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Ye Olde Tri GOOINSDAN Valley

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VOL. 16 NO. 49 GRAHAMSVILLE, NY 12740 DECEMBER 17, 2020 \$1.00

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Ms. Charlotte Gregory Returns to FCSD as Interim Principal

Superintendent of Fallsburg Central School District (FCSD) Dr. Ivan Katz officially announced to staff and on the District Facebook page, the appointment of Ms. Charlotte Gregory as interim Principal of Fallsburg Jr/Sr High School. She is a lifelong educator with several decades of experience, and she is very familiar to FCSD. In 2005, Ms. Gregory served as interim Superintendent of Schools, preparing the District for a transition to a new school superintendent who took over in 2006, Dr. Katz.

Ms. Gregory retired as a School Superintendent in the mid 1990's and is now serving in her 17th stint as an interim administrator. Fallsburg is proud to welcome her back in her interim role that supports the Junior-Senior High School to prepare for a transition to a new principal.

The process for a principal search has already begun. Principal applicants have been reviewed and screening interviews are taking place this week and next week. Following the screening interviews, qualified candidates will be invited back to be interviewed by stakeholder groups made up of board members, school staff at various levels, parents and students. Following these interviews, the top candidate will be recommended to the Board of Education for appointment. Superintendent Katz is hopeful that this entire process will conclude in the month of January.



Ms. Charlotte Gregory

A Covid-19 compliant Nutcracker *The Nutcracker at Wethersfield*



The Nutcracker at Wethersfield a Covid-19 compliant Nutcracker, choreographed and directed by Troy Schumacher is currently running this holiday season through December 23 at the glorious Wethersfield Estate in Amenia, NY – a two-hour drive north of Times Square. (Contd. Pg. 7)

YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN

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

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

EDITOR: Linda Comando - 985-0501

NEVERSINK NEWS: Hulda Vernooy

THE SCENE TOO - Jane Harrison

OLIVE JAR - Carol La Monda

MYSTERIOUS BOOK REPORT - John McKenna

HER QUIRKY JOURNEY - Marilyn North

FALLSBURG NEWS - Larry Schafman

MOVIE TRIVIA - Frank Comando a/k/a Knarf

Email: tvtownsman@yahoo.com

Website: thetownsman.com

Subscription for *The Townsman* will be available in pdf format and will be delivered to you each week in your email that will be provided by you. *The Townsman* can easily be read on a computer, tablet or cell phone. The pages have been formatted so they can be printed out as a whole paper or a single page. We continue to encourage those who have home printers, to print out a hard copy and perhaps pass it on to a family member or friend who does not have a computer.

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

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.

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

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

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

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

ON THE FRONT BURNER:
Verily I say unto you, whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein.

Verily I say unto you, whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein.
Mark 10:15

OBITUARY

Harold E. Buley, Jr. of Grahamsville, passed away on Monday, December 7, 2020 at home. He was 76.

He was the son of the late Harold E. Buley Sr. and Kathleen Phillips, born on October 31, 1944 in Kingston, NY.

Harold worked as a custom knife maker for Schrade Cutlery and Canal Street Cutlery in Ellenville, NY. He was very active in his community as a member of several associations: Grahamsville Rod and Gun Club, Mountain View Rod and Gun Club, Beaverdam Club, Rondout Antique Machinery Association, Sullivan County Federation of Sportsmen and the Wawarsing Historical Society Knife Museum. He donated his time as coach to the Tri-Valley Little League as well as the Cub Master for Pack 87. In his free time he enjoyed being outdoors hunting, fishing and camping. He was in general a kindhearted soul who touched the lives and hearts of many.

He leaves behind to cherish his memory, his wife Linda at home, whom he married on January 26, 1964; sons Todd and his wife Robin and Troy and his wife Natalie, all of Stone Ridge, NY; grandchildren Aaron, Travis(Liz), Ryan (Becky), Heidi (Jason), Elizabeth and Matthew; his siblings : Arnold Buley and his wife Willie, Beverly Roebuck, Irving Buley, Barbara Stewart and her husband Robert, Linda Moore, Louise Clark and her husband Fred, Bruce Buley and his companion Chris, Roger Buley and his wife Patty and Gloria Reed and her husband Robert; several nieces, nephews and cousins; as well as a close friend Eric Akerley and his wife Donna,. He is predeceased by his brother Barry Buley.

Donations in Harold's name can be made to Hospice of Orange and Sullivan, 800 Stony Brook Ct., Newburgh, NY 12550.

A celebration of Harold's life will be held at a later date. Arrangements under the care of Colonial Memorial Funeral Home, for further information call 845-434-7363 or visit www.colonialfamilyfuneral-homes.com

To plant a tree in memory of Harold Buley, please visit Tribute Store at: <https://tree.tributecenter-store.com/>

DAYS OF YORE...**Today's History****November 29, 1950****December 6, 1950**

Fire of undetermined origin completely destroyed the home and furniture of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Crum on Lackawack Hill Sunday. They learned of the fire when they stopped at a gas station in Napanoch. When they returned home the fire had destroyed the building and its contents.

Miss Eleanor Dulaff, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Dulaff of Claryville, was married Sunday evening at the Grahamsville Methodist Church to Mr. Fred Ahrens, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Ahrens of Alabama. The Rev. Howard West officiated.

Mr. William Denman died Sunday at Hurley at the age of eighty-one. Among the ten surviving children are Mr. Bruce Denman, Neversink Town Supervisor and Paul Denman, both of Grahamsville, and Mr. Hugh Denman of Woodbourne.

Mr. Sumner Krum reports that 4.38 inches of rain fell in 24 hours a week ago.

With about 70 feet to go on Monday morning, it was expected that the Grahamsville-Neversink Tunnel would connect with the Benton Hollow shaft this week. Frazier-Davis Co., contractors for the tunnel, will probably be another two years before completing the entire job.

December 7, 1960

Nial Van Wagner, a retired Correction Officer of the Eastern Correctional Institution, Napanoch died Monday, November 28, 1960 in Kingston. He was born August 16, 1895 at Grahamsville to Calvin and Eva Tompkins Van Wagner. He was married to Dorothy Dotson.

(Contd. Pg 3)

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

(From Pg. 2)

December 7, 1960

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Dymond of Sundown are the parents of a daughter, Cindy Sue, bom at Veterans Memorial Hospital on November 27.

"If children didn't ask questions, how could they find out that we know so little?" (Herbert V. Prochnow)

December 16, 1970

Services were held Tuesday for Mr. Daniel Keogan, 78, of Wawarsing who died Friday at home after a long illness. Born in Montela, Dec. 19, 1891, he was the son of Cornelius and Victoria Gorton Keogan. He married the former Elizabeth Huson in Grahamsville, June 2, 1914.

Anniversary wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Fuller, 23 yrs., Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Gridley, Jr., 13 yrs., and Dr. and Mrs. George Maybury, 18 years, all on the 21st.

Happy birthday to Mrs. Ray Hornbeck on the 17th. A dinner birthday party will be held at the home of her parents on Thursday.

Mrs. Eugene Fuller and daughter, Eileen, were hostesses at their home on Monday evening for a stork shower for Mrs. Archie Ackerley, Jr.

December 4, 1980

Martin V. LaPolt, 71, of Benton Hollow Rd., Hasbrouck, died Thursday at the Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital, Cooperstown. A lifelong resident of the area, he was born November 9, 1909 in Woodbourne to James and Katherine Erts LaPolt.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Poley of Neversink are the parents of an 8 lb. 1 oz. girl, Deanna Marie, born October 7, 1980 at Horton Memorial Hospital, Middletown. The maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Archie Dean, Jr. of Neversink. The paternal grandmother is Mrs. Martha Lee Poley of Cold Spring Rd. Liberty, N.Y.

Household Hints:**Brighten up Brickwork**

How's this for an effortless way to get a brick fireplace ready to hang the stockings on. Just go over the bricks with a damp cloth dipped in 1 cup white vinegar mixed with 1 gallon warm water.

The brick will look so good you'll never think about cleaning them with anything else.

Nature Column - Linda Comando

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

Another Merry Berry – Wintergreen!

This time of the year if you happen to be out in a woody area, you may still find a few cheery bright red berries on some little Wintergreen plants that creep along the forest floor.

Wintergreen plants remain green through winter, thus they are also called evergreens. Several genera contain species known as wintergreen and often are referred to as Christmas Wintergreen, Chimaphila, Gaultheria, Polygala, Pyrola, or Trientalis.

Wintergreen is a crawling rhizomatous shrublet that creeps along the ground. The leaves of the wintergreen are scalloped or bristly toothed, and have a strong wintergreen scent when crushed. They are alternate, simple, evergreen, oval to elliptical, and are 1 to 2 inches long. Leaves appear whorled since they cluster at tips of the plant. The leaves are dark shiny green above, and much paler below often with black dots. Urn-shaped white or pale pink flowers appear in summer and mature to aromatic scarlet fruit that often persists into the following spring if it is not eaten by a bear, birds, squirrels, chipmunks, deer mice, grouse, partridges, bobwhites, turkeys, or even a red fox in emergency.



Wintergreen does well in sun or shade, but prefers partial shade and acidic soil.

This tiny aromatic evergreen that is technically a shrub is a scant four to six inches tall and spreads only about four inches annually by stolons (a creeping horizontal plant stem or runner that takes root along its length to make new plants) making this little plant ideal for a Christmas dish garden. New plants also are propagated from seeds that are dispersed by animals.



Wintergreen berries were used medicinally by the Native Americans to alleviate rheumatic symptoms, headache, fever, and various aches and pains.

The Ojibwa Indians called it Winisbugons- usually translated "Dirty Leaf" but perhaps better translated "Leaf in the Bog". The French in Quebec gave it the poetic name la Petit te du bois – "The Little Tea of the Woods." Throughout its extensive range it has gained a number of regional names: Box Berry, Canadian Mint, Checkerberry, Deerberry, Leatherleaf, Ground-tea or Groundberry, Hillberry, Mountainberry, Patridgeberry, Spiceberry, or Teaberry. Perhaps you may remember when wintergreen found its way into chewing gum that was appropriately called, "Teaberry Gum".

Today Wintergreen is still a common flavoring in American products ranging from chewing gum, mints and candies. It is also a common flavoring for dental hygiene products such as mouthwash and toothpaste, and is used in medicines such as Pepto Bismol®.

For the artist, wintergreen oil is used in fine art printing applications when transferring a color photocopy image or color laser print to a high-rag content art paper, such as a hot-press watercolor paper.

One surprising use for Wintergreen oil is rust removal and degreasing of machinery. Wintergreen is particularly effective for breaking through sea water corrosion.

Wintergreen is a native in much of eastern North America and throughout the Catskills, and is cultivated beyond that area wherever conditions permit. It is prized mostly as an ornamental plant. Relatively few people use it today as an edible, or medicinally.

A word of CAUTION: about 1 fl oz) of oil of wintergreen is equivalent to 55.7 g of aspirin, or about 171 adult aspirin tablets (US). This conversion illustrates the potency and potential toxicity of oil of wintergreen even if ingested in small quantities.

With the weather forecast for this week, I am not sure how much longer we will see this festive little ground cover once the snow begins to blanket the forest and the winter scene begins.

Teachers' lives have changed; their love for education hasn't

By Matt Haynes
Tri-Valley Central School Teacher

When my wife became pregnant with our first child at the start of the pandemic, I knew I would have to take every precaution to make sure I didn't get infected, including once I returned in person to Tri-Valley Secondary School, where I teach English. My infection would surely lead to her infection and obvious complications, at first with a baby on the way and now with Harper Lee Haynes, our new baby girl, born Nov. 10.

There was never any question for me about going back into a school building, though. I am absolutely passionate about what I do, and I still love my job, love seeing my students every day (in person or virtually) and love being around my colleagues.

So I've altered my typical day.

Taking my temperature is a daily part of my morning ritual at home. I keep a week's worth of dress clothes at school so I can change upon arrival, change back into the clothes I commute in at the end of the day and bring home any potentially contaminated laundry at the end of the week to be washed immediately.

The precautions we take during the school day are the same as any other school district. Like my colleagues and students, I wear a mask. Students must have their temperature taken before getting on the bus in the morning. Those who come to school by car have their temperature taken before getting out of the vehicle.

A third of my students will be in the classroom on any given day, separated by six feet at all times. The other two-thirds will be virtual. Our job is to teach both groups at the same time, which essentially is like teaching two classes at once. This challenge is made harder by internet outages, computer crashes and when students online aren't in sync with students in the classroom. Consider that on a recent school day, one of my colleagues dealt with six power outages and a fire alarm before school was finally dismissed early for the day.

Even with all the extra precautions and reduced classroom occupancy, I was exposed to COVID-19 in October along several others. While I quarantined for two weeks and taught remotely, my wife - nine months pregnant at the time - went to stay with her parents.

Even still, I take great pride in what we as a school community have done since last March to meet the needs of students. Over the summer, members of my union, the Tri-Valley Teachers' Association, volunteered multiple days a week to deliver lunches to students who needed them. We've been asked to disinfect desks between every class, something I never imagined we'd have to do when I trained to become a teacher. My colleagues and I do all of this because of our passion for educating and watching our students grow.

But what comes next is an open question.

We've watched for months as Congress has been stuck in a stalemate over another stimulus package that would deliver sorely needed resources for schools working to keep everyone safe while operating on shoestring budgets. We've heard that Albany may need to make dramatic cuts to education to cover the massive budget gap the state faces.

For now, my district is keeping all of our classes and programs in place. But how long will that last?

Educators and students should not have to fend for ourselves in this pandemic. We need Congress to deliver real relief that helps us keep up with testing, contact tracing, PPE, ventilation and technology needs for all our students. And we need the state to consider every option at its disposal, including taxes on the ultrawealthy and rainy day reserve funds, during the upcoming legislative session.

I'll keep making the changes necessary to do the job I love. But I should not - nor should my students, my colleagues and our families - have to adapt alone.

A Country Calendar
By Ann Higgins



2021

Country Calendar Order Form:

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Number of Calendars @ \$6.00 each...

Ann Higgins

34 Walker Rd.

Grahamsville, NY 12740

SC Sheriff Arrests NYC Man for Failing to Appear in Court

The Sullivan County Sheriff's Office has arrested a New York City Man for failing to appear on a burglary charge.

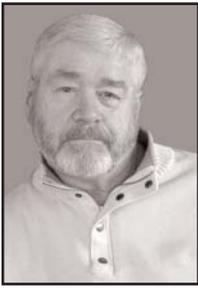
Elijah Cooper, 20, of Manhattan was arrested by Deputies in the Town of Fallsburg on March 12, 2020 for Burglary in the 2nd Degree, a Felony and Misdemeanor Petit Larceny. He was arraigned in court and released under New York State's new bail reform law, with a return date of March 16, 2020. After being given an opportunity to appear voluntarily, a bench warrant was issued for the suspect on August 24, 2020.

