



PROUD TO BE AN AMERICAN



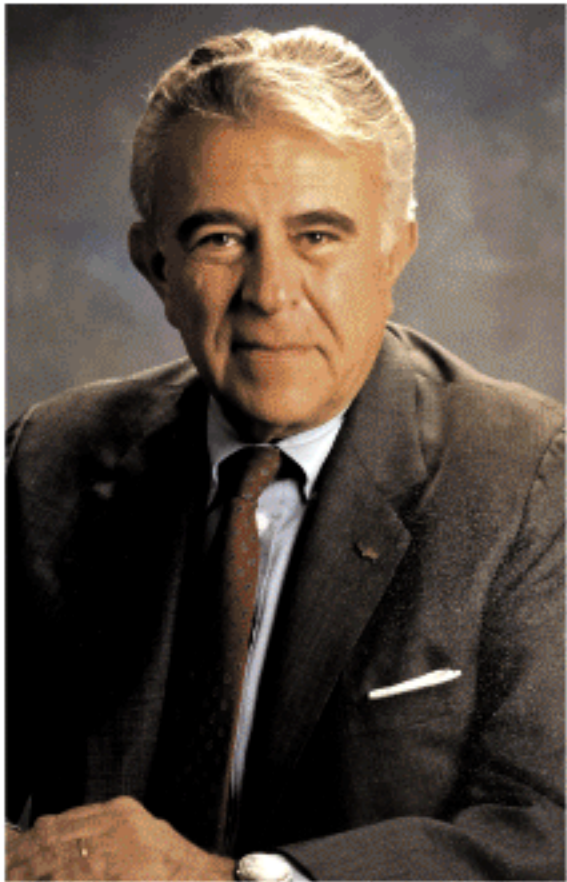
# Ye Olde GOOZNSWAN Valley

"The Best Journal Published by a Dam Sitze!"

VOL. 12 NO. 49 GRAHAMSVILLE, NY 12740 DECEMBER 22, 2016 FIFTY CENTS

• Local Weather Pg 8 • Mysterious Book Report John D. McKenna Pg 4 • The Olive Jar Carol La Monda Pg 6 •

## A Tribute to Benjamin A. Gilman former Chairman of the House Committee on International Relations



Benjamin A. Gilman, former Chairman of the House Committee on International Relations during the 1990s, passed away today. He was 94. The New York Republican served under seven presidents during a thirty-year term that ran from 1973 to 2003. He was known for his tenacious commitment to upholding human rights, his determined efforts on behalf of the hungry and malnourished, his support for the state of Israel, and his dedication to fighting the problems of international drug-trafficking. The highly-decorated veteran of the Army Air Corps during World War II was also a vocal proponent of a strong national defense. He had been in declining health following surgery to repair a damaged hip. (Contd. Pg. 6)

## 8th Grade Movie Night a Success



On the night of December 7, 2016 nearly 40 Tri-Valley 8th graders came back to school to watch the movie version of S.E. Hinton's timeless classic *The Outsiders*. Students had recently finished reading the novel in their 8th grade ELA class and were very interested in comparing the movie to the book. Several parents also attended the movie.

Refreshments were served throughout the movie and they were certainly a big hit—none were left at the end of the night!

The movie was put on by 8th grade ELA teacher Matt Haynes. Deb Swett (middle and high school special education teacher), Gayle Burger (middle and high school special education teacher), and Patty Shamro (elementary special education teacher) also helped make the event a huge success.

Thanks to everyone who was able to make it. It was a fun night for all!

## UC Executive Mike Hein Signs the 2017 Ulster County Budget

*The Budget Reduces The County Tax Levy To Its Lowest Level Since 2009*



Kingston, N.Y. - Surrounded by County Department of Public Works employees, Ulster County Executive Mike Hein signed the 2017 Ulster County Budget, a \$325 million financial plan that protects County taxpayers, by lowering county property taxes for the third consecutive year and reduces the tax levy to its lowest level since 2009. It provides for the continuation of high-quality services, promotes economic development, allows Ulster County to continue leading the way in environmental stewardship and further expands the historic infrastructure investment initiative known as 'Building A Better Ulster County' by committing an additional \$15 million to improve the County's roads and bridges in the upcoming year, bringing the total three year investment to an extraordinary \$46 million. The County Executive's budget proposal was passed by the County Legislature on December 7, 2016, 99% as written.

The County Executive signed the 2017 County Budget at the Department of Public Works alongside the CSEA workforce and management team who have partnered to repair and upgrade the County's infrastructure over the past two years as a means of highlighting and thanking them for their work. "I am honored to work with these amazing public service employees who, project after project, continue to exceed expectations as we work towards an even brighter future for Ulster County together," said Ulster County Executive Mike Hein. (Contd. Pg. 4)

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**YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN**

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1. **ALL submissions** should be typewritten or in Microsoft Word.
2. Letters should contain no more than 300 words and must be typewritten. They may be emailed as Microsoft Word documents.
3. Letters should offer worthwhile comments and avoid libel or bad taste.
4. Letters must be signed with the writer's own name. No letter will be published without a signature.
5. The writer must provide his/her full name, address and telephone number (for verification). This information will be kept on file in the YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN office.
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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If you are submitting your advertising by email, our email address is: [tvtownsman@yahoo.com](mailto:tvtownsman@yahoo.com) If you do choose to send ad copy via the internet please send it in either PDF (Acrobat) files or high resolution JPG format. All press releases/articles should be sent as Microsoft Word Documents

Have a question- please call: Linda Comando (845) 985-0501.

As always, thank you for your support.

Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman

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**ON THE FRONT BURNER:** Be not envious against evil men, neither desire to be with them.  
Proverbs 24:1

**THANK YOU**

Cheryl's family wants to thank the Grahamsville, Neversink and Loch Sheldrake Firefighters, the Grahamsville Ladies Auxiliary and the First Aid Squad and all those who participated in helping Cheryl after the tragic accident last week. Thank you for all the prayers and get well wishes too.

We are so grateful to you all.

*The Bertholf Family***COLLEGE NEWS:****Local Recipients of Endowed, Sponsored and Share Clarkson Scholarships**

Clarkson University has announced recipients of endowed, sponsored, and Share Clarkson scholarships for the 2016-2017 academic year.

Haley S. Kaminski of Napanoch, N.Y., a senior majoring in aeronautical engineering, received the Theodore Sr. and Wanda McWharf Endowed Scholarship.

Steven Thomas McCauliff of Grahamsville, N.Y., a senior majoring in mechanical engineering, received the Fred and Betsy Garry Endowed Scholarship.

Kiara L Cruickshank of Big Indian, N.Y., a sophomore majoring in political science, received the Gary F. Kelly Endowed Scholarship.

**DAYS OF YORE....****Today's History****December 19, 1956**

Claryville School District is opposing a move by the State Education Department to force it to consolidate with Tri-Valley Union Free School District. The situation was brought to a head by serving Fred Ahrens, Claryville District Trustee, by Superintendent Henry Paul, an order to dissolve the district and annex the territory to the Grahamsville District.

The closing of the Home National Bank of Ellenville a week ago brought an end to an 83 year old institution. The bank did 70% of the banking business in Ellenville. It had 10,000 accounts, 3,500-4,000 depositors and assets were more than \$7,000,000. The Commerce Department rated Ellenville as one of the most prosperous communities in New York State with Channel Master, Ulster Knife and H. Rosenstock.

The legislature will be asked by the NYS Teachers Association to set minimum salaries for teachers at \$5,000 for beginners and \$10,000 for teachers with 10 or more year's experience.

Mrs. Nellie Hornbeck died at her home in Lackawack, December 11th. She was born in Eureka in 1892. Surviving is a daughter, Mrs. Ralph Adams.

So far the only foe that has beaten the Tri-Valley Bears is the weather. Their league standing is 3-0.

**December 21, 1966**

A number of people from here attended the retirement dinner for guards held at Columbia Farms Hotel. Wessel Cross and Ralph Adams retired from here. Mr. Adams served 34 1/2 years with the New York State Department of Corrections.

Mr. and Mrs Herman Gotsch are moving from their home in Stormville to their farm off Denman Mt. Road.

A new bridge in Claryville was dedicated December 15th and officially opened. What a pleasure not to have to make that sharp turn anymore.

Elizabeth Spann has been selected to have her biography included in the 1966-67 edition of "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. She is a senior at Ithaca College.

Snowdrifts reported as high as 12 feet closed Rt. 55 where it crosses the Neversink Dam.

**REMINDER:***Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman***will not be published:**

Thursday, December 29th, 2016

in observance of **Christmas**

&amp;

Thursday, January 5th, 2016

in observance of **New Years.****Dec 16, 1976**

The New York State Education Dept. announced the ten seniors who have been awarded Regent Scholarships. They are Thomas Meyers, who received the second highest score in Sullivan County; Robert Friedman, John Gallagher, Douglas Hamilton, David Hill, Elise Mears, Bonnie Mentnech, Greg Pond, Linda Pond and Thomas Regan.

A new 4H Club has been formed in Grahamsville and goes by the name of Tri-Valley Busy Bees. The president is Tracy Raymond, Vice Chairman- Jenny Scoefield, Secretary-Kate Gallagher, Treasurer-Tina Marion, Song Leader-Jenny Pond, News Representative-Kathy Woods. Leaders are Mrs. Phillips, Kathy Woods, Mrs. Coombe, Mrs. Welch and Mrs. Marion.

**'Twas the night before Christmas**

submitted by Jim Richardson

'Twas the night before Christmas, he lived all alone, in a one bedroom house made of plaster and stone. I had come down the chimney with presents to give, and to see just who in this home did live, I looked all about, a strange sight I did see, no tinsel, no presents, not even a tree

No stocking by mantle, just boots filled with sand, and on the wall pictures of far distant lands. With medals and badges, awards of all kinds, a sobering thought came to my mind. For this house was different, so dark and so dreary, the home of a soldier, now I could see clearly.

The soldier lay sleeping, silent, alone, curled up on the floor in this one bedroom home. The face was so gentle, the room in such disorder, not how I pictured a United States soldier. Was this the hero of whom I'd just read? Curled up on a poncho, the floor for a bed?

I realized the families that I saw this night, owed their lives to these soldiers who were willing to fight.

Soon round the world, the children would play, and grownups would celebrate a bright Christmas day

They all enjoyed freedom each month

of the year,

because of the soldiers, like the one lying here

I couldn't help wonder how many lay alone, on a cold Christmas eve in a land far from home.

The very thought brought a tear to my eye,

I dropped to my knees and started to cry.

The soldier awakened and I heard a rough voice,

"Santa don't cry, this life is my choice;

I fight for freedom, I don't ask for more, my life is my God, my country, my corps,"

The soldier rolled over and soon drifted to sleep,

I couldn't control it, I continued to weep.

I kept watch for hours, so silent and still,

and we both shivered from

the cold evening's chill,

I didn't want to leave on that cold, dark, night,

this guardian of honor so willing to fight

Then the soldier rolled over, with a

voice soft and pure,

whispered, "Carry on Santa, it's Christmas day,

all is secure."

One look at my watch, and I knew he was right.

