiewicz and sent to the Sullivan County Jail without bail. The alleged getaway driver, Robert A. Guadagno, 49, of Grahamsville was also arrested that day and charged with Burglary 1st degree. Guadagno was arraigned before Thompson Town Justice Martin Miller and also remanded to the Sullivan County Jail without bail.

Sheriff Mike Schiff commended his staff, especially Deputy Sheriff John Panos who took the lead in this investigation. "Our deputy sheriffs are dedicated to getting violent criminals off of our streets and out of our neighborhoods", said the Sheriff. "We will be working closely with District Attorney Meagan Galligan to make sure these two individuals are held accountable".

In addition to the responding police agencies, the Sheriff's Office was assisted by state police BCI and Fallsburg Detectives. The search warrants were prepared by Assistant District Attorney Steven Goldberg.

All suspects are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



# VET 2 VET

Vet 2 Vet is a peer networking program for veterans, by Veterans in Sullivan County. Vet 2 Vet offers Veterans an opportunity to participate in programs and a safe, anonymous, and non-judgmental environment. We also offer advocacy and assistance with navigating the VA System and other services.

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## CORE SERVICES PROVIDED:

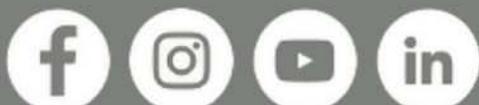
- Veteran Peer Support
- Peer Counseling
- Advocacy
- Financial Literacy
- Benefit Advisement
- Mental Health Support

### For more information contact:

Ryan Fuller at (845) 794-4228

Kevin Coates at (845) 794-4228

Visit our website at [atitoday.org](http://atitoday.org)



Click here for link to visit Vet 2 Vet website: <http://atitoday.org>

# AG James Delivers Up to \$200 Million to Help New York Combat Opioid Crisis, Allergan Agrees Not to Sell Opioids

*Funds Would Be Paid in Full by Mid-2022, Would Be Used for Opioid Treatment and Prevention*

*AG James Has Negotiated for Up to \$1.7 Billion to Be Delivered to NYS for Opioid Abatement*

*AG James' Trial Against Final Remaining Opioid Manufacturer*

*Moves to Closing Arguments Today*

NEW YORK - New York Attorney General Letitia James today announced an agreement with opioid manufacturer Allergan Finance, LLC and its affiliates that would deliver up to \$200 million to New York state to help combat the opioid crisis. The agreement resolves claims brought by Attorney General James for the company's role in helping to fuel the opioid epidemic and requires the company to make full payment of the \$200 million by mid-2022 if certain conditions are met - more than \$150 million of which will go towards opioid abatement. Since June alone, Attorney General James has now negotiated to bring back up to \$1.7 billion to combat the opioid epidemic. Today's agreement also makes enforceable a bar stopping Allergan and all of its subsidiaries, predecessors, and successors from selling opioids in New York and acknowledges Allergan's prior exit from the opioid business. As a result of today's agreement, Allergan will be removed from New York's ongoing opioid trial, currently underway in Suffolk County State Supreme Court.

"For more than two decades, opioids have wreaked havoc on New Yorkers and Americans across the nation - causing pain, addiction, and death," said Attorney General James. "Our ongoing trial has been about the role companies like Allergan and its predecessors played in helping grow this epidemic, profiting while Americans suffered. But today's agreement keeps Allergan out of the opioid business for the next decade and has the company paying as much as \$200 million. We've now negotiated up to \$1.7 billion for critical opioid treatment, prevention, and education programs. While no amount of money will ever make up for the thousands who lost their lives or became addicted to opioids across our state, these funds will be used to prevent future devastation."

In March 2019, Attorney General James filed the nation's most extensive lawsuit to hold accountable the various manufacturers and distributors responsible for the opioid epidemic. In addition to Allergan, the manufacturers named in the complaint included Purdue Pharma and its affiliates, as well as members of the Sackler Family (owners of Purdue) and trusts they control; Janssen Pharmaceuticals and its affiliates (including its parent company Johnson & Johnson); Mallinckrodt LLC and its affiliates; Endo Health Solutions and its affiliates; and Teva Pharmaceuticals USA, Inc. and its affiliates. The distributors named in the

complaint were McKesson Corporation, Cardinal Health Inc., Amerisource Bergen Drug Corporation, and Rochester Drug Cooperative Inc.

As part of today's agreement, Allergan will pay New York state a total of \$200 million if certain conditions are met.

On top of this payment, Attorney General James negotiated robust injunctive relief. Allergan will be prohibited from promoting opioids or opioid products through sales representatives, sponsorships, financial support, or any other means; will not be allowed to provide financial incentives to its sales and marketing employees for the sale of these products; and will not, directly or indirectly, provide financial support or in-kind support to any third party that primarily engages in conduct that promotes opioids or opioid products.

Allergan will not be allowed to use, assist, or employ any third party to engage in any activity that Allergan itself would be prohibited from engaging in pursuant to today's agreement.

(Contd. Pg. 33 )

**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 Increase Awareness of Resources for Human Trafficking Victims

Legislation (S.00924/A.3331) Requires Law Enforcement and District Attorney's Offices to Advise Human Trafficking Victims of the Availability of Social and Legal Services

Governor Kathy Hochul today signed legislation that requires law enforcement and district attorney's offices to advise human trafficking victims of the availability of social and legal services. Upon encountering a person who reasonably appears to be or says they are a victim of human trafficking, law enforcement personnel must advise the victim of the availability of social and legal services specific to human trafficking cases. The agency will offer to connect the victim with the appropriate provider, unless the individual declines the services.

"Human trafficking is a global epidemic and we must do all we can to end these horrible crimes here in New York," Governor Hochul said. "It is not enough to just put laws in place to prevent trafficking -- we must prioritize supporting survivors and ensure they have the legal and social services resources they need to recover from such a tragic experience."

Human trafficking is a prevalent issue through the United States. While New York State has enacted a number of important measures to assist human trafficking survivors - such as the START act, signed last month, that strengthened protections for victims of trafficking -- this bill takes that one step further to ensure that survivors will be able to promptly access needed social and legal services.

## AG James Delivers Up to \$200 Million to Help New York Combat Opioid Crisis, Allergan Agrees Not to Sell Opioids

(From Pg. 32) Further, Allergan will be prohibited from lobbying federal, state, or local legislative or regulatory authorities about opioids or opioid products.

Finally, Allergan will have to make additional information about opioids and opioid products more accessible to the public, including to patients, health care providers, and others. Allergan will share its clinical data with a third-party data center or platform owner to allow researchers qualified under the program to access the company's proprietary data under the terms of the project.

This agreement would additionally resolve lawsuits against Allergan by Nassau and Suffolk counties if the county legislatures approve the agreement. In the meantime, Attorney General James, this morning, made a motion to remove Allergan from New York's opioid trial.

In September, an agreement with Endo was reached that has already delivered \$50 million to New York state and Nassau and Suffolk counties to combat the opioid crisis and removed the opioid manufacturer from New York's ongoing opioid trial. Also, in September, the bankruptcy court in Purdue confirmed a \$4.5 billion plan - at least \$200 million of which will be earmarked for New York - from the Sackler family and foundations

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that they control, will end the Sacklers' ability to manufacture opioids ever again, and will shut down Purdue Pharma.

In July, a settlement with McKesson, Cardinal Health, and Amerisource Bergen that will deliver up to \$1 billion to New York state to combat the opioid epidemic was announced.

In June, a settlement that ended Johnson & Johnson's sale of opioids nationwide and that will deliver \$230 million to New York alone was announced.

The deals with Johnson & Johnson, McKesson, Cardinal Health, and Amerisource Bergen have a global value of approximately \$26 billion.

The cases against Mallinckrodt and Rochester Drug Cooperative are now moving separately through U.S. Bankruptcy Court.

The trial against the final remaining defendant - Teva Pharmaceuticals USA - is currently underway, with closing arguments slated to begin today.

Pursuant to the new law establishing the opioid settlement fund, all funds collected by the state from opioid settlements or litigation victories will be allocated specifically for abatement efforts in communities devastated by the opioid epidemic and will not go towards the state's general fund.

Separately, but related to her work on opioids, this past February, Attorney General James co-led a coalition of nearly every attorney general in the nation in delivering more than \$573 million - more than \$32 million of which was earmarked for New York state - toward opioid treatment and abatement in an agreement and consent judgment with McKinsey & Company.