On December 8, 2020, the Sheriff's Office was contacted by the New York City Department of Corrections who advised that Elijah Cooper had been arrested by NYPD on a separate charge and was set to be released from jail that day. Deputies traveled to Rikers Island and picked up Cooper on the outstanding bench warrant for burglary. He was transported back to Sullivan County where he was arraigned before Town of Thompson Judge Martin Miller. Cooper was once again released on his own recognizance, under New York's bail law and ordered to appear in court on January 11, 2021.

Germania

Mysterious Book Report No. 429

by John Dwaine McKenna



In author Harald Gilbers searing new novel of Nazi Berlin entitled, *Germania*, (Thomas Dunn Books, \$28.99, 352 pages, ISBN 978-1-250-24693-6), it's May of 1944 and the city is being pounded to rubble by daily bombings from Allied warplanes. The German public is beginning to question Nazi propaganda about the war effort, the so-called "Final Solution" is in full swing, and a diabolical serial killer is on the loose, slaughtering courtesan women, then ritualistically posing their bodies in front of World War I memorials. That's when a man named Richard Oppenheimer—a Jew, and one of Berlin's best detectives before being fired and prevented from working for the police because of his religion — is summoned by an SS officer named Vogler, to a crime scene where the most recent victim has been left.

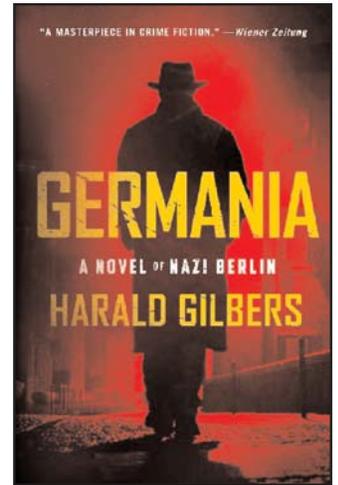
The arrangement puts both men at risk, but Oppenheimer has the most to lose. His life is in Vogler's hands. He could be shipped off to a concentration camp and certain death at any moment for the slightest of infractions, at the whim of Hauptsturmführer Vogler, or one of his superior officers. It's an almost impossible dilemma. Solve the case and he's no longer needed. Fail to find the monster and Oppenheimer becomes the scapegoat, as well as the perfect fall guy to take the blame in this tense, atmospheric and exquisitely well-researched historical novel.

If you crave an intelligent, compelling and exciting murder mystery with accurate period details, *Germania* is just what you've been looking for. The Allies have landed at Normandy in the west and the Russians are advancing from the east, Berlin is trapped between the two. The bombs keep falling, even as more bodies continue to be discovered, and the tension ratchets up on every page of this thrilling and unforgettable novel set against the background of World War II. Don't miss it!

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

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



Interview With The Author: Harald Gilbers

by

John Dwaine McKenna

Today, we're speaking via email with German writer Harald Gilbers, whose thought-provoking, tense and atmospheric novel of wartime Nazi, Berlin, *Germania* is reviewed in MBR No. 429. Thanks Mr. Gilbers, for taking the time to share your thoughts and writing insights with our audience today. We're all eager to hear them, so here's our first question . . .

How do you deal with a negative review?

If I sense that the reviewer completely missed the point I don't even bother to read the whole review. The same goes for slanting reviews, they are just destructive. Thought-out negative reviews, on the other hand, are sometimes quite instructive and help me to detect aspects that I could have done better.

What's the most important element for writing success?

Perseverance. An aspiring novelist has to understand that there are no shortcuts. This applies to both the writing of novels and their publication. You're in for a marathon, not for a sprint.

What makes a character compelling?

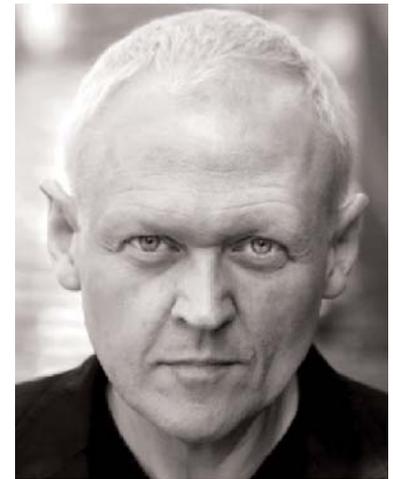
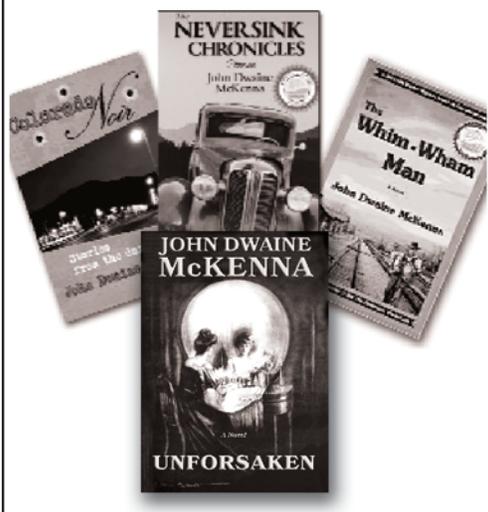
I think that most compelling characters have some flaws or contradictions. They are not as good or smart as they think they are. Reality differs a bit from their own perception. With this you have a lot of room for conflict. And conflict is the basis of any story.

Do you plot-outline or wing it?

I write crime novels, so managing the expectations of the reader is essential. When I start to write a novel its plot is already as good as finished. I may add some bells and whistles later on, but not many. All of my stories are based on the traditional three act structure, which grows increasingly complex during preparations.

(Contd. Pg. 10)

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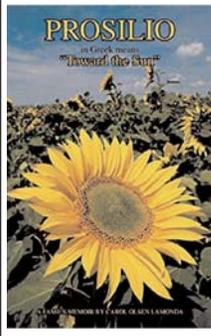



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The FamilyMemoir, PROSILIO...

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



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The Olive Jar

By Carol Olsen LaMonda

2020 Jargon



In this year of the Covid-19 Pandemic, our vocabulary has become fraught with euphemisms. The jargon uses innocuous, common words and phrases with a different connotation to make this odious situation more palatable. Here are a few of these sanitized vocabulary terms and what they really mean.

SOCIAL DISTANCING means "Stay far away from 'germy' humans."

FOOD INSECURITY means "You have no money to buy groceries



or there is a scarcity of wipes, paper towels, or rolls of toilet paper."

PPE means "Gear to cover as much of your body as possible and still allow you to breathe."

YOUR POD OR BUBBLE means "People who co-habitat with you or with whom you trust with your life, literally."

VENTILATOR means "A last-ditch breathing device, not to be confused with ventilation which means to open windows and run fans to dissipate Covid droplets."

POSITIVITY RATE means "Percent of population carrying the disease which sounds positive but is really a negative when it rises."

CURBSIDE PICKUP means "to order on-line and pick up at the store in which you are afraid to enter. It used to mean "a person of low morals involved in prostitution."

ZOOM means "An involved process to log in, mute, and maneuver several conversations at once with people you wish you could see in person."

CHARCUTERIE BOARD: Now that we cannot eat safely inside bars and restaurants where we would order a charcuterie board as an exorbitant appetizer, we now artistically arrange any meat, cheese, fruit, olives, crackers, and nuts on a cutting board and pretend it is a special occasion. It is an upscale way to clean out refrigerator leftovers.

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**A Covid-19 compliant Nutcracker
 The Nutcracker at Wethersfield**

(From Pg. 1) This watershed live production provides a guided immersive experience in a historical site. *The Nutcracker at Wethersfield* will then be streamed on demand, free of charge, directly following its run. BalletCollective and the Wethersfield Estate are producing the event.

The free stream of *The Nutcracker at Wethersfield* will be available to watch on demand at www.NutcrackerAtWethersfield.com from December 23 at 5pm to December 26 at midnight.

This event keeps this beloved holiday tradition alive in a re-imagined, safety-compliant way that is unlike any other production of Tchaikovsky's masterpiece. *The Nutcracker at Wethersfield* is the first new full-length premiere and the first professional full-length production of *The Nutcracker* in the U.S.

The Nutcracker at Wethersfield features female party scene costumes by Oscar de la Renta, male party scene costumes by Todd Snyder, Christmas trees and decorations by Balsam Hill and wallpaper and fabric design by Schumacher Fabrics. There is also a live music element at each event from The Metropolis Ensemble and the event's medical partner is Dr. Lipi Roy, an NBC News medical contributor. Acclaimed filmmaker Annie Sundberg ("*Joan Rivers: A Piece of Work*," "*Surviving Jeffrey Epstein*") is producing and directing a feature documentary about this historic production.

Invitations to attend the live event are limited due to current regulations and will be open only to underwriters of *The Nutcracker at Wethersfield*. In addition to underwriters and their guests, a limited number of invitations will be provided to families hard hit by the pandemic through the following community organizations: Willow Roots, Inc. in Pine Plains, Grace Immigrant Outreach in Millbrook, North East Community Center in Millerton, and Food of Life/Comida de Vida (Food Pantry of St. Thomas Episcopal Church) in Amenia Union.

Invitations to essential workers in the Rhinebeck community have also been extended courtesy of Van Lamprou of Del's Dairy Farm. These include teachers, medical personnel, and a restaurant owner who donated food to front line Covid workers. For more information visit:
<http://www.NutcrackerAtWethersfield.com>

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Shadowland Stages Announces a special online presentation of a reading of a new play **CHRISTMAS 1953 - A Story by Tom Hanks**

Adapted for the stage by James Glossman
Presented as a holiday benefit for SHADOWLAND STAGES
Starring David Strathairn, Sharon Washington
Maryann Plunkett, Jay O. Sanders and Leyu Girma
Premiering Saturday, December 19th at 8pm
And available for viewing through Tuesday, December 22nd

(7 December 2020) **SHADOWLAND STAGES** (Brendan Burke, Artistic Director and Elena K. Holy, Managing Director) today announced that through the generosity of the creative team and actors David Strathairn, Sharon Washington, Maryann Plunkett, Jay O. Sanders, and Leyu Girma - the theatre will present a special online benefit reading of **CHRISTMAS 1953**, a short story by Tom Hanks that has been adapted for the stage by SHADOWLAND STAGES' artistic associate, James Glossman.

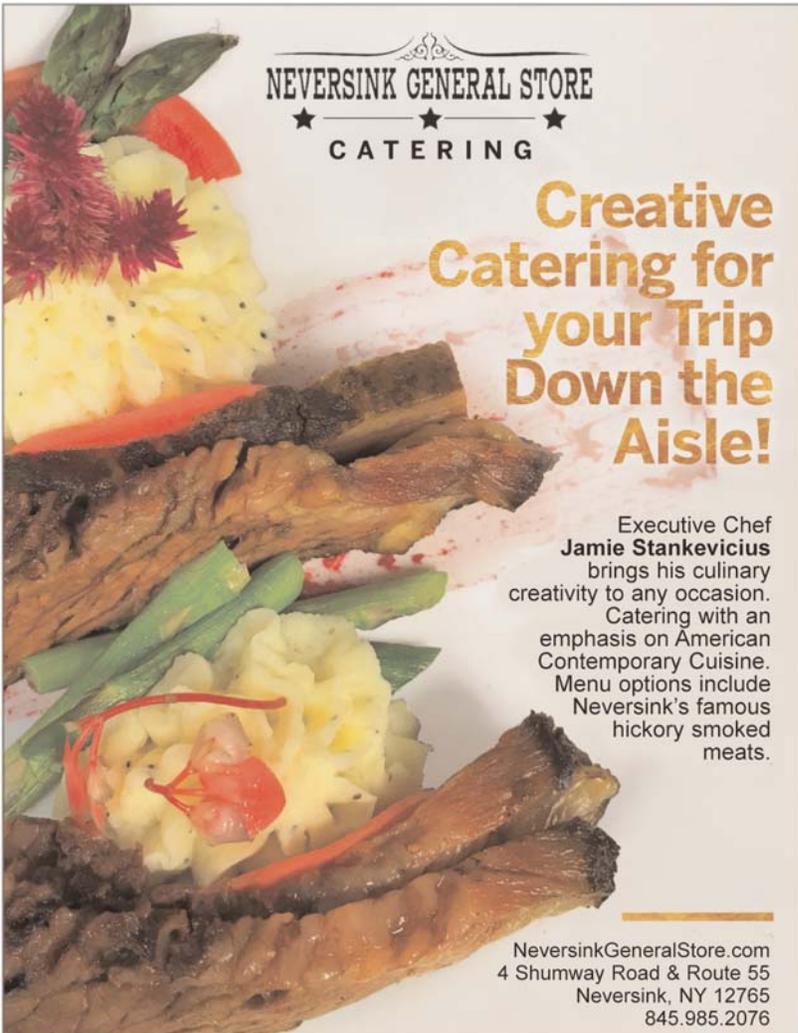
As previously announced, SHADOWLAND was forced to cancel its entire 2020 season due to the pandemic, and its live producing program is still on hiatus, until gatherings are allowed. Artistic Director Brendan Burke said "2020 has been a difficult year for SHADOWLAND, and for theatres everywhere. With the safety of our audience and staff being our first priority, we're not yet able to welcome our patrons back into our theatre. But we are thrilled and fortunate to announce this special fundraising event - the reading of a new play, an adaptation of a short story by one of America's finest actors, Tom Hanks, starring some of the best talents of the American stage."

CHRISTMAS 1953 is a story by Tom Hanks that was included in his book "Uncommon Type: Some Stories" - a collection of seventeen wonderful short stories showing that two-time Oscar winner Tom Hanks is as talented a writer as he is an actor. This reading is performed with permission of the author. The story was adapted for the stage by James Glossman (bio below) and is part of a trio of stories Glossman has adapted from the book. This will be the first time it is heard.

CHRISTMAS 1953 tells the story of Virgil Buell and his wife Delores, who every year on Christmas Eve get the house ready for a celebratory Christmas morning with their kids. And every Christmas Eve, right at midnight, Virgil gets a long distance phone call from his old Army buddy, Bud. Bud's annual call, from somewhere in the world, sends Virgil careening back through the tunnel of memory to the shells and shrapnel of their shared, explosive past. A Yuletide fable of love, loss, redemption and hope.