"Merry Christmas my friend,

and to all a good night"

*By Lance Corporal Fames M. Schmidt*

## A Round About Tri-Valley

Carol Furman

Michael "Mickey" Mullen of Neversink, passed away on December 7th following a courageous battle with cancer. Mickey, 55 years old, was loved and admired by so many. Mickey was a member of the present Neversink Town Board. Sincere sympathy to his family and friends.

Mark Sherman of Hasbrouck, passed away on December 6th following a tragic boating accident off the coast of Puerto Rico. Mark was an attorney and served as co-chairman of the Fallsburg Democratic Party. Condolences to his family and friends.

Get well and feel better soon wishes to Cheryl Bertholf of Loch Sheldrake. Cheryl was involved in a car accident on her way to work at Tri-Valley on December 14th, and was flown by Lifenet helicopter to Westchester Medical Center where she is in stable condition.

Keep an eye out for a listing of Neversink Parks and Rec trips after the holidays. Jamie has some exciting things planned for 2017!

As the days get colder and the snow begins to accumulate, I notice that more and more birds are coming to eat the seed and bread I put out for them. I even have several turkeys who come each day to feed. Last year, the winter wasn't as snowy and I hardly had any blue jays. This morning, I counted 23 blue jays in the driveway grabbing the cubes of bread. They can't take just one piece, they have to try to stuff several pieces in their beaks at once.

The Ladies Aid at the Grahamsville Reformed Church delivered 35 fruit and cookies baskets to some local residents just before Christmas. It's nice to show love and appreciation to special folks at this time of year and let them know they are loved and remembered. I know there are many churches, school groups and organizations in the area who help to brighten up the holiday season by remembering others. It's a nice feeling to be able to brighten up the lives of those around us by being kind and considerate. Love doesn't give only to those who are able to give in return, but rejoices in giving to those who can't. Glassware will break, toys will be lost, golf clubs will rust. But giving the gift of love will endure. Love never fails.

**Words of Wisdom:** "As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them" (John F. Kennedy) Have a Merry Christmas and best wishes for a happy and a healthy new year!

## NEVERSINK NEWS - Hulda Vernooy

Get well wishes from family, friends and neighbors to Cheryl Bertholf for a speedy recovery. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

## Claryville Reformed Church invites the Community to their Holiday Services

A traditional Christmas Eve service of Lessons and Carols will begin at 7 pm and conclude with candlelight. John Bernstein will be at the organ.

A Christmas Day service will be at 11 as will New Year's Day which will conclude with Holy Communion.

We invite all members of the Tri-Valley community to join with us.

## Friday Afternoon Card Club Annual Christmas Party!

Everyone seemed to be enjoying the annual Christmas party, on Dec. 16th, at the Friday Afternoon Card Club. Anyone interested in joining them won't be disappointed. Good treats, coffee, tea and several games of cards are promised or a quiet game of dominos. Hey Guys! Don't be afraid, just bring along some buddies. Town Hall, 12:30 TO 4:30, SECOND FLOOR.

## DEP Completes Replacement of Two Bridges Near Rondout Reservoir

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) announced the completion of a \$7 million project to replace two small bridges at the upper end of Rondout

## 2016 Town of Neversink Holiday Hours

The Town of Neversink will observe the following Holiday Hours: Christmas - close at noon on 12/23 and all day on 12/26. New Years - close at noon on 12/30 and all day on 1/2/2017.

The Transfer Station will be open from 9 am to 1 pm on Christmas Eve Day - Saturday 12/24. It will be open normal hours on New Year's Eve Day - Saturday 12/31.

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

Reservoir in Sullivan County. The project included the replacement of the Lows Corners Bridge and Sugarloaf Bridge, which were constructed more than 60 years ago, at the same time as the reservoir.

"The quick and professional replacement of these two bridges reflects the City's intent to keep our roadways and bridges in a state of good repair," DEP Acting Commissioner Vincent Sapienza said. "Projects like this are important for the operation and maintenance of our water supply, and for local motorists who travel roads around Rondout Reservoir every day."

Work to replace both bridges began in May. DEP owns, operates and maintains 57 bridges and 99 miles of roads throughout its upstate water supply system.

The 50-foot-long Sugarloaf Bridge carries Sundown Road over the Sugarloaf Brook. During the summer and fall, DEP installed a temporary bridge at the site to allow for the complete removal and replacement of the bridge, including its footings and deck. The 150-foot-long Lows Corners Bridge carries Route 55A over Rondout Creek at the head of Rondout Reservoir. Workers replaced the superstructure of the bridge, and repairs were made to its piers. The concrete wing walls that guide water beneath the bridge were also replaced.

## 2017 Metropolitan Opera Live on Screen at SUNY Sullivan

**On Saturday, March 25, 2017 IDOMENEO (Start - 12:55 pm)**

Mozart's first operatic masterpiece returns to the Met in the classic Jean-Pierre Ponnelle production, conducted by Music Director Emeritus James Levine. The superb ensemble includes Matthew Polenzani as the king torn by a rash vow; mezzo-soprano Alice Coote in the trouser role of his noble son Idamante; soprano Nadine Sierra as Ilia; and soprano Elza van den Heever as the volatile Elettra, who loves Idamante to the bounds of madness.

**On Saturday, April 22, 2017**

**EUGENE ONEGIN (Start - 12:55 pm)**

Tchaikovsky's setting of Pushkin's timeless verse novel is presented on the Met stage in Deborah Warner's moving production, starring Anna Netrebko and Dmitri Hvorostovsky as Tatiana and Onegin. Alexey Dolgov sings the role of Lenski, and Robin Ticciati conducts.

**On Saturday, May 13, 2017**

**DER ROSENKAVALIER (Start - 12:30 pm)**

The dream cast of Renée Fleming as the Marschallin and El na Garan a as Octavian star in Strauss's grandest opera. In his new production, Robert Carsen, the director behind the Met's recent Falstaff, places the action at the end of the Habsburg Empire, underscoring the opera's subtext of class and conflict against a rich backdrop of gilt and red damask, in a staging that also stars Günther Groissböck as Baron Ochs.

## 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 and Jean Helthaler.

## The Mysterious Christmas Mushroom

This Christmas, as in generations past, stories of Santa and his reindeer will be told around the world, including tales of how Mr. Claus flies around on his sleigh in the middle of the night delivering presents to all the good children while they sleep snug in their beds.

There is another story that involves real reindeer, a man in a red fur trimmed outfit and a little red mushrooms with white dots.

*Amanita muscaria*, the iconic toadstool is a large white-gilled, white-spotted, usually red mushroom, and is one of the most recognized and widely encountered mushroom in popular culture. Ornaments shaped like *Amanita muscaria* mushrooms and other depictions of the fungi are still popular Christmas decorations throughout the world, particularly in Scandinavia and northern Europe.



A large, conspicuous mushroom, *Amanita muscaria* is generally common and numerous where it grows. The fruiting body emerges from the soil looking like a white egg. Once it has emerged from the ground, the cap is covered with numerous small white to yellow pyramid-shaped warts. These are remnants of the universal veil, a membrane that encloses the entire mushroom when it is still very young. Dissecting the mushroom at this stage will reveal a characteristic yellowish layer of skin under the veil; this is helpful in identification. As the fungus grows, the red color appears through the broken veil and the warts become less prominent; they do not change in size, but are reduced relative to the expanding skin area. The cap changes from a spherical shape to hemispherical, and finally to plate-like and flat in mature specimens. Fully grown, the bright red cap is usually around 3-8 in diameter, although larger specimens have been found. The red color may fade after rain and in older mushrooms.

The free gills are white, as is the spore print. The stipe is white, 2-8 in by 0.4-0.8 in wide, and has a slightly brittle, fibrous texture typical of many large mushrooms. At the base is a bulb that bears universal veil remnants in the form of two to four distinct rings or ruffs. Between the basal universal veil remnants and gills are remnants of the partial veil (which covers the gills during development) in the form of a white ring. It can be quite wide and flaccid with age. There is generally no associated smell other than a mild earthiness.

Although classified as poisonous, reports of human deaths resulting from its ingestion are extremely rare. It is eaten in parts of Europe, Asia, and North America. *Amanita muscaria* is noted for its hallucinogenic properties, with its main psychoactive constituent being the compound muscimol. The mushroom was used as an intoxicant and ingested to produce an altered state of consciousness for religious or spiritual purposes by the peoples of Siberia.

There has been much speculation on possible traditional use of this mushroom as an intoxicant in other places such as the Middle East, Eurasia, North America, and Scandinavia. Back in 1967 an amateur scholar named R. Gordon Wasson published a book arguing that *Amanita muscaria* was used in ancient ceremonies by shamans in the Far East. Other scholars then chimed in, noting that in Siberia and northern Europe where reindeer are common, both the shamans - and the reindeer - were known to seek out these hallucinogenic fungi. Donald Pfister, a Harvard University biologist who studies fungi, suggests that tribesmen and later, the reindeer herders who ingested *Amanita muscaria* may have hallucinated that the grazing reindeer were flying.

Adding to the history of the shaman and his flying reindeer in the Arctic regions was that the shaman would go around with bags full of the mushrooms as presents in late December. As the herdsman lived in yurts and teepees, and the doorways were often blocked by snow, the shamans would throw the little bags down the smoke holes.

There is little debate about the consumption of mushrooms by Arctic and Siberian tribes people and shamans, but the connection to the jolly old elf and his flying reindeer is more dubious, or "mysterious."

The evidence so far is circumstantial. But - furry red clothes with white trim - like the cap of the mushroom. - reindeer flying all around pulling a sleigh - a whole lot of "ho ho hoing" - little elves making toys at the north pole - kind of makes you think doesn't it???

**Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**

## Household Hints

Worse than the ice, slush and snow on your shoes and boots is all the rock salt that's used to melt it. In addition to leaving unsightly white stains, salt can actually cause your footwear to crack and even disintegrate if it's left on indefinitely. To remove it and prevent long-term damage, wipe fresh stains with a cloth dipped in undiluted white vinegar.



Special Mysterious Book Report No. 268  
by John Dwaine McKenna

This novel should have been read and featured months ago, but – confession time– the title was kind of a turn-off. I couldn't have been more wrong. My Mother was right when she said, "You can't judge a book by its cover, Honey." It had to do with a novel she bought for my eighth birthday. She didn't check it out, thought it was a cowboy yarn of the Will James kind, for young boys and girls. Turned out to be more of the Erskine Caldwell type for big girls and boys, and I learned a lot of new words I shouldn't've before Ma took it away.

*The Hand That Feeds You*, (Scribner/Simon & Schuster, \$26.00, 273 pages, ISBN 978-1-4767-7458-9) by A.J. Rich sets a new, and awesomely-high bar for psychological thrillers in my humble opinion. Maybe because it was written as a collaborative effort by two acclaimed writers: Amy Hempel and Jill Clement. Hence the A.J. part of the *nom de plume*, and no idea where or how they derived the last name – an uncle maybe? (Sorry. I know it's lame. Couldn't resist . . .)