## UC NOW TRENDING... DECEMBER 2021

**Nov. 24-Dec. 19** Ulster County's First Holiday Tree Hunt: Scavenger hunt, holiday tree viewing and shopping local. Holiday Tree Hunters will visit locations listed within their Holiday Tree Hunt Guide and ask the business to "stamp" their corresponding business space on the guide. Once the required corresponding stamps are collected, drop off the Holiday Tree Hunt Guide at People's Place to be entered to win one of the donated gift certificates. People's Place, 17 St. James Street, Kingston. 845-338-4030; peoplesplace.org

**Dec 11, 18 Immuneschein Tea Haus Holiday Pop Up Market:** Saturdays, Nov 27, Dec 11, Dec 18 11-5 p.m. Featuring jewelry, pottery, textile art, leather bags, crafts and more. Immuneschein Tea Haus, 1776 NY-212, Saugerties. 845-684-5136; immuneschein.com

**Ole Savannah ice skating:** New outdoor ice rink opening day. Perfect for families, friends, private parties and corporate events. Food, beverages and skate rentals available. Weekdays 4-9 p.m., Saturday-Sunday 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Ole Savanna Southern Table & Bar, 100 Rondout Landing, Kingston. 845-331-4283; olesavannah.com

**Dec 17-19 "HANDLE WITH CARE"**- A young Israeli woman is on holiday in the U.S. when tragedy strikes on Christmas Eve. She needs to make her way through it with Josh, a young American handicapped in both Hebrew and romance in this heartwarming holiday comedy. Friday-Saturday 7 p.m. Saturday and Sundays 2 p.m. The Main Stage at SHADOWLAND STAGES, 157 Canal Street, Ellenville. 845-647- 5511; shadowlandstages.org

**Dec 17-19 A Frosty Fest: Holiday Nights** – Spectacular Lights – Over One Million Lights. North Pole with Santa. A drive-thru experience enjoyed in the comfort of your own vehicle. New for 2021: Watch Santa's Magical Mansion Choreographed Musical Light Show. Additional attractions can be found on our website. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings. Visit website for tickets and hours. Reservations required. A Frosty Fest, 778 Broadway (Route 9W), Ulster Park. 845-339-2666; afrostyfest.com

**Dec 17- 19, 22, 23 The Catskill Christmas Express** Enjoy a 60 minute wonderous trip through the Catskill Forest to Santa's Workshop at the North Pole. See website for details. Westbrook Lane Station, 55 Plaza Road, Kingston. 845-332-4854; catskill-mountainrailroad.com

**Dec 18-19 BornWild Adventures-"The Secret Ruin Hike:"** Certified NY State hiking guide. Explore the ruins of the Overlook Mountain House. Climb to the summit of the Mountain Fire Tower to enjoy breathtaking views. Perfect for beginner to intermediate hikers. All welcome. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Overlook Mountain Trailhead, 353 Meads Mountain Rd, Woodstock. 765-314-6181; bornwild.rock

**Dec 19 Pete Levin Trio:** Join us for Jazz Brunch with live music. No cover. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Pearl Moon Woodstock, 52 Mill Hill Road, Woodstock. 845-684-5537; pearlmoonwoodstock.com

**Dec 15-19, 22, 23, 26, 29, 30, 31 Magnanini Winery: Brunch,** lunch and dinner events. Dec. 31: Special New Year's Eve Dinner. Magnanini Winery, Restaurant & Distillery, 172 Strawridge Rd.,

**Dec.17 "Nightmare Before Christmas:"** From producer Tim Burton. Jack Skellington, the leader of Halloweentown, schemes to celebrate a very different Christmas. 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$6. Ulster Performing Arts Center, 6-01 Broadway, Kingston. 845-339-6088; bardavon.org

**Dec.17, 18 "A Christmas Carol" Live Theatre Event:** Interactive retelling of the classic Dickens' masterpiece. Live original music, puppetry, visiting professional actors, local actors and volunteer "cast" members from the audience. 7 p.m. Matinee: Dec. 18 2 p.m. Purchase tickets online \$20; children \$15. Rosendale Theatre, 408 Main Street, Rosendale. 845-658-8989; rosendaletheatre.org

**Dec. 18 A Holiday Concert to Benefit the Washbourne House:** Featuring Amy Helm, Kate Pierson, Emily King, Catherine Russell, Alecia Chakour, Mikaela Davis, Josh Kaufman & Annie Nero, Simi Stone, Reggie Earls, Marco Benevento and more. \$75/\$45. Purchase tickets online. Levon Helm Studios, 160 Plochmann Lane, Woodstock. 845-679-2744; levonh Helm.com

**Dec. 31 Fourth Annual New Year's Eve Event:** The Haunted Shanley Hotel invites you to celebrate the New Year with our kind of spirits. Great Gatsby Themed. Ghost Hunt & Psychic Event featuring Scotty the NJ Medium. Visit website for details. The Haunted Shanley Hotel, 56 Main St., Napanoch. 845-2107-3112; thehauntedshanleyhotel.com

## Catskill Center's Stewards Program Wraps up 2021 Reaching the Most Visitors in a Single Season New Catskill Center Video Showcases the Stewards Program in Action

December 8, 2021 -- Arkville, NY: The Catskill Center's Stewards Program ended its 2021 season meeting and greeting more visitors than ever during a single season. There were double the number of stewards across four locations; and for the first time since the program was launched, one steward served as a ridge runner, hiking 404 miles of trails throughout the season.

The Catskill Stewards Program 2021 End of Season Report can be found here:

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/54984d33e4b0fd2ebe2b6881/t/61b0d736c3fa377b4d08647c/1638979384773/Catskill-Center-Catskill-Stewards-Program-End-of-Season-Report.pdf>

"Greeting and educating hundreds of thousands of visitors over the past four years, the Catskill Stewards Program has undeniably demonstrated the need to both welcome and educate visitors to the Catskill Park. The stewards show visitors the importance of recreating responsibly to ensure protection of our natural resources. They also guide visitors to assets like the Catskills Visitor Center and our local communities," said Jeff Senterman, Executive Director of the Catskill Center. "We are grateful to New York state Senator Michelle Hinchey for increased funding through the Aid to Localities Budget this year, and are hopeful we will be able to increase the funding next year to reach even more visitors."

The Ridge Runner steward was on and near the Devil's Path trail in Greene County, one of the Catskills' more challenging hikes, and covered other trails as needed. Another steward worked part-time at the Catskill Center's Platte Clove Preserve, while the remaining six stewards were divided between Peekamoose Blue Hole and Kaaterskill Clove, providing services every day. The Catskill Stewards Program operates in partnership with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS-DEC) at the Peekamoose Blue Hole, Kaaterskill Falls, and Devil's Path. For Platte Clove, the program runs on the Catskill Center's Platte Clove Preserve. (Contd. Pg. 38 )

# SAVE A LIFE! DONATE! SHARE OUR STORY!



## NICK NEEDS KIDNEY -TYPE 0 (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)

**IT SEEMS LIKE EVERYONE IS MISSING  
SOMEONE DURING THIS HOLIDAY  
SEASON. ON DECEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup>  
LUMINARIES WILL BE SETUP IN THE  
BIG INDIAN PARK. BE PART OF THIS  
SPECIAL NIGHT BY HAVING A CANDLE  
LIT IN MEMORY OF, OR IN HONOR OF  
SOMEONE DEAR TO YOU. THE NAME OF  
YOUR LOVED ONE WILL BE PLACED ON  
THE LUMINARY, AND YOU ARE  
WELCOME TO ENJOY THIS SPECIAL  
SIGHT. COST PER LUMINARY IS \$5.00  
SPONSORED BY  
THE BIG INDIAN OLIVEREA FIRE CO.  
TIME: 4PM TO 7PM  
CALL FRANK AT (845) 254-4238**

**4th Annual Luminary event to remember your loved ones, if you  
can't attend you can send a check made out to BIOFC and mail to  
Frank Stapleton at Box 85 Big Indian, NY 12410  
Thank you for supporting our Volunteers**

## Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce is promoting **Shop Small Sullivan Holiday 2021**

The Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce is promoting Shop Small Sullivan Holiday 2021 with participating businesses to encourage shopping locally in November and December.

**Download the Shop Small Sullivan Holiday 2021 flyer by clicking on this link:**

[https://growthzonesitesprod.azureedge.net/wp-content/uploads/sites/984/2021/11/2021\\_ShopSmallFlyer\\_2-1.pdf](https://growthzonesitesprod.azureedge.net/wp-content/uploads/sites/984/2021/11/2021_ShopSmallFlyer_2-1.pdf)



The Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce is promoting **Shop Small Sullivan** 🎁 **Holiday 2021** with participating businesses to encourage shopping locally in November and December.

**Please visit the businesses listed on the next page**

**While shopping tag us on social media using the hashtags:  
#scnychamber #shopsmallsvillvanny**

**Happy Holidays from The Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce!**

## Catskill Center's Stewards Program Wraps up 2021 Reaching the Most Visitors in a Single Season New Catskill Center Video Showcases the Stewards Program in Action

(From Pg. 34) "Catskill Park Stewards are instrumental in preserving one of our region's most valuable natural resources and ensuring that visitors not only feel welcome but have the tools and information they need to enjoy these extraordinary lands responsibly," said Senator Michelle Hinchey. "This year, I was proud to secure first-ever funding to help the Catskill Center double the number of stewards in its network and bolster conservation efforts in high-use areas, like Kaaterskill Falls and Peekamoose Blue Hole, where visitation reached record numbers in 2020. Thanks to this historic investment, the Catskill Center was also able to create the new role of Ridge Runner, a steward dedicated to maintaining Devil's Path Trail, one of Greene County's most challenging hikes. As a Catskills Senator, I will always fight to protect our home and uplift the work of great organizations, like the Catskill Center, that work tirelessly to keep our recreational resources pristine and accessible for generations to come."

While the COVID-19 pandemic prompted a record number of visitors to Catskill Park in 2020, the only significant decrease in visitation in 2021 was to the popular Peekamoose Blue Hole. However, the NYSDEC implemented new permitting regulations for the Blue Hole in 2021, limiting the number of visitors and thus protecting a Catskills gem from overuse. More than 64,400 people visited Kaaterskill Falls for the 2021 summer season, up from more than 42,500 in 2020. On its single busiest day, Kaaterskill Falls saw more than 1,500 visitors. Catskill Stewards Program 2021 highlights: Visitor engagement reach of more than 84,800 people; Over 225 bags of litter collected ( 4,500 lbs.); Fire rings deconstructed and sites rehabilitated 94; Rock stacks removed 305; Dogs greeted 3,045; and Visitor parking citations avoided - 147 (minimum)

Stewards explain and demonstrate why responsible recreation is important - from the importance of not littering to staying on the trails. While each location has its specific needs, the common thread is natural resource protection, public awareness, and education. Without the stewards, the Catskills' forever wild spaces are in danger of being trampled or otherwise damaged because of the increasing number of visitors. When stewards are not on site (such as on their days off), they notice increased litter, rock dams and rock stacks, and user-created trails beginning to wind through forest floors. Stewards help interpret the Catskill Park, provide information on alternative areas to visit, and offer directions to local communities and businesses, which, in turn, helps the local economy.