The extraordinary artists donating their talents to this benefit reading include:

Leyu Girma - Leyu Girma is 11 years old and she lives in South Orange, NJ. Her recent performances include being a part of a stage reading of Jim Glossman's adaptation of **THE DOOR INTO SUMMER** by Robert Heinlein alongside Stephen Colbert and other established actors. At Farbrook School (Short Hills, NJ) she read the part of King Lear in **THE TRAGEDY OF KING LEAR**, performed as a messenger in **THE CHILDREN OF HERAKLES** and played the hippo in the adaptation of the Blue Faience Hippopotamus (all adapted and produced by Jim Glossman). She performed the part of a fairytale character in the musical **SHREK** at South Orange Performing Arts Center in South Orange, NJ (with Class Act Studio). (Contd. Pg. 9)



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Shadowland Stages

Announces a special online presentation of a reading of a new play (From Pg. 8)

Maryann Plunkett - Tony Award winner Maryann Plunkett recently played Joanne Rogers opposite Tom Hanks in the film "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood" and Mrs. Kirk in Greta Gerwig's "Little Women", both receiving substantial Academy Awards attention. She also appeared as Mrs. Fang in "The Family Fang" opposite Christopher Walken, Nicole Kidman, and Jason Bateman. During this pandemic, she has appeared at the center of Richard Nelson's internationally-lauded Apple Family Zoom Trilogy and is currently filming the streaming series Dr. Death with Alec Baldwin. Her stage work includes Juno in *JUNO & THE PAYCOCK* in rep with Bessie Burgess in *THE PLOUGH & THE STARS* for Irish Rep's recent O'Casey Festival, the Bengson's new musical *THE LUCKY ONES* for Ars Nova, and a decade of appearances in Richard Nelson's multiple-award-winning Rhinebeck Panorama - 4 Apple Family, 3 Gabriel Family and 1 Michaels Family plays - all at the Public Theater, followed by acclaimed European and World tours. She was a founding member of Portland Stage repertory company in Maine who went on to play on Broadway as Bernadette Peters's replacement in the role of "Dot" in *SUNDAY IN THE PARK WITH GEORGE* in 1985. It was two years later when she won the Tony Award for Best Leading Actress in a Musical for her performance as "Sally Smith" in *ME AND MY GIRL*. Other Theater includes: *AGNES OF GOD*, *THE CRUCIBLE*, *ST. JOAN*, *AN OAK TREE*, and a long list of Shakespeare, Chekhov, etc. Other Film/TV includes: "Manifest", "The Apple Family", "The Gabriel Family", "MAD", "Youth in Oregon", "The Squid and the Whale", "Bull", "The Good Wife", "The Knick", "Chicago Med", "L&O", etc. She has also done numerous audiobooks and commercial voiceover work.

Jay O. Sanders - is perhaps most recognized for his work in the films "The Day After Tomorrow" (2004) and "Green Lantern" (2011), but other notable film roles include "Glory" (1989), "JFK" (1991), "Angels in the Outfield" (1994), "Half Nelson" (2006), and "Revolutionary Road" (2008). He is currently on indefinite pause from Conor McPherson's Broadway hit *GIRL FROM THE NORTH COUNTRY*. During the pandemic, he appeared online in Richard Nelson's zoom trilogy (*WHAT DO WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT?*, *AND SO WE COME FORTH*, & *INCIDENTAL MOMENTS OF THE DAY*), which grew out of a series of stage plays (*THE APPLES*, *THE GABRIELS*, and *THE MICHAELS*) all at the Public Theater over the last decade. He played the title role in *UNCLE VANYA* directed and co-translated by Nelson for the newborn Hunter Theater Project (for which Sanders won the 2019 Drama Desk Award for Best Actor), the title role in *CYRANO DE BERGERAC* (adapted and directed by Joseph Haj) at the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis, and has been a regular presence at the Delacorte Theater/Shakespeare in the Park for over 40 years. Television: "Manhunt: Deadly Games", "Sneaky Pete", "The Sinner", "True Detective". Sanders is also a prolific narrator of PBS documentaries, including WGBH's "Nova" and WNET's "Secrets of the Dead" and the playwright of an exploration of the people and events of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda called "Unexplored Interior" which premiered in 2015 as the inaugural production of Washington D.C.'s Mosaic Theater.

David Strathairn - Often recognized for his role as CIA Deputy Director Noah Vosen in the 2007 film "The Bourne Ultimatum" (a role he reprised in 2012's "The Bourne Legacy"), David Strathairn also played Dr. Lee Rosen on the Syfy series "Alphas" from 2011 to 2012 as well as Secretary of State William H. Seward in Steven Spielberg's film "Lincoln" (2012). He won an Emmy and was nominated for a Golden Globe for his role in the TV film "Temple Grandin" (2010), and was nominated for an Academy Award for

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Best Actor for portraying journalist Edward R. Murrow in "Good Night, and Good Luck" (2005). His many theatre roles include

REMEMBER THIS : THE LESSON OF JAN KARSKI (Laboratory for Global Performance and Politics, Georgetown University), *UNDERNEATH THE LINTEL*, *SCORCHED*, *THE TEMPEST*, *CHESTER BAILEY (ACT/SF)*, *HAPGOOD* (Lincoln Center NY), *THE BIRTHDAY PARTY*, *MOUNTAIN LANGUAGE* (CSC NY), and performances on Broadway in *SALOME*, *DANCE OF DEATH*, and *THE HEIRESS*.

Sharon Washington - Sharon has recently been seen in Todd Phillip's "The Joker" with Joaquin Phoenix, Andrea Berloff's "The Kitchen" with Tiffany Haddish, and "On The Basis Of Sex" with Felicity Jones. Television viewers may recognize her from her recent guest star appearance in the final season of "Madam Secretary". Other film appearances include "The Bourne Legacy", "Michael Clayton", "Freedomland", "The School of Rock", "The Long Kiss Goodnight", "Malcolm X", and "Die Hard With A Vengeance". Recently Sharon added playwright to her resumé, writing and performing her solo play *FEEDING THE DRAGON* which received its world premiere at City Theatre in Pittsburgh followed by a successful run Off-Broadway for which she was nominated for an Outer Critics Circle Award for Outstanding Solo Performance, a Lucille Lortel Award for Outstanding Solo Show, and won an Audelco Award for Solo Performance. On Broadway Sharon appeared as The Lady in the critically-acclaimed musical *THE SCOTTSBORO BOYS* by Kander & Ebb directed by five-time Tony Award winner Susan Stroman. Other Off-Broadway credits include roles in *DOT* at the Vineyard Theatre, written by Colman Domingo and also directed by Susan Stroman; *WHILE I YET LIVE* by Billy Porter at Primary Stages; (Contd. Pg 12)

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Interview With The Author: Harald Gilbers

(From Pg. 5)

How did your book get published?

I wrote the manuscript of *GERMANIA* completely on spec. It was my first attempt of writing a novel and I had no connections whatsoever to the publishing business, so the first step was to get a literary agent. After that everything fell into place.

How long did it take?

It took three years to get the novel into the bookshops - an unusually long time. The big German publishers were initially afraid of the subject matter. And *GERMANIA* didn't fit easily into any category. For a regular crime novel it was too ambitious, and for high literature too much of a genre piece.

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

The old-fashioned index cards serve me very well for planning a story. Once I have completed the paradigm, I write everything into a single text document, which is around fifty pages long with numbered plot points. Writing the rough draft is simply a matter of expanding this text document. I never start with a blank page and have all the details right in front of me.

What's your next project?

Believe it or not, but I'm already writing the sixth installment of the Oppenheimer series. The story takes place in 1948 when the airlift to Berlin began.

Do you have any other comments, suggestions, tips, anecdotes, quotes or inspirational material you'd like to share?

I know a lot of people who think they are born storytellers. They start writing with lofty ideas and after awhile get stuck and end up with another unfinished project. But you can only call yourself a writer once you have finished a manuscript. So my best advice is: Perfection is impossible, just finish your work.

Where could you be reached on the World Wide Web?

I have author's pages on Facebook and Goodreads that I visit regularly.

<https://www.facebook.com/harald.gilbers>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/7382274.Harald_Gilbers

Thx again for your insights and expertise, and for taking time out to speak with our audience today. Please keep us in your contacts list and let the MBR know about your next literary project.

GERMANIA - A Novel of Nazi Berlin By Harald Gilbers

Advance Praise for GERMANIA and Harald Gilbers

"[A] stellar debut...Gilbers makes Oppenheimer's fears, and the moral compromises he makes, palpable.

Philip Kerr fans will want to check this out."

-Publishers Weekly (STARRED)

"Atmosphere is the real draw here, and the novel splendidly evokes Berlin in ruins and the fall of the Nazis."

-Booklist

"Very historically accurate, atmospherically intense and extraordinarily exciting to boot."

-Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

From internal bestselling author Harald Gilbers comes *GERMANIA: A Novel*



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of Nazi Berlin (Thomas Dunne Books; on sale December 1, 2020; \$28.99), the heart-pounding story of Jewish detective Richard Oppenheimer as he hunts for a serial killer through war-torn Nazi Berlin.

Berlin 1944: a serial killer stalks the bombed-out capital of the Reich, preying on women and laying their mutilated bodies in front of war memorials. All of the victims are linked to the Nazi party. But according to one eyewitness account, the perpetrator is not an opponent of Hitler's regime, but rather a loyal Nazi. Jewish detective Richard Oppenheimer, once a successful investigator for the Berlin police, is reactivated by the Gestapo and forced onto the case. Oppenheimer is not just concerned with catching the killer and helping others survive, but also his own survival. Worst of all, solving this case is what will certainly put him in the most jeopardy. With no other choice but to further his investigation, he feverishly searches for answers, and a way out of this dangerous game.

The Scene Too

- Jane Harrison

The wrist and hand I strained a week and a half ago is now calmed down to the point I can type again as long as I take it easy. So this might be just short and sweet.

Congratulations Sullivan County! The new cases per day are between 25 and 30, almost double what they were around Thanksgiving. Way to go! Yes, I know there are vaccines on the way. The operative words are 'on the way'. Healthcare workers are first and in the hierarchy of things, those in the hardest hit areas should be first. Then residents of nursing homes and other elderly at high risk. Then maybe by January and February the general public, but more like next summer.

Here's what I understand so far:

There's no guarantee it will be free, regardless of what the outgoing president said. There seems to have been no action beyond just words to make this a reality.

It's being warned that persons who have had adverse reactions to the vaccines out there now (flu and pneumonia in particular) NOT get this vaccine. Two people in the very first distribution in the world in the United Kingdom had adverse reactions and ended up in hospital beds shortly after receiving the vaccine.

This is very much like the above mentioned vaccines in that it doesn't prevent you from getting the virus but has been shown to lessen symptoms and likelihood of death. Getting the vaccine does NOT mean you can toss your mask and hand sanitizer, hug people or throw a party. One can't do that until every single person is vaccinated.

There is still no information on what happens if you have CoVid and are asymptomatic, what happens when you receive the vaccine.

And today, it was reported that four people who received the vaccine in the trials have developed Bells Palsy. There was no information on what percentage this was of the focus group. The article also didn't say when or why the Palsy came on.

You MUST have the two doses and it MUST be the same manufacturer.

Will I get the vaccine? I don't know yet. But by the time it gets down to me, there will be more information and I'll make my decision. I have a history of adverse reactions to vaccines.

Enough of that!

I'm getting phone calls from friends that say they have some really exciting projects in the works. That's where I'm going to focus my energies this week. After all, calculus was invented during a plague.

Stay safe, stay strong and let's hope this snowstorm Wednesday misses us.

Until next time~..

Her Quirky Journey

-Marilyn Borth

<http://www.herquirkyjourney.com>

Teaching Abroad vs. At Home

I've taught abroad in several countries, specifically Thailand, South Korea, Vietnam, and China. I've been teaching English online to students in China for nearly 5 years now as well, intermittently part- and full-time. I love teaching and have realized it's my true passion in life. However, amidst all of this, I've never taught in my own home country.



Granted, I have a bachelor's in English, but not in education, so, technically, I don't have the education to educate! But, that isn't the only reason for this; I'm aware of the ways around this issue. I've taught abroad and not domestically for a plethora of reasons. There are ample job opportunities, the workload is generally light, the cultures are different and exciting, and the pay is often better than here. That, and they're respected and highly regarded.

COVID has made me question my way of life and career recently. Although it has been tempting to become a teacher here in the US, as it would be easy to slip into a routine here and live a "normal" lifestyle, I'm still fighting this idea. My reasoning? Well, the reasons I mentioned above of course, but the most important reason is because teachers simply don't get respect here. They aren't supported well enough by their administration. The parent-teacher-student dynamic is a painful, frightening, and often impossible one to navigate. Teachers need to get their own supplies for their students more often than not. Teachers are beyond overworked. Socially and vocationally, they are overlooked. That popular phrase, "Those who can't do, teach" is absolutely despicable. Teachers educate. Where would you be right now without your education— and I mean, any level, from preschool to college? How can our society so blatantly degrade people of such important roles?

Teachers in the US do have some perks: pensions, decent salary (after working a lot for it, anyway), and others. But, abroad? The positives far outweigh the negatives. It's truly no wonder our country is suffering academically and why so many teachers are leaving their jobs to pursue other opportunities. I hope that if we do learn a lesson from the past year, it's that we need to value our teachers and education system far more and drastic changes need to be made to ensure the future of our country.

WCAA Announces 2021 Exhibitions

The Wayne County Arts Alliance is pleased to announce their 2021 Exhibition program calendar based on the theme "Masked/UnMasked" opening in March at their Main Street Gallery located at 959 Main Street (upstairs from Missing Pieces), Honesdale, PA. Masks and social distancing are required.

WCAA members will offer the community their own 'unmasking' of personal work and how it may have been altered or even changed by self-isolation, mask wearing and the absence of social engagement.

Artists of all ages in the past have significantly contributed to and helped shape historic moments of change. Living and surviving in this historic time of a pandemic, WCAA encourages the arts community to respond to these changes. To become a member of WCAA please contact us waynecountyartsalliance@gmail.com.

Shadowland Stages Announces a special online presentation of a reading of a new play

(From Pg. 9) *LUCE* by JC Lee at Lincoln Center Theater (LCT3); and *WILD WITH HAPPY* also by Colman Domingo at the Public Theater for which she received a Lucille Lortel Award nomination and an Audelco Award. Sharon has worked many times on the New York Shakespeare Festival stage including playing Lady Anne to Denzel Washington's Richard in *RICHARD III* and Valeria to Christopher Walken's *COROLANUS*; as well as in the award-winning adaptation of *CAUCASIAN CHALK CIRCLE* directed by George C. Wolfe.

