



Tri

Ye Olde TOWNSMAN Valley

"The Best Journal Published by a Dam Site!"



VOL. 20 NO. 52 GRAHAMSVILLE, NY 12740 DECEMBER 26, 2024

Mysterious Book Report John D. McKenna Pg 6 • *The Olive Jar* Carol La Monda Pg 7 • *The Scene Too* Jane Harrison Pg 11
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The Tri-Valley Lions Annual Holiday Party on December 9, 2024 at The Paper Mill in Napanoch, NY



The group enjoyed two rounds of fun-filled XMAS Bingo.

On December 9, 2024, The Tri-Valley Lions enjoyed their annual Holiday Party at the Paper Mill in Napanoch, NY. A wonderful time was had by one and all. In lieu of presents to one another, the Tri-Valley Lions brought pet supplies for the SPCA in Rock Hill, NY. Attached are some photos showing Tri-Valley Lion Membership Chair Pat Menje, new member Jorge Sanchez, and Lion President Stephen Miller delivering dog and cat supplies and \$180 in monetary donations to the SPCA the day after our Holiday Party. Giving to the SPCA at holiday time has become a tradition for The Tri-Valley Lions. (Contd. Pg. 5)

Monticello Elks Celebrated an Ugly Holiday Sweater Party



The Monticello Elks celebrated at an Ugly Holiday Sweater Party on December 21st. Special thanks to Wanda and Brian Monroe for bringing their karaoke set up. Photo by Richard McGoey.

YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN

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

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 Telephone numbers will not be published.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

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

More than ever, thank you for your continued support.

On the Front Burner: He that oppresseth the poor reproacheth his Maker; but he that honoureth him hath mercy on the poor.
Proverbs 14:31

OBITUARY

Professor Emeritus Thomas Lambert



Our sympathy to the family of Thomas Lambert.

Tom was a legend at SUNY Sullivan where he taught sociology for many years.

You will be missed, but not forgotten.

DAYS OF YORE...

Today's History

January 5, 1955

Mr. and Mrs. Oral Goode of Grahamsville announce the engagement of their daughter, JoAnn to Mr. William Ohnemus, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Ohnemus of Blue Hill. The wedding date was not given.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hornbeck of Grahamsville have announced the engagement of their daughter, Betty Lou to Larry Shaver, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Shaver of Turnwood. Miss Hornbeck is a student at Tri Valley School in Grahamsville. Mr. Shaver is a graduate of Cornell University and he and his brother operate the Shaver farm.

Mr. and Mrs. John Brackman of Neversink are the parents of a baby girl, Linda Carol, born on December 29th at the Ellenville Veterans Memorial Hospital.

January 6, 1965

Miss Sharon VanKeuren, a student nurse at Roosevelt Hospital, New York City, spent a two weeks vacation here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson VanKeuren. Sharon was recently notified that she has been awarded the Helen Dunlap Scholarship from Roosevelt Hospital.

Miss Linda Strangeway has been accepted at the State University College at Oneonta. Miss Strangeway plans to major in home economics. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Strangeway.

January 1, 1975

Four Tri-Valley seniors have been awarded Regents scholarships as a result of their performance on the examination held this past fall. The high scorer for Tri-Valley was GERALYN MURRAY. GERALYN is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Murray of Ulster Heights. (Contd. Pg. 3)

DAYS OF YORE...

Today's History

(From Pg. 2)

January 1, 1975

Other winners were Andrew Kremer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kremer of Claryville; Marcia Friedman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Friedman of Grahamsville; and William Kelly, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Kelly of Grahamsville.

January 3, 1985

Connie Van Wagner, formerly of Claryville, most recently of Arnold, Md., died suddenly on November 17, 1985 in Sarasota Memorial Hospital, Sarasota, Florida. Born Sept. 15, 1915 in Brooklyn, Connie was the widow of Wilson Van Wagner. Survivors include a sister, Marjorie Myers; a brother, Charles Speck; and a niece, all out of the area.

William N. Meyer of Groo Rd., Grahamsville, a retired technician who worked 36 years for the N.Y. Telephone Co., died suddenly on Sunday, Dec. 23, 1984 at home. Survivors include his wife, Evelyn at home; his mother of Huntington; three daughters; two grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Household Hint:

Don't Throw Away those Toilet Paper Rolls; Use them as a Wrapping Paper Sleeve

This hint will save you from wasting wrapping paper each time you bring it out of storage. Rather than sticking a piece of tape along the loose edge, cut an empty toilet paper tube lengthwise and wrap it around a roll of wrapping paper. Cinch it up and secure the sleeve with a piece of tape. Next time you use the wrapping, you may rip the sleeve when removing it, but your wrapping paper will remain intact.

Nature Column - L. Comando

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

Blue Jays are Here to Stay

The Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*) a large, crested songbird native to North America with bright blue coloration is one of the many birds that remain with us during winter in the Catskills. Blue jays are beautiful, intelligent and highly aggressive birds that live in small flocks, and are highly protective of their nesting site. They will form groups and 'mob' much larger birds in order to fight them off. Blue Jays can imitate calls of their predators, especially hawks, and may use these calls to test whether or not these predators are in the area. Blue jays are prey to hawks, eagles and other raptors.



Blue jays are large for songbirds, typically measuring between 9 and 12 inches long, and weighing between 2.5 and 3.5 ounces. Distinguishing characteristics of the blue jay include the pronounced blue crest on its head, which the blue jay may lower and raise depending on its mood. The crest will bristle outward when the bird is aggressive or frightened. Blue jays sport colorful blue plumage on their crest, wings, back and tail. Their face is typically white, and they have an off-white underbelly. They have a black-collared neck, and the black extends down the sides of their heads. Their bill, legs, and eyes are also all black. Their wings and tail are black and sky-blue, with white bars. Male and female blue jays are nearly identical.

Blue jays have very strong black bills, which can crack nuts and acorns. They will harvest acorns and store them in little holes in the ground. Once in a while they may forget where they left an acorn, and a new oak tree will be born! They like to eat corn, grains, berries, seeds, insects, and peanuts. Blue jays will often force smaller birds away from bird feeders, but will typically stay away from the feeders and wait their turn when other medium sized birds, like woodpeckers, are feeding. Blue jays will sometimes eat eggs and nestlings of other birds, but this is rare.

After a courtship in the air with its mate this year around mid-March to July, a nest will be built in a tree (either coniferous or deciduous) by both the male and female. Blue jays typically form monogamous pairs and stay together for life.

The nest resembles an open cup made of twigs, grass, weeds, bark strips, moss, sometimes held together with mud and built either in the verticle crotch of a tree trunk, or at a horizontal fork on a limb usually 8 to 30 feet above the ground. Nests are lined with rootlets and other fine materials, and are often decorated with paper, rags, string, or other debris.

The female will lay between 4-7 greenish or buff eggs. Sometimes the eggs are pale blue, spotted with brown and gray. Incubation is by both parents (but female does more), for about 16-18 days. Both parents bring food for nestlings. The young generally leave the nest 17-21 days after hatching.

Some blue jays remain as permanent residents others will form into flocks ranging between 5 and 250 and migrate southwards before winter. Much of the blue jay migratory behavior remains a mystery - some blue jays may migrate one year, then stay in their home range the next, then migrate another year.

One theory is that blue jays may migrate if their winter food sources become scarce, or if weather conditions are harsh. It has been found that younger blue jays are more likely to migrate than adults. One theory is that the jays who most likely survive to older age are those that don't migrate as frequently.

It sounds like the Blue Jay sitting up in the oak tree in our back yard may not be a good prognosticator of what the winter ahead will be like! He just might be one of those old wise birds who likes his home in the Catskills!

Monticello Kiwanians Show Holiday Spirit



from left - Monticello Kiwanis Pres. Marvin Rappaport, Kiwanis Board Members Sheila Lashinsky and Linda Barriger and United Way CPO Julian Dawson displaying donated toys and games.

Members of the Kiwanis Club of Monticello recently presented toys and games to United Way Chief Professional Officer Julian Dawson. These gifts will be distributed to children in the community to help make their Christmas and/or Chanukah celebration a little more enjoyable.



6:00 PM at Albella's Restaurant in Monticello. Please check out their Monticello NY Kiwanis Club Facebook page to learn more about all their activities.

The club meets the first Monday of the Month at 6:00 PM at Albella's Restaurant in Monticello. Please check out their Monticello NY Kiwanis Club Facebook page to learn more about all their activities.

LOOKING BACK

by Beatrice Akerley
Published March 14, 1996

If there is one thing in this world I can say I do not enjoy, it is cooking and baking. As long ago as when I was a child and mother was trying to teach my sisters and myself the art of cooking and baking, I always managed to be in my favorite place, sitting on the limb of my maple tree. I had a few regrets for not learning after I married, but soon learned the basics. Today I quite often get the urge to try out new recipes. A few days ago, on looking through my Aunt Bell Dickerson's recipe book, I ran across a recipe for Scripture Cake which I would like to share.

I know it is good, for my daughters Ella and Vera and my granddaughter, Dianne, got together and baked one and it came out just fine. On the bottom of the recipe page in the cookbook was a little writing as follows-"Recipe for Life: It may not be in my way, and it may not be in your way, but always in His own way, God will provide. He feeds the birds, but he does not throw it in their nests."

Scripture Cake

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| Judges 5:25 | 1 Kings 10:10 |
| Jeremiah 6:20 | Leviticus 2:13 |
| Isaiah 10:14 | Genesis 43:24 |
| 1 Kings 4:22 | Proverbs 24:13 |
| Luke 13:21 | 1 Samuel 30:11 |
| 1 Kings 10:10 | 1 Samuel 30:11 |
| 1 Kings 10:10 | Genesis 43:11 |

1. Preheat the oven to 375 degrees F (190 degrees C). Grease a 9x13-inch baking pan.
2. Blend butter, sugar, cinnamon, mace, cloves, and salt in a mixing bowl. Beat egg yolks in a separate bowl, then add to butter mixture. Sift in flour and baking powder, then add water and honey; mix well.
3. Pulse figs, raisins, almonds, and a pinch of flour in a food processor until coarsely chopped. Fold dried fruit mixture into batter.
4. Beat egg whites to stiff peak in a clean bowl. Gently fold into cake batter. Transfer batter to the prepared pan.
5. Bake in the preheated oven until an inserted toothpick in the center comes out clean, about 1 hour.

1/2 cup butter, 1 1/2 cups white sugar, 3 eggs, 2 cups all-purpose flour, 2 teaspoons baking powder, 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon, 1 teaspoon ground mace, 1 teaspoon ground cloves, 1/2 teaspoon salt, 1/2 cup water, 1 tablespoon honey, 1 cup figs, 1 cup raisins, 1/2 cup almonds

The Tri-Valley Lions Annual Holiday Party on December 9, 2024 at The Paper Mill in Napanoch, NY

(From Pg. 1) Lion President Stephen Miller also handed out membership Chevrons for 45 years of Lionism Service for

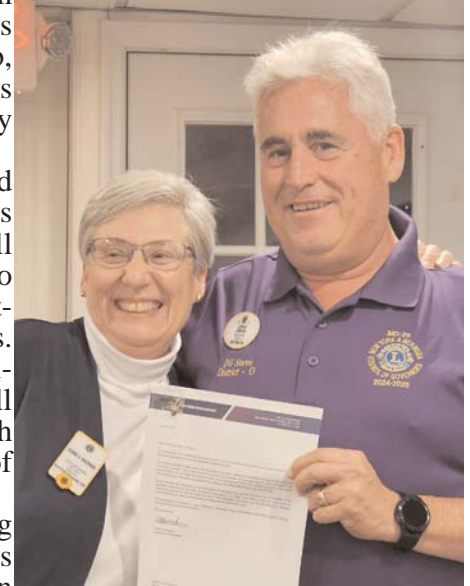
Lions Alice Elbert, Agnes Manell, Stephen Miller, and Carol Furman. 25-year Chevrons were handed out for Susan Miller, Esta Jacob, and William Gaudette, and 20-year Chevrons for Carmen Salvemini and Lynn Delaney Buley.

All attending the Holiday Party received raffle tickets and most of the attendees received lovely items from the raffle, as well as a couple of door prizes. Thanks so much to Paula Ryan and Terry Delaney for coordinating the raffle and getting the raffle prizes. Thank you to Maryann Cosentino for coordinating the Holiday Party with The Paper Mill and selecting the menu for the December 9th dinner. The group also enjoyed two rounds of fun-filled XMAS Bingo.