To learn more about the Catskill Center's Catskill Stewards Program, go to [catskillcenter.org/catskillstewardsprogram](https://catskillcenter.org/catskillstewardsprogram).

The Catskill Stewards Program is made possible by the generous support of the NYSDEC, REI Co-op, the Rondout Neversink Stream Program, Bruderhof Community at Platte Clove, Catskill Mountain Club, Hunter Foundation, and the generous supporters of the Catskill Center.

## DEC Proposes Changes to Freshwater Fishing Regulations to Help Make Angling More Accessible and Enjoyable *Proposals to Simplify Existing Regulations Public Input Sought through Feb. 6, 2022*

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos today announced the release of a proposal to clarify and simplify sportfishing regulations based on public feedback and DEC fisheries manager reviews of rules associated with the management of the State's fisheries. The proposed rule-making also includes a limited number of waterbody-specific regulation changes to support improved management of these waters.

"These proposed changes will help to align freshwater fishing

regulations with the State's current management objectives in a way that is easy for New Yorkers to understand and reflects their input. This proposal was driven by public comments and expert feedback, and represents DEC's continued commitment to making fishing more enjoyable and accessible by eliminating unnecessary and outdated rules," said Commissioner Seggos. Highlights of the proposal include:

New rules for trout management in ponded waters, which consolidates 143 waterbody and 33 county-wide special regulations (PDF) into a new statewide regulation that permits anglers to harvest five fish per day, only two of which can be greater than 12 inches in length. The proposal seeks to better align regulations with intended outcomes. Most inland ponds and lakes stocked with brown trout and rainbow trout are managed for put-and-take or put-grow-and-take fisheries. Waters managed for these species and purpose are proposed to be open all year, while brook trout ponds, which are largely managed for self-sustaining wild populations, will be closed to fishing between Oct. 16 and March 31. This rule will increase the longevity of stocked brook trout that are highly vulnerable to ice fishing.

Removing the statewide closed season restriction on lake trout and Atlantic salmon. Keeping the season open year-round consolidates 24 lake trout and 33 Atlantic salmon waterbody-specific regulations (PDF) into statewide regulations consistent with current management practices, as over the years a greater number of these waters have been open all year under special regulations. In addition, six outdated lake trout and five unnecessary Atlantic salmon special regulations are proposed to be eliminated.

Allowing ice fishing unless specifically prohibited in New York, except for Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Hamilton, Herkimer, Lewis, St. Lawrence, Warren, and Washington counties, where the existing "ice fishing is prohibited unless specifically permitted in waters inhabited by trout" regulation will still apply. Trout fishing in ponds is currently allowed in most other waters, so allowing it statewide with the nine-county exception will reduce the number of special regulations needed overall.

Providing consistency in opening and closing fishing season dates for sportfish. DEC currently uses a mixed approach for season dates. Some seasons begin on a specific date, while others start on a designated Saturday. Based on results of an angler poll conducted earlier this year, DEC is proposing that all sportfish seasons begin and end on specific dates. Notable changes to statewide opening dates are:

May 1 for walleye, northern pike, pickerel, and tiger muskellunge;

June 1 for muskellunge; June 15 for black bass; and

Aligning special regulations with new season dates for these species. (Contd. PG.)

Eliminating the current three-fish-per-day daily walleye limit in Oneida Lake and reverting to the statewide five-fish-per-day limit due to the abundant adult walleye population (PDF).

Correcting a previous rule change omission by changing the daily limit for steelhead on the Lower Niagara River from three to two fish per day.

Establishing a no-limit, all-year season and 12-inch-minimum length restriction for walleye on Skaneateles Lake to suppress this introduced species, which has the potential to negatively impact the lake's high-quality trout and salmon fishery.

Banning snatching and spearing in select waters.

The full text and a summary of the proposed regulatory changes are available on DEC's website. DEC is interested in anglers' viewpoints and encourages public feedback on these proposals. Comments should be submitted via e-mail to [regulations.fish@dec.ny.gov](mailto:regulations.fish@dec.ny.gov) with the subject line "Fishing Regulations Proposal Comments" or via mail to the Inland Fisheries Section, NYSDEC, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-4753. Comments will be accepted through Feb. 6, 2022.

## Rubin Pollack Education Center Recognize Students of the Month

LIBERTY - Each month, students are chosen from the Alternative and Special Education programs at Sullivan BOCES to celebrate their accomplishments. As part of the recognition, their names are placed on a bulletin board in the main hallway of the Rubin Pollack Education Center for their classmates, teachers, and visitors to see. The students also attended a Principal's lunch to celebrate and honor their achievements. The following students were selected during the first quarter of the school year based on their academic achievements, character, attitude, respect for others, and attendance.

### Month of Septmeber:

- Mathew Flores (Tri-Valley CSD)
- Arisbeth Padilla Leon (Monticello CSD)
- Joshua Slater (Monticello CSD)
- Kami Simmons (Livingston Manor CSD)
- Tradale Suarez (Liberty CSD)
- Lucas Cox-Odell (Port Jervis CSD)
- Julius Grosse (Liberty CSD)
- Jeremiah Jacobs (Monticello CSD)
- Sincere Martin (Monticello CSD)
- Kelbin Morales (Monticello CSD)
- Cheyanne Pen (Tri-Valley CSD)
- Isabella VanWorlde (Fallsburg CSD)
- Carter Feeney (Roscoe CSD)
- Aiden Lopez (Liberty CSD)
- Ricki Jones (Ellenville CSD)
- Toni Phillips (Roscoe CSD)
- Gabe Bell (Sullivan West CSD)
- Thomas Gale (Livingston Manor CSD)
- Josh Lutz (Liberty CSD)
- Nick Moreno (Monticello CSD)
- Sam Rakin (Liberty CSD)
- Jadin Suarez (Minisink CSD)
- Shayla Boyles (Livingston Manor CSD)
- Semaj Daily (Monticello CSD)
- Gemael Wallace (Livingston Manor CSD)
- Emily Walter (Eldred CSD)
- Silvia Banegas (Liberty CSD)
- Danny Creamer (Roscoe CSD)
- Jesse Guara (Monticello CSD)
- Zach Thiel (Liberty CSD)

### Month of October:

- James Anderson (Sullivan West CSD)
- Devin Brady-Jones (Monticello CSD)
- Mathew Flores (Tri-Valley CSD)
- Hailey Shaw (Roscoe CSD)

- Kami Simmons (Livingston Manor CSD)
- Johanna Spencer (Ellenville CSD)
- Amber Williams (Monticello CSD)
- Quincy Alexander (Monticello CSD)
- Jayden Baisley (Tri-Valley CSD)
- Julius Grosse (Liberty CSD)
- Jakai Jones (Monticello CSD)
- Kelbin Morales (Monticello CSD)
- Matilda Morcelo (Monticello CSD)
- Leah Talmadge (Monticello CSD)
- Cheyenne Pen (Tri-Valley CSD)
- Isabell Vanwolde (Fallsburg CSD)
- Joshua Jackson (Liberty CSD)
- Riley Schreiber (Eldred CSD)
- Shayla Boyles (Livingston Manor CSD)
- Elijah Corbin (Monticello CSD)
- Jesse Hogencamp (Monticello CSD)
- Gemael Wallace (Livingston Manor CSD)
- Kyree Wright (Monticello CSD)
- Jahshime Diaz (Monticello CSD)
- Iliana Marrero (Fallsburg CSD)
- Zach Thiel (Liberty CSD)
- Dominick Williams (Sullivan West CSD)

### Month of November:

- Farris Abu-Alghanm (Liberty CSD)
- Erin Brown (Eldred CSD)
- Galahad Carroll (Fallsburg CSD)
- Vincenzo Huffman (Ellenville CSD)
- Arisbeth Padilla-Leon (Monticello CSD)
- Ezekiel Oney (Monticello CSD)
- Carlito Santiago-Colon (Fallsburg CSD)
- Kami Simmons (Livingston Manor CSD)
- Johanna Spencer (Ellenville CSD)
- Christopher Wilson (Liberty CSD)
- Quincy Alexander (Monticello CSD)
- Julius Grosse (Liberty CSD)
- Zakariah Jones (Ellenville CSD)
- Tyler Lackey (Roscoe CSD)
- Kelbin Morales (Monticello CSD)
- Cheyenne Pen (Tri-Valley CSD)
- Isabella VanWolde (Fallsburg CSD)
- Matthew Fabian (Liberty CSD)
- Joshua Jackson (Liberty CSD)
- Ricki Jones (Ellenville CSD)
- Toni Phillips (Roscoe CSD)
- Riley Schreiber (Eldred CSD)
- Catherine Crespo (Liberty CSD)
- Gabe Bell (Sullivan West CSD)
- Jesse Hogencamp (Monticello CSD)
- Joseph Kelly (Liberty CSD)
- Emily Walter (Eldred CSD)
- Oscar Barrera-Campos (Fallsburg CSD)
- Michael Murray (Fallsburg CSD)

## Gov Hochul Announces Major Action to Address Winter Surge and Prevent Business Disruption as COVID-19 Cases and Hospitalizations Rise Statewide

- *Hochul Shares New Yorkers' Frustration with Winter Surge, Says We Do Not Have to Be Here But We Are*
- *Hochul Thanks More than 80% of New Yorkers for Getting Fully Vaccinated and Doing the Right Thing*
- *To Protect the Health of New Yorkers, Businesses and Venues Must Implement a Mask Requirement or Require Proof of Fully Vaccinated Status*
- *Hochul Gives Options to Businesses with Mask or Vaccine Requirement*
- *State to Reassess Measure on Jan. 15, 2022*

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced masks will be required to be worn in all indoor public places unless businesses or venues implement a vaccine requirement. This a major action to address the winter surge comes as COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations rise statewide to be in alignment with the CDC's recommendations for communities with substantial and high transmission. The State Health Commissioner issued a determination solidifying the requirement.