The basis of the story is deceit and betrayal. It begins when an accomplished young woman named Morgan Prager comes home from classes where she's working toward her PhD thesis in victim psychology to find her live-in lover-the man named Bennett she just got engaged to and has a big diamond ring to prove it-mauled to death. Her three dogs, a Great Pyrenees she raised from a pup and a pair of rescued Pit Bulls are all covered in gore. There's blood tracked everywhere and the three dogs are hyperactive. Hysterical, stunned by the violence, Morgan fears she's guilty of something known as *pathological altruism*: doing more harm than good through the selfless act of adopting the two rescue dogs. One dog is shot dead by a responding police officer, the Great Pyrenees and surviving Pit Bull are impounded and put on death row at the Humane Society. They're to be euthanized after being used as evidence in the legal proceedings surrounding Bennett's horrific murder. Then Bennett turns out to be an imposter who's been deceiving Morgan and everyone else, as other fiancés turn up, some living, some dead. Who, and what, was this man calling himself Bennett, why is Morgan a victim and can she ever figure out what happened the day he was killed, because Morgan cannot make herself believe that her gentle dogs would ever do such an evil act.

The stress, tension and propulsive nature of the plot make this novel almost impossible to put down once begun. It's a conundrum from the start because Morgan just can't accept that she's been so thoroughly duped by everything and everyone she's ever loved; and the writers are able to keep that slight hope alive until the stunning denouement, when the conclusion you'll never, ever, see coming is revealed. *The Hand That Feeds You* is a masterpiece of psychology and skullduggery, brilliant and though provoking as well – you'll find yourself re-examining and re-evaluating what you think you know about shelters and shelter animals. I just wish they'd pick a different title. That said, I'm going to hop right in and read the next A.J. Rich novel I see . . . no matter what the title is!

This is our last Mysterious Book Report for the year. Lora, June and I'll be resting up for a couple of weeks, hoping that Santa brings a huge pile of books to read. We wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous, healthy New Year.

Like the review – let your friends know, *You saw it in the Mysterious Book Report* – The greatest compliment you can give is to like us and share it with others on Facebook, and follow us on Goodreads, Pinterest or LinkedIn.  
[www.Facebook/JohnDwaineMcKenna](http://www.Facebook/JohnDwaineMcKenna) • [www.Goodreads/JohnDwaineMcKenna](http://www.Goodreads/JohnDwaineMcKenna) • [www.MysteriousBookReport.com](http://www.MysteriousBookReport.com)



NYC Man Charged with Fraudulently Registering to Vote



The Sullivan County Sheriff's Office charged a New York City man on Wednesday (December 14, 2016) with fraudulently registering to vote. It is alleged that on November 20, 2015, Hamo Hot, age 34, of 1402 Avenue K in Brooklyn walked into the Sullivan County Board of Elections in Monticello and filed a voter registration form. Mr. Hot is not a citizen of the United States. On the same day the suspect filed an applica-

tion for a New York State Pistol Permit with the Sullivan County Clerk.

"We believe Mr. Hot was using the voter registration to help establish residency in Sullivan County for the pistol permit", said Undersheriff Eric Chaboty. During the background investigation process for the pistol permit, sheriff's deputies quickly realized that Hamo Hot did not reside at the Ferndale address he listed on either application. Mr. Hot's "green card" indicates that he is a citizen of Montenegro which was formerly Yugoslavia.

The suspect was arrested on a warrant in Manhattan by state troopers on Wednesday and turned over to the Sheriff's Office. Hamo Hot was charged with the felony of fraudulently registering to vote and arraigned before Sullivan County Court Judge Michael McGuire. He was sent to the Sullivan County Jail in lieu of \$10,000 bail pending a future court appearance.

In addition to the state police, the Sheriff's Office was assisted by U.S. Homeland Security Investigations.

Senator Bonacic Urges Motorists to Exercise Caution, Not Drink and Drive During Holiday Season

(Middletown, NY)- State Senator John J. Bonacic (R/C/I-Mt. Hope) today, urged motorists to exercise caution, and not drink and drive this holiday season. Local and state law enforcement agencies will be stepping up enforcement efforts to reduce impaired driving from December 17 to January 1, as part of the National Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over holiday campaign, which is sponsored by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)

According to the NHTSA, 35,092 people were killed in motor vehicle accidents in 2015, and 29 percent of those fatalities took place in a crash involving a drunk driver. That same year, 840 people lost their lives in drunk-driving related crashes in the month of December alone.

"With Christmas and the New Year fast approaching, New Yorkers will take to the roads to attend parties and family gatherings and it's vital that they travel safely," said Senator Bonacic. "Driving under the influence not only endangers your life but the lives of everyone on the road. I commend our local police agencies for stepping up drunk driving enforcement, with the goal of making the holidays safe and enjoyable for everyone."

In addition to its Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over campaign, the NHTSA has created the SafeRide App. Once downloaded, the App allows users to call a taxi or friend, and identify their location so they may be picked up. The App is available on all Android and Apple devices.

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UC Executive Mike Hein Signs the 2017 Ulster County Budget (From Pg. 1) "The 2017 Ulster County Budget is a testament to what is possible when budgets are developed as multi-year financial plans; by streamlining government, being fiscally responsible and reducing spending where possible, we have the opportunity to prioritize spending in areas of need, such as the county's aging infrastructure," said County Executive Hein. "I am proud that the 2017 Budget continues to protect Ulster County property taxpayers by reducing the county tax levy for the third consecutive year and brings it to its lowest level since 2009. Through partnership with the County Legislature, we have ensured more high quality services for our seniors, Veterans, children and families than ever before. It continues our investment in the future by making our roads and bridges safer, and funds innovative efforts to bring more high quality jobs to our community while protecting the pristine environment we all hold so dear."

The approved 2017 Budget includes, as recommended by the County Executive, such major highlights as:

- A third consecutive year of a reduction in the property tax levy;
- A \$5.4 million reduction in spending while protecting essential services;
- Continuing the historic 'Building A Better Ulster County' infrastructure investment program with an additional \$15 million in funding, for a three year total investment of \$46 million;
- An additional \$7.2 million in relief for the county's towns and City of Kingston through the county takeover of Safety Net and election (HAVA) costs; and
- Continuing Ulster County's role as a leader in environmental stewardship by meeting the County Legislature's Green Fleet Goal a full three years ahead of schedule.

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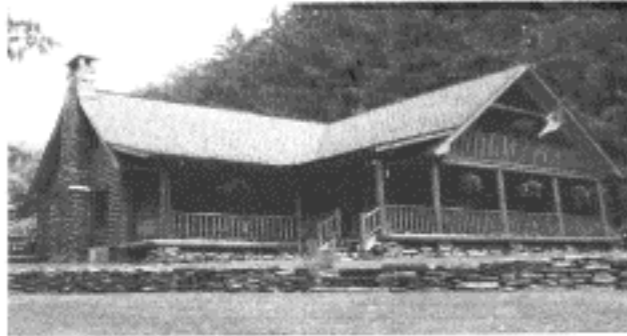
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## The Olive Jar

### A Dog's Perspective - By Carol and Hudson LaMonda

Carol: Since I just read *A Dog's Life* by Peter Mayle which is written in the voice of the dog, I thought it would be interesting to share Hudson's ideas on the holiday season and winter.

Hudson: Thank you for this opportunity to speak. Usually I get shushed for woofing in the middle of the night if there is thunder or barking at deck squirrels in the morning. I do know words, you know. I am a chocolate Labrador Retriever and up at the top of the list of smart dogs who can understand about 120 words. My favorite words are: treat, okay, good dog, ride, walk and outside. My least favorite words are: off and no. I think I don't care for those two words because my humans say them so loud. Don't they know labs have exceptional hearing?

Sometimes when I am lounging on the couch, they think I am dozing, but I am listening and watching all that goes on. Right after Thanksgiving (exceptional table scraps that day!), I noticed that there was a lot of hubbub (yes, I know that word!). Furniture got moved around and the man human brought a tree into the house. That was strange enough, but then they made it light up and the little girl hung silly balls that break when I wag my tail and tiny little toys I can't play with.

Then my mother human began making cookies. I thought "cookies" were shaped like little bones that she bakes for me that taste like pumpkin. No, these must be special because there are so many. She hides them from my human father by putting them in tins and in closets. She laughs at me when I bury a bone, and she has hidden six dozen for something called a cookie swap.

Everything is green and red. It is a shame I cannot appreciate that decor. According to a dog psychologist, those are two colors I cannot see. A dog sees most things in a duller shade of yellow, blue and gray, but I certainly notice those bright lights that are all over, even over the plants in the living room and another tree outside.

There is a brown truck that come very often to our house. It must be a very good thing because the humans are happy (they smile; no tail to wag) to get cardboard boxes with smiles on them and the word AMAZON. The truck driver likes me when I bark at him to announce the happy event because he always has a biscuit for me and my friend.

Speaking of my friend Peeky who visits me on school days, she went to a groomer who took off her curly white hair and made her smell stinky. I hope that is not a holiday tradition that will happen to me. I will hide behind that lighted tree.

### A Tribute to Benjamin A. Gilman

(From Pg. 1) A 1978 People magazine article stated that: "When Gilman was first elected to Congress in 1972, he assembled his staff and solemnly told them he 'wanted to do something for people.' That ringing declaration did not get into the newspapers. Yet it comes as no surprise that when people take a problem to Room 1226 in the Longworth House Office Building, something gets done."

Born in Poughkeepsie, New York in 1922, he graduated from Middletown High School, received his B.S. from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania in 1946, and his LL.B. from New York Law School in 1950. During World War II, he was a member of the 20th Air Force, 19th Bomb Group, and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal for 35 missions over Japan. Following law school, he was appointed assistant NY attorney general. He established a law firm in Middletown and was elected to the New York Assembly. In 1972, he was elected to his first term in Congress.

In addition to the Committee on International Relations, Mr. Gilman served on the Committee on Post office and Civil Service, the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, the Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control, the Select Committee on Missing-in-Action and the Select Committee on Hunger. He also authored legislation to establish a Presidential Commission on World Hunger and worked with singer-activist Harry Chapin to bring the commission into being.

Mr. Gilman's concern for the environment ranged, for example, to work relating to his congressional district to include a substantial portion of the Upper Delaware as part of the National and Scenic River System to protecting the world's oceans when he served as a congressional advisor to the US delegation to the Law of the Sea Conference. His military service, gave him a keen insight into the sacrifices made by our nation's veterans and his work on their behalf was tireless. Indeed, his philosophy that it was a privilege and an honor to serve in his congressional capacity, led him to work tirelessly for senior citizens, the disabled, and educators as well as those striving to bring economic and employment opportunities to his district and to the country.

A Republican in a congressional district that during his time remained majority Democrat in registration, he was nevertheless supported by groups across the political spectrum. A 2003 award regarding the Upper Delaware River, noted that "during his 30-year Congressional tenure, Rep. Gilman exhibited a strong personal commitment to serve his district. His participation in local events, memory for names and faces, and follow-through when called upon for assistance endeared him to people of all political persuasions."

Mr. Gilman served as Ranking Minority on the Committee on Foreign Affairs and then, following the Republican return to majority status in the House, became Chairman of what would then be called the Committee on International Relations. He served in that capacity for six years (three terms) as permitted under the new term-limit rules.