Attached are many photos of the evening at the Paper Mill. Also, attached are photos



45 Year Chevrons - Stu, Stephen M and Stephen J



Ilene 25 yr Chevron at Sight & Hearing Meeting

from the last District 20-O Sight and Hearing Meeting where District Governor Stephen Jennison awarded Chevrons for 45 Years of Lionism Service to Lions Stephen Miller and Stu Wizwer, and a 25-year Chevron to Ilene Wizwer.

The group photo from left to right are Lions Mike Ryan, Pat Menje, Paula Ryan, Terry Delaney, Hugh Delaney, Stu Wizwer, guest Ben Wizwer, Lions Stacey Wizwer, Stephen Miller, Maryann Cosentino, Susan Miller, Esta Jacob, Ilene Wizwer, Claire Rennison, Fran Fuller, Carmen Salvemini, Merri White, Cathy McKay, Jorge Sanchez, Tom Cosentino.

The Tri-Valley Lions, which was chartered in 1977, is now in our 47th year of existence, and we are always looking for new members. Just as a reminder, The Tri-Valley Lions bring in donations and funding by selling sodas from our Soda Booth for events at the Grahamsville Fairgrounds, selling Chocolate Easter Bunnies, our Annual Journey for Sight Walk and Tag Day. Our funding allows us to continue to provide monetary and service support to Local Food Pantries, Tri-Valley School Community Service and Achievement Awards, Children's Eye Screenings, support for Diabetes, Lymphoma and Leukemia organizations, childhood cancer, WSUL Heart-A-Thon, Guiding Eyes for The Blind, and so much more. If you are interested in joining the Tri-Valley Lions or getting more information about our



Carmen, Kathy, Merri, Pat, and Jorge.

club, please contact Membership Chair, Pat Menje at 917-783-6253 or hvacpat69@gmail.com or President Stephen Miller at 845-798-1981 or sgrecords@hvc.rr.com



Hugh Delaney, Paula and Mike Ryan, and Terry Delaney



Stu, Ilene, Stacey, Josh, Ben, Sue and Stephen Miller



Tom, Claire, Fran, Esta and Maryann

Wishing one and all a very Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and a HAPPY & HEALTHY 2025. Stay well and safe.

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

We Are All The Same In The Dark

Legacy Mysterious Book Report No. 113

by John Dwaine McKenna
Mysterious Book Report No. 414

Published Dec 30, 2021



In one of the most highly anticipated novels of the 2020 summer reading season, international best-selling thriller writer Julia Heaberlin grabs the reader's attention in her first sentence; "It takes about eight to ten hours to hand-dig a grave, more if you was doing it in the dark.",

and never lets go.

We Are All The Same In The Dark, (Ballentine Books, \$27.00, 336 pages, ISBN 978-0-525-62167-6), begins with the discovery of a nameless, wounded and mute young girl. Missing her left eye and severely dehydrated, she's found lying in a pasture alongside a busy highway on a blazing hot Texas afternoon . . . surrounded by dandelions she's picked and placed as a talisman to protect her.

But Wyatt Branson, the man who finds the girl and takes her to his home, has a shadowed and suspicious past. He's the only suspect in the presumed murder and disappearance of his sister Trumanell, who left only a bloody handprint when she disappeared, ten years earlier.

The abandoned girl is soon picked up by a woman named Odette Tucker, the town's newest and youngest cop, who stashes the girl in a safe house and gives her the name "Angel," because she fears that Angel's discovery will re-inflate the small town where anger, suspicion and mob mentality still seethe just beneath the veneer of a quiet, peaceful place. It's the most notorious cold case in Texas history, and although the police have cleared Wyatt, the town, and a recent TV documentary, have not. It's left the citizens of the place on the verge of an explosive and violent reckoning.

But the tale becomes more complex and intriguing with each chapter, as the plot layers are exposed and the secrets of small town life . . . where everyone knows, is genetically linked to, or has had an intimate relationship with everyone else . . . come to light, one by one.

There's an old saying that goes: "God made the wilderness, and man made the cities . . . but the devil made the small town." Julia Heaberlin has tapped into the beating heart of that sentiment and drawn it's essence, before putting it into elegant, attention-grabbing, carefully composed prose. *We Are All The Same In The Dark* is a psychological tour de force. It is one of the most arresting novels in many years and getting rave reviews from everyone who's seen it. Read it for yourself and see why!

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

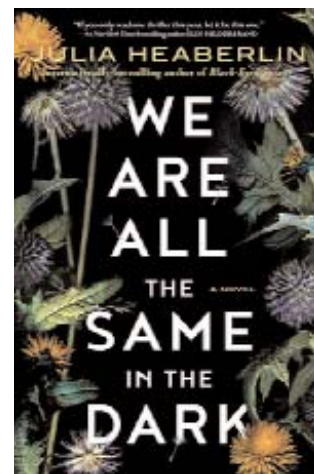
Check out our combined website that's simple to use and easy as pie to leave your comments. We're looking forward to hearing from all of you.

<http://Johndwainemckenna.com>

or

<http://Mysteriousbookreport.com>

Thank You!



**John Dwaine McKenna's Books
are now available at the
NEVERSINK GENERAL STORE**



The Olive Jar

by Carol Olsen LaMonda

Dear Santa



Dear Santa,

I have been a fairly good girl all year, so please no coal in my stocking although a cord of seasoned hardwood would be just dandy.

I can tell by your white beard and substantial girth that you, too, may be a senior citizen. I admire your fortitude to spend all night delivering gifts in a open-sleigh pulled by reindeer: I much prefer my Subaru with the heated seats, all-wheel drive, and horse-power.

I am writing today to tell you what we seniors may want for Christmas. Here is a partial list:

Bird seed. I really love to watch the birds visiting on my deck.

A breakfast, lunch, or dinner date. Not just the gift certificate. Come join me and pick up the tab.

A good book to read. One you have personally read so we can share our thoughts about it.

A massage, a facial, or a mani-pedi for ladies.

Perhaps tickets to a sporting event for gentlemen with you cheering beside him

A movie complete with popcorn and your presence. No one likes to laugh or cry alone.

A gourmet meal in a basket. Good olive oil and vinegar, pasta, jarred sauce, olives, and a loaf of Italian bread. Or a breakfast basket: granola, maple syrup, pancake mix, coffee, tea, and good jam.

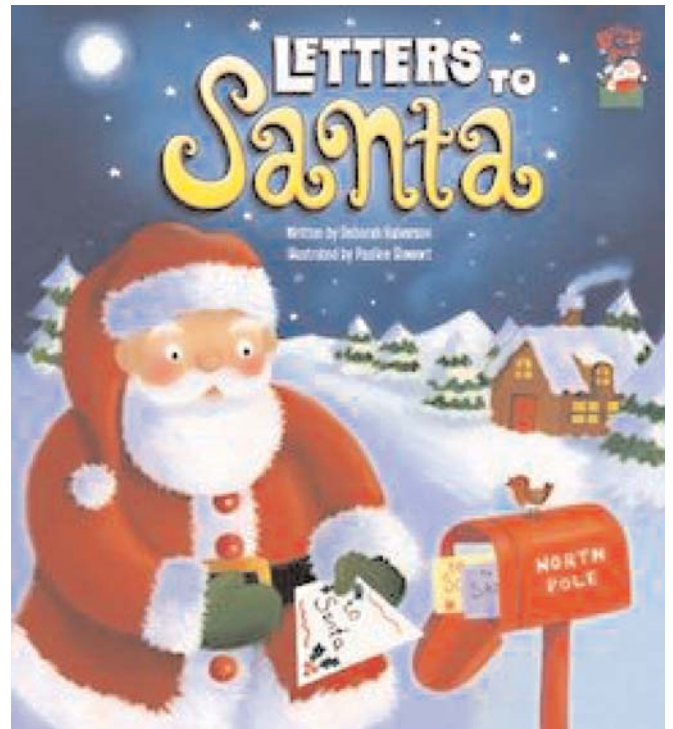
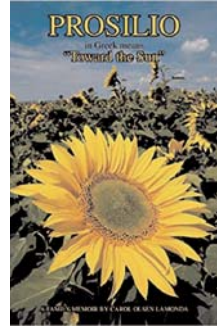
At my, our, age, we do not need more stuff. We want events that can be added to our bank account of good memories.

And, of course, if you could throw in world peace and an end to homelessness, poverty, disease, pain, war and hatred, I promise to be even better girl next year.

The FamilyMemoir, PROSILIO...

... in Greek means "Toward the Sun," was written by Carol Olsen LaMonda. Carol writes the column "The Olive Jar" for *Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman*.

This local author has been busy guesting at book clubs who have chosen this local memoir as their book choice. **Feel the warmth of "Prosilio" as you read Carol's memoirs cuddled up in your favorite chair. It also makes a great gift!** *Prosilio* is available at Amazon or Barnes and Noble on-line as a soft or hard cover or as a downloadable e-book for Nook or Kindle. Go to: <http://amazon.com> or <http://barnesandnoble.com> and type in *Prosilio* in the search to order your copy of *Prosilio*



Happy Holidays! And a very special gift from Hudson Valley Credit Union

By Lisa Carroll

GRAHAMSVILLE-It's a very Merry Christmas for the Daniel Pierce Library as we just received a beautiful gift, a grant of \$2,500 from Hudson Valley Credit Union!

Victoria LaPorte and Allison Morla of the credit union presented the check, which will be utilized for children's programming including the purchase of additional Wonderbooks, which have been very popular with our young readers, interactive puppet and book sets and additional material for our spring children's programs and school visits. We are so incredibly grateful to the credit union for this grant. Their willingness to provide financial support for our programs and overall commitment to the future success of the library and our community is beautiful. Many thanks for this gift!

With that, it's been a busy week at the DPL. Okay, it's busy all the time, but here are some more highlights.

On Tuesday, December 17, we welcomed Mr. Clarence & Mrs. Jaishree Dow-Spielman to our beautifully appointed reading room where they shared their musical talents with many. On Thursday, December 19, Mrs. Keira Weyant followed suit, concluding this year's Sounds of the Season program. There's a lot of merit in the saying, "music soothes the soul," as listening to these amazing local artists for the duration of the 45 minute program was certainly a cathartic experience, wiping away the stress of the holidays! We'd like to thank the musicians for sharing their gift. They are incredibly talented people and we're so happy to have had the opportunity to host this program for all of our patrons to enjoy.



Victoria LaPorte and Allison Morla of Hudson Valley Credit Union presented Daniel Pierce Library Director Beth Wolpert, Bookkeeper Cathy Russo and Children's Program Coordinator, Deirdre McHugh with a grant check of \$2,500 on Monday, December 23.

The new year will bring about some changes for the library, as it does for everyone. We're currently working on scheduling programs for the next few months, getting our children's winter reading challenge ready to go and of course, conducting business as usual. 2025 is going to be a great year!

Again, happy holidays. May you have the merriest of Christmases and the happiest of New Year's!



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

Our children's Latkes & Applesauce program on Wednesday, December 18 was also a booming success, thanks especially to our amazing volunteers: Gaila Weisberg, Sue Mootz, Dana Wright, Michelle DiMilia, Dee Rosenshein, Leanore Egan and Pat Doogan. The children learned all about the Festival of Lights-Hanukkah-and enjoyed latkes, games and crafts. It was a truly beautiful program. (And, the library smelled delicious for days after!)

You may notice a few changes in the adult fiction section of the library. We've done some moving and shifting of our collection. Nothing crazy, but Nicholas Sparks isn't where you last saw him...(well, actually no one is). We've added two more stacks and shifted everyone around so you may have to reacquaint yourselves with the shelves upon returning. It was an arduous task-you may be surprised to know that moving every single book is an alphabetical undertaking-but it's done now, looks great, and gives us more space to add to the shelves so be on the lookout for new arrivals.

Very soon we'll be announcing the grand opening of our new used bookstore and cafe, Pages & Percs, in the 1902 building. Patrons will be able to purchase a cup of coffee and peruse our gently used book selection. We'll keep you posted on the opening day and we're just wrapping up some final touches.



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New Hope Community Celebrates Holiday Season with Several Charitable Events for Those in Need

The not-for-profit reached hundreds of families through community-focused holiday initiatives

Loch Sheldrake, NY - New Hope Community has dedicated the past month to giving back to the community, ensuring families throughout Sullivan County enjoy the holiday season.

The not-for-profit organization, which provides person-centered support and services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, coordinated multiple events to give those in need holiday cheer and happiness through gifts, hot meals, and monetary donations.