James Glossman - James Glossman has directed (and sometimes written or adapted) well over 200 plays and musicals - from classics to new works by emerging playwrights. At SHADOWLAND these include the American premiere of John Cleese's new farce, *BANG BANG!* (with Sean Astin), Jeff Daniels' **GUEST ARTIST** and Jeff Sweet's *BLUFF* (both w/John Astin), *ALL MY SONS* (w/Richard Benjamin & Paula Prentiss), *THE PRICE* (w/Stephanie Zimbalist & Orson Bean), Noël Coward's *A SONG AT TWILIGHT* (w/Orson Bean & Alley Mills--also Odyssey Theatre, LA), *NATURAL HISTORY* (w/ Michele Pawk & John Dossett), *RED, CLYBOURNE PARK, CIRCUMFERENCE OF A SQUIRREL, SEDITION, THREE VIEWINGS* (w/Stephanie Zimbalist and Tom Teti), *THE OUTGOING TIDE*, and many others. He has also appeared onstage here as Thomas Edison in the NY premiere of *THE DANGERS OF ELECTRIC LIGHTING*. His adaptation of Raymond Chandler's noir classic, *TROUBLE IS MY BUSINESS*, received its world premiere at Portland Stage Co following a SHADOWLAND workshop starring David Strathairn. His two decades' collaboration with journalist and author Jim Lehrer has resulted, so far, in the productions of *KICK THE CAN*, *THE SPECIAL PRISONER* (w/ William Schallert), and *FLYING CROWS* (available from Dramatic Publishing Co). His stagings of *THE VALUE OF NAMES*, starring the late, great Jack Klugman as a once-blacklisted actor, played in NY, NJ, and Los Angeles, opposite Dan Lauria and Louis Zorich. In addition to adapting what will eventually be a triptych of these stories by Tom Hanks, he recently completed a new stage adaptation of Science Fiction Grand Master Robert A Heinlein's classic time-travel thriller, *THE DOOR INTO SUMMER*.

Tickets to stream the recorded reading are available to those who make a suggested donation ranging from "Pay What You Will" to "As Much as You Want!" at ShadowlandStages.org/christmas-1953. Donors will be provided with the link where the recorded reading can be viewed from its premier, Saturday, December 19th at 8pm through Tuesday, December 22nd at 8pm. **PLEASE NOTE:** This event is NOT happening in the theatre, and tickets for this special event can only be secured in advance at ShadowlandStages.org/christmas-1953 only. Due to reduced staffing during the pandemic, tickets are not available by phone, and with regrets (due to safety concerns) tickets are not available in person at the box office.

Shadowland Artists, Inc. dba SHADOWLAND STAGES has produced 35 seasons at The MainStage at SHADOWLAND STAGES - 157 Canal Street, Ellenville, NY 12428 and hopes to resume production in 2021.



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A Holiday Tradition of Goodwill Goes On During Covid Crisis – New Hope Community Hosts Drive-Thru Family Holiday Dinner Dec. 15th

A total of 135 families will attend a Drive-Thru Holiday Meal Distribution by New Hope Community (NHC) at its Loch Sheldrake, NY campus. Staff of the organization, which supports Individuals with developmental disabilities, will spread joy and goodwill to local families.

- o More than 500 hot meals to feed approximately 135 families will be prepared by the Community Café, and by ShopRite and Ideal Snacks, to assist local families in need.

- o ShopRite gift cards will be distributed with the dinners, courtesy of the NHC Foundation.

- o Santa and his elves will greet families

Why: 2020 has been a challenging year for many families, especially those who have experienced health concerns or the loss of a job due to Covid-19. New Hope Community (NHC) is continuing an annual tradition of community outreach for families in need of extra help this holiday season.

On Tuesday, December 15, 2020 New Hope will host a drive-thru Family Holiday Dinner at New Hope Community 5 New Hope Community Drive Loch Sheldrake, NY 12759 (Sullivan County) or GPS: 872 State Rt. 52, Hurleyville, NY 12747 Tel: 845-434-8300

- o Families will have a Photo Opp as they drive through, take home a pre-packaged hot meal “to go”, and enjoy a brief visit with Santa and His Elves.

Please Note: This program is expected to reach capacity. We regret that additional requests for meals cannot be accommodated.

Help Support the Arts in Sullivan County

Black Friday is over, and the end of the year holidays are upon us. Hanukkah started, Festivus on the 23rd, Christmas is on the 25th, and Kwanzaa starts on the 26th. Phew!



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You can get in on the winning in your comfy pajamas. Please email us back your name, address and phone number and I'll mail you as many tickets as you, or your family and friends, would like. Entries must be post-marked by December 31, 2020 for eligibility for January 1. If you're a little late, no worries. - we will make your ticket eligible from the date of the postmark. Do you have a lucky number? Let me know and I'll get it for you! (Numbers between 000-999 please). If not, I'll pick a random number and send it along.

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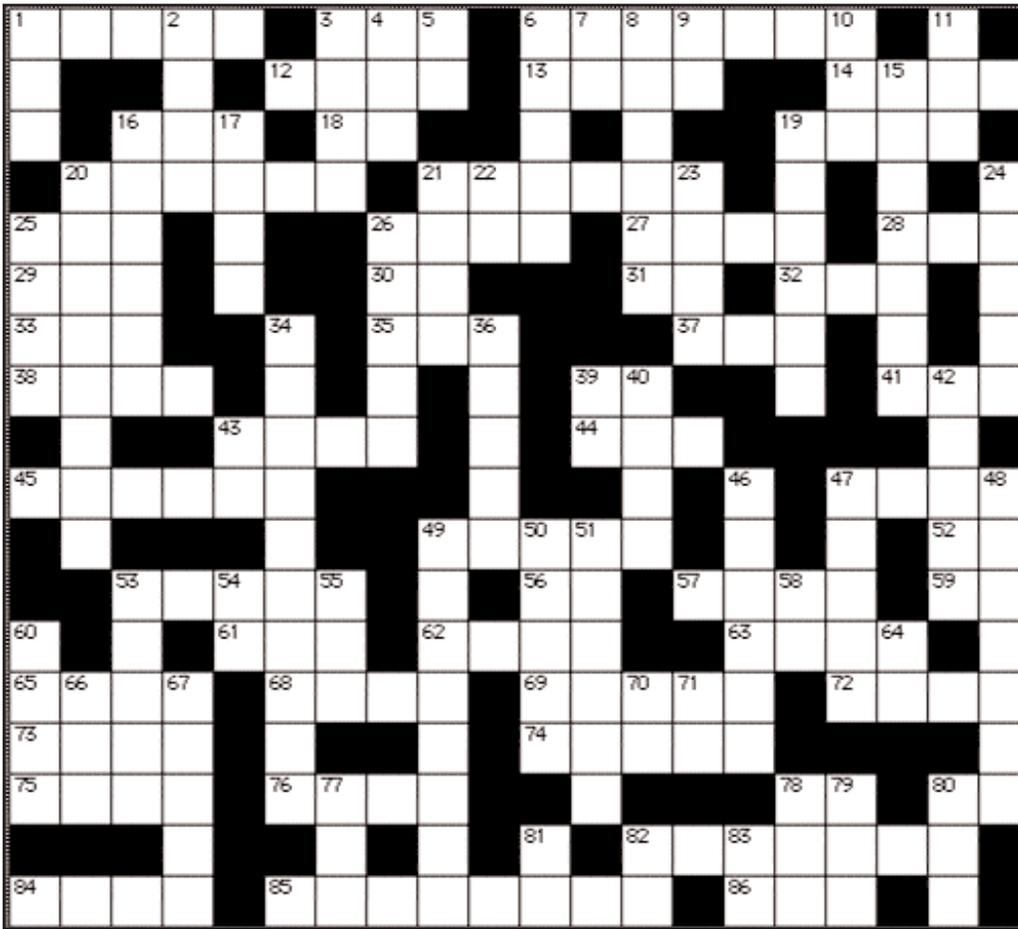
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 20 A trough for cattle to eat from
 21 Moved rhythmically to music
 25 What was sent on the third day of Christmas
 26 Vocal music
 27 Christmas as a refrain in

carols
 28 Paraphernalia
 29 Contribute to something
 30 Sound of Santa
 31 Used to express motion
 32 Female sheep
 33 Non-existent
 35 An upper limb
 37 Second day of the week
 38 Brave act
 39 Referring to myself
 41 Plant fluid
 43 "A Christmas Story" cure for using curse words
 44 Sick
 45 Inactive farmland
 47 Slant

49 Corn salad
 52 Roman Catholic
 53 Job
 56 Language engineering
 57 Person admired for their courage
 59 Used before a man's surname
 61 Fruit of a rose
 62 Cherished
 63 Used to refer to everyone of two or more
 65 Poetic form of listen
 68 Young deer
 69 Person acknowledged as holy
 72 Kilo-gram

73 Icon
 74 Vehicles with runners that travel on snow
 75 Decorative painting
 76 Make musical sounds with a voice
 78 __, la, la, la, la, la, la, la
 80 At the age of
 82 Not sacred
 84 Religious song
 85 Hymn or chant
 86 Globe

DOWN
 1 Adult human males
 2 Condensed moisture from the atmosphere
 3 At all times
 4 Animal doctor
 5 Half an em
 6 Wound
 7 Private Investigator

8 Arrival of a notable event
 9 Regarding
 10 Victorious
 11 Pointed end of an object
 15 Author of *A Christmas Carol*
 16 Wax cylinder with a wick
 17 Troll
 19 Without sound
 20 Relating to the Middle Ages
 21 Portal
 22 Indefinite article
 23 Terrible fate
 24 Emboss
 25 End of the arm including the palm
 26 Keen
 34 Deep bank of snow
 36 The night before Christmas she was in her kerchief
 39 Third note of the major scale
 40 River in Central Europe that runs through Germany

42 Siren
 43 To such a great extent
 46 Sugary pleasant tasty delights
 47 Large solid piece of

hard material
 48 Miserly Dicken's character
 49 Twelve o'clock at night
 50 Social division
 51 Official messenger bringing news
 53 Religious folk song usually associated with Christmas
 54 Exclamation of surprise
 55 Environmental Protection Agency
 58 Egyptian sun god
 60 Voucher
 64 Informal greeting

66 Without any fuss
 67 Famous U.S. fashion designer
 70 Indo-European
 71 North Dakota
 77 Irish Republican Army
 78 Hair of certain animals
 79 Vestment
 80 Plural present of be
 81 Alternating current
 82 Southeast
 83 Commanding Officer

Swedish Pepparkakor

Paper-thin and spicy, they are a beloved Swedish Christmas tradition

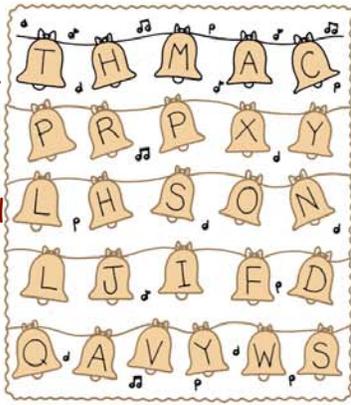
8 oz butter
 1 1/2 c white sugar
 1 tbs light corn syrup
 1 egg
 3 1/2 c all purpose flour
 2 tsps baking soda
 2 tsp ground cinnamon
 2 tsp ground ginger
 2 tsp ground cloves
 1/4 c orange juice
 2 tsp orange zest

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

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

Cross off the first bell, then cross off every other bell and to see the message



Kids' Holiday Fun Page

L. Comando



The children are helping Mom decorate. What are five differences between the two pictures?



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

15 13 24 5 11 3 16 23 11 3 5 11 3 13 8 11 8 23 11 12 19

18 12 24 26 5 19 20 22 5 19 14 3 13 8 18 5 24 8 12 18

13 12 11 1 5 3 23 22 5 3 4 5 19 3 13 8 13 23 22 22

3 13 8 14 8 19 5 23 22 18 5 24 8 12 18 15 13 1 24 5 3 4

5 19 3 13 8 13 8 23 24 3



Start

Some of the Tri-Valley Bears are joining the carolers.

1. Here we come a - was - sail - ing, A - mong the leaves so
 2. Our was - sal cup is made of the rose ma - ry

green, And Here we come a wan - der - ing so
 tree, is your beer of the

fair to be seen. Love and joy come to you, and to
 best bar ley.

Can you help this bear through the maze of music to find the other carolers?



Finish

CAROLS
 HOLLY
 SINGING
 JOYOUS
 GIVING
 LOVE

PEACE
 WREATH
 BELLS
 CHOIR
 HOLIDAY
 SEASON

HOLIDAY
 WORDSEARCH

5 6 7 8
 4. 10. 9
 2. 14 13
 19 18
 15 16 17 12
 11

Follow the dots to see where the carolers are singing.

Cryptogram Key

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

Orange County Entrepreneur Makes Major Donation to Help Salute Purple Heart Heroes from Across America

Martin Milano Donates

Accommodations for Honorees for the National Purple Heart Honor Mission's 2021 Purple Heart Patriot Project

(NEWBURGH, NY) - An Orange County, New York, hotel operator and long-time supporter of veterans causes has stepped up with a major donation to help pay tribute to the courage and sacrifice of heroes who will be recognized as part of the National Purple Heart Honor Mission's 2021 Purple Heart Patriot Project.

Martin Milano, the owner of the Hampton Inn Hotel Woodbury and the Hampton Inn & Suites Newburgh, has pledged the necessary hotel rooms for visiting Purple Heart recipients and their guests from across America. The donation is valued at nearly \$50,000.

"Growing up, especially when I was younger, I knew a number of men who were involved in the Vietnam War. I always admired and appreciated their efforts and felt they didn't receive the thanks they truly deserved. We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to our veterans, especially our Vietnam veterans and our Purple Heart heroes who have given so much for our freedom. I'm glad to be able to help the National Purple Heart Honor Mission give these brave men and women the homecoming they deserve," said Mr. Milano.

"We are tremendously grateful to have Martin's support for the 2021 Patriot Project. This our chance to say 'thank you' to our Purple Heart heroes across every generation on behalf of a grateful nation. Martin's generosity helps ensure, during these challenging times, that we can continue to bring these American heroes together and pay tribute to their courage and sacrifice," said National Purple Heart Honor Mission Executive Director, Col. Russ Vernon (Ret.).

Purple Heart Patriot Project missions bring Purple Heart recipients from across the nation to the Hudson Valley for a multi-day salute to service that features visits to historic Washington's Headquarters where the Badge of Military Merit originated in 1782, a private tour of the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor - the museum dedicated to paying tribute to our nation's combat wounded, and other special events. Honorees for the 2021 event, scheduled for April 26 - 30, 2021, were announced last month on Veterans Day.

This 'Honor Flight' style, salute to service will bring together Purple Heart heroes from WWII to the present day. Past Purple Heart recipients who have participated in the 2019 Patriot Project have been moved by the outpouring of gratitude from the public and the immediate sense of camaraderie they felt with their fellow honorees.

Among this year's distinguished honorees is Andrew Spores of Illinois, a World War II veteran and son of Greek immigrants, who was drafted at 18. Spores fought in the battles of Naples and Monte Casino where he was injured with shrapnel, received treatment, and was sent back to the front lines. Spores is still plagued by injuries he received on the beaches of Anzio and the battle of Rome.

Another 2021 honoree, Steven Zerger of Colorado, is a retired Army Sergeant First Class who was grievously wounded-in-

action during his fourth combat tour in Vietnam while leading his platoon into a desperate firefight. Zerger went on to serve his country for nearly two decades and continues to mentor new Purple Heart recipients as a leader in the Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH).