The time of his chairmanship saw a range of differences between his committee and the Clinton Administration in such areas, for example, as Bosnia, Kosovo, China, and international drug trafficking policies. He supported strong US responses on these fronts and also urged more meaningful sanctions on North Korea. During his tenure, Congress fought for a more streamlined executive branch structure to conduct foreign policy and also passed legislation to strengthen American embassy

security in the face of increasing incidents of international terrorism. A June 1, 1967, Boston Globe article compared Mr. Gilman to Secretary of State George Marshall who "in 1947 announced the ambitious plan for reconstruction of Europe that has borne his name ever since . . ." The article cites Mr. Gilman as "acting as Marshall's Inheritor . . ." An inheritor, crafting a bill to speak as Marshall did, to the specifics of a particular era. Mr. Gilman's measure, the article continues, "provides a set of tools for the conduct of development aid in the post-cold war era . . ." It is a bill where "chief among its features is a streamlining of the baroque foreign policy establishment that grew up during the half-century contest with the former Soviet Union."

His efforts also helped strengthen and improve foreign assistance programs such as those relating to children's health and nutrition programs. He championed micro-enterprise programs that brought self-help jobs to the poorest-of-the-poor in developing countries.

Gilman early in his tenure recognized the linkage between domestic and international issues. His meetings with foreign leaders here and abroad addressed the common interest that nations have to solve economic, political, human rights, and security issues. He saw also how those he represented had a deep stake in developments overseas. Spurred on by a mother and father from his congressional district whose son remained missing after the war in Vietnam, he worked tirelessly on behalf of those with family members missing during that war. In trips to Vietnam and in meeting with communist leaders, he displayed the bracelet always on his wrist that had the name of that missing son.

Told of the plight of Jews seeking to leave the oppression they faced in the Soviet Union, Gilman worked with groups in the US and abroad to continually raise this issue with the Soviets and in international fora. During January 1985, when the bitter cold in Washington, DC moved President Reagan's second inaugural indoors, Gilman was leading nighttime visits in Moscow to the homes of Jews and Christians whose basic human rights were being trampled on by the Soviets.

Through his committee and his role as a founding member of the Human Rights Caucus, his work in this area reached out also to Tibetans suffering persecution at the hands of the Chinese. Gilman worked with His Holiness, the Dali Lama to bring attention to this issue through meetings in Washington, and in international assemblies. He traveled to near the India-China border to visit his Holiness and bring encouragement to those Tibetans who were forced to flee from their homeland. His focus on human rights saw him working on behalf of those in Northern Ireland whose basic freedoms were being denied. He learned from constituents with family and friends in that area that abuses had become intolerable. Gilman pressed the issue in Congress, with presidents, and with leaders in the United Kingdom. He held an extensive series of meetings with government officials and with leaders of numerous political parties prior to the Good Friday Accords which sought to bring peace to Northern Ireland. In another troubled region of the world, he tenaciously fought for the release in the 1990s of 185 Moroccans who had been held for twenty-five years by the Polisario in the Western Sahara.

During his chairmanship, he made numerous trips to Haiti in an effort to help rebuild that troubled nation. As with most of his initiatives, he encouraged a bipartisan approach. Working with Haitian groups in the US, he worked to bring to Haiti free elections, a more professional police force, and marked improvements in health and education during what appeared to be a promising period in that nation's history.

During and after the Cold War, Gilman worked behind the scenes to help engineer the release of a number of prisoners languishing in the jails of dictatorial regimes, including Soviet dissident Anatoly Shcharansky. He also worked on several prisoner exchanges in the 1970s. One involved Myron Marcus, an Israeli incarcerated in Mozambique, Alan Van Norman, an American confined in East Germany, and Soviet spy Robert Glenn Thompson. Another saw considerable effort in securing the release of Americans imprisoned in Cuba. His work on humanitarian grounds also led to securing exit visas for Syrian Jews, and efforts to obtain information concerning the whereabouts of several Israel soldiers missing in Lebanon since hostilities there in the 1980s.

In the 1990s, his committee focused on responding to the increasing threat terrorism posed to Americans overseas and to US embassies. Additional funding, improved policy, and organizational restructuring quickened in the face of terrorist attacks. Often fueling terrorism and other criminal actions were the sky-high profits reaped from illegal drugs. Gilman sought to bring to the front-lines of the battle against drugs - be it Colombia, other areas of Latin America, or drug-producing nations in Asia - a firm response in terms of law enforcement, eradication, and education about the dangers of drugs. He undertook many visits to these front-line states. In addition, he worked with educators, health professionals, and law-enforcement officials to stem the scourge that drug abuse brought to our nation.

To achieve results Gilman could flex his committee's power in creative ways. In 1988, a man accused of killing a New York City police officer fled along with another suspect in the crime to their native Dominican Republic. While the one suspect died in a confrontation with Dominican authorities, US officials were getting little help from their counterparts in the Dominican Republic in apprehending the other suspect, the brother of a police official.

Within the purview of his committee was the approval of transferring excess/surplus military equipment to certain nations. Across his desk came a request from the Administration to send to the Dominican Republic a buoy tender; a three-million dollar ship that government was eager to obtain. Gilman placed a hold on the transfer of that ship pending return by the Dominican authorities of the suspect. The suspect was soon returned. In this instance, as Gilman relayed to a paper in his district, "the good guys never gave up."

In October 2012, the Washington Oxi Day Foundation recognized, an American, a Greek, and a Greek-American for courageous service in World War II. Gilman was one of the recipients of that award, following by one year that same honor bestowed on Bob Dole, a congressional colleague and fellow member of the Greatest Generation. Noting Gilman's "heroism and meritorious service," Gilman's recognition stated that he "has maintained his service to his country and dedication to freedom and democracy throughout his career."

He sought to instill within next generations a similar love for service to one's country and a dedication to preserving the singular role the United States plays as a defender of freedom and democracy. Through years of meetings with students and by making internships in his office available to them, he sought to let them learn first-hand how our government works. (Contd. Pg. 7)

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 ... 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. As summer approaches, the story of a carefree vacation in the Catskills should be added to your summer "must-read" list. The memoir 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 [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) or [barnesandnoble.com](http://barnesandnoble.com) and type in **Prosilio** in the search to order your copy of *Prosilio*



**A Tribute to Benjamin A. Gilman** (From Pg. 6)

The Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship program was established by the International Academic Opportunity Act of 2000. The program brought to fruition a long-held goal of Gilman's: making study overseas a reality for those college students heretofore financially unable to do so. The scholarship permitted "U.S. citizen undergraduate students of limited financial means to pursue academic studies or credit-bearing, career-oriented internships abroad."

In describing the program, Gilman observed: "Study abroad is a special experience for every student who participates. Living and learning in a vastly different environment of another nation not only exposes our students to alternative views, but also adds an enriching social and cultural experience. It also provides our students with the opportunity to return home with a deeper understanding of their place in the world, encouraging them to be a contributor, rather than a spectator in the international community." The program through February 2014 has provided funds to "over 13,000 U.S. undergraduates of high financial need to study or intern abroad." The students have come from "over 1,100 institutions and have studied or interned in 130 countries worldwide."

*The Journal News*, a newspaper in Gilman's congressional district, sparred with him at times during his years in congress. On the announcement of his decision to retire, the paper had this to say about the lawmaker: "Gilman's tenure in Congress has been a combination of extraordinary attention to local constituents and an inexhaustible thirst for foreign affairs . . . . He has always been a gentleman and he has served his district, and his country, well." The paper editorialized further that "Ben Gilman

served us well. His successors will be held to the standards he set."

His survivors include his wife, Georgia, his son Jonathan Gilman and his wife Monica, son Harrison Gilman and daughter Susan Gilman, Nicole Pappas and her husband Nicholas and Peter Tingus and his wife Jody. He was predeceased by his son David and daughter Ellen. Additionally, he is survived by 11 grandchildren who brought great happiness to his life.

Mrs. Gilman would like to acknowledge the exceptional care Mr. Gilman received at Orange Regional Medical Center, Elant and the loving and devoted care he received at the Castle Point VA Medical Center. Additionally, she would like to express her deep gratitude and love for those who visited, called and extended well wishes during the past years of his life. The support from Ben's former colleagues, staff and the constituents he loved and served provided much joy and comfort to the entire Gilman family.

**Statement from NYS Senator John J. Bonacic**

"I was very saddened to hear of the death of my good friend Ben Gilman. He was that rare elected official who was both loved and respected while serving the people. My condolences to his wife Georgia and his family."

**Funding Will Help Create A World-Class Recreational Trail Along Ashokan Reservoir**

Ulster County Executive Mike Hein today thanked Governor Andrew Cuomo and New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation ("OPRHP") Commissioner Rose Harvey for awarding an additional \$500,000 in funding to the County's Ashokan Rail Trail project, an 11.5 mile recreational trail from West Hurley to Boiceville along the scenic northern shores of the Ashokan Reservoir. Slated for start of construction in late 2017, the project is currently in the design and planning stage and was the subject of a Public Meeting on December 1 that attracted more than 340 people to a County presentation on the project. The funds, which are through the Environmental Protection Fund: Parks, Preservation and Heritage Grant Program, add to the \$2.6 million in previously-awarded State grants for the project and the \$2.5 million in funding from the New York City Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP").

"We are grateful to Governor Cuomo and Commissioner Harvey for their vision and incredible support for this transformational project, which will create a world-class tourism destination along the northern shore of the Ashokan Reservoir and will ultimately be a highlight of the interconnected rail trail system from the Walkway Over the Hudson to the Ashokan Reservoir and Catskill Park," noted County Executive Hein. "This project will provide tremendous benefits to public health, economic development, and quality of life, which is evidenced by the more than \$5.6 million in outside grants to date that the project has attracted as well as recent recognition of the project by National Geographic Magazine. In addition, we are pleased to have partnered with the City of Kingston who also received additional funding for its rail trail and complete streets initiative, all of which will help to link and improve our County's trail network."

Town of Olive Supervisor Sylvia Rozzelle stated, "I am elated that County Executive Mike Hein was successful in receiving these additional grant funds for the Ashokan Rail Trail. This historic project will help support our local economy and will expand recreational opportunities for people of all ages and abilities. At the recent public information meeting it was reassuring to know that Olive business owners and local residents expressed overwhelming support for the Trail. This project will be a big boost to the Town of Olive."



The Townsman Staff wishes  
all our family, friends  
and neighbors  
A Merry Christmas  
and  
Happy New Year!

- Barbara Slater
- Gloria Beavers
- Larry Schafman
- Carol Furman
- John Mc Kenna
- Fran Fuller
- Linda Comando
- Barbara Barkley
- Carolyn Coombe
- Claire Rennison
- Frank Comando
- Barbara Purcell
- Carol La Monda
- Hulda Vernooy

### Blue Hill Lodge & Café

1471 Denning Road  
Claryville, NY 12725  
(845) 985-0247

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

Like us on Facebook!

Let us provide a relaxing and cozy dining experience in a setting that artfully combines contemporary and country styles.

### Happy Holiday!

ALL SIZE PARTIES ARE WELCOME  
BUT SEATING IS  
LIMITED, SO PLEASE MAKE YOUR  
RESERVATION NOW.

### Friday, December 30th Blue Hill's New Year Party!

Bring in 2017 the right way, with  
Good Food and Good Friends  
Party from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

### Open Buffet Appetizers

Homemade Mixed Pelmini  
with Sautéed Mushrooms and Onions,  
Jumbo Shrimp Cocktail,  
Mixed Greens Salad,  
Pigs in a Blanket,  
Fresh Bread, Spring Rolls

### Entrees

Flank Steak,  
Roasted Chicken Quarters,  
Baked Ziti,  
Lo Mein, Mashed Potatoes, Vegetables  
and more...