This determination is based on the State's weekly seven-day case rate as well as increasing hospitalizations. The new business and venue requirements extend to both patrons and staff. This measure is effective Dec. 13, 2021 until Jan. 15, 2022, after which the State will re-evaluate based on current conditions. The new measure brings added layers of mitigation during the holidays when more time is spent indoors shopping, gathering, and visiting holiday-themed destinations.

"As Governor, my two top priorities are to protect the health of New Yorkers and to protect the health of our economy. The temporary measures I am taking today will help accomplish this through the holiday season. We shouldn't have reached the point where we are confronted with a winter surge, especially with the vaccine at our disposal, and I share many New Yorkers' frustration that we are not past this pandemic yet," Governor Hochul said. "I want to thank the more than 80 percent of New Yorkers who have done the right thing to get fully vaccinated. If others will follow suit, these measures will no longer be necessary."

"I have warned for weeks that additional steps could be necessary, and now we are at that point based upon three metrics: Increasing cases, reduced hospital capacity, and insufficient vaccination rates in certain areas," Governor Hochul added.

Since Thanksgiving, the statewide seven-day average case rate has increased by 43% and hospitalizations have increased by 29%. While the percentage of New Yorkers fully vaccinated continues to increase-gaining 2% from Thanksgiving weekend to now-the uptick is not fast enough to completely curb the spread of the virus, particularly among communities with low vaccination coverage.

The State Department of Health has produced nation-leading studies, published in the CDC's MMWR and the New England Journal of Medicine, which demonstrate the COVID-19 vaccines' effectiveness - particularly in preventing severe disease. The Department continues to urge eligible New Yorkers of all ages to get fully vaccinated and boosted as soon as possible.

Acting Health Commissioner Dr. Mary T. Bassett said, "Community spread requires a community-minded solution, as the Omicron variant emerges and the overwhelmingly dominant Delta variant continues to circulate. We have the tools we need to protect against the virus - and now we must ensure we use them. There are tools each individual can use, and there are actions we can take as government. Getting vaccinated protects you, and wearing a mask is how we will better protect each other. Both vaccination and mask-wearing are needed to slow this COVID-19 winter surge."

A violation of any provision of this measure is subject to all civil and criminal penalties, including a maximum fine of \$1,000 for each violation. Local health departments are being asked to enforce these requirements.

### Business/Venue Proof of Full-Course Vaccination Requirement

Businesses and venues who implement a proof of vaccination requirement can accept Excelsior Pass, Excelsior Pass Plus, SMART Health Cards issued outside of New York State, or a CDC Vaccination Card. In accordance with CDC's definition of fully vaccinated, full-course vaccination is defined as 14 days past an individual's last vaccination dose in their initial vaccine series (14 days past the second shot of a two-dose Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccine; 14 days past the one-shot Janssen/Johnson & Johnson vaccine). The State also accepts WHO-approved vaccines for these purposes. Parents and guardians can retrieve and store an Excelsior Pass and/or Excelsior Pass Plus for children or minors under legal guardianship.

### Business/Venue Mask-Wearing Requirement

Businesses and venues that implement a mask requirement must ensure all patrons two years and older wear a mask at all times while indoors.

### Continued Masking Requirements

Unvaccinated individuals continue to be responsible for wearing masks, in accordance with federal CDC guidance. (Contd. Pt. 41)

Please Wear  
a Face Mask



Help Stop the Spread

## Why wear a mask?

Out of respect.

When you wear a mask you are saying,  
I respect my neighbors.

When you wear a mask you are saying,  
I respect nurses and doctors.

When you wear a mask you are saying,  
I respect other people.

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

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

## Gov Hochul Announces Major Action to Address Winter Surge and Prevent Business Disruption as COVID-19 Cases and Hospitalizations Rise Statewide

(From Pg. 40) Further, the State's masking requirements continue to be in effect for pre-K to grade 12 schools, public transit, homeless shelters, correctional facilities, nursing homes, and health care settings per CDC guidelines.

New York State and the State's Department of Health continue to strongly recommend mask-wearing in all public indoor settings as an added layer of protection, even when not required. Children 2 - 5 who remain ineligible for vaccination must wear a proper-fitting mask.

COVID-19 vaccines and booster doses are free and widely available statewide. New Yorkers can visit [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov), text their ZIP code to 438829, or call 1-800-232-0233 to find nearby locations. To schedule an appointment at a state-run mass vaccination site, New Yorkers can visit the Am-I-Eligible site. New Yorkers can also contact their health care provider, county health departments, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), rural health centers, or pharmacies.

New Yorkers can retrieve their Excelsior Pass or Excelsior Pass Plus here. Businesses and venues can download the Excelsior Pass Scanner app-free for any business nationwide and available in more than ten languages-here.

## Statement from County Executive Pat Ryan on Additional Precautions on COVID-19

"As cases and hospitalizations continue to rise, I applaud the leadership of Governor Hochul in taking additional precautions to keep New Yorkers safe and healthy as we head into the winter. The Ulster County Department of Health will work with the New York State Department of Health to implement these new measures. Our goal remains to keep our schools and economy open and running safely along with continuing to bolster our vaccine and booster efforts."

## Sullivan 180 and Partners Announce Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service Youth Summit HPAC

*All Sullivan County Youth (Grade 9-12) are invited to the free, exciting event*

[FERNDALE] - Sullivan 180 and partners announce "What's Your Blueprint?" a Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service Youth Summit, on January 17th, 2022 at the Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre. This is a free event, open to Sullivan County youth (grades 9-12) to participate from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The "What's Your Blueprint" MLK Day Youth Summit promises teens will be inspired by the importance of their VOICE, their ability to ACT for change, and help them CREATE their personal blueprint for life. Students will experience interactive workshops and collaborative art projects designed to open their minds and hearts to greater service for themselves and their schools. The day will be centered on the famous Dr. King speech, A Blueprint for Your Life, with workshops around the principles from the speech; Belief in Oneself, Determination and Commitment. Also, each student in attendance will receive four hours of community service time to be used toward graduation requirements.

The event will also feature keynote speaker, Damola Akinyemi, who is a former international basketball player, world renowned body builder, founder of Ayo Fitness, creator of the Ayo Jam fitness program, inventor of the Hydra Glove and former co-lead of the award winning Warrior Kids program which taught thousands of children across the Hudson Valley about healthier choices.

The Summit is being hosted in partnership with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Sullivan County, the Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre, Sullivan 180, Sullivan Renaissance, Sullivan Allies Leading Together, the Sullivan County Human Rights Commission, and The Center for Workforce Development. This is a FREE event, but registration is REQUIRED. Refreshments and a healthy, locally sourced lunch by A Single Bite will be provided. To register, please visit [www.Sullivan180.org](http://www.Sullivan180.org).

Sullivan 180's mission is to build a healthy, vibrant Sullivan County where everyone has a sense of purpose, connection to family and community and access to fresh foods and an active lifestyle.



**December 18, 2021 at 12:00 pm**

**Westfield Flats Cemetery in the Village of Roscoe**

**1955 Old Route 17, Roscoe, NY 12776**

**National Wreaths Across America Day**

Help Roscoe volunteers honor fallen heroes.

For only \$15 you can sponsor a holiday wreath to be placed on a veteran's grave.

For sponsorship details contact:  
Judie D.V. Smith [darbee1@juno.com](mailto:darbee1@juno.com)

Valorie Rittendale 607-498-5373  
845-629-9457



## UC Executive Pat Ryan Outlines Bold Vision to Revitalize Former IBM/TechCity Site; National Resources Pledges to Invest at Least \$200 Million to Improve Site, Attract High- Growth Businesses, Provide Up to 1,000 New Jobs

*National Resources outlines exciting long-term vision for campus, highlights potential to attract high-growth businesses from priority sectors outlined in the County's "Ulster 2040" Economic Development Plan to include light manufacturing, food and agriculture, film and television, arts and culture, and distribution*

which National Resources intends to purchase following the completion of foreclosure proceedings by the County.

"We all know that this site was once the center of Ulster County's economy during IBM's tenure, and under National Resources' future stewardship, I'm optimistic that the site will come back to life as the center of our County's new economic future," Ulster County Executive Pat Ryan said. "The vision laid out by National Resources is exciting not only because it promises to create good new jobs and generate significant new economic activity, but also because it's a monumental step towards realizing the bold vision we outlined in our Ulster 2040 strategy."

The purchase by National Resources, which is part of a court-ordered settlement agreement between former owner Alan Ginsberg and Ulster County, would open up 18 parcels totaling over 160 acres in the center of the sprawling industrial site for redevelopment for the first time since IBM's departure in the mid-1990s.

At the press conference, National Resources provided a broad overview of the high-growth economic sectors they expect to see take root as they complete the environmental cleanup work in the months following their purchase. Over the next five to ten years, the group expects to invest in excess of \$200,000,000 to improve and revitalize the site, which they believe will lead to the creation of up to 1,000 good-paying jobs for Ulster County residents.



KINGSTON, NY - Joined by members of the Ulster County Legislature and the Ulster County businesses community, Ulster County Executive Pat Ryan today welcomed the principals from National Resources for an overview of the firm's past projects and their overall plans for the former Tech City properties,

The proposed uses for the site, which are consistent with a 2009 master plan adopted by the Town of Ulster, include light manufacturing, food and agriculture, film and television, arts and culture, and logistics and distribution.