The National Purple Heart Honor Mission is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to paying tribute to our nation's combat wounded and those killed in action through outreach and educational programming. Those wishing to help pay tribute to these brave honorees can learn more about the organization and make a donation at www.PurpleHeartMission.org.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL PURPLE HEART HONOR MISSION

The National Purple Heart Honor Mission, Inc. is an approved 501(c)(3) non-profit organization which supports a variety of programs to promote the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor, pay tribute to our Purple Heart recipients, and educate all Americans about our combat-wounded veterans to ensure those who sacrificed for freedom are never forgotten. Learn more and support their efforts at www.PurpleHeartMission.org.

Gillibrand, Colleagues Push to Boost Health Care System Research Funding Amid Proposed Drastic Cuts

WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand joined her colleagues in urging Senate leadership to include at least \$471 million in funding for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) in the omnibus spending bill. The most recent funding package for FY2021, unveiled by the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies, includes a drastic 24 percent cut for the sole federal agency focused on generating research to advance health care delivery system efficiency, a function critical to our country's response to pandemics like COVID-19. Providing the agency with \$471 million would restore its funding to 2010 levels, giving AHRQ the capacity to evaluate the U.S. health care system's response to the pandemic, pinpoint shortcomings, and improve national preparedness for future crises.

"Every dollar invested in the Agency on Healthcare Research and Quality helps save American lives," said Senator Gillibrand. "AHRQ has already demonstrated their importance by publishing quality and reliable research on telehealth and vaccine efficacy in the COVID-19 era-pulling any funding from this agency is a nonstarter. I will continue fighting for this vital funding to get us through this pandemic, and ensure that our country is prepared for any future public health crises." Gillibrand has been a vocal champion of increased funding for New York's health care system. On December 10, she sent a letter to congressional leadership urging them to pass comprehensive COVID-19 response legislation that includes funding for hospitals, healthcare workers, vaccine distribution, PPE, and testing.

Led by Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-CT), the letter was also signed by U.S. Senators Sherrod Brown (D-OH), Chris Van Hollen (D-MD), Elizabeth Warren (D-MA), and Dianne Feinstein (D-CA).

LEGALS/PUBLIC NOTICES**TOWN OF NEVERSINK
NOTICE: ALTERNATE MEMBER POSITION(S) AVAIL-
ABLE ON THE PLANNING BOARD AND/OR ZONING
BOARD OF APPEALS**

The Town of Neversink announces an Alternate Member position(s) available on the Planning Board and/or ZBA. The alternate members will serve when a regular member is unable to participate on a matter before their Board. Regular attendance at meeting is required.

Please send a letter of interest to: Chris Mathews, Supervisor, Town of Neversink, PO Box 307, Grahamsville, NY 12740 or drop it off at the Town Hall. Letters of interest should be received by December 30, 2020. Please address any questions to Chris Mathews, Supervisor at (845)985-2262, ext. 301. 12/17

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

The Town of Denning will hold its Organizational Meeting on Monday, January 4th, 2021 at the Denning Town Hall, 1567 Denning Road, Claryville, NY 12725 scheduled to begin at 10 am.

By the Order of the Denning Town Board
Joy Monforte, RMC
Town Clerk
December 9th, 2020 12/17

**PUBLIC NOTICE
FREE NOTARY, PHOTOCOPIES
AND FAXING IN GRAHAMSVILLE**

William A. Brenner, attorney in Grahamsville, New York, has a sign on his office lawn stating: "Due to Crisis, FREE Notary, Photocopies and Faxing."

This free community service is to assist older townsfolk and families without computers who have been affected by new federal and state assistance forms and pension and court forms requiring notarized signatures and immediate filing.

William A. Brenner
Intersection of Route 55 and 42
Grahamsville, NY 12740

**Tri-Valley CSD
Board Meeting**

December 17, 2020

Tri-Valley CSD Board of Education Meetings are:

- 1) Thursday, December 17, 2020, anticipated proposed Executive Session 6:00 p.m., Regular Meeting #13 7:00 p.m.
- 2) Thursday, January 7, 2021, anticipated proposed Executive Session 6:00 p.m., Regular Meeting #14 7:00 p.m.

Whichever meetings are virtual will be televised live on:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkI224vKQ8nAWhR6NVao24w>

Please Be Advised:

The Village of Monticello is reaching out to residents, community members, stake holders etc. to discuss and help form a committee to take part in the upcoming state mandated Police Reform Discussions and Actions that will begin early next year. This initial meeting, will be open to all to make sure that everyone's prospective is represented when we move forward with the smaller committee. The meeting will be accessible via Zoom and the following information will be necessary to access the meeting:

Topic: Police Reform Discussion

Time: Dec 17, 2020 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89660173368?pwd=MThiRCtINDN3U3B3UFk1cEVacFBDDz09>

Meeting ID: 896 6017 3368

Passcode: 761241

One tap mobile:

+16465588656,,89660173368#,,,,,0#,,761241# US (New York)

+13017158592,,89660173368#,,,,,0#,,761241# US (Washington D.C)

Dial by your location:

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

Meeting ID: 896 6017 3368

Passcode: 761241

Find your local number:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89660173368?pwd=MThiRCtINDN3U3B3UFk1cEVacFBDDz09>

DMV Temporarily Closing Due to COVID Case Public Not Exposed, But Staff Must Quarantine

Monticello, NY - The Sullivan County office of the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) will be closed for the next two weeks due to an employee testing positive for COVID-19.

"We do not believe any members of the public were exposed, but due to quarantine requirements, we will not be able to process in-person transactions from now until December 28," said County Clerk Russell Reeves, whose office oversees the local DMV.

A skeleton staff of two employees will continue to answer phones, but all appointments scheduled between December 14 and December 24 will be rescheduled.

"We are reaching out to everyone who had an appointment during that time," Reeves affirmed. "I regret the inconvenience this will cause, but we have to ensure everyone's health and safety."

Appointments beyond December 28 continue to be accepted at www.sullivanyny.us/departments/clerk/DMV. Questions and concerns (but NOT appointment requests) can be answered by calling 845-807-0700 during business hours.

FREE Meal + Narcan Distribution Event at Senator Metzger's Liberty Office

On Wednesday, December 16, from 1-3 pm Senator Jen Metzger is partnering with A Single Bite and Catholic Charities of Orange, Sullivan and Ulster to host a free meal distribution event outside of her Liberty office (59 N. Main St.) Anyone in need of food can pick up a meal package (each package will be proportioned to serve 3 people).

Food will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis while supplies last.

Event attendees will also have an opportunity to sign up for a free virtual Narcan training with Catholic Charities to be held at a later date.

Questions? Email metzger@nysenate.gov or call the Senator's office at (845) 344-3311.

Statement from UC Executive Pat Ryan on the Adoption of the 2021 County Budget

The unanimous bi-partisan support of the vast majority of my 2021 Executive Budget is an overwhelming vote of confidence after one of the most difficult years in decades. I am proud to have delivered a county budget that once again held the line on taxes, while also containing no layoffs and maintaining - and in many cases improving - delivery of vital services across the board.

At this time, we must do everything within our power to ensure that we are delivering the best services at the best value to taxpayers and that we can emerge from the pandemic with a continued focus on taking care of each other during this moment of great need. In the coming days, I will review the amendments made by the Legislature to ensure that they meet these essential goals.

SC Legislature Adopts 2021 County Budget

Monticello, NY - By an 8-1 vote today, legislators approved the 2021 Sullivan County Budget. District 7 Legislator Joe Perrello cast the dissenting vote.

"It's been a tough year, and this was a tough budget to put together," said Legislature Chairman Robert A. Doherty. "But we agreed this is fair - and more importantly, a realistic budget that will not leave gaps for taxpayers to close."

The \$235 million budget features a tax increase that stays under the State-mandated property tax cap.

Highlights include:

- o More than \$3 million for road and bridgework throughout the County
- o \$410,000 to continue the expanded and popular Move Sullivan public transportation service



"It's Good to Know an old Country Lawyer!"

William A. Brenner ESQ.

Attorney-At-Law

157 Main Street, (Route 55 at Route 42) P.O. Box 369
Grahamsville, NY 12740

Very Important
Have you made a "Simple Will"?

- 1) Spouse with children or
- 2) Couples living together
- 3) Second marriages

[must personally meet and discuss your ideas, plans & options]

Real Estate
Purchasers & Sellers
"UPDATED DEEDS"
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Email: williambrenner@hotmail.com • Fax: 845.985.0274 • NYC call Toll Free: 877.638.6011

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

- o \$200,000 to fund the Discretionary Contracts Program, which allocates money for vital and worthwhile community organizations
- o \$100,000 for local towns and villages to demolish unsafe structures via the RUS (Removing Unsafe Structures) Program
- o \$80,000 to complete a tower in Monticello in anticipation of expanding the broadband wireless pilot program, and \$50,000 for a new tower in Liberty, to be augmented by grant funding
- o \$25,000 for the proposed Callicoon Riverside Park

"We've been told to anticipate up to 20% cuts across all State aid revenue sources, so we need to be cautious," Legislature Vice Chair Michael Brooks explained. "Taxpayers can't afford ever-increasing burdens, and this budget - which drops the Solid Waste Access Fee for both residents and business owners - keeps them foremost in mind."

Full details of the adopted budget will shortly be made available at <http://www.sullivanyny.us> (click on "Sullivan County 2020 Adopted Budget Executive Summary" and "Sullivan County 2020 Adopted Budget Detail" under the "Helpful Links" tab in the lefthand margin).

If you wish to download this week's Church bulletin from St. Peter's, Libert, NY please go to: stpeters/bulletin

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

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

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



Sundown United Methodist Church

Covered Dish Supper

5:30 pm

To be Announced

Sundown United Methodist Church Hall



Grahamsville United Methodist Church

Saturday Thrift Sale

9:00 am to 12 noon
To be Announced

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



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CREMATION MEMORIALS & BENCHES, MONUMENT LETTERING & CLEANING



ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL MISSION

The Little Church with the Big Heart

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

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

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

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

6317 Rte. 42, Woodbourne, NY

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

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

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



Sundown United Methodist Church
Peakamoose Rd., Sundown
Sunday Worship Service - 8:30 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study - 6:45 p.m.
Pastor Seung Jin Hong
845-985-2283
e-mail: Sundownumc@gmail.com

Grahamsville United Methodist Church
Rte. 55, Grahamsville
Sunday Worship Service - 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School for grades k-7 - 10:30 a.m.
Mid-week Bible Study opportunities available!

Regular Office Hours
Wednesday 9 am - Noon
Friday 3 pm to 6 pm

If you wish to make an appointment to talk to Pastor Seung Jin Hong please call 845-985-2283

For all other information contact Pastor Seung Jin Hong.
845-985-2283 • e-mail: Grahamsvilleumc@gmail.com

Grahamsville Reformed Church

The Church with a friendly welcome

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

Claryville Reformed Church



Claryville Road
Claryville, NY 12725
845-985-2041

Worship Services @ 10:00 am

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

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

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

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

Loucks Funeral Home

Geoff and Heather Hazzard

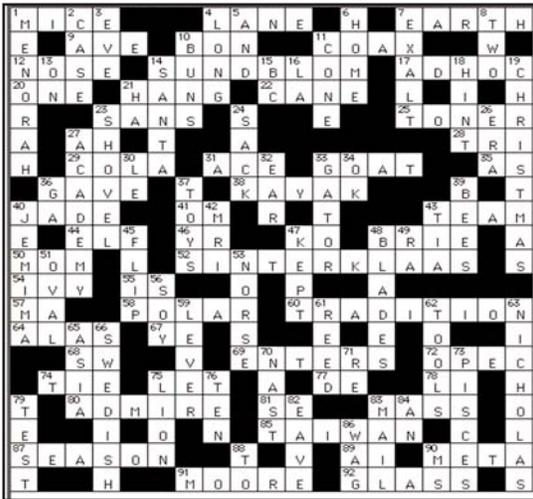
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Ellenville, New York
(845) 647-4343

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

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

Ans to last week's Crossword



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

Also
WANTED
 People to play cards

SUUJI WA TANSU NI KAGIRU
 answer

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

ARTISTS • CRAFTERS
 Need a website?
 Call us at 845-985-0501
 email: tvtownsman@yahoo.com
 or visit our Virtual Mall
gnomehome.net

Claryville Volunteer Fire Department will be hosting a Defensive Driving Course

Claryville Volunteer Fire Department will be hosting a Defensive Driving Course on Saturday, January 9th 2021 at 9:00 am.

The cost of the class is \$40.00 per a person, payable to the Claryville Vol. Fire Department.

(The fee covers your registration and workbook materials)

Registration is required. To sign up call Chief VanDenberg at 985-2943 NO LATER than December 31st.

Claryville Volunteer Fire Department (Warren Cole Fire Hall)

Our Student Show at ASK is Open!

Our new student show at the Art Society of Kingston (ASK), features artwork created during the time of Covid. You can check it out online through the link below, or visit in person. The exhibit runs from December 5th-26th, and the gallery will be open for viewing Tuesdays-Saturdays from 1:00-6:00PM. Click Here to View the ARxT Show

<http://www.askforarts.org/online-exhibitions-122002/>
<http://www.askforarts.org/online-exhibitions-122002/>

Are you a High School or College Student on Winter Break? Come study with us... for free!

Woodstock School of Art is proud to offer full tuition youth scholarships through the generosity of the Thompson Family Foundations. We can help you brush up on your skills or try something new! We also offer merit and work exchange scholarships for adults. Questions about our program or want to sign up? Visit our website or contact our program coordinator.

Questions about our program or want to sign up? Visit our website or contact our program coordinator.

<https://woodstockschoolofart.org/about/scholarships/>

Join us for Sullivan 180's Walkthrough Wednesdays at Peace Love & Lights

Sullivan 180's Walkthrough Wednesdays at Peace Love & Lights at Bethel Woods Center for the Arts will be every Wednesday starting November 25th through December 30th. The walkthrough will start at 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Walkthrough Wednesdays allows guests to explore the beautiful holiday lights display up close and personal, out of the car, and in the midst of the magic before cars arrive.

Admission is \$5, or bring a new unwrapped toy to be donated to the Sullivan County Federation for the Homeless and get in for free (first come first serve basis).

Sullivan 180 is also challenging our community to get 500 residents to walk the one-mile route over the course of the six Wednesdays. If we reach this goal, a cash donation of \$500 will be made to the Federation and matched by Liberty NY Rotary Club!