CEO Debra McGinness said, "It is so nice to come together in the true holiday spirit to contribute to numerous initiatives that invest in our community. As we all know, we are stronger together, and what better time of year to express kindness, generosity, and joy!"

From late November through December, New Hope Community employees participated in an Adopt a Child campaign with the Sullivan County Child Advocacy Center in Liberty, NY, marking the first year of this valued relationship. Employees fulfilled the wishlists of 70 children between the ages of one month to 16 years old. Gifts, including toys, clothing, and more, were wrapped and delivered by New Hope staff to the Child Advocacy Center building.



New Hope Community's 7th Annual Community Outreach Dinner was held on Tuesday, December 10th, providing 560 complete meals to those in need. The event, which operated again as a drive-thru meal service and festive holiday celebration, allowed families to pick up free dinners and grocery gift cards. Kevin, a resident at New Hope



Community, knitted scarves and distributed them to many families.

Donations from area restaurants and grocers made pasta dinners and fixings possible, including Texas Roadhouse, Chili's, Buffalo Wild Wings, Adams Fairacre Farms, Hannaford, Sam's Club, and ShopRite. Apples from Jenkins-Lueken Orchards and gift cards from ShopRite were purchased through the generosity of the New Hope Community.

At the event, a local Monticello, NY resident commented, "I am very happy to be here tonight. I heard about this event through my son's school, and it's such a blessing. You've really helped us with this."



"I just want to say thank you for all you do. We appreciate the safe haven that you are for the community," said Tandaya, another local Sullivan County resident.



The holiday giving continued on Thursday, December 12th when New Hope Community hosted an invite-only Giving Back to Our Neighbors Open House. Held annually, the open house is a way for New Hope Community to thank other local organizations for the meaningful work they do to strengthen the Sullivan County community. This

year, checks were presented to local food pantries, first responders, and the Sullivan County SPCA.

To support New Hope Community's programs and services, including its community support initiatives, donations can be made here. <https://www.newhopecommunity.org/donate/>

About New Hope Community:

New Hope Community is a not-for-profit human services organization providing support for individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities. Established in 1975 to serve as a nurturing and caring alternative to large institutions which were found to have violated the most basic human rights and conditions, New Hope Community has become recognized as a leading provider in the human services field. Services include clinical and nursing care, day programming, education and recreation, leisure activities, a robust supported employment program, summer programs for youths, and more. The agency has always maintained a person-centered approach aimed at enhancing the lives of people with disabilities, and actively advocates for individual choice in a person's efforts to live, work, and participate fully in his or her community. New Hope Community presently supports and serves over 300 individuals and is a leading employer in Sullivan County, with more than 650 staff. Learn more at www.newhopecommunity.org.

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SUNY Sullivan Food Pantry Receives \$1,500 Donation from the Grahamsville Reformed Church

Pastor Ken Ronk of the Grahamsville Reformed Church and Treasurer for The Regional Synod of New York facilitated for the second year a donation of \$1,500 to the SUNY Sullivan Food Pantry to help supply Thanksgiving baskets for SUNY Sullivan students. Pastor Ronk, who has done the invocation and benediction for SUNY Sullivan's commencement ceremony for the past two years, and his wife, Julie, are friends of the college and are also big supporters of education.

"Pastor Ronk knows how important the SUNY Sullivan Food Pantry is to me," said Jaime Brooks, Coordinator of Student Activities. "I tell him about how it serves as a lifeline to many of our adult students who have families and are returning to college. Pastor Ken and his wife Julie make monthly donations to our food pantry that help keep our students fed."

The SUNY Sullivan Food Pantry was established during the COVID-19 pandemic and continues to serve students and their families on campus. To make a donation to the SUNY Sullivan Food Pantry, please contact Deb Waller-Frederick, Associate Dean of Student Engagement, at dweller-frederick@sunysullivan.edu or foodpantry@sunysullivan.edu. Checks can be made out to SUNY Sullivan FSA Food Pantry and mailed to: Food Pantry, 112 College Road, Loch Sheldrake, NY, 12759.

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Daniel Pierce Library

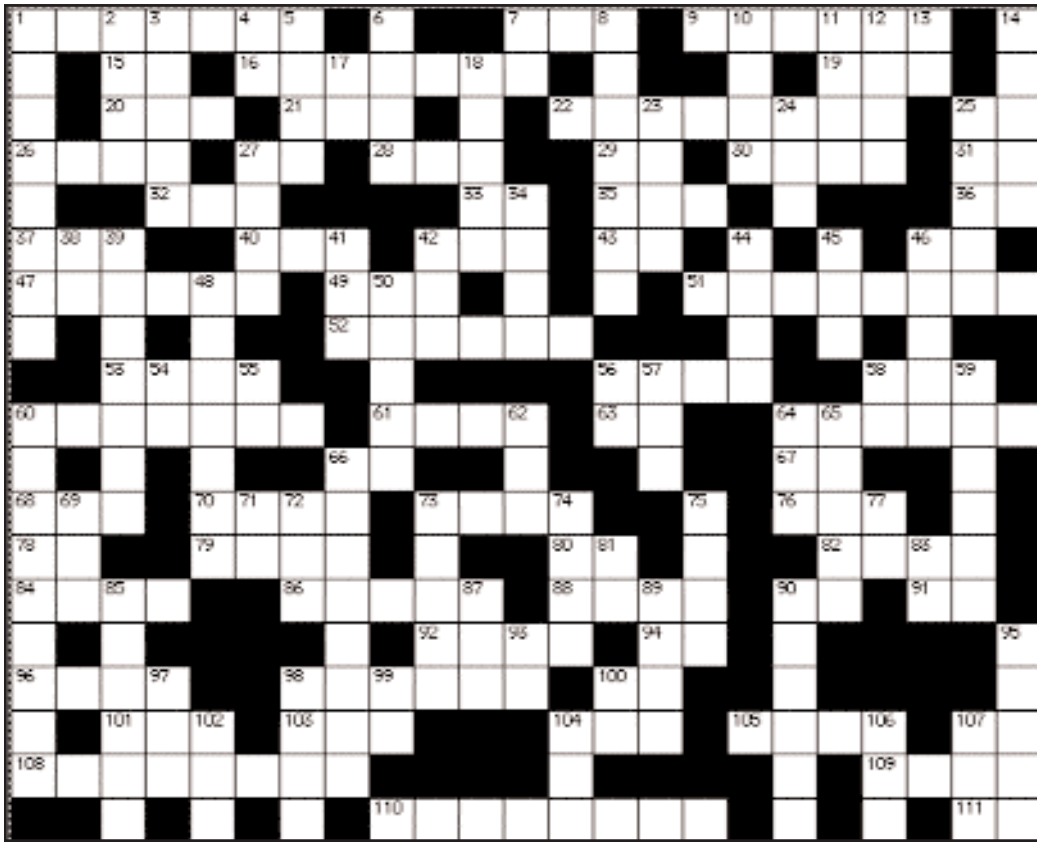
1st Friday BOOK CLUB

The first Friday of every month.

All adults welcome!



Welcome 2025! -L. Comando



- DOWN**
- 1. Speech
 - 7 Short for goodbye
 - 9 Cope
 - 15 Exclamation of surprise
 - 16 Independence
 - 19 Read only memory
 - 20 Point
 - 21 Used to transmit and receive documents electronically
 - 22 Legal paper
 - 25 Mother
 - 26 Not closed
 - 27 Referring to something previously mentioned
 - 28 Hot brewed beverage
 - 29 North America
 - 30 Proficiency
 - 31 Chem Element
 - 32 Consume food
 - 33 Connecticut (abbrev)
 - 35 Lowest cardinal number
 - 36 Radiotelegraphy
 - 37 Used with a verb to form a negative statement
 - 40 Be able to
 - 42 In accordance with
 - 43 The person speaking to you
 - 46 Staten Island
 - 47 Enhance
 - 49 Expert
 - 51 Elected head of a state
 - 52 Financial plan
 - 53 Title of unmarried female
 - 56 Tidy
 - 58 Polite way to address an adult male
 - 60 Representation on a map
 - 61 Network of paths
 - 63 Elevated railway
 - 64 Concerning people as a whole
 - 66 Used to call attention
 - 67 Indefinite article
 - 68 Furrow
 - 70 Capital of Norway
 - 73 Having two or more different colors
 - 76 Twitch
 - 78 To be
 - 79 Appear
 - 80 Exist
 - 82 Leave out
 - 84 Sturdy small military vehicle
 - 86 Demon
 - 88 Female spouse
 - 90 Head Nurse
 - 91 Used in a comparison
 - 92 Discern visually
 - 94 Egyptian sun god
 - 96 Swiss Mountains
 - 98 Procedure
 - 100 Language Engineer
 - 101 Petroleum
 - 103 Key that allows you to escape a computer program
 - 104 Utility vehicle
 - 105 Paid regular employment
 - 107 Tool used to chop wood
 - 108 Guardia
 - and Kennedy
 - 109 Besides
 - 110 Commissioned in 2013 to investigate public corruption
 - 111 Post Script
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Legal representative
 - 2 Occasion
 - 3 River that flows through Germany
 - 4 Source language
 - 5 Put through a sieve
 - 6 Way of sending electronic messages
 - 7 As a result of
 - 8 Wealth and resources
 - 10 Title
 - 11 Tall
 - rounded vases
 - 12 Automatically
 - 13 Printer's measure
 - 14 Begin
 - 17 Bachelor of Arts
 - 18 Track down
 - 23 Walking stick
 - 24 Hearing organ
 - 25 Governor or Andrew Cuomo's father
 - 27 Irritation
 - 34 Woody perennial plant
 - 38 Physically supported by
 - 39 Brass musical instrument
 - 41 Capture
 - 42 Performance enhancing drug
 - 44 Announcer
 - 45 Archaic
 - use for over
 - 46 Mollusk with single spiral shell
 - 48 Public rooms used for gaming
 - 50 NYS Governor
 - 54 Internet Protocol
 - 55 Chemical element tin
 - 56 Northeast
 - 57 Large deer
 - 58 Chemical element antimony
 - 59 Authority to publish a particular work
 - 60 Herb know for healing properties that is subject of controversy
 - 62 Female sheep

- 64 Touch quickly
- 65 Merger
- 66 People without homes
- 69 Utilize
- 71 Southeast
- 72 Light emitting diode
- 73 Illegal creation of web sites
- 74 First light
- 75 Concept
- 77 Centimeter
- 81 Third note of the diatonic scale
- 83 Iowa (postal)
- 85 Ship abroad
- 87 August sun sign
- 89 Unencumbered
- 90 Kudos
- 93 Election District
- 95 Compulsory contribution to state revenue
- 97 Drink slowly
- 98 NY Baseball team
- 99 Chemical element technetium
- 100 Lieutenant (abbrev)
- 102 Record
- 104 Uniform Resource Locator
- 106 Ocean
- 107 Viper

Hearty Crock Pot Beef Stew

- 1 pound cubed beef stew meat
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 tablespoon paprika
- salt and pepper to taste
- 2 cups beef broth
- 1 1/2 tablespoons teriyaki sauce
- 1 onion, chopped
- 3 carrots, sliced
- 1 stalk celery, sliced
- 2 potatoes, cubed
- 1/2 pound mushrooms, quartered
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 bay leaf

Place beef stew meat into a slow cooker. In a small bowl, mix together flour, paprika, salt, and pepper; sprinkle over beef stew meat, stirring to coat.

Stir in beef broth, teriyaki sauce, onion, carrots, celery, potatoes, mushrooms, garlic and bay leaf.

Cover, and cook on Low 6 hours, stirring occasionally.