(Contd. Pg. 43)

## UC Executive Pat Ryan Outlines Bold Vision to Revitalize Former IBM/TechCity Site; National Resources Pledges to Invest at Least \$200 Million to Improve Site, Attract High-Growth Businesses, Provide Up to 1,000 New Jobs

(From Pg. 42) In addition, National Resources expects to develop a portion of the site with multi-unit workforce housing, citing the urgent need within the County for quality, affordable housing and referencing the inclusion of housing as one of the permitted uses under the 2009 master plan. They also indicated a desire to involve educational and workforce agencies in the site's redevelopment, since they expect future tenants will require a ready supply of well-trained workers - a resource many employers in the region are finding to be in short supply.

"Back in September, when we first expressed interest through an RFEI issued by the Ulster County Economic Development Alliance (UCEDA), we outlined a series of potential uses we believe fit with the demand in the marketplace for a property like this," Executive Vice President at National Resources Lynn Ward said, "Those uses are what we hope to bring to the site once we complete the necessary site work in 2022, and through those future tenants we fully expect to become the major center of employment and economic activity for Ulster County and beyond."

"While we are excited about the businesses that will land at this site in the future, the real story we'd like to get out there is about a three month push we've been working through with the County and the Town of Ulster to take back their economic destiny," President of National Resources Joseph Cotter said. "We are excited to work closely with our public sector partners here, as we have in other locations, to turn this underused site into an engine for job creation and economic growth. While we recognize that there is lots of work still ahead, we are excited for the next chapter of this work that will see the birth of iPark 87 here in Ulster County."

"This July, I was proud to stand with many of you here today at the asbestos-ridden former TechCity site to lay out our plan to remediate, redevelop, and restore this site as the heartbeat of economic growth and job creation in Ulster County. Since then, I've fought to secure the funds needed to put our plan in motion," Senator Chuck Schumer said. "Unveiling the new iPark87, creating hundreds of jobs, and investing hundreds of millions in the site was exactly why I have pushed so hard to clean up the asbestos and bring Ulster County's economic engine back to life."

"I would like to enthusiastically welcome National Resources to Ulster County," Ulster County Legislator Brian Cahill said. "National Resources is an ideal partner for Ulster County and our shared vision for Economic Development. They have demonstrated with previous and current projects, the ability to bring neglected and underutilized industrial sites back to life. I am looking forward to a long, successful relationship."

"The redevelopment of the former Tech City was long overdue," President and CEO of the Hudson Valley Economic Development Corporation Mike Oates said. "It took the leadership of Ulster County Executive Pat Ryan to assemble the right team to make this opportunity a reality. Working with Majority Leader Schumer, NYS Empire State Development, the County Legislature, Town Supervisor Jim Quigley and others, we are creating the model of public private partnership that will bring high quality jobs and investment to the Hudson Valley for decades to come. National Resources has the proven track record of success and expertise that will help drive that redevelopment forward."

"Stockade Works and Upriver Studios are thrilled to be part of

the revitalization of the former IBM Kingston campus helmed by Joe Cotter and Natural Resources," said Mary Stuart Masterson, Founder and President of Upriver Studios and Stockade Works. "Joe and County Executive Pat Ryan understand that the film and television industry will transform our local economy by creating not just jobs but careers, by bringing in productions of all sizes that will spend their budgets locally, and most importantly -- by showing the next generation that they can find meaningful work and a future in their hometown. It used to be that everyone in the Hudson Valley knew someone who worked at IBM's Kingston campus. Now with the bold leadership from Ulster County, the expertise and resources from Joe Cotter, and their partnerships with Stockade Works and Upriver, we will soon all know someone who is working at the Enterprise Campus, but this time it will be on a film or television show."

"Bard College's close proximity to Kingston has enabled us to establish longstanding and substantial connections to Ulster County through our students, faculty and staff, and programs," said Malia DuMont, Bard College Chief of Staff and Vice President for Strategy and Policy. "We are excited about the opportunities for innovation and collaboration represented by the Ryan administration's vision for redevelopment of the entire former IBM site and look forward to the tremendous potential for partnership ahead." "I couldn't be more thrilled to hear the announcement of the redevelopment of the former IBM campus under the direction of Joe Cotter and Lynn Ward from the National Resources Group," President and CEO of Rondout Savings Bank Cheryl Bowers said. "This is the first time in two decades that the plan is constructive, collaborative and designed to improve quality of life and quality of business for Ulster County residents. I applaud County Executive Ryan for getting this to the finish line. Through his leadership and commitment, he was able to accomplish what no other leader could."

National Resources also provided an overview of their history and development portfolio throughout the region. Their past projects under the iPark brand include iPark 84 at the former IBM campus in East Fishkill, iPark Hudson at the former Otis elevator facility in Yonkers, a medical-office focused iPark Norwalk campus in Connecticut, and iPark Lake Success at the former Lockheed Martin facility in Long Island. More information on National Resources and its work is available at [www.nationalresources.com](http://www.nationalresources.com).

In addition to the information provided during today's press conference, Ulster County also launched a new website to provide all county residents with full transparency into the recent settlement agreement at the site, details about the proposed transaction, and ongoing plans for the site's revitalization. The website, which can be accessed at [www.ulstercountyny.gov/economic-development/IBMSite](http://www.ulstercountyny.gov/economic-development/IBMSite), includes key documents and an extensive Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section to inform public discussion. At its December 2nd meeting, the Ulster County Legislature set a public hearing for 6:30pm on December 21st, which will provide an opportunity for members of the community to provide input prior to the site's purchase by National Resources.

### Statement from Assemblymember Kevin A. Cahill on the Development of Tech City

"After decades of false starts and unrealized promises, as a result of the good work of County Executive Pat Ryan, the County Legislature and their economic development team, our community finally has real hope for concrete and ambitious development of this important business asset. We in the state legislature stand ready to do all we can to assure the success of this promising new era of economic opportunity here in the Mid-Hudson Valley."

## UC Executive Pat Ryan Signs 2022 Budget

### For the third year in a row, the 2022 Budget includes a 0% tax increase and zero layoffs

(From Pg. 20) **Tackle the Opioid Epidemic: Expanded Mobile Mental Health**

Ulster County Mobile Mental Health is a service provided by Access: Supports for Living. The program, which launched in 2015, will be expanded in 2022 to include New Paltz, adding a third Mobile Mental Health Team to respond to appropriate 911 calls.

#### **Tackle the Opioid Epidemic: Separate Health/Mental Health**

The Ulster County Executive Budget proposes to re-establish a fully functioning Department of Mental Health, helping to elevate mental health services as a top priority. This means having a full-time Mental Health Commissioner and staff who can expand and improve mental health delivery, hold our team and partners accountable, and push for desperately needed reforms at the State and Federal levels.

#### **American Rescue Plan: Mental Health and Addiction Recovery Services**

The Ulster County Executive Budget proposes to dedicate \$3.3 million in federal relief funds for design and construction of the County's first-ever Ulster County Mental Health and Addiction Recovery Center, to provide residents a single location for the full continuum of care for people dealing with mental health and addiction related illness. This first major component of this will be a Crisis Stabilization Center, which would begin to be developed in 2022. There has been success with this type of program in Dutchess County and, with a \$2 million dollar jump start, Ulster County will soon see these essential services right here.

#### **Ensure Justice for All Residents: AVERT**

The Ulster County Executive Budget directs funding to the newly-created AVERT unit, which is a multi-agency team led by Sheriff Juan Figueroa and District Attorney Dave Clegg, that will use innovative, proactive approaches to divert our young people from violent crime and get illegal guns off our streets. In particular it provides funding to bolster the team with social workers and mental health experts.

#### **Tackle the Opioid Epidemic: Youth/Mental Health Wellness Initiative in Schools**

The Ulster County Executive Budget dedicates an additional \$1 million to expand desperately-needed mental health resources in our schools, leveraging some of the County's recently-announced, multi-million dollar statewide opioid settlement funds to meet this urgent need.

#### **Ensure Justice for All Residents: Expanded Restorative Justice to Schools**

The Ulster County Executive Budget dedicates funds to allow Ulster County schools to provide resources for Restorative Justice Circles, so they can divert kids away from suspension and offer rehabilitative instead of punitive outcomes. Family of Woodstock will be expanding their Restorative Justice Program to include 4 school Districts: Kingston, Saugerties, Ellenville and Walkkill at a cost of \$65,000 per year.

#### **Full Executive Budget Available Online**

The 2022 Executive Budget is posted on the Ulster County website, for the first time ever, in an interactive, transparent, and easy to use website. Visit <https://ulstercountyny.gov/budget>

## Governor Hochul Announces Mask Protocol Now in Effect

### *Masks Now Required in All Indoor Public Places Unless Businesses or Venues Implement a Vaccine Requirement*

Governor Kathy Hochul announced that the mask protocol for all indoor public places is now in effect, as well as a new Frequently Asked Questions resource for business owners and the general public.

Masks are now required to be worn in all indoor public places unless businesses or venues implement a vaccine requirement. As noted on the Frequently Asked Questions webpage, an indoor public place is defined as any indoor space that is not a private residence -- businesses and venues New Yorkers frequent that are publicly owned or owned by private business. These entities include indoor entertainment venues, concert halls, indoor sports stadiums, recreational spaces, restaurants, office buildings, shopping centers, grocery stores, pharmacies, houses of worship and common areas in residential buildings. Posters encouraging people to wear masks and get vaccinated are available for businesses to use.