Dessert and Live Music to Complete  
This Fabulous Meal

Complementary Glass of Champagne

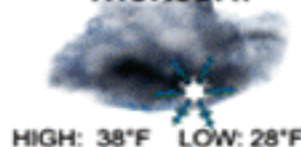
\$24.99 Per Person  
(tax and gratuity not included)

### Weather FORECAST

SUNRISE: 7:15 AM SUNSET: 4:28 PM

AVERAGE HIGH: 37°F  
AVERAGE LOW: 29°F

#### THURSDAY



HIGH: 38°F LOW: 28°F

#### FRIDAY



HIGH: 41°F LOW: 25°F

#### SATURDAY



HIGH: 42°F LOW: 30°F

#### CHRISTMAS DAY



HIGH: 41°F LOW: 35°F

#### MONDAY



HIGH: 41°F LOW: 26°F

#### TUESDAY



HIGH: 35°F LOW: 20°F

### The Holidays Are Here! Chestnut Creek Baked Goods' Gingerbread Houses will fill your home with cheer!



Our festive Gingerbread houses are approximately 9 inches tall and are presented on a 10-inch platter decorated in snow covered pines. These Gingerbread Houses are a beautiful tradition to be added to your 2016 holiday season.

\*Price is \$30  
per Gingerbread House\*

### Cookie Platters & Holiday Cakes Available

Call Chestnut Creek Baked Goods at  
(845) 798-1724 or message us on Facebook  
to place your holiday order!



# Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!



## CAS Film Club Presents Screening and Discussion of "Twelfth Night" Starring Mark Rylance

LIVINGSTON MANOR, NY - The Catskill Art Society will present a screening of the Globe's filmed stage production of "Twelfth Night" (2015), featuring a talkback with programmer Bradley Diuguid, at 7:30pm on Saturday, January 14. Part of the CAS Film Club series of screenings, this event will take place at the Laundry King, 65 Main Street, Livingston Manor, NY.



Filled with a cast of unforgettable characters, William Shakespeare's beloved comedy "Twelfth Night" combines the pangs of unrequited love with some of the subtlest poetry and most exquisite songs Shakespeare ever wrote.

Mounted by the Globe in England for a production that went on to storm Broadway and the Tony Awards, this all-male Original Practices production explores clothing, music, dance and settings possible in the Globe of around 1601. Mark Rylance (Academy Award-winner for "Bridge of Spies," Tony Award-winner for "Jerusalem" and "Boeing Boeing") is masterful as Olivia, earning the highest accolades of his storied career, while comedian Stephen Fry brings belly laughs as Malvolio.

In the household of Olivia, two campaigns are being quietly waged -- one by the lovesick lord Orsino against the heart of the indifferent Olivia; the other by an alliance of servants and hangers-on against the high-handedness of her steward, the pompous Malvolio. When Orsino engages the cross-dressed Viola to plead with Olivia on his behalf, a bittersweet chain of events follows.

Runtime: 175 minutes. This film is not rated. Contains some adult situations and innuendo.

Presented as part of our "Year of Shakespeare" at CAS, a festival celebrating the 400th anniversary of William Shakespeare's life with a year-long slate of live performances, films, and discussions.

This event is free and open to the public, and donations will be accepted at the door. Presented as part of the "CAS Film Club" series.

## Fallsburg Jr/Sr High School Honor Roll Assemblies

Principal Michael Williams greeted the Fallsburg Junior High School and Senior High School in two separate assemblies on the morning of December 14, 2016. The whole school was acknowledging the students in grades 7 through 12 that earned Superintendent's Honor Roll and Honor Roll Awards for the first quarter of 2016-2017 academic year.



Left to right: School Guidance Counselors Joe Levner and Meryl Curry, Principal Michael Williams and Guidance Counselor Sonja Ferreira

Prior to Superintendent Dr. Ivan Katz distributing Superintendent Honor Roll certificates and class guidance counselors handing out Honor Roll awards, Mr. Williams emphasized that he was proud of the 250 students who maintained a grade point average of 93 to earn Superintendent's Honor Roll and those who received Honor Roll status with a grade point average of 85 to 92. The 250 number represents about half the school population.

Looking out directly at the faces in the audience, he went on to say that he knows the students sitting before him. He asked a question directed at each one of them, "Why is not every one of you on the Honor Roll." He then said, "I challenge you to be on the Honor Roll. I challenge you on the Honor Roll to get on Superintendent's Honor Roll. Don't settle for just getting by. Everything in life will be determined by effort. It is never too late to start once you understand the importance of effort."

After the second assembly Principal Williams asked the seniors to remain in the auditorium. His words to the seniors were as inspiring and encouraging as any coach could deliver to his team before a big game. "You have the most number of students on the Honor Roll of any class. That's the way it's supposed to be. It's the best quarter I have ever seen. You set the tone for this building. Other kids notice you. Your teachers notice these things. Be aggressive, be confident and go get it!" Mr. Williams' passion for students to excel echoed throughout the auditorium and generated a spark of fire on a frigid day in the Town of Fallsburg.

**Letter to the taxpayers and residents of the Claryville Fire District**

On Tuesday, December 13, 2016, the constituency of the District came out to let their voices be heard. Sixty (60) voted. The result: 26 - 33 in my favor. And so, you have elected me to be the taxpayers' voice. And for this, I thank all who came out to vote and particularly those who voted me in.

I couldn't have gotten this far without the help of a friend, and to him I want to publicly express my gratitude and appreciation for all the hard work. His dedication and caring for our community is deep.

My intention is, as stated in my previous letter to the editor that came out the Wednesday before the election, is to continue working to reduce spending. Safety of our volunteer fire fighters, training and the proper equipment are high on the list. We don't necessarily need the latest and greatest. We need the right tools and know-how to get the job done. Like President-elect Trump, I feel that business principals need to be applied to the Department and District so that we get the best bang for our buck while reducing the amount needed to do a top-notch job.

Again, thank you those who elected me. I promise you my best.

**Happy Holiday to All!**

Please note that all the information contained in my pre-election letter is all in the public record.

**SC Sheriff Warns of the Return of the Utility Scam**

Sullivan County Sheriff Michael Schiff is warning business owners about a repeat scam that has been attempted over the past few days. Callers claiming to be from New York State Gas and Electric (NYSEG) or from

Orange and Rockland Utilities (O&R) are contacting businesses claiming that there is an overdue electric bill and threatening to cut off the power if the bill is not paid immediately. The businesses are then directed by the scammers to either provide a credit card number, obtain a prepaid debit card or send money via Western Union. The scammers are so sophisticated that they may ask for a specific business owner by name and display the utility company's phone number on caller ID. "We seem to get reports about this type of activity around the winter holidays", said Sheriff Michael Schiff. "The scammers target businesses who know their livelihood could be ruined if the electric is turned off".

The Sheriff said the scammers are typically aggressive and sometimes "downright nasty or threatening". Citizens are instructed to hang up immediately if they receive such a phone call. They can then call the utility company at the telephone number that is included on the monthly bill or from a listing in a phonebook or the internet to see if they really owe money. "Do not call back a number provided by the scammer", said the Sheriff. The last wave of "utility scam" phone calls hit Sullivan County in December of 2014.

They are believed to have originated overseas. Citizens are reminded stay vigilant and never provide a credit card number or personal information to strangers who call you over the phone. Additionally, you should never send money to anyone you have never met via Western Union

**UC Residents – Want to Get Involved in Your Community, Now is Your Opportunity**

If you want to get involved in your community, now is your opportunity. Today, Ulster County Chairman Ken Ronk announced a new component of the Legislature's website for individuals interested in applying for various committees and boards.

"As Chairman, it has always been my goal to bring more openness and transparency to government," Ronk said. "Our vision is for this to be a tool to enhance and encourage public participation in local government."

Ulster County has an abundance of advisory boards and commissions that work on issues from conservation and human rights to solid waste management and recreational trails. Members are appointed by a variety of methods to ensure representation with certain expertise, responsibilities and appropriate stakeholders.

Ulster County residents are invited to explore the listing of boards, commissions and committees and apply for openings for which they may qualify and have an interest in serving on. Each board is listed with a brief description of its function or role, term limits, the current membership or appointment opportunities as well as other pertinent data. A simple, user friendly on-line application is linked to any current vacancies or seats with terms ending within 6 months. Applicants can attach a resume and may apply to multiple boards.

Ronk noted that the site is still a work in progress but commended the Legislative staff for their hard work in implementing the new technology. He explained that each board and committee has its own terms and criteria for membership that may include appointment by the Chairman, Majority and Minority leaders, recommendations by a local municipality or representing a particular group. Some board memberships may include interviews or require members to file financial disclosures.

"This is a major step forward for the legislature to open up our boards and commissions," said Minority Leader Hector Rodriguez. "For too long appointments were made off who you know, or whose brother you are. I hope we can truly get the best and brightest on our boards or commissions."

Check out the Ulster County Legislature's website and click on the "Apply Here" in big red letters or go to: <https://ulstercountyny.iqm2.com/Citizens/Default.aspx> to apply online.

Of course, you can always do it the old-fashioned way and stop in the Legislative Offices at 244 Fair Street in Kingston. Any questions regarding the new system can be directed to Senior Legislative Employee Mary Beichert who can be reached by email at [mbei@co.ulster.ny.us](mailto:mbei@co.ulster.ny.us) or by phone at (845) 340-3696.

"Working on a committee or serving on a board is often the first time people have an opportunity to get directly involved with their local government," noted Ronk. "And when the right people put their best foot forward it can be a win for us all."

**Sun Trail Storage**

**Clean, Spacious Secure Units**  
5' x 12' & 10' x 11' Available

5% Discount for Recurring Payments  
5% Discount for Veterans  
*God Bless our Veterans*  
(Only one discount per customer)



Vehicle, ATV, Snowmobile and Boat Storage Available  
*Ask about details*



• Easy Walk-In Ramp Access to Units

**For Your Protection:**

- Security System on Premises
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**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



**When you need Speech Language Pathology services, help is nearby**



Ellenville Regional Hospital now offers an outpatient Speech Language Pathology (SLP) program that provides comprehensive services to help address common problems such as:

- Swallowing Issues (Dysphagia)
- Speech Disorders (Dysarthria)
- Aphasia (Communication Disorder)
- Fluency Issues (Stuttering)
- Voice Disorders (Dysphonia)

In conjunction with our radiology providers, SLP staff performs Modified Barium Swallow Studies, which include a video recording of a patient's swallowing ability to help determine an exact diagnosis and treatment.

Children and young adults with speech impairment issues that are affecting their academic success will benefit from our after-school hours.

Visit our website for more information or call to make an appointment with ERH SLP Services: (845) 210-3035.