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Cryptogram

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11 22 21 24 15 23 26 6 15 25 8 10 24 21 6 12 25 7 18

15 22 14 22 21 15 6 5 5 25 18 26 6 7 21 8 12 6 5

Kids' New Year Fun Page

- L. Comando



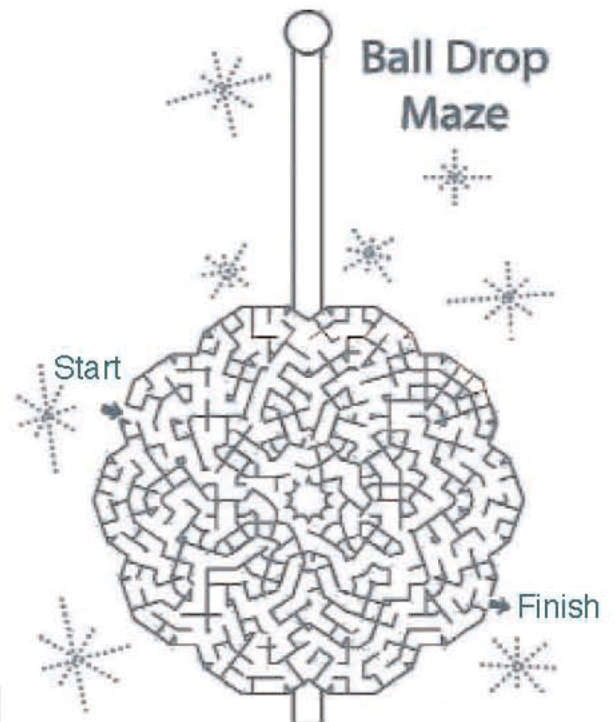
Find five differences between the two pictures.



New Year's Wordsearch

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- BALLOONS
- CALENDAR
- CELEBRATE
- CHEERS
- CLOCK
- CONFETTI
- COUNTDOWN
- GOALS
- HAPPY
- JANUARY
- MIDNIGHT
- NEW YEAR
- NOISEMAKER
- PARTY
- RESOLUTION



Cryptogram Key

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LEGALS/PUBLIC NOTICES

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

The Town of Denning will hold its Organizational Meeting on Monday, January 6th, 2025 at the Denning Town Hall, 1567 Denning Road, Claryville, NY 12725 scheduled to begin at 10 am. No other business will be before the Board at this meeting.

By the Order of the Denning Town Board.

Nancy Parrow
Town Clerk
December 18th, 2024

12/26

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that pursuant to Section §274b of the New York State Town Law, the Town of Denning Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing regarding Proposed Short-Term Rental Special Use Permit application by Owner: Tomina, LLC
Address: 53 Kawlija Road SBL: 43.3-2-22.200

The Public Hearing will be held at 6:00 pm prior to the regularly scheduled Planning Board Meeting on Thursday, January 16, 2025 at the Denning Town Hall, 1567 Denning Road, Claryville, NY 12725.

At SAID Public Hearing any and all interested person(s) will be heard either for or against.

BY THE ORDER OF
THE DENNING PLANNING BOARD
Chairman Joseph Sibiga

December 23, 2024

12/26

LEGAL NOTICE TRI-VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that, pursuant to Section 6-d of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York, a Board of Education Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 23, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. prevailing time at the Tri-Valley Central School District Secondary School Lower Level Collaboration Center. The public hearing shall be held at the time and place stated herein.

12/26; 1/13; 1/20

Tri-Valley CSD Board Meeting

**Thursday,
January 9, 2025**

at 7:00 p.m.

**Secondary School
Lower Level Library**

**The meeting will be livestreamed on the District's
YouTube channel**

<https://www.youtube.com/CHANNEL/UCKI224vKO8nAWhR6N%20%20Vao24w/live>

Proposed Revisions to DER-12 / Application Review Policy for PBS and CBS Registration Applications

Notice is hereby given that the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is seeking public comment on proposed revisions to Division of Environmental Remediation's Policy (DER)-12, Application Review Policy for PBS and CBS Registration Applications. The 45-day public comment period will end on February 3, 2025.

The proposed policy documents and instructions on how to comment can be viewed on the DEC website.


For additional assistance, please write to Jennifer Dawson, Policy Coordinator, Division of Environmental Remediation, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, 625 Broadway, Albany, New York 12233-7012 or e-mail derweb@dec.ny.gov with DER-12 Policy in the subject line.

Proposed Revisions to DER-40 / Operator Training

Notice is hereby given that the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is seeking public comment on proposed revisions to Division of Environmental Remediation's Policy (DER)-40, Operator Training. The 45-day public comment period will end on February 3, 2025.

The proposed policy documents and instructions on how to comment can be viewed on the DEC website.

For additional assistance, please write to Jennifer Dawson, Policy Coordinator, Division of Environmental Remediation, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, 625 Broadway, Albany, New York 12233-7012 or e-mail derweb@dec.ny.gov with DER-40 Policy in the subject line.



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UC Executive Jen Metzger Vetoes Legislative Budget Amendment Undermining Collective Bargaining Process

KINGSTON, NY - Ulster County Executive Jen Metzger has returned the budget with a veto of Operating Amendment #31, issuing the following veto message:

"Pursuant to Ulster County Charter Section C-38(H), I am returning Amendment Number 31 contained within Resolution 621 with my veto. The Legislature's amendment violates New York State's Public Employees Fair Employment Act (the "Taylor Law") protecting the rights of unions to organize and collectively bargain, puts the County in legal jeopardy, infringes on the collective bargaining authority of the County Executive under the Ulster County Charter, and compromises the County Executive's ability to negotiate a contract that is fair to ALL employees. It is upsetting that the 64 employees affected by this action were given false expectations about a January 1 raise that could not legally be enacted.

The attached legal opinion by the County's labor counsel shows the violations and potential legal consequences, including making the County vulnerable to improper practice charges under the Fair Employment Act.

Beyond the legal and fiscal consequences of this amendment, it also undermines the most fundamental right of labor to collective bargaining. As the Legislature is aware, the contracts of all five unions representing County employees expire this month, and the action circumvents and interferes with good-faith contract negotiations already underway. These concerns were raised by several Legislators, including the Majority Leader, during debate on the amendment.

I appreciate that many members of the Legislature have come to recognize that this amendment should never have been approved. I am including a letter from the Chair of the Legislature, signed by a majority of Members, in support of this veto. We remain steadfast in our commitment to ensuring that all of Ulster County's hard-working union employees get a fair deal, negotiated in good faith."

Amendment #31 would provide a \$5.70 per hour raise to 64 Buildings & Grounds and Central Auto employees, effective Jan. 1. The Legislature took unilateral action without consulting either the union or County officials who are currently negotiating labor contracts affecting more than 1,000 union employees.

The Legal Memo from the County's labor counsel and letter of support from the Chair of the Legislature and other Legislative Members are attached.

DEC Announces Graduation of 26 New York State Environmental Conservation Police Officers

ECOs Charged with Enforcing State's Environmental Conservation Law

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Interim Commissioner Sean Mahar today welcomed 26 new graduates from the 24th Basic School for New York State Environmental Conservation Police Officers (ECOs). As part of DEC's Division of Law Enforcement, ECOs enforce the 71 chapters of New York's Environmental Conservation Law that protect natural resources and public health. The ceremony held in Syracuse today celebrated the graduates who successfully completed an intensive

six-month law enforcement training academy in the classroom and afield.

"I congratulate this new class of New York State ECOs for enduring a demanding training regimen to join one of the most elite police forces in the nation," Interim Commissioner Mahar said. "As these new Officers begin their careers, I am confident they will each carry on the rich legacy of protecting New York's natural resources and public health and safety by holding law-breakers accountable for environmental crimes and making a positive difference in communities across the state."

DEC Division of Law Enforcement Director Karen Przyklek said, "Originally called Game Protectors when first appointed for service in 1880, ECOs are highly trained police officers who specialize in investigating and solving environmental crimes to ensure the protection of New York's land, water, air, and animal species, as well as every New York resident and visitor. I am eager to welcome these new Officers to our ranks and challenge them to put in the hard work and dedication necessary to safeguard our natural resources, hold polluters accountable, and connect with their communities each and every day."

For the last six months, recruits were immersed in grueling training at the ECO training academy in Pulaski, Oswego County. DEC's Division of Law Enforcement trains recruits in conventional areas of law enforcement such as criminal procedure law and vehicle and traffic law, as well as specialized courses in Environmental Conservation Law, wildlife identification, and wildlife forensics. The recruits also engaged in physical training, defensive tactics, firearms, and emergency vehicle operations, among other courses. The 26 graduates will join the State's force for a total of 290 ECOs statewide.

Upon graduation, DEC assigns recruits to patrol areas across the state. In 2023, DEC's Division of Law Enforcement ECOs and Investigators responded to more than 30,932 complaints. Cases resulted in nearly 16,900 tickets or arrests for violations ranging from deer poaching to solid waste dumping, illegal mining, and excessive emissions violations. For more information on New York State Environmental Conservation Police Officers, visit DEC's website.

The graduates of DEC's 24th Basic School for ECOs:

- o Kyle Baldwin - Chichester, Pennsylvania
- o Mallory Barbera - Honeoye Falls, Monroe County
- o Mykaela Barrett - West Winfield, Herkimer County
- o Kevin Bayne - Horseheads, Chemung County
- o Constantinos Berketis - Oakdale, Suffolk County
- o Hannah Bieber - Whitney Point, Broome County
- o Julie Dickerson - Cutchogue, Suffolk County
- o Erik Falkengren - Bedford, New Hampshire
- o Tara Francis - Yaphank, Suffolk County
- o Bryan Franz - Mineola, Nassau County
- o Thomas Griffin - Liverpool, Onondaga County
- o Joseph Grispin - Mahopac, Putnam County
- o Anna Heckler - Sodus, Wayne County
- o Keenan Holliday - Milford, Otsego County
- o Juthamas Kraiprasert - Auburn, Cayuga County
- o Matthew Layton - Medford, Suffolk County
- o Deanna Lee - Albany, Albany County
- o Jayson Maxwell - Newport, Herkimer County
- o Scott Maynard - Pawling, Dutchess County
- o Bryan Noble - Canton, St. Lawrence County
- o Thomas Nolan - Westmoreland, Oneida County
- o Steven Radomski - Brewster, Putnam County
- o Jarod Ruffle - Rochester, Monroe County
- o Mitchell Seabury - Manlius, Onondaga County
- o Obadiah Steffen - Greenwich, Washington County
- o Michael Toomey - Newburgh, Orange County



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RUSSIAN MULE BREWERY**

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DECEMBER

28

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OR FROM OUR REGULAR MENU

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Ulster County Emergency Services Hosts Successful Emergency Services Orientation for Elected Officials

KINGSTON, NY - The Ulster County Department of Emergency Services successfully concluded its Emergency Services Orientation for Elected Officials, a comprehensive four-day immersive experience that spanned two days in October and two days in November, and provided local elected officials and community leaders with an in-depth look at the critical public safety systems protecting our County.

The intensive program offered elected officials new insights into the vital roles of fire services, police departments, emergency medical services (EMS), 911 emergency communications, and emergency management first responders. Participants gained a comprehensive understanding of the complex operational frameworks that ensure community safety and emergency preparedness.

The program was hosted at the Ulster County Department of Emergency Services Training Center in the Town of Ulster, with presentations by key partners, including the Ulster County Sheriff's Office, Deputy Matt King and Arson K9 Nova from the Orange County Sheriff's Office assisted the Ulster County Fire Investigation Unit with a compelling presentation on fire investigation techniques. Those who participated include Ulster County Executive Jen Metzger, Ulster County Comptroller March Gallagher, Legislator Gina Hansut, Esopus Supervisor Danielle Freer, Lloyd Councilman John Fraino, New Paltz Mayor Tim Rogers, Marbletown Supervisor Rich Parete, and Hurley Councilwoman Deborah Dougherty.

Throughout the four-day program, the eight participants from local and county governments received in-depth presentations and participated in interactive demonstrations and simulations with experienced emergency personnel, giving them insight into the critical split-second decisions and technical expertise required in emergency response scenarios. The orientation further provided a rare opportunity for elected leaders to examine technology, protocols, and best practices in emergency management, with comprehensive briefings on state-of-the-art equipment, communication systems, and strategic approaches to managing emergencies, disasters, and critical incidents.

"This program has been instrumental in strengthening our collaborative approach to public safety," said Everett Erichsen, Director of Emergency Services for Ulster County. "By providing our community's leadership with an in-depth understanding of our emergency services, we're building a more resilient and prepared community."

Key highlights of the program included:

- Detailed briefings from each emergency service division
- Hands-on simulation experiences
- Technical demonstrations of emergency response technologies
- In-depth discussions of current emergency management strategies

"This is a very unique program and an extraordinary opportunity for elected officials to gain a deeper understanding of emergency services operations and a real sense of the

coordination and skills required to respond to what can be very challenging and dangerous conditions in an emergency," said Ulster County Executive Jen Metzger. "I want to thank Emergency Services Director Everett Erichsen and Deputy Director Mike Madison for putting this invaluable program together, and I encourage other local and County officials to take advantage of this opportunity the next time it rolls around."