For more information on Sullivan180's Walkthrough Wednesdays please see the flyer below, and for other Peace Love & Lights offers or to purchase tickets, please visit: Bethel Woods Center for the Arts

Ulster County Legislature Weekly Update For The Week Of December 14 - December 18, 2020

Monday, December 14

- o 5:00 PM - Community Services Board Powered by Zoom Meeting, Meeting ID: 999 6663 9166, Passcode: 886725, By Phone (646) 558-8656
- o 6:00 PM - Laws & Rules, Governmental Services Committee Powered by Zoom Meeting, Public Attendance by Phone (646) 558-8656, Meeting ID: 939 4002 6959
- o 6:30 PM (or immediately following the Laws & Rules, Governmental Services Committee) - Caucus: Democrats Powered by Zoom Meeting, Public Attendance by Phone (646) 558-8656, Meeting ID: 966 8651 2709
- o 6:30 PM - Ulster County Board of Health via Teleconference, (845) 443-8880, Code: 113156

Tuesday, December 15

- o 4:00 PM - Ulster County Economic Development Alliance Powered by Zoom Meeting, Meeting ID: 883 4735 9181, Pwd: 610349, By Phone (646) 558-8656
- o 5:00 PM - Ways & Means Committee Powered by Zoom Meeting, Public Attendance by Phone (646) 558-8656, Meeting ID: 993 3004 0398
- o 6:30 PM - Legislative Session, Powered by Zoom Meeting and available via vimeo livestream at <https://livestream.com/accounts/1512750/events/1824203>. Public Comment administered by "Call In Studio": Dial 205-ULSTER-0 or (205) 857-8370 to be connected. Written comments may be submitted to the Clerk via email to vfab@co.ulster.ny.us. PUBLIC COMMENT will be restricted to agenda items only.

Wednesday, December 16

- o 9:00 AM - Ulster County Industrial Development Agency Powered by Zoom Meeting, Meeting ID: 816 4111 9687, By Phone (646) 558-8656
- o 10:30 AM (or immediately following the UC IDA) Ulster County Capital Resources Corporation Powered by Zoom Meeting, Meeting ID: 816 4111 9687, By Phone (646) 558-8656
- o 3:00 PM - Electrical Licensing Board Powered by Zoom Meeting, Meeting ID: 868 1132 4028, By Phone (929) 436-2866

Thursday, December 17

- o 3:30 PM - Ulster County Housing Development Corporation Powered by Zoom Meeting, Webinar ID: 875 7680 2232, Passcode: 649639, By Phone (646) 558-8656
- o 5:00 PM - Criminal Justice Reform Task Force Powered by Zoom Meeting, Public Attendance by Phone (646) 558-8656, Meeting ID: 988 1042 6830
- o 5:30 PM - Youth Board Powered by Zoom Meeting, Meeting ID: 899 2882 7776, Passcode: 8wKrr0, Dial in Number: (646) 558-8656

Friday, December 18

- o No Meetings

Regards,

Jay Mahler, Deputy Clerk
Ulster County Legislature

OPENING:
SATURDAY 11/21
2 - 4 P.M.

CURATED BY
ED MUES

FEATURING:
CYNTHIA ALTORISO
TOM BOLGER
CHARLES BRODERSON
DUTCH PINK
LETIZIA GENTILE
ELINORE HOLLINSHEAD
GIAN KAMAL
PATRICIA PETERS
MARY SOCOLOF
NATALIE STOPKA












CRAGSMOOR

ARTISTS

IN OLIVE

RUNS
NOVEMBER 21
JANUARY 9

Casino Employee Tests Positive for COVID-19

Monticello, NY - Sullivan County Public Health Services has confirmed that a Resorts World Catskills employee tested positive for COVID-19. There is currently no indication that the employee contracted the virus at the casino or impacted anyone else.

Public Health Services has determined that this individual was working in the resort's casino, located at 888 Resorts World Drive in Monticello, during the following dates and times:

- o November 30 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
- o December 1 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
- o December 2 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

If someone thinks they have been exposed and develops symptoms, they should self-quarantine for 14 days and call their healthcare provider, or call Sullivan County Public Health Services at 845-292-5910.

The virus that causes COVID-19 most commonly spreads between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet, or 2 arm-lengths). It spreads through respiratory droplets or small particles, such as those in aerosols, produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, sings, talks, or breathes. These particles can be inhaled into the nose, mouth, airways, and lungs and cause infection. This is thought to be the main way the virus spreads.

For an updated list of testing locations, visit www.sullivan-ny.us.

The following parameters and protocols are based upon recommended preventive measures issued from the public health community. Follow these CDC guidelines to protect yourself and others:

- o Stay at least six feet from other people.
- o Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others.
- o Avoid close contact with people who are sick, even inside your home.
- o Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- o Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- o Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow and do not spit. Throw used tissues in the trash.
- o Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily.
- o Be alert for symptoms. Watch for fever, cough, shortness of breath, or other symptoms of COVID-19.
- o Take your temperature if symptoms develop.

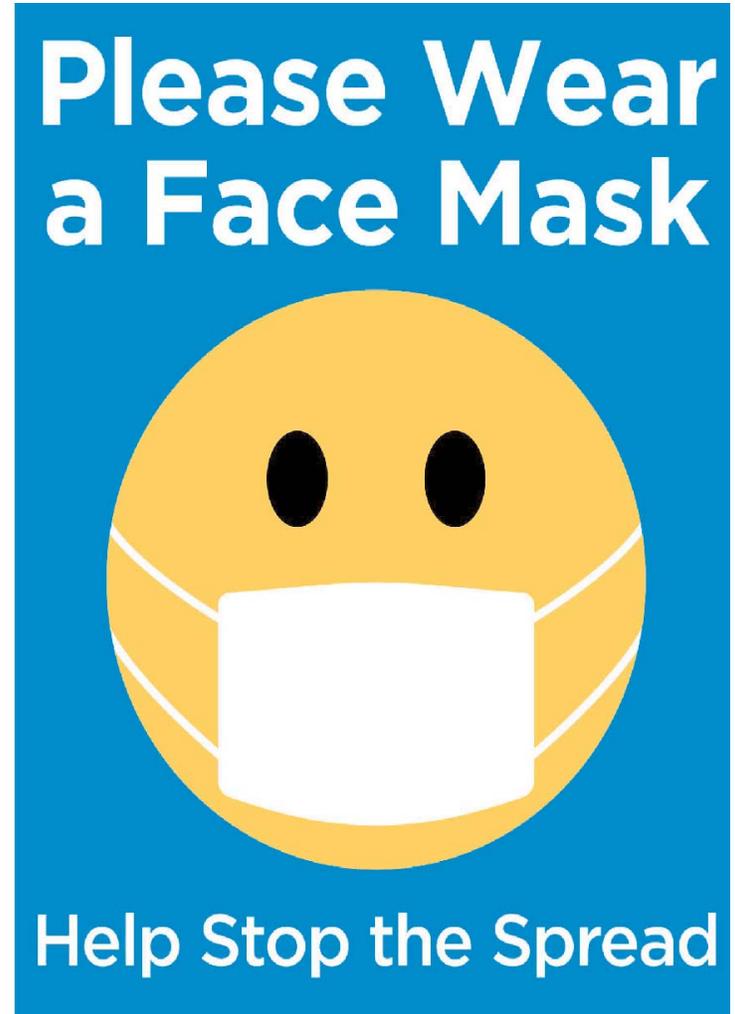
Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. Possible symptoms of COVID-19 include one or more of the following:

- o Fever or chills
- o Cough
- o Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- o Fatigue
- o Muscle or body aches
- o Headache
- o New loss of taste or smell
- o Sore throat
- o Congestion or runny nose
- o Nausea or vomiting
- o Diarrhea

If someone is showing any of these signs, seek emergency medical care immediately:

- o Trouble breathing
- o Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- o New confusion
- o Inability to wake or stay awake
- o Bluish lips or face

For more information on coronavirus, go to <https://sullivan-ny.us/departments/publichealth/coronavirus> or



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.

PLEASE CONTACT A MEMBER OF EACH ORGANIZATION FOR UPDATES ON OPENINGS

Town of Denning - <http://www.denning.us>

Town of Neversink - <https://townofneversink.org>

1/1/21 Town of Neversink Holiday - New Year's Day
 1/6/21 Town of Neversink Town Board Meeting - Organizational
 1/13/21 Town of Neversink Town Board Meeting - Rewgular
 1/18/21 Town of Neversink Holiday - Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Save the Date!

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

TOWN OF OLIVE MEETINGS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

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

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

Claryville FD

Volunteers Needed for

Associate and Active Members

Please contact Chief VanDenberg
 at claryvillefd@gmail.com
 for any questions

Tri-Valley Elementary School

WANTED:

Local establishments to display student KINDNESS artwork

Contact Penny Hennessey in the Main Office at 985-2296 ext. 5306
 or pennyhennessey@trivalleycsd.org.

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

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.

GBA

**To All: 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
 throughout the coming year.

You may email them to:

tvtownsman@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

Senator Jen Metzger Applauds NYS Pension Fund's Transition to a Sustainable Future

"State Comptroller Tom DiNapoli has taken a historic step to put one of the country's largest pension funds on a sustainable path, both fiscally and environmentally. This is about minimizing climate risk and recognizing that what's good for the future of the planet is good for the health of New York's retirement system. Fossil fuels are a bad bet, period. I want to thank the State Comptroller for his leadership and continued vigilance in stewarding the state's pension fund. I also want to thank Senator Liz Krueger and Assemblymember Felix Ortiz, sponsors of the Fossil Fuel Divestment Act, for their work to elevate this issue and move us forward."

Senator Jen Metzger is the co-sponsor of the Fossil Fuel Divestment Act (S2126). Learn more about Wednesday's announcement from NYS Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli regarding the New York State Common Retirement Fund's new goal to transition its portfolio to net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2040 here.

New York State Pension Fund Sets 2040 Net Zero Carbon Emissions Target

Announcement Builds on Fund's Climate Action Plan Review of Energy Sector Investments to Be Completed by 2025, With Potential Divestment for Riskiest Companies Sponsors of Fossil Fuel Divestment Act Support Fund's Strategy

New York State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli announced today that the New York State Common Retirement Fund (Fund), valued at an estimated \$226 billion, has adopted a goal to transition its portfolio to net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2040. This process will include completion within four years of a review of investments in energy sector companies, using minimum standards to assess transition readiness and climate-related investment risk, with, where consistent with fiduciary duty, divestment of companies that fail to meet minimum standards. On the eve of the 5th anniversary of the Paris Agreement, as the world increasingly moves toward net zero emissions targets by or before 2050, this goal will continue to ensure the Fund's portfolio is adapting to the anticipated transition. This ambitious and multifaceted effort continues State Comptroller DiNapoli's leadership on management of climate risk to investments, for which the Fund is already top-ranked in the United States by the Asset Owners Disclosure Project.

"New York State's pension fund is at the leading edge of investors addressing climate risk, because investing for the low-carbon future is essential to protect the fund's long-term value," State Comptroller DiNapoli said. "Achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2040 will put the Fund in a strong position for the future mapped out in the Paris Agreement. We continue to assess energy sector companies in our portfolio for their future ability to provide investment returns in light of the global consensus on climate change. Those that fail to meet our minimum standards may be removed from our portfolio. Divestment is a last resort, but it is an investment tool we can apply to companies that consistently put our investment's long-term value at risk. I am grateful for Senator Liz Krueger's focus on addressing climate risk, her recognition of our work, and her appreciation of the importance of the State Comptroller's independent, fiduciary duty and constitutional authority as trustee of the Fund for the benefit of our members, retirees and beneficiaries. My thanks as well to Assemblymember Felix Ortiz for his efforts on this issue."

Building on DiNapoli's 2019 Climate Action Plan, the Fund

will continue its use of minimum standards for determining whether a company is well-prepared for the transition to a low-carbon global economy. The Fund has already set minimum standards for the thermal coal mining industry and divested from 22 coal companies.

The Fund is currently wrapping up its evaluation of nine oil sands companies, and will develop minimum standards for investments in shale oil and gas. Those will be followed by; integrated oil and gas; other oil and gas exploration and production; oil and gas equipment and services; and oil and gas storage and transportation. Minimum standards for all of these sectors, and a determination of which companies are suitable to remain in the Fund's portfolio, will be completed by 2025. After completing initial reviews, the Fund will continue to reassess whether the remaining companies are meeting minimum standards and are on viable low-carbon transition pathways. The Fund will be hiring additional staff and engaging consulting partners to support these critical efforts.

Senator Liz Krueger said: "Today's announcement from the State Comptroller is an exciting, bold, and responsible leadership position, one that sets a high bar in a vital year for climate action. The New York State Common Retirement Fund is the third largest pension fund in the country, and when it takes action, people pay attention. Rigorous and timely review, with divestment for climate laggards across the energy sector, and a commitment to a net zero portfolio by 2040 will protect the Fund, current and future retirees, and taxpayers from unacceptable levels of climate risk. It also sends a clear message that the era of dirty fossil fuels must and will come to an end, and the smart money is getting out sooner rather than later. This announcement is a big deal, and it is a win-win for the Fund's bottom line, and the future survival of our society."

Assembly Assistant Speaker Félix W. Ortiz said: "The ambitious goal to transition the New York State Common Retirement Fund's portfolio to net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2040 is a victory for the environment, fund investors, advocates and all New Yorkers. The steps announced today by the State Comptroller reflect New York's commitment to sound environmental and fiscal policies, ensuring our role as a leader. As a lifelong environmental advocate, I have renewed hope for future generations."

As part of its net zero commitment, the Fund will continue to increase its engagement efforts with companies across industries to encourage them to reach net zero carbon emissions more quickly, and will continue to vote against board directors at portfolio companies that fail to take steps to mitigate climate risks. The Fund is primarily a passive index investor in the public equity markets and its size gives it a prominent voice at companies across the globe. Major companies have already adopted net zero (or negative carbon) goals, including Microsoft (negative carbon by 2030), Apple (net zero by 2030), and Amazon (net zero by 2040), and more companies adopting these goals will further mitigate the risks of climate change on the Fund's portfolio.

The Fund will also establish interim trajectory goals to measure progress toward its 2040 net zero target and institute transparency measures regarding the Fund's progress, including annual progress reports, and updates at the outset and conclusion of each sector review.

The Fund's strategies - to address climate risk to investments by achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2040 and comprehensively reviewing companies, with divestment from those that fail to meet minimum standards where it's consistent with fiduciary duty - go further, faster, than the goals outlined in the Fossil Fuel Divestment Act, sponsored by Sen. Krueger and Assemblyman Ortiz. (Contd. Pg. 26)

Senator Jen Metzger Applauds NYS Pension Fund's Transition to a Sustainable Future

(From Pg. 25) Therefore, the legislators have indicated that the Fossil Fuel Divestment Act will not be reintroduced in January 2021.

Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins said, "Climate change is real and we must be aggressive at combating it. In 2019, the Senate Democratic Majority took historic action to pass the most ambitious environmental protection legislation in the nation, the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act. For years, Senator Liz Krueger has been an outspoken advocate and true leader in ensuring New York uses all the tools at our disposal to address climate change, including our state's pension fund. With today's announcement by State Comptroller Tom DiNapoli, our state is taking another huge step forward in this fight, as we put the New York State pension fund at the forefront of creating a low-carbon global economy. I thank State Comptroller DiNapoli for taking this bold step, and I applaud Senator Liz Krueger for her tireless commitment to achieving the goal of a cleaner, and greener New York State."