[ellenvilleregional.org](http://ellenvilleregional.org) | 10 Healthy Way | Ellenville NY 12428 | (845) 647-6400

## UC Executive Mike Hein's Administration Remains Vigilant in its Pursuit of Justice for Taxpayers and Receives Additional Restitution from the Prosecution of Lower Esopus Riverwatch by the NYS Attorney General's Office - Members Of The Not-For-Profit Were Found To Have Bilked Ulster County Taxpayers Out Of Hundreds Of Thousands Of Dollars

In an action that sends a strong message to anyone who attempts to defraud the taxpayers of Ulster County, the New York State Attorney General's Office delivered a \$12,845.27 check to Ulster County representing the collection of additional restitution related to its prosecution of the Lower Esopus Riverwatch (LERW) Corporation and its board members, more than eight years after the case was initiated. In 2008 prior to Ulster County's transition to its current charter form of government, then Attorney General Andrew Cuomo commenced the action at the urging of county officials after the County Auditor, Lisa Cutten who is now the Director of the County's Accountability, Compliance and Efficiency division, identified significant fraud and abuse that resulted in the corporation's board members siphoning taxpayer dollars for their own personal use.

"There can be no mistake - my administration will never rest in the pursuit of justice for Ulster County's taxpayers once an individual takes advantage of the public trust," said Ulster County Executive Mike Hein. "We will be tenacious; whether it takes weeks, months or years, we will do everything that is necessary to hold those who have defrauded our hard working taxpayers accountable. I want to again thank Governor Andrew Cuomo who commenced this case as Attorney General and current Attorney General Eric Schneiderman for continuing the zealous prosecution of those who deceived and conned the public. I also want to especially thank Lisa Cutten who, despite tremendous pressure and adversity, stood up for justice and our taxpayers and brought to light the misuse of funds and in partnership with my administration and the Attorney General, was pivotal in holding the offenders accountable."

Today's receipt of restitution funds is part of a larger judgment against Lower Esopus Riverwatch and its board members including Frederick Fritschler who served as Executive Director of the not-for-profit. In the past the County received real estate and equipment once owned by LERW. The judgment also permanently precludes Mr. Fritschler from having any involvement in the management of a not-for-profit entity or soliciting charitable contributions.

## Governor Cuomo Announces Seven NY-Based Productions Nominated for 2017 Golden Globe Awards

**Seven NY State-based Productions Earn 16 Nominations/ Productions Generated More Than \$224 Million in Spending; Created 13,300 New Hires in the State**

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today announced seven New York-based productions earned 16 nominations for the 2017 74th Annual Golden Globe Awards. The productions generated more than \$224 million in spending and created approximately 13,300 new jobs across the state. All nominated productions participated in the New York State Film Tax Credit Program.

"New York is home to some of the most iconic film locations anywhere in the world and these Golden Globe nominations are further proof that our entertainment industry is thriving, creating tens of thousands of jobs and injecting billions of dollars into the state's economy in the process," Governor Cuomo said. "I congratulate all the New York-based productions who were nominated for an award, and I encourage future filmmakers to build on the industry's success and continue bringing jobs and investment to this state."

"Thanks to New York State's Film Tax Credit Program we have witnessed a historic increase in the number of features, series, and pilots filmed here," said ESD President, CEO & Commissioner Howard Zensky. "This program has been tremendously successful in establishing New York as a world-class destination to produce film and television and has created hundreds of thousands of jobs and I congratulate this year's nominees."

A complete list of the 2017 Golden Globe Award Nominees who participated in the New York Film Tax Credit Program is available below. The productions were filmed in New York City, as well as the Mid-Hudson and Long Island regions.

Best Motion Picture, Drama  
"Manchester by the Sea" \*\*

Best Actor in a Motion Picture, Drama  
Casey Affleck, "Manchester by the Sea" \*\*

Best Director, Motion Picture  
Kenneth Lonergan, "Manchester by the Sea" \*\*

Best Supporting Actress in a Motion Picture  
Michelle Williams, "Manchester by the Sea" \*\*

Best Screenplay, Motion Picture  
"Manchester by the Sea" \*\*

Best Actor in a TV Series, Drama  
Rami Malek, "Mr. Robot" (USA)  
Matthew Rhys, "The Americans" (FX)

Best Actress in a TV Series, Drama  
Keri Russell, "The Americans" (FX)

Best TV Series, Comedy  
"Mozart in the Jungle" (Amazon)

Best Actor in a TV Series, Comedy  
Gael Garcia Bernal, "Mozart in the Jungle" (Amazon)

Best Actress in a TV Series, Comedy  
Sarah Jessica Parker, "Divorce" (HBO)

Best TV Movie or Limited Series  
"The Night Of" (HBO)

Best Actor in a TV Movie or Limited Series  
Riz Ahmed, "The Night Of" (HBO)  
John Turturro, "The Night Of" (HBO)

Best Actress in a TV Movie or Limited Series  
Kerry Washington, "Confirmation" (HBO) \*\*

Best Supporting Actor in a Series, Limited Series or TV Movie  
Christian Slater, "Mr. Robot" (USA)

\*\*Participated in the New York State Post-Production Credit program

## New York State Film Tax Credit Program

The New York State Film Tax Credit Program, launched in 2004, has contributed billions of dollars to the Empire State and continues to be the principle factor cited by productions when deciding to film and produce in New York. The seven productions earning nominations generated more than an estimated \$224 million in spending in the state and approximately 13,300 new hires in the state. To date in 2016, 179 film and television projects have applied for the New York State Film Tax Credit Program, estimated to generate a record breaking 192,270 new hires and \$3.2 billion in new spending for New York State.

## About the Governor's Office of Motion Picture & Television Development

The New York State Governor's Office of Motion Picture & Television Development, a division of Empire State Development, offers film, television and commercial productions and post production tax credits for qualified expenditures in New York State. The office also serves as a liaison between production companies and city and local governments, state agencies, a network of statewide contacts, local film offices and professional location scouts and managers. For more information on filming in New York State or the Film Production and Post Production Tax Credit Programs, please visit [www.nylovesfilm.com](http://www.nylovesfilm.com).

## About Empire State Development

Empire State Development is New York's chief economic development agency. The mission of Empire State Development is to promote a vigorous and growing economy, encourage the creation of new job and economic opportunities, increase revenues to the State and its municipalities, and achieve stable and diversified local economies. Through the use of loans, grants, tax credits, and other forms of financial assistance, Empire State Development strives to enhance private business investment and growth to spur job creation and support prosperous communities across New York State. Empire State Development is also the primary administrative agency overseeing Governor Cuomo's Regional Economic Development Councils and the marketing of "I Love NY," the State's iconic tourism brand. For more information on Regional Councils and Empire State Development, please visit [www.regionalcouncils.ny.gov](http://www.regionalcouncils.ny.gov) and [www.esd.ny.gov](http://www.esd.ny.gov).

Thank You Letter from Town of Denning Supervisor David Brooks

Dear Editor,

The Town of Denning would like to thank all of those who volunteer their services to the benefit of their community. In particular, the Frost Valley YMCA Director Jerry Huncosky, Tom Holsapple, Katia Martin, Chartwell Food Service Director Al Oldmixin, to chef John Anglin, a special thank you to him for the thoughtful, wonderful addition of Thanksgiving meal and desert, and to the drivers who bring the meals to the Town Hall.

Meals on Wheels drivers Pauline and Jim Leverich for all of their time, gas and efforts in making this program a huge success.

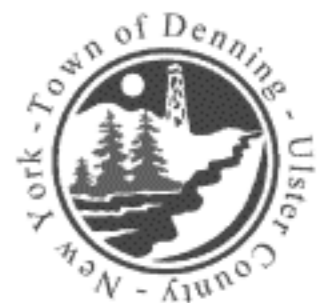
Thank you to the anonymous donor for snacks and deserts, the participants enjoy them so much! To Frank and Linda Comando for the *Townsmen* addition each week for Meals on Wheels recipients.

Thank you to Susan Smith and Tom McGee for the historical work on behalf of the Town, your work is phenomenal. Thank you to all of the residents who volunteer their time on the Town's numerous Boards. Thank you to all of the other volunteers at the Red Hill Fire Tower, Fire Commissioners and Department and to all those who get involved to make our community a better place to live. As well as, the Flower People, who keep the Jean Switzler Memorial Garden looking its best and flourishing all year.

And lastly but certainly not least thank you to the Town of Neversink Town Board, Highway Superintendent and Highway crew as well as the Ulster County Dept. of Public Works for your aid thru the Municipal Shared Services program, we truly appreciate it.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year,

Best,  
The Denning Town Board  
David Brooks  
Supervisor  
jam



**Claryville Reformed Church  
Holiday Services**

Christmas Eve service of Lessons and Carols will begin at 7 pm and conclude with candle-light. John Bernstein will be at the organ.

A Christmas Day service will be at 11 as will New Year's Day which will conclude with Holy Communion.

We invite all members of the Tri-Valley Community to join us.

**Immaculate Conception Church**

Woodbourne  
Rev. John J. Lynch, Administrator  
Telephone (845) 434-7643  
Parish website: [www.icwoodbourne.com](http://www.icwoodbourne.com)

**Archdiocesan Confession Day**

The annual pre-Christmas Recon-ciliation Monday, conducted throughout the Archdiocese with extended confession hours, is this year on December 19th, here from 4:00 to 5:00 pm and from 7:00 to 8:00 pm.

**Confessions**

Saturday, December 24th  
3:30 - 4:00 pm

**Masses**

Christmas Eve  
Saturday, December 24th  
4:30 pm & 10:00 pm

**Christmas Day**

Sunday, December 25th  
10:00 am

**Feast of Mary, Mother of God**

Saturday, December 31st  
4:30 pm  
Sunday, January 1st  
9:00 & 11:30 am

**Message from Olive Free Library**

Olive Library has rescheduled their book talk program with Dr. Joseph Tieri to Saturday, January 14 at 1:00 p.m.

When there is snow or other hazardous driving conditions please check their website and call the library before heading out. They will update the website and phone message when we need to close the library.

This month's movie schedule:  
For the holiday week when kids are off school we have two family movies: Tuesday, December 27, 1:00 p.m., Family Movie Matinee: *Pete's Dragon* (PG) Common Sense Media rates this movie as appropriate for children 7 and up and Thursday Night Movie Night! December 29, 6:00 p.m., *Secret Life of Pets* (PG)

**Grahamsville and Sundown  
United Methodist Churches**

Christmas Pageant - Dec. 18  
10:30 a.m. Grahamsville UMC

Candlelight Christmas Eve Services - Dec. 24  
5 p.m. Sundown UMC  
7 p.m. Grahamsville UMC  
11 p.m. Holy Communion at  
Grahamsville UMC

Christmas Day Worship Services - Dec. 25  
8:30 a.m. Sundown UMC  
10:30 a.m. Grahamsville UMC

Call 845-985-2283 for further information.



**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, 5:00 pm  
Music by Fred VanWagner  
Coffee hour follows service  
All are welcome!

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

[www.standrewsepiscopalmission.org](http://www.standrewsepiscopalmission.org)

**Claryville Reformed  
Church**

Claryville Road  
Claryville, NY 12725  
845-985-2041



Bible Class 9:00 am  
Worship Services @ 10:00 am  
Rev. Paul Nulton  
John Bult, Organist

**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 afternoon: 5:45 pm (Holy Rosary at 5:30 pm);  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday mornings: (includes Morning Prayer) - 8:50 am

Saturday afternoon confessions: 3:45 to 4:15 pm

Rev. John J. Lynch, Ph.D., Pastor. 434-7643.

**Ellenville National Guard  
Soldier Promoted**

Major General Anthony P. German, The Adjutant General for the State of New York, announces the promotion of members of the New York Army National Guard in recognition of their capability for additional responsibility and leadership.