"Thank you so much for this invaluable training. I found the knowledge gained very much worth the commitment of time," said Ulster County Comptroller March Gallagher. "I hope the training continues to be offered and that other elected officials take advantage of this very useful training. I have a much deeper understanding of the complex system that makes up our emergency management, fire services, and public safety operations."

"Having just completed the Orientation to Emergency Services Program, I am grateful I took the time to do so. I have such a thorough understanding now of how all our first responders work, work together, and work with our community partners," said Legislator Gina Hansut (District 10, Highland & Marlborough), Chair Law Enforcement & Public Safety Committee. "We all know the importance of Emergency Services, but the insight presented in this program was invaluable. I thank Director Erichsen and his team, and all who presented, for their time and effort. Well done by all."

"The Ulster County Department of Emergency Services team provided us with an invaluable, behind-the-scenes look at, what I believe, should be the top priority of any elected official," said Town of Esopus Supervisor Danielle Freer. "Their depth of knowledge, experience, and commitment to public safety is truly unmatched, and their insights have given me a greater understanding of the complexities involved. I leave this training confident in making informed public safety decisions and with an even deeper appreciation for our first responders' daily contributions to our community."

"I want to thank County Executive Metzger and Ulster County Director of Emergency Services Everett Erichsen for putting out the Emergency Services Orientation for Elected Officials," said Town of Marbletown Supervisor Rich Parete. "Public safety directly impacts the well-being and quality of life within all communities. Learning and understanding all the different facets of our public safety system is critical for elected officials and helps us do our jobs better. All of us who took the training have a much better understanding and appreciate everyone who protects us each day."

"The recent trainings organized by Ulster County's Department of Emergency Services were helpful and interesting," said Village of New Paltz Mayor Tim Rogers. "They gave me a deeper understanding of the day-to-day responsibilities and challenges faced by Fire, Police, EMS, 911 Operations, and Emergency Management. I will strongly recommend the program to other local elected colleagues."

"Prior to serving as a town board member, I was a fire commissioner in Highland for 17 years. I learned more about county and state Emergency Services in the four training sessions than I did as fire commissioner," said Town of Lloyd Councilman John Fraino. "I really appreciated how the presentations explained the roles of the various emergency agencies and how they interact with each other to coordinate emergency services and provide our towns and county with excellent coverage. I would encourage all elected officials to attend future sessions. Thanks to all involved who prepared and presented the program."

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**Sundown United Methodist Church
Covered Dish Supper
5:30 pm
Jan 4, 2024**

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

Sundown United Methodist Church Hall

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

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

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

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

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

Daily Mass Schedule: Monday, Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday
Mass at 8:30AM.
Thursday, 3 pm Divine Mercy Chaplete followed by Mass

Saturday afternoon confessions: 3:45 to 4:15 pm
Rev. Ignas Dhas MMI, Administrator
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A Very Blessed
and Joyous
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Sundown UMC 8:30 am
Peekamoose Rd., Sundown

Grahamsville UMC 10:30 am
350 Main Street, Grahamsville

Pastor Harriet Wilkin
845-985-2283

Grahamsville Reformed Church

The Church with a friendly welcome
Pastor Kenneth Ronk
Sunday School 9:30 am
Worship Service 9:30 am
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Grahamsville, NY 12740
845-985-7480

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Claryville Road
Claryville, NY 12725
845-985-2041

Worship Services @ 10:15 am
Rev. Ken Tenckinck, Pastor
Church Hall available for rent
Call - 845-985-2041 for information



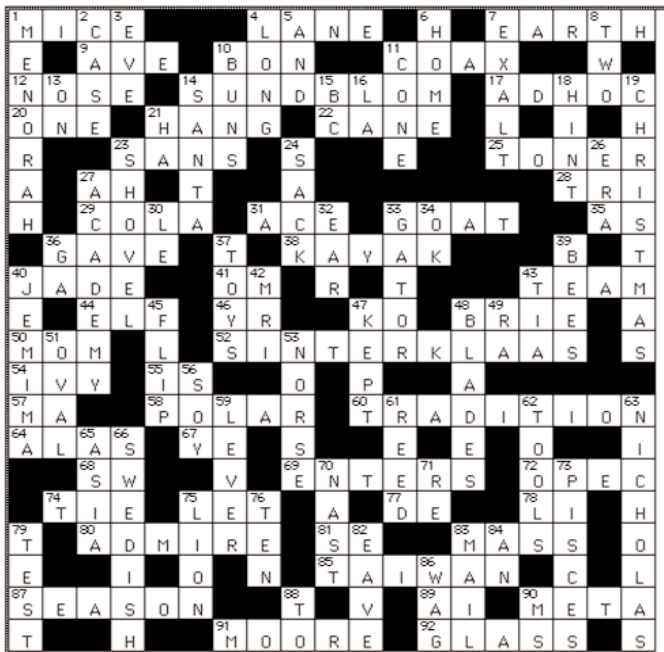
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Watson Hollow Rd. • West Shokan, NY

Sunday Mass - 9:30 am
Holy Days 5:30 pm
Penance 9:00 am, 2nd Sunday of the month
Rev. Thomas P. Kiely, Pastor

Ans to last week's Crossword




**Sundown
United Methodist Church
Covered Dish Supper**
Saturday,
January 4, 2025 5:30 pm
at the Church Hall
*Check out the tables with Yard Sale items
available for sale*
*(Covered Dish Suppers are held the
First Saturday of each month at 5:30 pm
at the Church Hall)*

Have You Seen this Women?

The Sullivan County Sheriff's Office is actively searching for Gina F. Intranuovo, age 31, of Swan Lake, NY. This subject was last seen on Saturday December 7, 2024, wearing a blue winter coat, black pants, black boots and carrying a pink purse. The subject left her residence in Swan Lake on foot and has not been seen since. Anyone with information concerning Gina Intranuovo's whereabouts is urged to contact the Sheriff's Office at 845-794-7100 ext. 1. All calls will be kept confidential.



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



Also WANTED
People to play cards

SUUJI WA TANSU NI KAGIRU
answer

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

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Go to: [CovidTests.gov](https://www.covidtests.gov)

COVID-19 testing can help you know if you have COVID-19 so you can decide what to do next, like getting treatment to reduce your risk of severe illness and taking steps to lower your chances of spreading the virus to others.

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<http://gnomehomeinc.com>

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

| | |
|----------|---|
| 12/19/24 | Neversink Fire District Commissioner Meeting 7:00pm |
| 12/19/24 | Denning Town Planning Board Meeting 6:00 pm Denning Town Hall |
| 1/1/25 | Town of Neversink Holiday - NEW YEAR'S DAY |
| 1/4/25 | Sundown UMC Covered Dish Supper 5:30 Church |
| 1/8/25 | Town of Neversink Board Meeting -Organizational |

TOWN OF OLIVE MEETINGS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

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

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

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

To all Local Municipalities, Civic Organizations, Churches, etc.
Please remember to send us your **Events Calendar for 2025** so that we may continue to post your meetings and events throughout the coming year. You may email them to: tvtownsman@yahoo.com or USPS Mail - The Townsman, PO Box 232, Grahamsville, NY 12740



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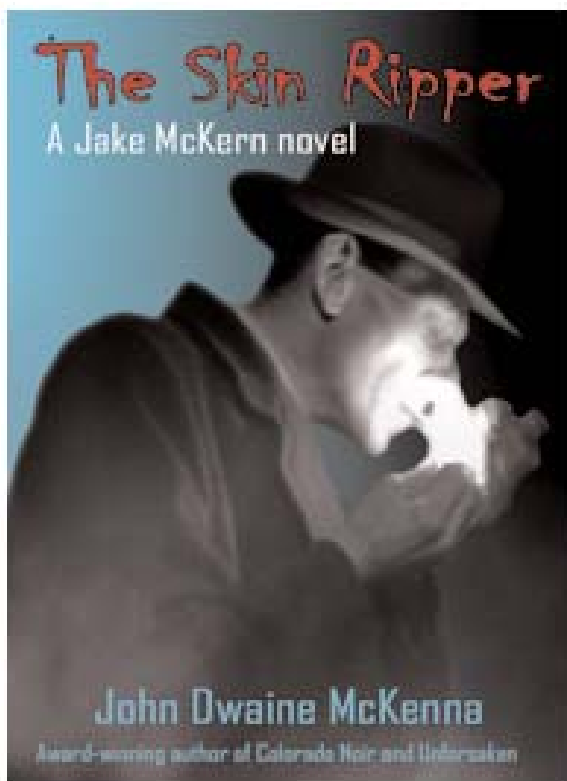


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Monday, 12/23 6:30-8:30pm

Thursday, 12/26 6:30-8:30pm

Friday, 12/27 3:00-8:00pm

Saturday, 12/28 1:00-3:00pm & 6:30-8:30pm

Sunday, 12/29 1:00-3:00p & 6:30-8:30pm

Monday, 12/30 1:00-4:00p

SKATE IN THE NEW YEAR! 1/1 @1p-4p

Thursday, 1/2 6:30-8:30 pm

Friday, 1/3 6:30-8:30 pm

Saturday, 1/4 1:00-3:00pm & 6:30-8:30pm

Sunday, 1/5 1:00-4:00 pm



Contact Tanya with questions: 845-807-7502

Lulu and Smokey - Two Beautiful Cats Need a Good Caring Home



Lulu

Two beautiful cats are in need of a good, caring home. Lulu is a female black and white cat. She's about 13 years old. She is an indoor outdoor cat, but mostly indoor. She is very lovable and loves to play and be petted.

Smokey is the gray male tabby cat. He is about 12 years old and a big boy. He just loves to play, be petted, and loves his food.

He too is an indoor outdoor cat, but mostly indoor. I have been taking care of them for a month and have not let them outside, and they are fine with that.

Their owner was my brother who recently passed away and he had both cats for at least 12 years. They have had all of their shots, and will come with a supply of food, kitty litter and pans, bowls for food and water, and toys.



Smokey

The hope is to keep them together.

I would love to keep them, but have 3 dogs that would not take well to cats.

Only serious cat lovers will be considered.

If you are interested, please contact me.

Esta Jacob

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845-985-3937 Home

ejacob4848@gmail.com

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2025 SULLIVAN COUNTY DMV winter schedule

mobile unit
on location 10:00am - 3:00pm



| | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <p>JEFFERSONVILLE</p> <p>Tues January 7</p> <p>Tues February 4</p> <p>Tues March 4</p> <p>License & Registration Appts</p> <p>19 Legion Street, Jeffersonville, NY</p> | <p>WURTSBORO</p> <p>Thurs January 23</p> <p>Thurs February 20</p> <p>Thurs March 20</p> <p>Registration Appts Only</p> <p>2948 US 209, Wurtsboro, NY</p> | <p>NARROWSBURG</p> <p>Tues January 21</p> <p>Tues February 18</p> <p>Tues March 18</p> <p>Registration Appts Only</p> <p>210 Bridge Street, Narrowsburg, NY</p> | <p>HORTONVILLE</p> <p>Thurs January 16</p> <p>Thurs February 13</p> <p>Thurs March 13</p> <p>Registration Appts Only</p> <p>104 Lower Main Street, Hortonville, NY</p> |
| <p>LIVINGSTON MANOR</p> <p>Tues January 14</p> <p>Tues February 11</p> <p>Tues March 11</p> <p>Registration Appts Only</p> <p>95 Main Street, Livingston Manor, NY</p> | <p>GRAHAMSVILLE</p> <p>Thurs January 9</p> <p>Thurs February 6</p> <p>Thurs March 6</p> <p>License & Registration Appts</p> <p>273 Main Street, Grahamsville, NY</p> | <p>LIBERTY</p> <p>Tues January 28</p> <p>Tues February 25</p> <p>Tues March 25</p> <p>License & Registration Appts</p> <p>15 Sullivan Ave Liberty, NY</p> | <p>BLOOMINGBURG</p> <p>Thurs January 30</p> <p>Thurs February 27</p> <p>Thurs March 27</p> <p>License & Registration Appts</p> <p>13 North Rd. Bloomingburg, NY</p> |

Schedule an appointment on the county website sullivanny.gov | County Clerk Russell Reeves

Saturday, January 25

1pm: Friends Mixer

3pm: Friends Mixer

The Friends are a volunteer group whose mission is to benefit the Olive Free Library by raising money, providing volunteers for Library events and programs, raising community awareness of the Library, and advocating on behalf of the Library.