"As Governor, my top priority is to protect the health of New Yorkers and the health of our economy, and these temporary measures will help us get through the holiday season safely," Governor Hochul said. "I share everyone's frustration that we have gotten to this point, especially with the vaccine at our disposal. I want to thank the millions of New Yorkers who have done the right thing to get fully vaccinated. We are all in this together and if others will follow suit, these measures will no longer be necessary."

This major action to address the winter surge and concern over upcoming holiday gatherings comes as COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations rise statewide to be in alignment with the CDC's recommendations for communities with substantial and high transmission. The State Health Commissioner issued a determination solidifying the requirement.

This measure is effective until Jan. 15, 2022, after which the State will re-evaluate based on current conditions, and brings added layers of mitigation during the holiday season when more time is spent indoors shopping, gathering and visiting holiday-themed destinations.

Acting Health Commissioner Dr. Mary T. Bassett said, "Taking this action now is critical to slowing the COVID-19 winter surge during the holidays. Each of you can contribute: get vaccinated, get boosted if you are already vaccinated and wear a mask. We urge the public to support these new requirements in indoor public places by cooperating with the venues. We need everyone to do their part to get through this together."

For information how businesses and venues can implement a proof of vaccination requirement or a mask wearing requirement, see the Frequently Asked Questions

COVID-19 vaccines and booster doses are free and widely available statewide. New Yorkers can visit [vaccines.gov](https://vaccines.gov), text their ZIP code to 438829, or call 1-800-232-0233 to find nearby locations. To schedule an appointment at a state-run mass vaccination site, New Yorkers can visit the Am-I-Eligible site. New Yorkers can also contact their health care provider, county health departments, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), rural health centers, or pharmacies.

New Yorkers can retrieve their Excelsior Pass or Excelsior Pass Plus. Businesses and venues can download the Excelsior Pass Scanner app-free for any business nationwide and available in more than ten languages.

## UC NOW TRENDING... DECEMBER 2021

**Nov. 24-Dec. 19** Ulster County's First Holiday Tree Hunt: Scavenger hunt, holiday tree viewing and shopping local. Holiday Tree Hunters will visit locations listed within their Holiday Tree Hunt Guide and ask the business to "stamp" their corresponding business space on the guide. Once the required corresponding stamps are collected, drop off the Holiday Tree Hunt Guide at People's Place to be entered to win one of the donated gift certificates. People's Place, 17 St. James Street, Kingston. 845-338-4030; peoplesplace.org

**Dec 11, 18 Immuneschein Tea Haus Holiday Pop Up Market:** Saturdays, Nov 27, Dec 11, Dec 18 11-5 p.m. Featuring jewelry, pottery, textile art, leather bags, crafts and more. Immuneschein Tea Haus, 1776 NY-212, Saugerties. 845-684-5136; immuneschein.com

**Ole Savannah ice skating:** New outdoor ice rink opening day. Perfect for families, friends, private parties and corporate events. Food, beverages and skate rentals available. Weekdays 4-9 p.m., Saturday-Sunday 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Ole Savanna Southern Table & Bar, 100 Rondout Landing, Kingston. 845-331-4283; olesavannah.com

**Dec 17-19 "HANDLE WITH CARE"**- A young Israeli woman is on holiday in the U.S. when tragedy strikes on Christmas Eve. She needs to make her way through it with Josh, a young American handicapped in both Hebrew and romance in this heartwarming holiday comedy. Friday-Saturday 7 p.m. Saturday and Sundays 2 p.m. The Main Stage at SHADOWLAND STAGES, 157 Canal Street, Ellenville. 845-647-5511; shadowlandstages.org

**Dec 17-19 A Frosty Fest: Holiday Nights** – Spectacular Lights – Over One Million Lights. North Pole with Santa. A drive-thru experience enjoyed in the comfort of your own vehicle. New for 2021: Watch Santa's Magical Mansion Choreographed Musical Light Show. Additional attractions can be found on our website. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings. Visit website for tickets and hours. Reservations required. A Frosty Fest, 778 Broadway (Route 9W), Ulster Park. 845-339-2666; afrostyfest.com

**Dec 17- 19, 22, 23 The Catskill Christmas Express** Enjoy a 60 minute wonderous trip through the Catskill Forest to Santa's Workshop at the North Pole. See website for details. Westbrook Lane Station, 55 Plaza Road, Kingston. 845-332-4854; catskill-mountainrailroad.com

**Dec 18-19 BornWild Adventures-"The Secret Ruin Hike:"** Certified NY State hiking guide. Explore the ruins of the Overlook Mountain House. Climb to the summit of the Mountain Fire Tower to enjoy breathtaking views. Perfect for beginner to intermediate hikers. All welcome. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Overlook Mountain Trailhead, 353 Meads Mountain Rd, Woodstock. 765-314-6181; bornwild.rock

**Dec 19 Pete Levin Trio:** Join us for Jazz Brunch with live music. No cover. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Pearl Moon Woodstock, 52 Mill Hill Road, Woodstock. 845-684-5537; pearlmoonwoodstock.com

**Dec 15-19, 22, 23, 26, 29, 30, 31 Magnanini Winery: Brunch,** lunch and dinner events. Dec. 31: Special New Year's Eve Dinner. Magnanini Winery, Restaurant & Distillery, 172 Strawridge Rd.,

**Dec.17 "Nightmare Before Christmas:"** From producer Tim Burton. Jack Skellington, the leader of Halloweentown, schemes to celebrate a very different Christmas. 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$6. Ulster Performing Arts Center, 6-01 Broadway, Kingston. 845-339-6088; bardavon.org

**Dec.17, 18 "A Christmas Carol" Live Theatre Event:** Interactive retelling of the classic Dickens' masterpiece. Live original music, puppetry, visiting professional actors, local actors and volunteer "cast" members from the audience. 7 p.m. Matinee: Dec. 18 2 p.m. Purchase tickets online \$20; children \$15. Rosendale Theatre, 408 Main Street, Rosendale. 845-658-8989; rosendaletheatre.org

**Dec. 18 A Holiday Concert to Benefit the Washbourne House:** Featuring Amy Helm, Kate Pierson, Emily King, Catherine Russell, Alecia Chakour, Mikaela Davis, Josh Kaufman & Annie Nero, Simi Stone, Reggie Earls, Marco Benevento and more. \$75/\$45. Purchase tickets online. Levon Helm Studios, 160 Plochmann Lane, Woodstock. 845-679-2744; levonh Helm.com

**Dec. 31 Fourth Annual New Year's Eve Event:** The Haunted Shanley Hotel invites you to celebrate the New Year with our kind of spirits. Great Gatsby Themed. Ghost Hunt & Psychic Event featuring Scotty the NJ Medium. Visit website for details. The Haunted Shanley Hotel, 56 Main St., Napanoch. 845-2107-3112; thehauntedshanleyhotel.com

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## Statement from Senator Martucci on Governor Hochul's Mask Mandate

It's no surprise that less than one day after her principal Primary opponent dropped out, Kathy Hochul chose to impose a cynical mask mandate against private businesses. This is a blatantly political move, not a scientific one. The last thing businesses need is another mandate, especially one that forces them to strongarm their customers into wearing a mask or invade their privacy by checking their vaccination status. Some politicians like Hochul are using this crisis to scare and control people rather than following science and common sense. Like most New Yorkers, I thought we moved on from this style of leadership when Andrew Cuomo resigned - apparently not.

I oppose this unnecessary mandate and the circumvention of the Legislature that it represents. I will work with my colleagues to overturn it.

## Congresswoman Claudia Tenney *This Week in Washington*

### My Statement on Hochul's Latest Mask Mandate

On Friday, Governor Kathy Hochul announced she was going to enforce an indoor mask requirement across the state and is asking our small businesses and county health departments to enforce her draconian rule. This comes on the heels of her vaccine mandate that is causing severe staffing shortages in hospitals across the state. These decisions are already proving to be devastating to our small businesses, who are short-staffed and working to overcome rising inflation and massive supply chain disruptions.

As I've said before, I support voluntary COVID-19 vaccination efforts as well as expanding access to vital therapeutic treatments. But I do not support knee-jerk reactions from politicians that break from science and impose overreaching mandates on New Yorkers, which includes Governor Hochul's latest statewide mask mandate. This move places a tremendous burden on our local businesses and is not even based fully on the available science, which continues to indicate households have the highest transmission rates. (Contd. Pg. 46)

## Congresswoman Claudia Tenney

### *This Week in Washington*

(From Pg. 45) This is exactly why the American people are losing faith in the so-called “experts.” They continue to move the goalposts. They cite science when it suits them and disregard it when it doesn't. Studies indicate that the vaccine prevents serious illness and it is an important tool against COVID-19. Those who want a vaccine should receive it, but no New Yorker should be coerced into doing so and no American should be fired for failing to comply with the ever-changing edicts from Washington or Albany.

#### **Big Wins for Rome Lab and Troops in Defense Bill**

This week, the House voted to pass the bipartisan National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), which included three of my amendments. The bill will now be signed into law. I was honored to fight for Rome Lab and successfully secure an additional \$10 million for the facility, which it will use to establish a quantum network computing testbed program.

The NDAA is vital for our nation's security as well as our military service members and their families, and I was honored to support many of the great provisions in the bill that will ensure our military is prepared to handle any mission they're given. I was pleased to see that a 2.7% pay raise was included for our warfighters and that we are focusing resources to hold the Chinese Communist Party responsible for its role in the COVID-19 outbreak.

Finally, I made a commitment to you that I would fight to remove harmful provisions from this bill, and I delivered on that promise. This bill does not include an unnecessary provision requiring women to register for the draft. As a result of my continued advocacy, it also does not include an outright dangerous and unconstitutional provision infringing on our Second Amendment rights.