Brandon Avery from Ellenville, N.Y. is serving with the 1569th Transportation Company is promoted to the rank of Private.

**Winter Carnival**

Morningside Park

Sunday, Jan. 22, 2017

12 to 3pm

Free Admission



Prizes\*Refreshments\*Games

Come join us for:

Snow Man decorating contests,

Relay races, Ice Fishing demos, Ice Golf,

Ice Skating, Snow Shoeing,

Dances and Snacks by the Hispanic American United Club (Noon to 1pm)

DJ and Bounce rides by Party Master

Special thanks to Murray's Chicken, Stewarts, the SYDA Foundation and the S.C. Youth Bureau



Sponsored by FCSD and Fallsburg Park and Rec.



For information call 845-434-5977

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**CrossWay Assembly of God**

Service Times  
Sunday Worship  
Service 10:30 am



Meet the  
new Pastor,  
Camille  
Regolec

Thursday  
Prayer 7 pm

P. O. Box 480  
507 Hasbrouck Drive  
Woodbourne, NY 12788  
845-434-8263

Email: [Crosswayag@jesusanswers.com](mailto:Crosswayag@jesusanswers.com)

**Sundown United Methodist Church**

Peekamoose Rd., Sundown  
Sunday Worship Service - 8:30 a.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study - 6:45 p.m.  
Pastor: Rev. Peggy Ann Sauerhoff  
845-985-2283  
e-mail: [Sundownumc@gmail.com](mailto:Sundownumc@gmail.com)

**Grahamsville United Methodist Church**

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

For information contact Rev. Peggy Ann Sauerhoff 845-985-2283  
e-mail: [Grahamsvilleumc@gmail.com](mailto:Grahamsvilleumc@gmail.com)

**Loucks Funeral Home**

Geoff and Heather Hazzard  
& Anthony Perito

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Ellenville, New York  
(845) 647-4343

**RAMSAY'S FUNERAL HOMES, INC**

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CEMETERIES

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AND BENCHES

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AND CLEANING

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**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. George W. Hommel, Pastor

**Grahamsville Reformed Church**

Sunday School 9:30 A.M.  
Worship Service 9:30 A.M.

Rev. Paul Z. Ruter, Pastor

845-985-7480

**Grahamsville  
United  
Methodist  
Church**

Merry Christmas  
and  
Happy  
New Year!

Have a  
Joyous  
and a  
Blessed  
New Year

Sundown  
United Methodist  
Church Hall

**LEGALSPUBLIC NOTICE:**

**TOWN OF NEVERSINK  
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
FOR THE YEAR 2017**

Please be advised that the Annual Organizational meeting of the Town of Neversink Town Board for the year 2017 will be held on January 4, 2017 at the Town of Neversink Town Hall at 7:30 PM.

The purpose of the meeting is to make appointments, set salaries and compensations, establish policies and procedures as well as to handle any other matter that may legally come before the Board.

12/22

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT**

There will be a **RECESSED MEETING** of the Town of Neversink Town Board to be held at the Town Hall, 273 Main Street, Grahamsville, NY at **7:30 P.M. on Thursday, December 29, 2016.**

The purpose of the meeting is to approve year end vouchers as well as any other business that may legally come before the board.

Lisa Garigliano, Town Clerk  
Dated: December 16, 2016

12/22

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Claryville Fire District created pursuant to Section 6-d of the General Municipal Law a repair reserve fund known as the Equipment Repair Reserve Fund, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 6-d of the General Municipal Law a public hearing is required to expend monies from any repair reserve fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the sums in the Equipment Repair Reserve Fund, subject to a public hearing on the question, are hereby transferred to the Operating Fund, and

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following resolution of the Claryville Fire District of the Towns of Denning, Ulster County and Neversink, Sullivan County, State of New York will be presented to the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Claryville Fire District, for its consideration at a public hearing to be held at the Claryville Volunteer Fire Department Community Hall, Town of Denning, State of New York at 1500 Claryville Road, Claryville, New York at 6:30 P.M. on the 5th day of January, 2017 for the purpose of considering the fol-

lowing resolution and hearing all persons interested in the subject concerning same. The Resolution to be considered is as follows:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF THE SUM OF \$10,000 TO THE OPERATING FUND FROM THE EQUIPMENT REPAIR RESERVE FUND.**

Dated: November 18, 2016

Board of Fire Commissioners  
Claryville Fire District  
PO Box 22  
Claryville, NY 12725

12/22

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:**

The Town of Denning will hold its Organizational Meeting on Tuesday, January 3rd, 2017 at the Denning Town Hall, 1567 Denning Road, Claryville, NY 12725 scheduled to begin at 6 pm.

By the Order of the Town Board  
Joy Monforte  
Town Clerk

December 12th, 2016

12/22

**TAX COLLECTOR LEGAL NOTICE:**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that I, Lisa Garigliano, Tax Collector for the Town of Neversink, County of Sullivan and the State of New York, will collect 2017 taxes according to the following schedule:**

**MONDAY thru FRIDAY:** 9:00 AM-4:00 PM (excluding holidays) at the: TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE LOCATED IN THE NEVERSINK TOWN HALL, 273 MAIN ST. (RT. 55), GRAHAMSVILLE, NY 12740, PHONE: (845) 985-2262 x307

**SATURDAY:** Neversink Town Hall on the following date: January 28, 2017 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm  
Taxes collected until the 31st day of January, 2017 without interest. All taxes postmarked after January 31, 2017 will be subject to late penalties as listed below. Late payment penalties are strictly enforced.

**SCHEDULE OF FEES:**

Jan. 1 - Jan. 31	No Penalty
Feb. 1 - Feb. 28	1% of Tax Amount
Mar. 1 - Mar. 31	2% of Tax Amount, plus \$2.00 unpaid notice fee; sent 3/3/17

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Lisa Garigliano, Tax Collector**

**TO PAY BY MAIL IN FULL:** Send **ENTIRE TAX BILL** with payment to: Lisa Garigliano, Tax Collector, PO Box 307, Grahamsville, NY 12740.

- Upon receipt of payment the top portion of your tax bill will be marked paid and returned to you for your records. It is for this reason that it is **important to return the entire bill.**
- **In the event the collector needs to reach you, please include your phone number on your check.**

**INSTALLMENT PAYMENT PLAN:** May be paid as follows:

- January - 50% due by 1/31/2017 at 0% interest. Send "Payment #1" stub with your check.
- February - 25% due by 2/28/2017 at 1% interest. Send "Payment #2" stub with your check.
- March - 25% due by 3/31/2017 at 2 % interest plus \$2.00 unpaid notice fee. Send entire bill.
- Receipts will be mailed to you after every payment

**Please Note: You must make the Jan. Payment in order to participate in the installment plan.**

**CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS ACCEPTED** - 3% CONVENIENCE FEE WILL BE ADDED. Please go to [www.taxlookup.net](http://www.taxlookup.net) to make payment. Find your parcel, link at bottom of that page.

**SOLID WASTE/RECYCLING DISPOSAL FEE:** The County has imposed an annual fee to pay for solid waste/recycling disposal. This fee appears as a separate line item on your tax bill and is payable along with the tax. Please direct all questions to the County Treasurer's office at (845) 807-0200.

**AFTER MARCH 31st:** TAXES ARE PAYABLE TO COUNTY TREASURER; CALL (845) 807-0200 FOR AMOUNT DUE OR CONTACT THEM AT: Sullivan County Treasurer's Office, 100 North St., PO Box 5012, Monticello, NY 12701.

- **If you no longer own this property, please return bill to collector with the new owner's name and address; or forward the bill to the rightful owner.**
- **If your address has changed, please note your correct mailing address, along with your SBL# and return it with your tax bill or contacts the Assessor's office at the number below.**
- **You may obtain a duplicate tax bill/receipt or check the status of your payment via the Internet at [www.taxlookup.net/neversink](http://www.taxlookup.net/neversink).**

For information regarding Veteran's, Senior Citizen's, Firemen's or Star Exemptions please contact the Town of Neversink Assessor's Office:  
Bryan Delaney, Sole Assessor (845) 985-2262 x 323  
Geri Gorton, Clerk (845) 985-2262 x 319

Hours are Mon. to Fri. 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Evening hours are available, please call for an appointment. Or by Mail at: PO Box 307, Grahamsville, NY 12740.

12/22; 1/12

**Town of Neversink  
Parks & Recreation**



[www.townofneversink.org](http://www.townofneversink.org)

Call for info: (845) 985-2262 extension 312

Watch the *Townsmen* for upcoming 2017 events.



**Great Christmas Gift**  
- Purchase for \$5 a **Re-usable Infuser Water Bottle** to be brought to Parks and Rec events and refilled for \$1.50 each refill.



**Daniel Pierce Library** hours of operation  
Tuesday: 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Thursday: 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Friday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday and Monday: Closed

If you have any questions, please call the library at 985-7233.  
*The Library Board of Trustees meets at 7:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month. On occasion, a meeting date is changed. Please call ahead to confirm.*

**2016 Town of Neversink  
Motor Vehicle Schedule**

March 10	August 11
April 14	September 15
May 12	October 13
June 16	November 10
July 14	December 15

**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.

**AL-ANON MEETINGS-**  
<http://www.al-anon.ala-teen.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

**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

SUJUI WA TANSU NI KAGIRU answer

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

- 12/22/16 **LAST ISSUE OF THE TOWNSMAN** for 2016. Next issue January 12, 2017!
- 12/23/16 **TOWN OF NEVERSINK HOLIDAY - 1/2 Day Christmas**
- 12/25/16 **CHRISTMAS**
- 12/26/16 **TOWN OF NEVERSINK HOLIDAY - CHRISTMAS**
- 12/30/16 **TOWN OF NEVERSINK HOLIDAY - 1/2 Day New Years**
- 1/1/17 **TOWN OF NEVERSINK NEW YEAR HOLIDAY**

**REMINDER: To all Tri-Valley municipalities, churches & community groups please send us your 2017 calendar of events so that we can continue to post your events and meetings on the calendar each week during the New Year.**

Please note that the agenda for the upcoming Tri-Valley Central School District Board of Education Meetings can be viewed at <http://www.boarddocs.com/ny/trivc/Board.nsf/Public>

**TRI-VALLEY AREA**  
SUNDOWN CAMP & BAIT SHOP  
GRAHAMSVILLE DELI  
A J's FRIENDS & FINDS  
EUREKA MARKET & CAFE  
NEVERSINK GENERAL STORE  
BLUE HILL LODGE  
FROST VALLEY YMCA  
3 GOLDEN'S CONVENIENCE STORE

*Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman* is available at the following places of business in Sullivan and Ulster Counties  
**LOCH SHELDRAKE** - VALERO MINI MALL • SC COMMUNITY COLLEGE LIBRARY  
**FALLSBURG** - FALLSBURG TOWN HALL  
**WOODBOURNE** - CITGO STATION • MO'S GAS STATION • P.D. SMITH ENTERPRISE  
**LIBERTY** - LIBERTY FITNESS • CHARLIE'S PIZZA • AGWAY (Both Stores)  
CLAUDIA'S BEAUTY SALON • SHOPRITE • IDEAL FOOD • LIBERTY CITGO