Gillibrand Announces Passage of Key Provisions of Her Legislation to Address Epidemic of Traumatic Brain Injuries in Service Members and Veterans

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Today, U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, chair of the Senate Armed Services Emerging Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee, held a video press conference announcing that major provisions of her legislation to protect service members from traumatic brain injuries are included in this year's National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). The NDAA passed the Senate this week.

"For years, our service members have been sustaining severe and crippling brain trauma as a result of firing their own weapons, but the Department of Defense has failed to properly investigate or address their injuries," said Senator Gillibrand. "I'm proud to have fought to get the core of my Blast Overpressure Safety Act included in this year's NDAA to finally get service members the care they need. This bill will require the DoD to investigate the prevalence of blast overpressure brain injuries; standardize care across the Department of Defense and take steps to mitigate service members' blast exposure. I look forward to seeing President Biden sign it into law."

Gillibrand introduced the Blast Overpressure Safety Act following a disturbing report showing that service members are sustaining crippling traumatic brain injuries as a result of repeated exposure to explosions from their own weapons and explosives - otherwise known as blast overpressure. These brain injuries can cause depression, anxiety, cognitive problems, hallucinations, panic attacks, violent outbursts, suicidal tendencies, psychiatric disorders, dementia, and a variety of other serious health problems.

Specifically, the provisions of the Blast Overpressure Safety Act included in the NDAA would:

- o Minimize exposure to blast overpressure by:
 - o Requiring the Secretary of Defense to establish limits for blast exposure and overpressure.
 - o Requiring modification of existing weapons systems to reduce blast exposure.
 - o Requiring performance parameters to minimize exposure to blast overpressure when drafting requirements for new weapons systems and new acquisitions programs.
- o Improve treatment and access to care by:
 - o Establishing a standardized treatment program for blast overpressure and programs to encourage service members to seek TBI treatment.
 - o Establishing a brain health and trauma program to provide evaluations and treatment to service members who have been exposed to blast overpressure.
 - o Establishing a Defense Intrepid Network for TBI and Brain Health, which will provide care, standardize care, and support research related to TBI and brain health.
 - o Requiring a report on the Warfighter Brain Health Initiative that includes information on resources spent, number of impacted service members, and number of service members receiving treatment.

Molinaro Making Law in Final Month of Term with Seven Bipartisan Bills Advancing

Washington, DC - U.S. Rep. Marc Molinaro (R-NY-19) today announced a bipartisan bill he authored has become law and six others are on track to become law. Since coming to Congress, Rep. Molinaro has passed nine standalone bills, 60 bipartisan measures, and has had 18 measures signed into law. He was ranked the second most bipartisan member of Congress by the nonpartisan Lugar Center, number one for the most bills passed in the House of Representatives and top three for bills passed in all of Congress.

A list of Rep. Molinaro's bills are below:

The Think DIFFERENTLY About Emergencies Act has been signed into law. This bill ensures Americans with intellectual, developmental, and physical disabilities and their families have access to resources to evacuate during a natural disaster and recover after.

The Think DIFFERENTLY Transportation Act has passed the House and Senate and will be signed into law in the next 10 days. This bill compels Amtrak to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

The Amtrak Executive Bonus Disclosure Act has passed the House. This bill requires Amtrak to publicly disclose the taxpayer-funded bonuses its executives receive.

The Think DIFFERENTLY Building Accessibility Act has passed the House as part of the Water Resources Development Act and is expected to be signed into law. This bill makes federal buildings fully accessible for individuals with disabilities.

Two Molinaro-authored measures have passed the House as part of the National Defense Authorization Act and are expected to be signed into law. These bills require an assessment of current and potential biological threats against the United States and identify gaps in the Department of Defense's AI workforce to preserve our country's global technological competitiveness.

The Think DIFFERENTLY Database Act has passed the House and is expected to pass the Senate and be signed into law before the end of the year. This bill creates a comprehensive and easy-to-access national website that connects individuals with disabilities to local support services and resources.

Rep. Molinaro said, "I'm working until my final day in office to solve problems for Upstate New Yorkers. From improving accessibility for individuals with disabilities to strengthening our national security, these bipartisan bills are on track to become law and will make a real difference."

Senator Schmitt (R-MO) on the Think DIFFERENTLY Database Act passing, "My son, Stephen, was my inspiration to run for office in the first place, and since then, I have been a staunch advocate for making life easier for those with disabilities. The Think Differently Database Act is bipartisan legislation that provides critical networks for individuals with physical, intellectual, and developmental disabilities. It's great to have Rep. Molinaro working to pass this bill in the House, and I look forward to pushing this important piece of legislation across the finish line in the Senate."

Rep. Sherrill (D-NJ-11) on the Think DIFFERENTLY Database Act passing, "I helped introduce the bipartisan Think Differently Database Act with Rep. Molinaro because too often, I hear from New Jersey families about the difficulty they have finding care for their loved one with an intellectual or developmental disability. (Contd. Pg 31)

Molinaro Making Law in Final Month of Term with Seven Bipartisan Bills Advancing

(From Pg. 30) This critical piece of legislation will make it easier to coordinate and find high-quality care and community resource to ensure that every New Jerseyan can thrive. I urge the Senate to take this bill up for a vote so we can get it signed into law.”

Senator Duckworth (D-IL) on the Think DIFFERENTLY Transportation Act passing, “When the ADA was signed into law, it promised that intercity passenger rail would become accessible within 20 years, yet more than 30 years later too many Amtrak stations still fail to live up to that promise. After passing the Senate earlier this month, I'm proud that the bipartisan Think DIFFERENTLY Act that I led with Senator Capito and Representatives Molinaro and Payne passed the House today and is now closer to being signed into law. This bill sends the message that it's long past time to ensure our rail stations are accessible for everyone. Whether on transit, rail or a plane, all Americans with disabilities should be able to safely and easily access the transportation systems they need to get around and I won't stop working until that's a reality.”

Rep. Molinaro Delivers His Farewell Remarks on House Floor Promises Future in Public Service

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AZWhrBZjvS8>

Washington, DC - U.S. Rep. Marc Molinaro (NY-19) today delivered his farewell remarks on the House Floor. In the speech, Rep. Molinaro reflected on his work to deliver bipartisan results, solve local problems, and promised a future in public service.

Rep. Molinaro's remarks, as prepared for delivery, can be viewed here and found below:

I rise today with gratitude and humility as I conclude two years of service to New York's 19th Congressional District. Representing the people of Upstate New York in this historic chamber has been the honor of a lifetime.

This journey has been guided by the values, aspirations, and resilience of the families, farmers, and small businesses that are the backbone of our district - from the Massachusetts border, through the Catskills, across the Hudson Valley, Central New York, and into the Southern Tier.

To the people of NY-19: thank you. Thank you for your trust, your support, and your unwavering belief in me. Representing you was never just a job; it was a deeply personal mission. Your faith in me inspired every decision I made, every vote I cast, and every moment I spent advocat-

ing for our shared future. Together, we focused on what truly matters: delivering results for the people and places that make our district extraordinary.

We met challenges head-on.

Together, we tackled the fentanyl and mental health crises, securing federal funding to expand stabilization centers in Broome and Sullivan Counties. These efforts remind us that no one should have to face their struggles alone. We championed the Think DIFFERENTLY initiative on a national stage, breaking barriers for individuals with disabilities and creating opportunities in employment, education, and social services.

We safeguarded the Hudson River, preserved farmland, and protected our natural resources for generations to come. Amid inflation and border crises, we sought solutions that would make a tangible difference for everyday Americans. And through tireless bipartisan collaboration, we passed over 40 pieces of legislation, earning recognition as New York's most bipartisan lawmaker.

This work was only possible because of an extraordinary team - individuals whose dedication and heart I will never forget. To my Chief of Staff, Jeff Bishop, and Deputy Chief of Staff Dan Kranz; District Director Caitlin Daly; Legislative Director Connor Torossian; Scheduler Maddie Bruno; Legislative Assistants Kaitlyn Mullen and Doug Gordon; Legislative Correspondent Nick Urbin; Field Representatives Nicole Leonard and Alex Horton; Constituent Caseworkers Michelle Speach and Sean Lisk; Press Assistant Hannah Benfield; Outreach Coordinator Ciano Briga; Constituent Services Representative Ben Straebler; Staff Assistant Noelle Dana; and other members of Team Molinaro - Jessica Akshar, Caroline Dooxsee, Tyler Gutchess, Alex Holderith, Kate McKan, Maddie Minahan, and Rick Yackel - thank you. Your hard work and selfless dedication have been the cornerstone of every achievement.

Finally, I thank my family. My wife, Corinne, a super hero - filled with strength, love and patience, my children, Abigail, Jack, Elias and Theo - each amazing and accepting and wonderful in their own special way; and my mother Dona, who instilled in us a desire to pursue truth, work hard and be kind to others - you are all my foundation, my heart, and my greatest source of strength. You stood by my side every step of the way, and this journey was ours together. I am endlessly grateful for your love and sacrifice.

As my time in Congress comes to an end, let me be clear: public service is not just something I do - it is who I am.

This is not goodbye. It is the start of a new chapter.

I will continue to fight for the values we share, advocate for the communities we love, and work tirelessly to make our country better, stronger, and more united.

And, yes, perhaps I will be blessed with the opportunity to serve here in this most fundamentally American deliberative house again.

To the people of NY-19, Upstate New York: Thank you for the privilege of serving you. May God bless you, and may God bless the United States of America.



Sundown
United
Methodist
Church



January 4, 2025
5:30 pm

Bring a covered dish to share
Enjoy good food and fellowship

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

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



Please Help Save Our School!

The Claryville Reformed Church and the Time and the Valleys Museum
are working together to preserve and open
the historic 1848 Claryville One Room School, and we need your help.

A donation of ANY amount will go directly to the 1848 Claryville School and help:

- inventory the many historical items.
- purchase acid-free storage supplies for artifacts, photos and documents.
- repair the building and restore the one room school interior.
- open the school to the public on a regular basis.
- provide programs for children and adults.

PLEASE make a tax-deductible donation today using the form below or go to www.timeandthevalleymuseum.org. This historic building is an important part of our fading past and should be preserved and enjoyed by all - your donation will make that happen!

Thank You!

Yes! I would like to make a donation to preserve and open the 1848 Claryville School.

_____ \$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$250 _____ \$500 _____ \$1,000 _____ Other

Please mail your check to:
Time and the Valleys Museum
P.O. Box 254, Grahamsville, NY 12740
or go online:
[www.timeandthevalleymuseum.org/
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DEC Seeks Public Comment on Proposed Ambient Water Quality Guidance Values for Phosphorus

Guidance Delivers on Governor Hochul's 2024 State of the State Directive to Advance Comprehensive Efforts to Reduce the Frequency of Harmful Algal Blooms

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Interim Commissioner Sean Mahar today announced the release of draft water quality guidance values to regulate phosphorus in New York State surface waters. Excess phosphorus can contribute to harmful algal blooms (HABs), lower dissolved oxygen levels, increased turbidity, and excessive growth of algae and aquatic plants. The draft guidance values, available for public comment until Feb. 24, 2025, support Governor Kathy Hochul's 2024 State of the State initiative to issue phosphorus guidance values that are protective of drinking water and fishing best uses in State waters.

"Through Governor Hochul's leadership, DEC is working with municipalities across the state to advance generational infrastructure investments and projects to protect New York's waters," Interim Commissioner Mahar said. "Addressing the nutrients that fuel harmful algal blooms is a critical component of New York State's comprehensive actions to reduce the frequency of HABs and their potential impacts on drinking water quality, recreation, and overall quality of life, and I encourage New Yorkers to review and comment on this important proposal."

Phosphorus is naturally present and essential to aquatic ecosystem functions and as a result is difficult to regulate to a single concentration across all waters. The proposed phosphorus guidance released today and available on DEC's website varies depending on the region of the state and type of waterbody (ponded vs. flowing) and is paired to an environmental response variable representing ecosystem health. The response variables allow confirmation of phosphorus impacts to the waterbodies human health or aquatic life uses.

Governor Hochul's 2024 State of the State introduced a suite of actions to safeguard clean water, including initiatives to protect water quality, root out emerging contaminants, protect against climate change, ensure affordability, and prioritize disadvantaged communities. In particular, Governor Hochul directed DEC to issue guidance values for phosphorus to drive comprehensive efforts to reduce the frequency of HABs that have the potential to negatively impact drinking water quality and access to swimming and recreation in New York's waters.