#### **Election Integrity Update: Pressing the Center for Tech and Civic Life to Disclose its 2020 Election Interference**

This week I sent a follow-up letter to Tiana Epps-Johnson, Executive Director of the Center for Tech and Civic Life (CTCL), seeking the immediate release of financial records from the left-leaning non-profit that distributed more than \$350 million in private funds mostly to Democratic-leaning election precincts during the 2020 election. I first sent a letter to CTCL in June 2021, requesting this information after news of the organization's election interference operations was exposed. Given CTCL's tax-exempt status, it is required by law to publicly disclose this information but has yet to submit the necessary disclosures.

As you may remember, earlier this year I introduced the End Zuckerbucks Act after it was exposed that during the 2020 cycle, Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg funneled \$350 million through CTCL to Boards of Elections without accountability or oversight from state legislatures or local governments. The vast majority of this money went to Democratic-leaning precincts to increase voter turnout. My bill, which has 19 cosponsors including Republican Conference Chair Elise Stefanik, would shore up the integrity of American elections by prohibiting private 501(c)(3) tax exempt organizations from providing direct funding to official public election organizations in the future.

I will continue to press for answers and share any information with you as soon as I receive it. As co-chair of the House Election Integrity Caucus, I am committed to preserving the fairness and integrity of the democratic process.

#### **Honoring the Life and Legacy of Senator Bob Dole**

Senator Bob Dole was a patriot, a public servant, and a gentleman, and this nation will always be grateful for the incredible life he led. It was a somber moment when I paid my respects to him as he lied in state in the rotunda of the United States Capitol

Building. This week in a speech on the House floor, I reflected on Senator Bob Dole's tremendous life. He leaves behind a legacy of service and accomplishment. Senator Dole, we salute you. May God rest your soul and may God Bless America. [Click here to watch my remarks.](#)

#### **Save Our Hospitals, End the Crushing Mandate**

Since the draconian vaccine mandate was put in place by Governor Kathy Hochul earlier this year, healthcare workers across our state have paid the price. Now, with labor shortages and rationed care, we are all paying the price.

This mandate is forcing massive layoffs at hospitals throughout our region, which has created a new and unprecedented healthcare emergency. This week the Mohawk Valley Health System was forced to turn to the National Guard to fill vacant positions and now elective procedures are being postponed. In light of this crisis, this week I again urged Governor Hochul to reverse her mandate and allow our healthcare heroes to return to work. [Read my letter at the link here.](#)

#### **My Votes Explained**

I'm committed to restoring transparency to government, which is why I explain every vote I take on the House floor. While we may not always agree, you will always know where I stand on the issues and how I vote in Congress. To read more about my votes, [please click here.](#)

I voted “No” on H.R. 5314, the blatantly partisan so-called Protecting Our Democracy Act. This bill is nothing more than political grandstanding by Congressman Adam Schiff and congressional Democrats, who wrote this wide-ranging legislation without any bipartisan input. While I do support protecting the powers of Congress and reinforcing our checks and balances, this bill is nothing more than a shameless targeting of former President Trump and cannot be taken as a serious attempt to legislate. This bill passed the House by a vote of 220-208.

I voted “Yes” on H.R. 4996, Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 2021. This bill provides expanded authorities to the Federal Maritime Commission (FMC), which regulates ocean shipping, to protect and ensure fairness for U.S. shippers who import and export items from the United States. It increases protections for U.S. shippers from retaliation by foreign ocean carriers if shippers file a complaint with the FMC. The legislation also prohibits foreign ocean carriers from unreasonably denying the carriage of U.S. export cargo on foreign ocean carriers' vessels if such cargo is available, can be loaded safely, and is going to a destination on the ship's schedule. This bill passed the House by a vote of 364-60.

I voted “Yes” on H.R. 2355, the Opioid Prescription Verification Act of 2021. This bill would require the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to annually update materials providing guidance about when pharmacists may decline to fill prescriptions for controlled substances and require updated guidance to include information for pharmacists on how to verify the identity of a patient. This bill passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 410-15.

I voted “Yes” on H.R. 5677, to make technical amendments to update statutory references to certain provisions classified to title 2, United States Code, title 50, United States Code. Title 2 of the United States Code pertains to all laws that govern Congress and the legislative branch. Title 50 of the United States Code pertains to all laws that govern War and National Defense. Title 52 of the United States Code pertains to all laws that govern voting and elections. This bill would make only technical changes to the code and update statutory references. This routine process helps to ensure constantly evolving rules and regulations are properly organized and easy to understand for the American people. This bill passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 414-1

# Attorney General James Issues Alert to Warn New York Consumers to Be Cautious of Companies Marketing Over-the-Counter Hearing Aids

## • Consumers Who Believe They Have Been Misled or Scammed by Sellers of Over-the-Counter Hearing Aids Should File Complaint With OAG

NEW YORK - New York Attorney General Letitia James today issued a consumer alert warning New Yorkers about deceptive companies selling unregulated and potentially faulty over-the-counter (OTC) hearing aids. New York law requires that hearing aids only be sold by licensed audiologists or hearing aid dispensers after such a provider has performed an exam and fitting. Last month, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) proposed a rule permitting the sale of a new category of OTC hearing aids that could be sold directly to consumers without an exam. While unregulated OTC hearing aids may work as intended, there is a risk that the devices could be defective or completely inadequate for the treatment of hearing loss. Advertisements for these new OTC hearing aids have already targeted New York consumers even though there are currently no OTC hearing aids that have received FDA approval.

“Hearing loss impacts individuals of all ages and backgrounds and I urge all New Yorkers to do their research before shopping for these devices,” said Attorney General James. “Companies that sell over-the-counter hearing devices are not held to the same standards as the licensed professionals who provide these critical devices, and they are not required to inform consumers of the risks associated with their products. While consumers may be tempted to purchase these unregulated and unlawful products because of their low prices, the ultimate price you pay may be further hearing loss.”

Medical device companies are required to register and list their devices with the FDA, though this registration only indicates that the company has provided information to the FDA; it does not indicate FDA approval, clearance, or authorization of the device. Unfortunately, this has not stopped some disreputable sellers of OTC hearing devices from falsely claiming that their products are “FDA-registered” or “FDA-cleared.”

If you are considering buying a hearing aid, the Office of the Attorney General recommends the following tips:

- o Beware of misleading claims. Over-the-counter hearing aids are only meant to treat mild to moderate hearing loss and may not be able to treat severe hearing loss. Avoid purchasing OTC hearing aids that claim to treat severe hearing loss or hearing loss in children.
- o Do your research. Be skeptical of testimonials on a seller's website. Instead, check with the Better Business Bureau to see if they have a good rating and whether consumers have submitted complaints against the company before you pur-

chase a product.

- o Consider having your hearing evaluated by a medical professional. While online hearing tests may be convenient, they may fail to detect serious hearing loss, or the underlying causes of your hearing loss.

- o Know your rights: Under New York law (General Business Law § 798(11)), if you are unhappy with your hearing aids you are allowed to return them within 45 days of receipt, including batteries, cords, and accessories and all fees related to the hearing aid, for a full refund less 10 percent. The seller must provide you with a written statement with this information. If a seller offers a longer return period, they must honor it.

“HLAA is pleased to see the proposed rules on over-the-counter hearing aids released by the FDA. This is one step closer to seeing OTC hearing devices on the market for adults with mild to moderate hearing loss,” said Barbara Kelley, executive director, Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA). “We are also pleased to see the Office of the Attorney General is educating consumers about OTC hearing aids. Until the FDA issues their final rules, we recommend consumers seek the help of licensed hearing health professionals to address their hearing loss.”

“As the FDA finalizes its rules for the sale of OTC hearing aids, consumers should continue to watch out for misleading marketing practices from companies jumping the gun to enter New York's market,” said Chuck Bell, programs director, Consumer Reports. “We agree that the terms 'FDA-registered' or 'FDA-cleared' for OTC hearing aids are inappropriate, and imply a higher level of safety review than these products actually receive. Consumers who think they may need a hearing aid should seek a medical evaluation to determine whether the hearing loss they have is serious in nature and/or potentially reversible.”

“As an organization dedicated to protecting New York City's aging and disabled population for almost 50 years, RiseBoro is committed to providing vital care,” said Scott Short, CEO, RiseBoro, Community Partnership. “We commend Attorney General Letitia James and her office for doing their part to protect seniors from these bad actors.”

“Scams targeting the older population happen too frequently,” said Kathryn Haslanger, CEO, Jewish Association Serving the Aging (JASA). “As the go-to agency serving and advocating for older adults in New York City, we applaud Attorney General James for making it a priority to finally put an end to those preying on older New Yorkers, especially as so many live on a fixed income. We are proud to do our part in providing seniors with resources, services, and information to help them navigate situations such as this.”

“Thank you to Attorney General James for taking meaningful action to protect New Yorkers from faulty and potentially damaging over-the-counter hearing aids,” said Wayne Ho, president & CEO, Chinese-American Planning Council. “People who use hearing aids should not be subjected to false or misleading claims of effectiveness or damage to their hearing in their search for increased affordability and access to care. Our community members have rights under New York state law, and we urge anyone who is considering purchasing a hearing aid to do their research and to exercise their rights if they feel they have been misled or scammed.”

New Yorkers who believe they have been misled or scammed by sellers of over-the-counter hearing aids are encouraged to contact the Office of the Attorney General by submitting a complaint form online or by calling (800) 428-9071.

# Governor Hochul Announces \$2 Million in State Funding to Help Afghan Evacuees Resettle in New York State

**First Gubernatorial Commitment of Funds to NYSESRP Brings Total State Commitment to \$5 Million Enhanced Services to Help Nearly 1,800 Afghan Evacuees Acclimate to Life in New York State Focus on Helping New Arrivals Reach Economic, Educational, and Social Self-Sufficiency**

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced that \$2 million in additional state funding will be provided to help Afghan evacuees acclimate to life in New York, bringing the total state commitment to \$5 million. This is the first gubernatorial commitment of such funds in New York State.