**ELLENVILLE/NAPANOCH**  
JAMES NAPANOCH GROCERY  
DR. LONSTEIN'S OFFICE  
MATTHEW'S PHARMACY  
EWCOO  
ELLENVILLE CITGO  
ELLENVILLE REG HOSPITAL  
PETER'S MARKET  
THORTON HARDWARE  
SHOPRITE

**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.

**Operation Christmas Child - The Grahamsville Connection**

Many years ago a young girl named Irina, living in an orphanage in the Soviet Union, received a shoebox from Samaritan's Purse and Operation Christmas Child. That small shoebox forever changed her life!  
Fast forward to 2013... the now young woman marries a young man, Steven Creek, who was raised in Grahamsville and attended the Grahamsville United Methodist Church. (Steven is the son of Paula Gray-McCarthy). In 2016, Irina and Steven raised over \$40,000 and returned to that orphanage to "pay it forward".  
They will be sharing their remarkable story during the regular services at the Sundown United Methodist Church on Peekamoose Road at 8:30 and the Grahamsville United Methodist Church at 356 Main Street at 10:30 on Sunday, January 1st. Please come and hear yet another story of God's love and presence in our daily lives

**LEGALS/PUBLIC NOTICE: (Contd. From Pg. 14)**

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Tri-Valley Central School District, 34  
Moore Hill Road, Grahamsville, New York  
12740  
Phone: 845-985-2296, Fax: 845-985-0310**

**The following position is available  
at Tri-Valley Central School for 2016-  
2017:**

Long-Term Maternity Leave  
Replacement K-12 Art Teacher NYS  
Certification K-12 in Art Education  
Required Approximate Leave Dates:  
March 31 - June 23, 2017  
Contact: Thomas Palmer, Superintendent  
Cut-Off Date for Submitting  
Application/Materials: January 6, 2017

12/15; 12/22

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

**The following positions are available at Tri-  
Valley Central School  
for 2016-2017**

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUBSTITUTE MONITORS FOR  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
BEAR CUBS BASKETBALL  
Tuesdays through Fridays, 5:00 - 8:30 p.m.  
\$12/hour**

\*\*\*\*\*

Interested parties should  
send letters of interest to:  
**Robert Whitaker,  
School Business Official  
Tri-Valley Central School District  
34 Moore Hill Road  
Grahamsville, New York 12740  
(845)985-2296 ext. 5201**

**Cut-off date for accepting letters of inter-  
est: December 22, 2016**

12/15; 12/22

**Grahamsville Fire District  
Notice of Organizational Meeting**

Please take notice that the organizational meeting for the year 2017 of the Grahamsville Fire District of the Town of Neversink, County of Sullivan, New York, will be held on the 2nd day of January, 2017, at 7:00 PM on that day at the Grahamsville Fire House, Route 55, Grahamsville, New York.

By order of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the  
Grahamsville Fire District.  
Scott L. Raymond, Secretary 12/22

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:**

The Claryville Fire District will hold its organizational meeting on Thursday January 5th, 2017 at the Claryville Volunteer Fire Department Community Hall, 1500 Denning Road, Claryville, NY 12725 scheduled to begin at 6:30 pm.

By order of the Board of Commissioners  
Jim Tisch  
Secretary  
December 4, 2016 12/22



**GRAHAMSVILLE REALTY**  
New York State Licensed Real Estate Broker  
135 Peekamoose Road  
Sundown, NY 12740  
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http://www.grahamsvillerealty.com  
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3 bedrooms, on one acre. Quiet Safe Neighborhood, Tri-Valley School Dist. Low Taxes. Near 47,000 plus NYS Lands and Rondout & Neversink Reservoir for hunting, fishing, boating, kayaking and hiking. Short drive to the excitement of Monticello Gaming Raceway & The Bethel Woods Live Concert Center & Museum -the original Woodstock Concert Site. **THIS PROPERTY IS FUN IN THE CATSKILLS or just a nice home!** Just 2 HOURS FROM NYC; - less than a tank of gas away



• 6 Acres off Red Hill Knolls Rd. Great Price!



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Grahamsville, NY  
845.985.5116

**Catskills Real Estate for Sale**

- NEW 3BR arts & crafts w/2 barns, North Branch. \$309,000
- NEW Beaverkill cottage, 4br/2.5 ba 90% complete, w/pond. \$580,000
- NEW Darling 3BR/2 bath cottage on 1 ac w/fenced garden. \$249,000
- Elegant 3BR stone house w/pool, gardens, comm'l kitchen, patios, nr great trout fishing. 28 acres. Livingston Manor. \$799,000
- UNDER CONTRACT 3-4 BR renovated farmhouse w/rustic style interior & 96 glorious acres of woods and meadows. \$399,000
- Architect designed 4 bed/3.5 bath house on 131 private wooded acres. \$749,000
- 2BR cottage on .75 acs. in Claryville \$78,000
- 4BR house + guest cottage in Grahamsville hamlet. \$164,000
- UNDER CONTRACT Exceptional Catskills estate on scenic road w/ ponds, fenced paddocks, barn, tennis court. \$950,000
- SOLD 5BR stunner on 8 acres with pond, Tri-Valley Schools. 1880s charm with tasteful updates. Listing price: \$299,000
- SOLD-Renovated 3BR farmhouse with studio and swimming pond in Callicoon. \$450,000
- SOLD Modern 4BR on Willowemoc w/pool, ponds, 40 acres in desirable Livingston Manor. \$499,000

[www.CountryHouseRealty.net](http://www.CountryHouseRealty.net)

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**FOR RENT**

For Rent: 2 Bedroom apt.; Liv Rm; Kitchen; 1 Bath 845-985-0107

2 + Bedroom, Grahamsville. Security & references. \$750/month plus utilities. 845-321-1919 rt 1/26

**FOR SALE**

For Sale: Penn Royal Wood Stove/Water Chamber; 3 x 1 1/2 wood box. Asking \$500.00. Please call- 985-2790.

**HELP WANTED**

Deli Help Wanted. \$11.00 per hour to start. Flexible Hours 845-985-0107

**Start the New Year right  
Help your business grow  
Advertise in the *The Townsman!***

- Classified ads - \$6.00 for the first 20 words/ 20 cents each additional word
- 1" Boxed ad (1" x 3") - \$7.20 per week
- Business card ad ( 2" x 3" ) \$14.40 per week
- (3" x 4") - \$28.80 per week
- (3" x 6") - \$43.20
- (4" x 6") - \$57.60
- 1/4 pg (5" x 7") - \$84.00
- (6" x 8") - \$115.00
- 1/2 pg (7" x 10") - \$168.00
- Full Page - B/W - \$336.00
- Full page 10" x 14" Centerfold/Back page color: \$600

Flyer/insert 1,200 copies \$45 for one-side \$70 for both sides (you print)

Flyer/insert 1,200 b/w copies on white paper - \$120 for one-side - \$175 for both sides (we print)

Quote for Full 4-color Flyer/inserts available on request

**Low Rates and High Visibility!**

**Christmas Shopping? Think Local**

There are plenty of ideas and items ideal for Christmas gifts from our local shops and local crafters. Get creative - visit **Superior Building Supply; Neversink General Store, the Grahamsville Deli and Blue Hill Lodge** (they have delicious imported beautifully boxed candy)! Most places offer gift certificates, too! Then there are those special gifts that you can order from **Chestnut Creek Baked Goods, Harnett Designs, The Dragonfly** - - or what about helping 'Grandma' get her furnace cleaned for Christmas?? Or an oil change from one of our local auto repair shops for Grandpa?

Get Creative for Christmas • Shop Local  
Put the Belief Back in Christmas this year!  
Believe in your Local Community

**SURVIVAL/FUN/HEALTH**

*Beauty of Birth • Doula Services*

The word "doula" comes from ancient Greek and is now used to refer to "a woman experienced in childbirth who provides continuous physical, emotional, and informational support to the mother before, during, and just after childbirth"

For more information call:

**JANNA COMANDO**

DOÑA Trained Doula Services

(845) 417-6165

[beautyofbirthingdoulas@yahoo.com](mailto:beautyofbirthingdoulas@yahoo.com)

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Call Louise at

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Visit our website to see our gifts & flowers

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

Are you a vendor at a local flea market or a farmers' market?

Do you have a product that you would like to sell all year 'round?

It is time for you to have your own on-line shop at The Gnome Home!

The Gnome Home

... a virtual on-line mall  
[gnomehome.net](http://gnomehome.net)

For as little as \$99 a year, you can have your own shop at our virtual on-line mall.

You provide the pictures of your product and product description along with your contact information and we will build you your own unique shop at The Gnome Home Mall and you can work from your own home.

For more information contact me at:  
985-0501 (leave message)

OR  
Email: [1vtownsman@yahoo.com](mailto:1vtownsman@yahoo.com)

**Visit our local artists on line:**

- [harnettdesigns.com](http://harnettdesigns.com)
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- [dragonflygiftsandflowers.com](http://dragonflygiftsandflowers.com)
- [katesherbals.com](http://katesherbals.com)

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Call us at 845-985-0501 or visit our Virtual Mall at [gnomehome.net](http://gnomehome.net)

**ANSWER TO KNARF'S MOVIE TRIVIA**

Answers:  
1. George Meeker  
2. Gladys George

**Knarf's "Classic Movie Trivia" Merry Christmas**



All Christmas Day TCM will be featuring a bevy of heart tugging action packed emotion. At 6:00 AM **GOING MY WAY** (musical, 1944); at 8:30 AM - (drama 1938) **BOYS TOWN**; at 10:30 AM (drama 1953) **THE ROBE**; at 1:00 PM (epic 1959) **BEN-HUR**; at 5:00 PM (epic 1961) **KING OF KINGS**; at 8:00 PM (comedy 1936) **MR. DEEDS GOES TO TOWN**; at 10:00 PM (comedy 1942) **SULLIVAN'S TRAVELS**; at 11:45 PM (comedy 1934) **IT HAPPENED ONE NIGHT**; at 1:45 AM (comedy 1942) **THE PALM BEACH STORY**; at 3:30 AM (drama 1941) **MEET JOHN DOE**; at 5:45 AM (comedy 1941) **HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO**

**OUR FEATURE MOVIE - KING OF KINGS (1961)** An epic retelling of Christ's life and the effects of his teachings on those around him. Directed by Nicholas Ray Cast: **Jeffrey Hunter, Siobhan McKenna, Robert Ryan**. See this film starting at 5:00 PM Sunday evening December 25, 2016, Christmas Day, Color - 160 min rated TV-PG, CC

**Quiz:**

1. Who played Claudia?
2. Who played Mary Magdalene?

**What's Going on in The Gnome Neighborhood™**

**CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT LOCAL CHURCHES**

Please see Page 13 for dates and times of local church services during the Christmas season

**SUNDOWN**

Jan 1st - **Operation Christmas Child - The Grahamsville Connection**  
Sundown United Methodist Church on Peekamoose Road at 8:30 am

**GRAHAMSVILLE**

Jan 1st - **Operation Christmas Child - The Grahamsville Connection**  
Grahamsville United Methodist Church at 356 Main Street at 10:30 am

*Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!*

**Knarf Odnamoc Gnome**



**Business Cards • Envelopes 500 FREE**  
**Door Hangers • with minimum purchase of \$25.00**  
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Get the service you need and keep your dollar local