The guidance values are supplemented by draft updates to DEC's phosphorus permitting strategy and establish a process for prioritizing and reducing phosphorus loads from wastewater treatment plants. The draft guidance values and permitting strategy are included in amended Technical and Operational Guidance Series (TOGS) 1.1.1 - Ambient Water Quality Standards and Guidance

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Values and Groundwater Effluent Limitations. Revisions to TOGS 1.3.6 - Phosphorus Removal for Wastewater Discharges updates the State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) permitting strategy for achieving phosphorus reductions in watersheds across New York State. The revised draft expands the applicability from new and expanding facilities discharging to ponded waters to include flowing waters and existing facilities identified as discharging to waterbodies exceeding, or at risk of exceeding, the proposed phosphorus guidance values. Updating TOGS 1.3.6 is necessary to implement phosphorus reductions more broadly and ensure phosphorus reductions are achieved in an environmentally meaningful and economically feasible way.

DEC encourages public comment on the draft guidance. Written statements may be submitted to NYSDEC, 625 Broadway, 4th Floor, Albany, NY 12233-3500, ATTN: Gwendolyn Temple or by email to _AWQVinformation@dec.ny.gov. Comments must be submitted by Feb. 24, 2025. The draft TOGS documents and additional information are available on the DEC website or by contacting DEC by mail: NYSDEC, 625 Broadway, Albany NY 12233-3500, ATTN: Gwendolyn Temple, phone by calling (518) 402-8194, or e-mail at _AWQVinformation@dec.ny.gov.

New York's Ongoing Commitment to Water Quality

The announcement today is the latest step DEC is taking to improve the health of New York's waterways, including recent funding made available through the Clean Water, Clean Air and Green Jobs Environmental Bond Act of 2022, the State's Environmental Protection Fund (EPF), and the Clean Water Infrastructure Act (CWIA).

(Contd. Pg 37)

DEC Seeks Public Comment on Proposed Ambient Water Quality Guidance Values for Phosphorus Guidance Delivers on Governor Hochul's 2024 State of the State Directive to Advance Comprehensive Efforts to Reduce the Frequency of Harmful Algal Blooms

(From Pg. 36) The Water Quality Improvement Project Program (WQIP) supports municipal wastewater treatment upgrades, polluted runoff abatement and control, land acquisition projects for drinking water protection, salt storage construction, aquatic connectivity restoration, and marine habitat restoration. These projects support the DEC's ongoing efforts to reduce nutrient pollution statewide, and complement this initiative to develop guidance values for phosphorus and support the reduction of HABs that negatively impact drinking water quality and access to swimming and recreation in New York's waters. More information on this program is available on the DEC WQIP website.

Among the numerous water quality investments made in 2024, Governor Hochul recently announced \$42 million for the eastern Finger Lakes region and \$1.2 million in funding for the Eastern Finger Lakes Coalition, helping fulfill the Governor's 2024 State of the State commitment to develop on-the-ground actions necessary to address the root causes of HABs and reduce these potentially harmful blooms while supporting projects that help prevent runoff into lakes and improve climate resiliency. New York State continues to increase its nation-leading investments in water infrastructure, including more than \$2.2 billion in financial assistance from the Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) for local water infrastructure projects in State Fiscal Year 2024 alone. With \$500 million allocated for clean water infrastructure in the 2024-2025 enacted State Budget announced by Governor Hochul, New York will have invested a total of \$5.5 billion in water infrastructure between 2017 and this year. In addition, the \$4.2 billion Environmental Bond Act is helping State agencies, local governments, and partners access funding to protect water quality, help communities adapt to climate change, improve resiliency, and create green jobs. Bond Act funding will support new and expanded projects across the state to safeguard drinking water sources, reduce pollution, and protect communities and natural resources from climate change.

DEC Encourages Anglers to Safely Enjoy Ice Fishing this Season *Review Ice Safety Guidelines before Heading Out*

With the onset of winter and colder temperatures, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Interim Commissioner Sean Mahar today reminded ice anglers to be safe when venturing onto the ice this season, especially given recent variations in weather conditions. Outdoor enthusiasts considering ice fishing should always be aware of essential safety guidelines and make sure ice is thick enough before heading out. "The possibilities of affordable outdoor adventures are endless

across New York's abundant natural areas and winter is no exception," said Interim Commissioner Mahar. "I encourage those recreating on ice to exercise caution by routinely checking ice thickness when navigating around water bodies. Understanding ice thickness safety is essential, so be sure to 'know before you go' and adapt to conditions as necessary."

Before leaving shore, ice anglers are advised to check the thickness of ice. Four inches of solid, clear ice is usually safe for anglers accessing ice on foot. However, ice thickness can vary between waterbodies and even within the same waterbody, increasing the need to ensure thickness. Anglers should be particularly cautious of areas of moving water and around boat docks and houses where bubblers may be installed to reduce ice from forming. Checking the ice can easily be done with an auger or "spud bar" (a long, metal tool with a chisel on one end) at various spots. Local bait and tackle shops are a great resource for finding out where there is safe ice and what anglers are catching. In addition, fishing with family and friends is also encouraged for safety.

An interview about ice safety with Forest Ranger Ashly Carabetta is available for download (video, 743 MB). <https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/fs/programs/press/ForestRangers/IceSafetyRangerInterview1080p.mp4>

Those interested in trying ice fishing for the first time should mark the weekend of February 15-16, 2025, on their calendars. As a designated free freshwater fishing weekend, the freshwater fishing license requirement is waived during these days. Free Fishing Days are also a great opportunity for experienced anglers to introduce someone new to fishing. <https://dec.ny.gov/things-to-do/freshwater-fishing/learn-to-fish>

For some fish species, ice fishing can be more productive than open-water fishing. Given good ice conditions, anglers normally limited to shore fishing can access an entire waterbody. Beginner ice anglers can download the Ice Fishing Chapter (PDF) of DEC's I FISH NY Beginners Guide to Freshwater Fishing (PDF) for helpful information on how to get started.

For a more interactive options, DEC released a series of six ice fishing videos on the agency's YouTube channel. Visit the playlist to check out the brief instructional videos. Additional information, including a list of waters open to ice fishing, can be found on the DEC ice fishing webpage, and also through the Tackle Box feature in DEC's HuntFishNY app. With the app, fishing regulations, access information, fish species present, and more can be accessed from a map-based interface, all from the convenience of a smart phone.

The use of bait fish is popular when ice fishing and may be used in most, but not all, waters open to ice fishing. For more information on baitfish regulations, visit DEC's website. To protect New York's waters from invasive species and the spread of fish diseases, anglers are advised to take these critical steps when using baitfish while ice fishing:

- Review and follow DEC baitfish regulations;
- Ensure the use of baitfish is permitted in the waterbody by checking the special 'regulations by county' section of the fishing regulations guide; <https://dec.ny.gov/things-to-do/freshwater-fishing/regulations/baitfish>
- Use only certified, disease-free bait fish purchased from a local tackle store (buyers must retain the receipt provided to them while in possession of the baitfish);
- Personally collected bait fish may only be used in the same waterbody from which they were caught; and
- Dump unused baitfish and water in an appropriate location on dry land.

DEC reminds anglers to make sure that they have a valid fishing license before heading out on the ice. Fishing licenses are valid for 365 days from the date of purchase.

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NICK NEEDS KIDNEY -TYPE 0 (IN SOME CASES TYPE A BLOOD COULD WORK)

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

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

More about our warrior Nick....

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

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

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

*For any other questions
845.798.2077 nickneedsokidney@gmail.com*

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Montigram President's Corner

Lori Orestano-James

It has been a busy rush up to the Holidays for the Monticello Rotary Club with so much being done by the club and our Interact students to ensure a beautiful Holiday Season for all. (See stories

below).

No matter the season, the work of the Monticello Rotary Club exemplifies the spirit of this Holiday Season throughout the entire year.

From helping in our community and beyond, the Monticello Rotary Club is showing The Magic of Rotary in all that it does. To remind you of the last few weeks, we have helped provide food for the firefighters during the brush fires, helped serve Thanksgiving Dinner to those in need, collected food, coats, hats, scarves, and toys for those in need. We have visited the sick and infirmed, and we have worked with our youth to build a better tomorrow.

It is my honor to represent you as your Monticello Rotary President and look forward to what is yet to come. Each one of you gives what you can, in your own way, to meet the goals of Rotary both locally and internationally. Your commitment to the work of Rotary and to each other, makes me humbled and proud to stand beside you in doing great things.

These next few days will also be filled with a lot of family, friends, social events, religious/cultural activities, and hopefully, lots of old traditions and new ones to be made. Remember to take that one moment for yourself to refresh, reflect, and renew your mind, body, and spirit. We need you all here, healthy and ready to engage on the great things yet to come.

Wishing you all a Happy, Healthy, and Safe Holiday Season filled with the joy of laughter, good health, delicious food, loving family, beautiful friends, and much peace.

Dates to Remember can be found below.

Some upcoming important dates to mark on your calendar:

No Meetings will be held on Tuesday December 24th or December 31st due to the Holiday.

With Rotary Pride,

Lori Orestano-James

President Monticello Rotary 2024-2025

Stories

Santa Visits Hospital with Monticello Rotary Club

Members of the Rotary Club of Monticello, NY with Santa himself spent time at Garnet Health-Catskills visiting patients and greeting employees, volunteers, and visitors. Santa and the members distributed Care Bear Teddy Bears to patients and cookies baked by the Fallsburg Junior Senior High School Interact/LEO Club and treats to all. In addition, the Monti Rotary Ramblers sang beautifully harmonized holiday songs through the travels of all the departments at the hospital.

Fallsburg HS Interact/Leo Club Bakes for Heroes

The Fallsburg High School Intertact/Leo Club had a great time doing good things during Baking for Heroes. The members baked and decorated 12 Dozen Holiday Cookies for Monticello Rotary Club President and Rotary District 7210 Youth Services Chair Lori Orestano-James to deliver to members of the Fallsburg Police Department and Departments at Garnet Health-Catskills. The students wanted to show their appreciation to those who serve our community during the Holiday Season and all year.

Comfort and Joy Abounds with Monti Rotary

Members of the Monticello Rotary Club brought tidings of comfort and joy to stock the Senior Comfort Closet during the Annual Rotary Holiday Party. From gripper socks, large print puzzle books, lap throws, lotions, hair care items, shawls, hats, fingerless gloves and more, the Giving Table filled through the night where items were placed with the Care Bear Teddy Bears that will be distributed at Garnet-Catskills. The Sr. Comfort Closet items will be delivered to area Senior Nursing Facilities throughout Sullivan County. Not only did the club have a great time at the event, but they were happy to be able to give a little something to Shivani Patel who is not only the waitress at Albella where the club meets every Tuesday at 6:30 pm, but also a member of the Monticello Rotary Club!

ROTARIANS SING FOR A GOOD CAUSE

On August 19th a group of close to 40 local musicians came together at the Michael Ritchie Big Barn on the grounds of The Center For Discovery in Hurleyville to perform in the 2nd annual Sullivan Sings project to benefit the Sullivan County Federation For The Homeless. Accompanied by a five piece combo band the singers formed a "We Are The World" style chorus under the direction of Cris Spinner to perform Bill Withers's popular tune Lean On Me. It was recorded by Gregory Fiske of Hard Drive Recording Studio and is now available for purchase. The donation to download the song is \$10 but there is opportunity to increase your donation to benefit the Federation.

The project is the brainchild of Cris Spinner, Vice President of the Monticello Rotary. She partners with Steve Schwartz owner of Steve's Music Center in Rock Hill to coordinate musicians and oversee all that goes into making this a success. And this year the chorus was sprinkled with Monticello and Liberty Rotarians. Brad Rutledge, Monticello and Barbi Neumann-Marty and Gary Siegel, Liberty, lent their voices to the chorus. In addition, Kathy Krieter, director of the Federation joined the chorus as well! Every person involved gives their time and talent freely for the cause. The end result is phenomenal!

You can support the efforts of all of these stellar community minded people who certainly exemplified the Service Above Self motto by purchasing the song. Your donation goes 100% to The Sullivan County Federation For The Homeless.

<https://sullivansings1.bandcamp.com/track/lean-on-me>

Shopping for Good - Editors Thoughts by Cris Spinner

It's the Giving Season! So many of us are out there purchasing items for all sorts of "Drives". Among the most popular are Toy Drives. Recently it was brought to my attention that the average buyer tends to purchase toys geared for "kids". But we have the pre-teens and teens to think about too! I did an informal poll on social media and received some great suggestions. So if you are looking for the older ones perhaps this list can be of some assistance...Happy Shopping!