"For generations, immigrants have come to New York and the U.S. seeking freedom and opportunity—their contributions defining and strengthening the fabric of our state and nation," Governor Hochul said. "With Afghan evacuees fleeing widespread instability in their own country, New York State is proud to take a leading role in the massive resettlement effort, and with this historic, first-of-its-kind investment, we will connect people with the support they need to flourish in their new home. I also thank President Biden and Governor Markell for their efforts welcoming our friends and allies to our shores."

The funds will be administered through the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance's (OTDA) New York State Enhanced Services to Refugees Program (NYSESRP), and award letters will be issued within one week of the announcement. The funds will be distributed to more than one dozen nonprofit partners throughout the state that are providing intensive assistance to 1,790 Afghan evacuees that since September and continuing over the coming months have arrived or will arrive in New York State. Approximately 250 evacuees are scheduled to arrive in Albany, 495 in Buffalo, 190 in the New York City area, 50 in Niagara Falls, 275 in Rochester, 10 in Rockville Center, 420 in Syracuse, 50 in Utica, and 50 in Yonkers. Governor Hochul made the announcement while delivering virtual remarks on Afghan Resettlement efforts with White House Coordinator for 'Operation Allies Welcome' Jack Markell and Bard College President Leon Botstein.

The New York State Legislature has secured \$3 million in funding for NYSESRP in the current year's budget. Governor Hochul is committing an additional \$2 million so existing services can be supplemented and allow for more intensive acculturation services for an extended period of time to address the immediate and long-term needs of persons arriving from Afghanistan.

The enhanced services supported with the additional funding include:

- o Culturally competent orientations to help individuals and families acclimate to life in New York State.
- o Additional support to help access mental health services to address recently experienced trauma.
- o English language instruction.
- o Access to job training and job placement services.
- o Case-management to ensure children are enrolled in school and accessing services to support academic success.
- o Help obtaining necessary benefits and drivers licenses.
- o Other services that meet the needs of the individual or family so they can attain economic independence and thrive.

NYSESRP contracts with nonprofit partners across the state

that provide services including case management, employment and training services, English language training, as well as health and medical services to newly arrived refugees in the U.S., Special Immigrant Visa holders and asylees. The program funds local refugee resettlement agencies which work with individuals and families to help them attain economic and social self-sufficiency and integrate into the community.

This funding builds on existing State efforts to directly support and house Afghan refugees. For example, SUNY, partnering with OTDA and the NYS Office for New Americans, will provide housing, educational services, career and workforce supports, technology and a vast array of additional services with other community partners. In an effort to help Afghan evacuees resettle in New York, Governor Hochul announced in October that SUNY will open its 10 Educational Opportunity Centers to them by waiving the one-year residency requirement for admission. Some of SUNY's campuses are also partnering with local agencies to house evacuees in vacant dorms. SUNY will also provide excess laptops to Afghan evacuees to provide access to educational programming.

The resettlement of families and individuals from Afghanistan is the largest resettlement effort in such a short period of time that has occurred in our lifetimes. New York is proudly taking a leading role in assisting the Afghan evacuees' successful integration into the U.S.

**Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance Executive Deputy Commissioner Barbara C. Guinn** said, "These families and individuals have already experienced great hardships and are in need of assistance to help rebuild their lives. We are grateful for Governor Hochul's leadership on this issue and for ensuring that New York continues to serve as a beacon of hope for those fleeing struggles abroad."

**International Rescue Committee in New York Executive Director Avigail Ziv** said, "The IRC in New York is grateful to Governor Hochul for her support in welcoming newly arrived Afghans and helping meet critical needs as they rebuild their lives in our New York communities. The additional \$2 million funding for resettlement assistance is crucial to extend support for the successful resettlement of the 1,000 Afghans that already have arrived in New York, as well as the 700 additional Afghans expected to arrive in the coming months. Refugee resettlement is a lifeline that the U.S. provides for the most vulnerable refugees at a time of unprecedented global crisis. We thank the Governor for preserving New York as a home for those making new lives here in the U.S."

**White House Coordinator for 'Operation Allies Welcome' Jack Markell** said, "I want to thank Governor Hochul and the people of New York for providing our Afghan allies with the welcome and the support that they deserve. In New York, and across the country, Americans are coming together to embrace people who put themselves in harm's way to support peace, security, and justice in Afghanistan alongside our mission there. The efforts I've seen in New York to help our allies rebuild their lives here truly reflect the best of America."

**InterFaith Works President and CEO Beth Broadway** said, "Since September 2021, InterFaith Works of Central New York has received and is resettling 71 Afghan evacuees, with more expected in the coming months. In many instances they left with little more than the clothes on their back. This funding is both timely and much needed, as we help these individuals and families settle into our community and begin their new lives. We commend Governor Hochul for continuing New York's proud tradition of welcoming those displaced by conflict and providing the resources to help them start anew."

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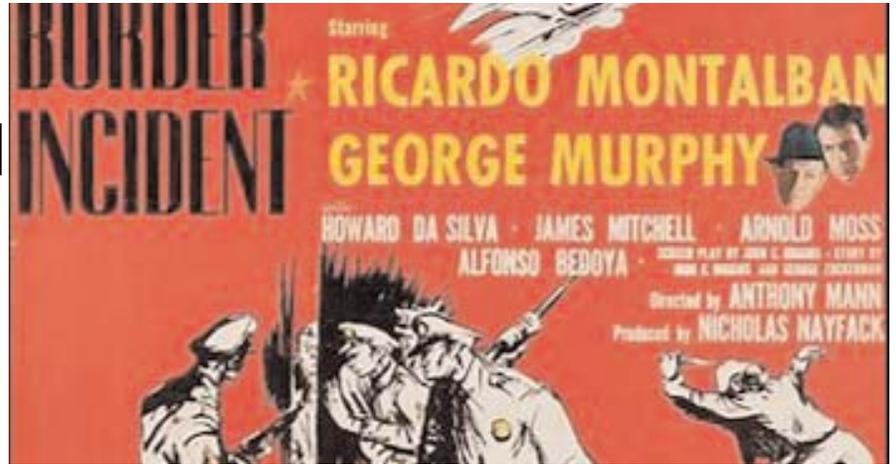
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evident as a problem in 1949, and has now  
become the human invasion in 2021 bent on  
the destruction of the American people paid  
for by foreign U.N. merchant bankers.

**BORDER INCIDENT**  
(TV-PG / 1949 / 1hr 34min / Film Noir /  
Crime / PG-13)



This is the dramatized true story of agents posing as illegal immigrant  
farm workers from Mexico, being smuggled into southern California in the  
1940's. Murder was the order of the day as suspicion of being caught was  
afoot, or the killing of the farm workers for the money they had earned as  
they travelled back to Mexico.

(Contd. Pg. 51).



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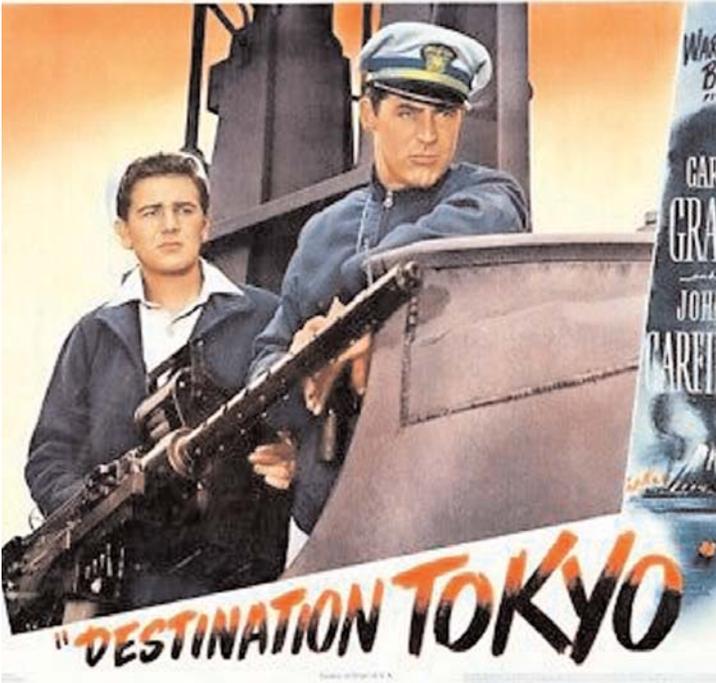
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(From Pg. 50 )

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AVAILABLE ON AMAZON, IMOB, NETFLIX

**DESTINATION TOKYO**  
(1943 - 2H 15M - WAR - TV-PG)



A U.S. sub braves enemy waters during World War II in order to provide information for the first air raid over Tokyo. A U.S. submarine sneaks into Tokyo Bay and places a spy team ashore. Writers: Steve Fisher (original story), Delmer Daves (screen play) Directed by Delmer Daves. Starring: Cary Grant, John Garfield, and Alan Hale



**KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE**  
AVAILABLE ON AMAZON, IMOB, NETFLIX

**Air Force**  
(1943 - 2h 4m - War - TV-G)



A B-17 bomber crew sees World War II action over the Pacific as Pearl Harbor is attacked, as they get caught without ammunition and unexpectedly fly into the dastardly attack on Pearl Harbor.



Directed by Howard Hawks. Starring: John Ridgely, Gig Young, Arthur Kennedy, Harry Carey and John Garfield.

*Stay safe, and staywell*  
**Knarf Odnamoc**  
**Gnome**