"New York has been a leader in the fight to combat climate change, taking bold and necessary steps to protect our planet while fostering a just transition," said State Sen. Todd Kaminsky, chairman of the Senate Environmental Conservation Committee. "I applaud State Comptroller DiNapoli's plan to transition the state's pension fund portfolios to net-zero carbon emissions by 2040, as well as Senator Krueger for her leadership on this important matter, which will both go a long way in furthering our carbon-neutral goals."

"This is incredibly exciting news from the State Comptroller's office today," said State Sen. Rachel May. "The climate crisis requires bold and decisive action from all segments of government. The commitment to reach net zero carbon emissions in the New York State Common Retirement Fund by 2040 fulfills both the need for fiduciary responsibility to our state employees and the urgent action required to phase out dirty fossil fuel from our state's economy. I applaud State Comptroller DiNapoli for this decision and my colleagues Senator Krueger and Assemblymember Ortiz for their leadership on this critical issue."

State Sen. Jen Metzger said, "State Comptroller Tom DiNapoli has taken a historic step to put one of the country's largest pension funds on a sustainable path, both fiscally and environmentally. This is about minimizing climate risk and recognizing that what's good for the future of the planet is good for the health of New York's retirement system. Fossil fuels are a bad bet, period. I want to thank the State Comptroller for his leadership and continued vigilance in stewarding the state's pension fund. I also want to thank Senator Liz Krueger and Assemblymember Felix Ortiz, sponsors of the Fossil Fuel Divestment Act, for their work to elevate this issue and move us forward."

Summary

2019 Climate Action Plan Summary of Next Steps in DiNapoli's Climate Action Plan About the New York State Common Retirement Fund

The New York State Common Retirement Fund is the third largest public pension fund in the United States. The Fund holds and invests the assets of the New York State and Local Retirement System on behalf of more than one million state and local government employees and retirees and their beneficiaries. The Fund has consistently been ranked as one of the best managed and best funded plans in the nation. The Fund's fiscal year ends March 31.

Governor Cuomo Expands Holiday Toy and Coat Drive to Accept Shipped Packages to Benefit New Yorkers in Need

Statewide Drive Extended Through December 18

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced New York's annual statewide holiday donation drive to benefit families in need will now accept shipped donations of new unwrapped toys, coats and school supplies at two locations to assist community-based organizations during the holiday giving season. This new option allows New Yorkers to make online purchases and have them shipped directly to receiving locations in Albany and New York City. The drive has also been extended through December 18.

"Time after time, we have seen countless examples of New Yorkers showing love, compassion and support for those struggling during this pandemic and this holiday season presents the perfect opportunity to bring a little bit of light into someone's life," Governor Cuomo said. "New York's Annual Holiday Toy and Coat Drive has a long track record of helping those in need and this year it's even easier to participate with the program being expanded to accept shipped packages, as well as those dropped-off in person. Everyone deserves a happy, safe and healthy holiday and we thank all who have so generously already donated, as well as those who will in the future."

Packages ordered online should be ordered with a delivery date on or before December 18 and can be shipped to the following locations:

NYS Holiday Drive	NYS Holiday Drive
655 West 34th St.	Empire State Plaza
New York, New York 10001	P1 South Dock J
	Albany, New York 12242

The Office of General Services will continue to accept donations at drop-off locations across the state through December 18. COVID-19 protocols will be in place to ensure the safety of those dropping off donations including social distancing, and access to hand sanitizer. Masks are required.

The drop-off locations are as follows:

- o Alfred E. Smith Building, 80 South Swan St., Albany
- o Empire State Plaza Main Concourse, Empire State Plaza, Albany
- o Corning Tower, Empire State Plaza, Albany
- o Agency Buildings 1,2,3,4 - Empire State Plaza, Albany
- o Robert Abrams Building for Law and Justice Empire State Plaza, Albany
- o Swan Street Building, Core 2 and Core 3, Empire State Plaza, Albany
- o Harriman Campus Buildings 5, 6, 7, 7A, 8, 12 Harriman Campus, 1220 Washington Ave., Albany
- o Ten Eyck Building, 40 North Pearl St., Albany
- o 50 Wolf Rd., Albany
- o 625 Broadway, Albany
- o Hampton Plaza, 38-40 State St., Albany
- o 44 Holland Ave., Albany
- o 328 State St., Schenectady
- o Senator John J. Hughes State Office Building, 333 E. Washington St., Syracuse
- o Dulles State Office Building, 317 Washington St., Watertown
- o Utica State Office Building, 207 Genesee St., Utica
- o Eleanor Roosevelt State Office Building, 4 Burnett Blvd., Poughkeepsie
- o Henderson-Smith State Office Building, 107 Broadway, Hornell
- o Binghamton State Office Building, 44 Hawley St., Binghamton
- o NYS State Police, 1155 Scottsville Rd. Rochester
- o Homer Folks Facility, 28 Hill St., Oneonta
- o Senator Walter J. Mahoney State Office Building, 65 Court St., Buffalo
- o Perry B. Duryea State Office Building, 250 Veterans Memorial Highway, Hauppauge
- o Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. State Office Building, 163 West 125th St., New York City
- o Shirley A. Chisholm State Office Building, 55 Hanson Place, Brooklyn



Santa Claus is coming to town and will be making a special stop at the Daniel Pierce Library! Santa will read *The Night Before the Night Before Christmas*. Join us for this unique event via YouTube.

All children who register will receive a gift and hot cocoa to make at home! These items must be picked up from the library.



Swing by the library Tuesday, **December 15th** to pick up your special treats!
10 - 6 p.m.




Link for *Santa's Storytime* will be available on our FB page Friday, **December 18th**
5:00 p.m.



Registration is open to Tri-Valley residents.
Please register online at www.danielpiercelibrary.org

Happy Holidays!

Governor Cuomo Updates New Yorkers on State Vaccination Distribution Plan

- *FDA Expected to Authorize Pfizer Vaccine This Week; New York Could Receive Initial Allocation of 170,000 Doses Beginning this Weekend*
- *Nursing Home Residents, Nursing Home Staff and 'High Risk' Hospital Workers Prioritized First*
- *90 Cold Storage Sites Identified Across the State to Receive and Store Vaccines*
 - *New York National Guard Selected by Department of Defense to Participate in One of 16 Pilot Programs Aimed at Vaccinating Military Personnel*

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today updated New Yorkers on the state's vaccination distribution plan as the FDA is expected to authorize Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine this week. The state's vaccination distribution effort will focus on battling skepticism, include outreach to Black, Brown and poor communities, as well as expedited distribution and administration. New York could receive its initial allocation of 170,000 vaccines as soon as this weekend, and expects further allocations in the following weeks.

"Distributing the vaccine is a massive undertaking. I think frankly, people have not focused enough on the extent of what this undertaking means. I can't think of a government operation that has been commenced that is more difficult and intricate than what governments will be asked to do here," Governor Cuomo said. "The way the vaccine is going to work is the federal government will be responsible for the procurement and the distribution. The military is doing the transportation with private companies, and they will send it where we ask them to send it. We then set the priorities for not only where it goes, but who gets it. The first allocation is for nursing home residents, nursing home staff and high-risk health care workers. We've identified 90 regional centers that can keep the vaccine at the required temperature and they'll act as distribution centers for that region. Pfizer's vaccine is expected to be approved by the FDA tomorrow. Immediately after that, our New York State panel will convene and review and approve it. They've already been speaking to the FDA about the process."

As outlined in New York's vaccination program, high-risk healthcare workers, nursing home residents and staff are prioritized first to receive the vaccine, followed by other long-term and congregate care staff and residents and EMS and other health care workers. Essential workers and the general population, starting with those who are at highest risk, will be vaccinated after these initial priority groups.

New York has opted into the federal government's nursing home vaccination program. Under the federal program, employees of CVS and Walgreens will vaccinate residents and staff in these facilities, much like the do for the flu vaccine. New York State will issue guidance for hospitals to select which patient-facing staff should be prioritized as "high-risk" in line with state rules.

If authorized by the FDA, the first delivery of Pfizer vaccines for the federal nursing home vaccination program could begin arriving next week, with the federal program slated to begin on December 21. New York is dedicating a portion of its initial allotment of 170,000 doses to this program. Portions of future state allocations will also be used to help complete the program and ensure all residents and staff are vaccinated.

'High risk' hospital workers eligible to receive a vaccination from the state's initial allotment include emergency room workers, ICU staff and pulmonary department staff. As part of the effort to vaccinate 'high risk' hospital staff, the state has identi-

fied 90 locations across the state with requisite cold storage capabilities and those sites will receive enough doses for approximately 90,000 patient-facing hospital staff, or 40 percent of the entire patient-facing hospital workforce. The state expects all 'high risk' hospital staff will receive a vaccine by the end of week two. Staff at every hospital in New York State, regardless of storage capabilities, will have access to the first allocation of a vaccine.

The vaccine will be allocated on a regional basis. Regional estimated distributions are as follows:

- o New York City - 72,000
- o Long Island - 26,500
- o Mid-Hudson - 19,200
- o Capital Region - 7,850
- o North Country - 3,700
- o Mohawk Valley - 4,200
- o Central New York - 6,400
- o Southern Tier - 4,500
- o Finger Lakes - 11,150
- o Western New York - 14,500

Following the vaccination of 'high risk' health care workers, the priority will shift to all long-term and congregate care residents and staff, EMS and other health care workers. Essential workers and the general population will follow those groups, and those with the highest risk will be prioritized.

Additionally, the New York National Guard has been selected by the Department of Defense as one of 16 pilot programs across the nation to be part of the limited distribution of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine to military personnel. Members of the New York Army and Air National Guard who serve as part of the state's COVID response efforts will be eligible for the vaccine.

DEC Announces Conservation Partnership Program Grants Funding for 50 Land Trusts to Protect Open Spaces, Improve Water Quality, and Support Local Economies

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos today announced more than \$2.2 million in Conservation Partnership Program grants for 50 not-for-profit land trusts across the state. A total of 69 grants funded through New York's Environmental Protection Fund will leverage an additional \$2.6 million in private and local funding to support projects that protect water quality and farmland, boost public access for outdoor recreation, and conserve open space to benefit community health, tourism, and economic development. The Land Trust Alliance administers the Conservation Partnership Program in coordination with DEC.

"Over the last year, New Yorkers young and old have been exploring the outdoors in record numbers," said Commissioner Seggos. "Land trusts across the state help to preserve and manage some of the special, natural places that the public has come to love. The grants announced today support forest management, conservation agriculture, coastal and wetlands restoration, and other activities that are essential to help address climate change and preserve the ecosystems we depend on. We commend the Land Trust Alliance for administering this important program."

In addition, the \$2.2 million in Conservation Partnership Program grants and \$2.6 million in private and local funding will increase state lands' resilience to the changing climate and contribute to climate solutions by storing carbon. Natural climate solutions will have a significant role in addressing risks associated with climate change. (Contd. Pg. 29)

DEC Announces Conservation Partnership Program Grants

Funding for 50 Land Trusts to Protect Open Spaces, Improve Water Quality, and Support Local Economies (From Pg. 28)

The grant awards announced today range from \$3,161 to \$100,000, and include:

Western New York/Finger Lakes/Southern Tier - (total \$268,393)

- o Buffalo Niagara River Land Trust: Capacity Grant \$18,750
- o Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy: Transaction Grant \$40,000
- o Finger Lakes Land Trust: Transaction Grant \$19,000
- o Genesee Land Trust: Capacity Grant \$35,000; Transaction Grant \$24,580
- o Grassroots Gardens WNY: Capacity Grants \$56,063
- o The Nature Sanctuary Society of Western New York: Capacity Grant \$25,000
- o Western New York Land Conservancy: Transaction Grant \$50,000

Central New York/Mohawk Valley - (total \$170,450)

- o Cazenovia Preservation Foundation: Capacity Grants \$42,450
- o Central New York Land Trust: Professional Development Grant \$80,000
- o Otsego Land Trust: Professional Development Grant \$48,000

North Country - (total \$351,649)

- o Adirondack Land Trust: Capacity Grants \$51,754
- o Champlain Area Trails: Capacity Grant \$28,500; Transaction Grant \$34,725
- o Indian River Lakes Conservancy: Capacity Grant \$37,500
- o Lake Placid Land Conservancy: Capacity Grants \$25,000
- o Northeast Wilderness Trust: Catalyst Grant \$40,000; Stewardship & Resource Management Grant \$12,000
- o Thousand Islands Land Trust: Stewardship & Resource Management Grant \$50,000; Transaction Grant \$36,980
- o Tug Hill Tomorrow: Land Trust Capacity Grant \$23,830; Transaction Grant \$11,360

Capital District - (total \$647,946)

- o Agricultural Stewardship Association: Capacity Grant \$28,900; Stewardship & Resource Management Grant \$50,000
- o American Farmland Trust: Catalyst Grant \$40,000
- o Battenkill Conservancy: Capacity Grant \$30,000
- o Capital Roots: Transaction Grant \$18,000
- o Columbia Land Conservancy: Catalyst Grant \$74,600
- o Grassland Bird Trust: Capacity Grant \$30,000
- o Greene Land Trust: Capacity Grant \$29,300
- o Huyck Preserve and Biological Resource Station: Capacity Grant \$32,975; Transaction Grant \$11,100
- o Lake George Land Conservancy: Stewardship & Resource Management Grant \$23,300
- o Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy: Professional Development Grant \$33,710
- o The Nature Conservancy: Catalyst Grant \$60,000
- o Northeastern Cave Conservancy: Transaction Grant \$3,161
- o Rensselaer Land Trust: Professional Development Grant \$60,000; Transaction Grant \$23,000
- o Rensselaer Plateau Alliance: Transaction Grant \$47,700
- o Saratoga PLAN: Capacity Grant \$36,000; Transaction Grant \$16,200

Mid-Hudson - (total \$636,644)

- o Dutchess Land Conservancy: Professional Development Grant \$100,000
- o Friends of the Great Swamp (FrOGS): Stewardship & Resource Management Grant \$22,500

- o Hudson Highlands Land Trust: Catalyst Grant \$50,000
- o Kingston Land Trust: Transaction Grants \$54,994
- o Mianus River Gorge Preserve: Stewardship & Resource Management Grant \$38,500
- o Mohonk Preserve: Capacity Grant \$14,000; Stewardship & Resource Management Grant \$40,000
- o Open Space Institute: Stewardship & Resource Management Grant \$40,000
- o Orange County Land Trust: Catalyst Grant \$35,000
- o Pound Ridge Land Conservancy: Capacity Grant \$30,000; Transaction Grant \$18,800
- o Scenic Hudson Land Trust: Catalyst Grant \$60,000
- o Wallkill Valley Land Trust: Capacity Grant \$12,000; Stewardship & Resource Management Grant \$19,500
- o Westchester Land Trust: Stewardship & Resource Management Grant \$38,000; Transaction Grant \$24,000
- o Winnakee Land Trust: Capacity Grant \$30,000
- o Woodstock Land Conservancy: Capacity Grant \$9,350

New York City - (total \$24,418)

- o Green Guerillas: Capacity Grant \$24,418

Long Island - (total \$150,500)

- o HL Ferguson Museum: Catalyst Grant: \$32,000
- o North Shore Land Alliance: Stewardship & Resource Management Grant \$40,000
- o Peconic Land Trust: Stewardship & Resource Management Grant \$34,500; Transaction Grant \$44,000

A detailed breakdown of these grants is available on the DEC website.

This year's grantees include 34 accredited land trusts that have secured independent verification that their work and operations meet high standards for land conservation, stewardship, and nonprofit management. Accredited grantees include Adirondack Land Trust, Agricultural Stewardship Association, Cazenovia Preservation Foundation, Champlain Area Trails, Columbia Land Conservancy, Dutchess Land Conservancy, Finger Lakes Land Trust, Genesee Land Trust, Greene Land Trust, Huyck Preserve, Hudson Highlands Land Trust, Indian River Lakes Conservancy, Lake George Land Conservancy, Mianus River Gorge, Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy, Mohonk Preserve, Northeast Wilderness Trust, North Shore Land Alliance, Open Space Institute, Orange County Land Trust, Otsego Land Trust, Peconic Land Trust, Rensselaer Land Trust, Rensselaer Plateau Alliance, Saratoga PLAN (Saratoga Preserving Land and Nature), Scenic Hudson Land Trust, The Nature Conservancy, Thousand Islands Land Trust, Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust, Wallkill Valley Land Trust, Westchester Land Trust, Western New York Land Conservancy, Winnakee Land Trust, and Woodstock Land Conservancy.

Since the Conservation Partnership Program's inception in 2002, and including this year's grants, the program has awarded 997 grants totaling \$21.7 million to 91 land trusts. Cumulatively, the State's investment has leveraged \$23.8 million in additional funding from local and private sources.

"At a time when we increasingly value open spaces and need our economy to rebound, this funding will leverage the strength of New York's land trust community to protect the outdoor places people depend on," said Andrew Bowman, the Land Trust Alliance's president and CEO. "On behalf of the Land Trust Alliance, I applaud Gov. Andrew Cuomo, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie, Sen. Todd Kaminsky and Assemblyman Steve Englebright for their work toward ensuring the continued availability of clean water, healthy food, outdoor recreation, and economic opportunity."

New York's investment in land conservation and open space supports local businesses, saves taxpayer dollars, and protects public health. (Contd. Pg. 30)

DEC Announces Conservation Partnership Program Grants Funding for 50 Land Trusts to Protect Open Spaces, Improve Water Quality, and Support Local Economies (From Pg. 29)

(The Trust for Public Land found that every \$1 invested by New York's Environmental Protection Fund generated \$7 in total economic benefits from enhanced tourism, reduced government costs and improved public health. In the 2020-21 State Budget, Governor Cuomo sustained the record high EPF at \$300 million for the fifth year in a row, providing funding for open space conservation, parkland stewardship, and other environmental protection projects.

Earlier this year, DEC and the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (State Parks) launched the PLAY SMART * PLAY SAFE * PLAY LOCAL campaign to encourage all New Yorkers to recreate safely, responsibly, and locally this summer and to always treat fellow outdoor adventurers with respect. The campaign invites people to take the PLAY SMART * PLAY SAFE * PLAY LOCAL pledge and promise to use common sense to protect themselves and others when enjoying the outdoors. During the State's ongoing response to COVID-19, New Yorkers across the state want and need to get outside for a nature break, which is good for physical and mental health. The campaign and pledge include common sense guidelines for smart and safe recreation, including incorporating social distancing and wearing a face mask, planning trips ahead, choosing a destination close to home because public restrooms and restaurants may not be open, and visiting at off hours. The agencies are also encouraging New Yorkers to take the pledge and use the hashtag #PlaySmartPlaySafePlayLocal when sharing their outdoor adventures on social media.

"The funding for the Conservation Partnership Program will bolster services provided by local land trust organizations dedicated to preserving New York's natural beauty and making open spaces accessible for recreational opportunities," said Senator Todd Kaminsky, Chair of the Senate Environmental Conservation Committee. "Long Islanders will benefit greatly from the more than \$150,000 in grants slated to fund four projects to protect the green spaces and outdoor recreation that make our communities such a wonderful place to live. Importantly, by sequestering carbon and fostering natural climate solutions, this funding will help advance New York's bold and aggressive plan to mitigate climate change and its devastating effects."

Assemblyman Steve Englebright, Chair of the Assembly Committee on Environmental Conservation, said, "The Environmental Protection Fund provides critical support for open space programs. Land preservation is one of the most effective ways to protect the environment. The Conservation Partnership Program grants are essential to help land trusts preserve land in perpetuity and ensure that New Yorkers have access to open space, clean water, and local agricultural products."

About the Land Trust Alliance

Founded in 1982, the Land Trust Alliance is a national land conservation organization that works to save the places people need and love by strengthening land conservation across America. The Alliance represents 1,000-member land trusts supported by more than 200,000 volunteers and 4.6 million members nationwide. The Alliance is based in Washington, D.C., and operates several regional offices. More information about the Alliance is available at the Land Trust Alliance website.

Governor Cuomo's Update on COVID

New York's independent COVID-19 Clinical Advisory Task Force unanimously approved the FDA vaccine panel's decision to recommend the Pfizer vaccine. The Task Force, which is chaired by Nobel laureate Dr. Charles Rice, was able to review data on the vaccine concurrently with the FDA, allowing for a thorough review for New Yorkers.

This added level of approval should give New Yorkers additional confidence in the vaccine. As we prepare for the great task of administering the vaccine, we simultaneously continue to act to slow the spread of the virus and to ensure hospital capacity. We are constantly calibrating our strategy with the goal of maintaining as much economic activity as possible, while protecting public health.

Here's what else you need to know :

1. To protect hospital capacity, New York will implement new metrics to determine micro-cluster zones. Under these updated metrics, Red, Orange and Yellow Zones will now be determined as follows: A Red Zone will be implemented when a region reaches a critical hospital capacity-that is, when 90 percent of beds are full (after measures to increase capacity have been taken). An Orange Zone will be implemented if an area has a 4 percent positivity rate over the past 10 days (on a 7-day average) and is located in a region that has reached 85 percent hospital capacity. A Yellow Zone will be implemented if an area has a 3 percent positivity rate over the past 10 days (on a 7-day average) and is in the top 10 percent in the state for hospital admissions per capita over the past week and is experiencing week-over-week growth in daily admissions. It sounds complicated-but the basic idea behind these metrics is to ensure that hospital systems are not overloaded.

2. Starting Monday, December 14th, indoor dining in New York City will be suspended. This is in response to the continued increase in positive cases and hospitalizations, in addition to recently issued CDC guidance emphasizing the high risk of indoor dining. Outdoor dining, delivery and takeout will remain in place. This suspension will continue to be re-evaluated based on updated data over the coming weeks.

3. The State Department of Health is directing New York hospitals to take additional steps to help keep capacity below 85 percent. Under the directive, hospitals must either add additional capacity, reduce elective surgeries, or a combination of both, in order to remain under 85 percent. This measure expands on the previously announced "Surge and Flex" protocol.

4. I will sign an Executive Order extending the State's moratorium on commercial evictions. This moratorium will provide support to small businesses and other tenants during these difficult times. These businesses need help now more than ever, and Congress must include support for bars and restaurants in the next stimulus package.

5. Total COVID hospitalizations rose to 5,321. Of the 212,672 tests reported yesterday, 10,595, or 4.98 percent, were positive. There were 1,007 patients in ICU yesterday, up 13 from the previous day. Of them, 546 are intubated. Sadly, we lost 87 New Yorkers to the virus.

6. Gyms and personal care services will be permitted to open in Orange Zones with limited capacity. Starting Monday, December 14th, gyms, fitness centers, salons and barber shops-which are currently closed in Orange Zones-will be allowed to operate at 25 percent capacity. Employees must be tested for COVID-19 on a weekly basis. This is good news for establishments in Buffalo, Rochester and Syracuse, among other Orange Zone locations-and a testament to the success these industries have had across the state in keeping patrons safe.

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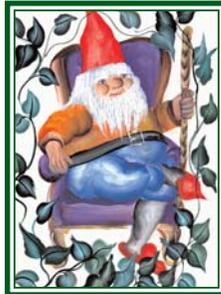
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**"KNARF'S CLASSIC
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 THE POLAR EXPRESS**

(G · 2004 · 1hr 40min · Animation / Fantasy)
 Tom Hanks as the Conductor, Nona Gaye as

Hero Girl, Peter Scolari as Billy - Lonely Boy, Michael Jeter as Smokey. *The Polar Express* is a 2004 American computer-animated adventure film co-written and directed by Robert Zemeckis,



based on the 1985 children's book of the same name by Chris Van Allsburg, who also served as one of the executive producers. The film features human characters animated using live-action motion



capture animation. The film tells the story of a young boy who, on Christmas Eve, sees a mysterious train bound for the North Pole stop outside his window and is invited aboard by its conductor. The boy joins

several other children as they embark on a journey to visit Santa Claus preparing for Christmas. The film stars Tom Hanks, who was also one of the film's executive producers, in multiple distinct roles, with Daryl Sabara, Nona Gaye, Jimmy Bennett and Eddie Deezen in supporting roles. (Contd. Pg. 32)



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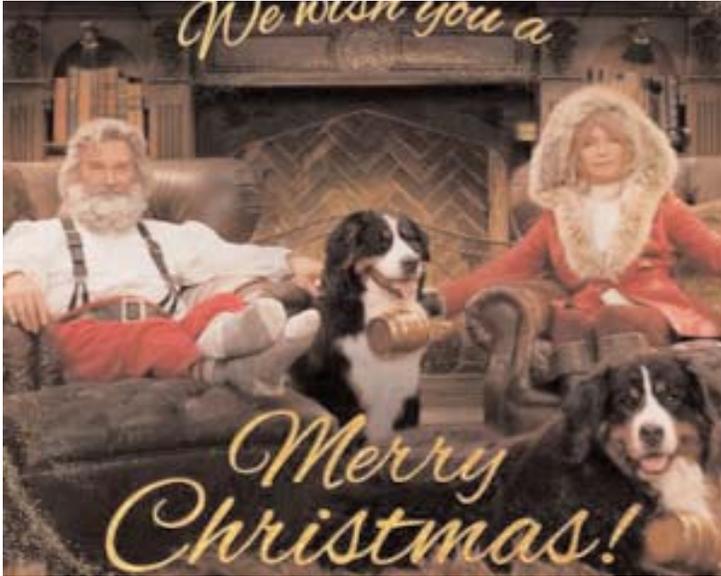
Get the service you need and keep your dollar local

(From Pg. 31)

KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE #2 The Christmas Chronicles

(PG · 2018 · 1hr 44mi Fantasy/Family)

What a refreshing, hilarious fantasy romp, through the spirit of the human kindness called Christmas. The wonderful musical performances are a pleasant surprise in conveying the love of the



soul, as the energy of the soul creates the feeling of **“THE FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS,”** called **CHRISTMAS**. We honor the celebration of Christ's day of bringing love to humanity for over two thousand years giving us hope to face our realities. The film shows the value of fairytales in creating a positive impression when making children laugh and understand the material,



and spiritual aspects of their reality. The film is spreading love and Christmas cheer. Entertaining, with a comical bucket of monkey's fun-attitude of enjoying the human spirit. Not one boring moment in delivering the “fun,” of love, to humanity. Don't miss the fun of two adolescents catching Santa, by surprise on video. **Directed by Clay Kaytis, derived from a screenplay by Matt Lieberman. Starring, Kurt Russell as Santa Claus, Judah Lewis as Teddy, Darby Camp as Kate, Lamorne Morris as Officer Jameson,**



KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE #3 The Christmas Chronicles II

(PG · 2020 · 1hr 44min · Fantasy/Family)

YOU BETTER WATCH OUT, YOU BETTER NOT CRY, YOU BETTER NOT POUT, I'M TELLING YOU WHY?

The Christmas Chronicles: Part Two. Unhappy over her mom's



new relationship, a now-teenage Kate runs away and lands at the North Pole, where a naughty elf is plotting to cancel Christmas. Written and directed by Chris Columbus (Home Alone, Harry Potter) and co-starring Goldie Hawn, **THE CHRISTMAS CHRONICLES 2** is an action-packed adventure for the whole family that's full of heart



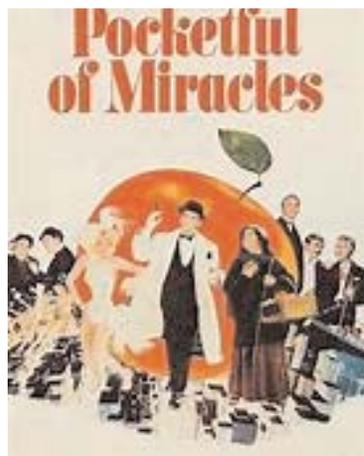
(Contd. Pg. 33)

*(From Pg. 32)***KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE #4
ON TCM WEDNESDAY**

DECEMBER 23, 2020 @ 3:30 PM

Pocketful of Miracles
(1961 / 2h 16m / Comedy / TV-G)

Pocketful of Miracles is a charming urban fairy tale from 1961. It was the last movie directed by Frank Capra, who specialized in mid-century American fairy tales (*It Happened One Night*, *It's A Wonderful Life* (Two-Disc Collector's Set) (B/W & Color), and *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington*)



Directed by Frank Capra, and starring Glenn Ford as "Dave the Dude," Bette Davis as Apple Annie, also known as Mrs. E. Worthington Manville; Hope Lange as Elizabeth "Queenie" Martin, Arthur O'Connell as Count Alphonse Romero, Peter Falk as Glen Ford's under boss.

**KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE #5
ON TCM WEDNESDAY**

DECEMBER 23, 2020 @ 6:00 PM

Bell, Book and Candle
(1959 / 1h 46m / Comedy / TV-PG)

Christmas Eve in New York City it is more magical than any other place in the world. Especially when the magic of love, the greatest peacemaker and healer in all of creation, is countered by



witchcraft, adding a bevy of laughter. The key to Gillian Holroyd's, (Kim Novak) happiness is her surprise as the owner of a bewitching gallery specializing in eclectic, eccentric art. Directed by Richard Quine. Cast James Stewart, Kim Novak, Jack Lemmon, Earnie Kovacks



*Stay safe, the very best to you, and yours,
Knarf Odnamoc,
Gnomø*