Boys : Flannel PJ bottoms - Sports themed hats - Cool pencil case - Water bottle - Soccer ball - Football - Technic lego sets - Ear buds/ headphones

Girls: Lotions - Makeup collections or kits - Nail polish - Hair clips - Fashion Accessories - Lululemon items

General: Art supplies - Clothes - Hoodies - Hats/gloves - Puzzles - Books - Board Games - Card games - Film camera with film - Gift Cards

Ring in the New Year with a First Day Hike!

The new year is just around the corner. Why not start off with a refreshing First Day Hike? Mark your calendar and come join DEC, State Parks, and the Canal Corporation for this annual, family-friendly event on January 1, 2025. The hikes and walks are located across the Empire State and are usually between one and five miles, depending on location and conditions. Head to the 2025 First Day Hikes page to find a location near you! Many locations offer multiple hikes throughout the day, allowing people the time and space to enjoy the winter wonders.

Whether this is your first hike or you are a seasoned veteran, it's still important to Hike Smart and prepare for winter weather. Dress in warm layers, stay hydrated, and plan ahead. Happy Hiking!

Take the Challenge (Again!)

The end of the 2024 Catskills Fire Tower Challenge is coming up on December 31, 2024; have you completed the list? All you need to do are visit the fire towers at:

- Overlook Mountain
- Hunter Mountain
- Red Hill
- Balsam Lake Mountain
- Tremper Mountain

Upper Esopus Fire Tower (conveniently located at the Catskills Visitor Center!)

Take some fun photos, download and complete the Challenge Log (PDF) and email it to CatskillsChallenge@dec.ny.gov along with your favorite photo(s). The Challenge Log can also be submitted by mail to New York State of Environmental Conservation, Outdoor Recreation, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-1020, or you can also complete the log at SurveyMonkey. The first 1000 finishers will receive a one-year subscription to DEC's Conservationist magazine and a gift subscription for a second person of their choice. All finishers will receive a commemorative patch and can download and print a certificate to mark their accomplishment!

While all good things must come to an end, don't fret- the 2025 Challenge begins on January 1, 2025! The 2025 Challenge Log <https://dec.ny.gov/things-to-do/hiking/catskills-fire-tower-challenge> will be available on the Catskills Fire Tower Challenge webpage. You can even get an early start and join a First Day Hike! The Catskill Mountain Club will be leading a hike up the Tremper Mountain Fire Tower, qualifying for DEC's annual Catskills Fire Tower Challenge.

A patch design depicting a silhouette of a fire tower against an orange sky, green mountains and black trees.

Become a Campground Ambassador

Share your love of camping by becoming a Campground Ambassador! Like other campground host programs, volunteer Campground Ambassadors assist DEC campground staff in welcoming and assisting the millions of visitors who vacation in the Adirondack and Catskill parks each year. Ambassadors will conduct environmentally themed activities and other programming to enrich the camping experience of visitors. DEC encourages New Yorkers that are passionate about camping and the outdoors to help introduce new campers to DEC facilities and other outdoor activities.

To apply for the 2025 program, please fill out the application. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/25CampAmbassador> Applications must be received by Jan. 10, 2025.

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← Turn LEFT onto NY-213 1.1 Miles
→ Turn RIGHT onto Krumville Road/CR-2A 0.8 Miles
 Gun Shop on LEFT

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

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Subscriptions include Conservationist for Kids three times per year, as well as access to the enhanced Digital Edition. Visit DEC's website or call 1-800-678-6399 to subscribe.

Articles about outdoor adventure and natural science are in every issue. You will also find: Incredible places to fish, hike, camp, and explore; Awesome bird watching and animal photography; and Exciting natural wonders, right here in New York State.

The current issue of the Conservationist contains our popular annual calendar, which has become a reader favorite. It includes spectacular images captured by talented photographers and important dates to inspire readers to go outdoors and celebrate nature. All new subscriptions purchased through Christmas Eve will start with this issue!

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Making Broadband More Affordable: Governor Hochul Announces more than #13.1 Million New Broadband Awards to Secure Long-term, Low-Cost access for Thousands of New Yorkers in Public and Affordable Housing


Governor Kathy Hochul announced the first grant awards under the Affordable Housing Connectivity Program that will deliver high-speed internet to thousands of lower income households. The inaugural awards from the Affordable Housing Connectivity Program will provide broadband service at \$10 per month and Gigabit-speed service at \$30 per month to an anticipated 14,167 lower income households across Buffalo, Rochester, upper Manhattan and the Bronx through 2034. The \$13.1 million in total grant funding will connect 780 buildings, all of which include affordable housing and some of which are public housing properties.

“In today’s digital age, access to reliable, affordable high-speed internet isn’t just about convenience - it’s about ensuring every New Yorker can participate fully in our modern economy and society,” Governor Hochul said. “Through these strategic investments, we’re not only installing fiber and infrastructure, we’re opening doors to education, healthcare and economic opportunity. By delivering affordable broadband solutions to our affordable housing communities and supporting county-led initiatives, we’re creating a more connected and equitable New York.”

The first round of grants under the Affordable Housing Connectivity Program are awarded to Flume Internet to expand its service footprint in New York City and bring its service for the first time to the Buffalo and Rochester areas. Flume will offer residents broadband service options of 100/20 Mbps for \$10/month, 200/200 Mbps for \$15/month, and 1000/1000 Mbps for \$30/month, all with Wi-Fi. Those rates are locked in through 2034. Construction on all three projects will be complete and service will be available to all households by the end of 2026. All of the property owners have opted into the program, but must still approve the installations for Flume to reach all of the residents. Flume is partnering with local nonprofit organizations to provide comprehensive digital literacy support, including multilingual digital health and wellness programming, community outreach, and workshops. Flume will construct or acquire an estimated 39 miles of fiber optic infrastructure across the three markets and will use fixed wireless to extend the network to all the buildings.

The totals for the three grants are:

- o New York City Region: \$4,573,875 to connect 88 properties across the Bronx and New York counties, encompassing 126 buildings and 4,854 units and approximately 13 miles of fiber



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- o Finger Lakes Region: \$3,930,473 to serve 51 properties in the Rochester metro area (Monroe and Ontario counties), covering 305 buildings and 4,280 units and approximately 12 miles of fiber

- o Western New York Region: \$4,678,197 to connect 39 properties in the Buffalo metro area (Erie County), serving 349 buildings and 5,033 units and approximately 14 miles of fiber

The Affordable Housing Connectivity Program, a partnership between Empire State Development's ConnectALL Office and New York State Homes and Community Renewal, has a goal of \$100 million in grants to connect 100,000 homes across the state. The primary funding for the Program comes from the U.S. Treasury Department Capital Projects Fund, established under the American Rescue Plan Act.

(Contd. Pg. 44)

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Making Broadband More Affordable: Governor Hochul Announces more than #13.1 Million New Broadband Awards to Secure Long-term, Low-Cost access for Thousands of New Yorkers in Public and Affordable Housing *Governor Hochul's ConnectALL Initiative*

(From Pg. 42) Governor Hochul has made expanding broadband access a cornerstone of her administration's efforts to create a more equitable New York. Through the ConnectALL initiative, New York State is investing \$1 billion to transform the state's digital infrastructure, enhance competition among providers, and ensure that every New Yorker has access to reliable, affordable high-speed internet.

To date, ConnectALL has overseen the successful launch and implementation of several programs to advance broadband access, including:

- o The Digital Equity Program will invest \$50 million, including a federal allocation of at least \$37 million, to implement the New York State Digital Equity Plan to close the digital divide. The Plan outlines New York's statewide strategy to increase capacity to improve digital literacy and digital job readiness skills, facilitate access to affordable internet and devices, enhance digital privacy and safety and make government services more accessible through the internet.

- o The Municipal Infrastructure Program has awarded over \$224 million for the construction of publicly-owned broadband infrastructure and delivery of affordable broadband service across the state. The program, primarily funded by the U.S. Department of the Treasury under the American Rescue Plan's Capital Projects fund, facilitates a variety of models of municipal broadband, public-private partnerships, and open access networks to provide New Yorkers with affordable, high-quality service options. The Beta ConnectALL Projects Dashboard provides details on projects funded by the Municipal Infrastructure Program.

- o The ConnectALL Deployment Program will fund internet service providers to reach unserved and underserved locations. ConnectALL released the program's Request for Applications for approximately \$644 million <https://broadband.ny.gov/connectall-deployment-program-rfa>

- o in December 2024, drawing on federal funding from the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program, as described in the ConnectALL Broadband Deployment Initial Proposal.

"DEC Does What?!" Podcast Episode 17 Now Available: The Greatest of Lakes

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) today released the latest episode of "DEC Does What?!", the bi-weekly podcast that features conversations with DEC experts about the agency's wide-ranging efforts to protect New Yorkers and the environment. Episode 17—"The Greatest of Lakes"—explores the work of DEC's Great Lakes Program to protect the iconic Great Lakes, the largest freshwater ecosystem in the world.

DEC's Great Lakes Program oversees the largest watershed by land area, working across more than 42 percent of the state's land area and along over 750 miles of shoreline. New York's Great Lakes Basin includes Lake Erie, Niagara River, Lake Ontario, and the St. Lawrence River, and holds 21 percent of the world's freshwater resources. In this episode, hosts Interim Commissioner Sean Mahar and Chief of Staff Erica Ringewald are joined by Shannon Dougherty, DEC's Great Lakes Program Director, to discuss restoration work in coordination with other counties, states, and Canadian provinces, why DEC uses nature-based shoreline protection methods to protect local habitats and communities and support public access benefits, and recent success stories like the formal delisting of the Rochester Embayment Area of Concern after years of cleanup and restoration.

Shannon also explains how DEC tracks the overall health of the Great Lakes Basin and the impact of threats like harmful algal blooms (HABs) and climate change on lakes Erie and Ontario, including increased erosion and flooding events.

Episode 17 also spotlights the latest environmental news and DEC initiatives, including encouraging New Yorkers to sign up for one of DEC's 'First Day Hikes' to celebrate the New Year, reminding outdoor adventurers to follow winter hiking safety tips, <https://dec.ny.gov/things-to-do/hiking/winter-safety> and to sign up to become Volunteer Campground Ambassadors for the 2025 camping season.

All episodes of "DEC Does What?!" are available on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, YouTube, Amazon Music, and all major podcast platforms.

For more information on "DEC Does What?!", visit the [DEC podcast webpage.](https://dec.ny.gov/news/podcast) <https://dec.ny.gov/news/podcast>

Homeschooling Group

4th Tuesday of each month

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

at the Daniel Pierce Library

We invite all homeschooling families to join a self-guided group that meets monthly at the Daniel Pierce Library.

Together this group will share lessons, network, set up future field trips, have various guest speakers and programs.

You can also... borrow books, check out DVD's, access the internet, research online databases and utilize library space! (If you have a RCLS library card).

Please join in, the possibilities are endless!

**Text or call Dana
for more information:
845 707 – 2489**



**Beginning
September
24th**



Statement from Governor Kathy Hochul

"Since mid-November, New York has been carefully monitoring reports of drone activity and we have been communicating closely with our federal partners. I've spoken with Secretary Mayorkas multiple times and was just informed that he has coordinated with federal partners and the FAA plans to grant temporary flight restrictions over some of New York's critical infrastructure sites - this action is purely precautionary; there are no threat to these sites. This is in addition to the state-of-the-art drone detection system delivered to us by the Biden-Harris Administration earlier this week. While we have not detected any public safety or national security threats, we will continue aggressively monitoring the situation as we call on Congress to pass legislation to give states and local law enforcement the authority and resources they need to manage this evolving technology. Public safety is my top priority and I will stop at nothing to keep my constituents safe."



As we gather with family and friends to celebrate this joyous season, let us take a moment to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas and be grateful for the many blessings in our lives.

Let us also remember those who cannot be with their loved ones this year. To the courageous men and women of our military serving at home and abroad, and to our dedicated first responders and frontline workers—thank you for your sacrifice and unwavering service.

May this Christmas season bring you peace, joy, and time to cherish the things that matter most.

From my family to yours, Merry Christmas!

Voting to Avert a Government Shutdown and Continue Funding the Government Until 2025

In November, the American people overwhelmingly rejected the Biden administration and Senate Democrats' reckless spending, which wastes taxpayer dollars on Green New Deal pet projects, cripples our economy, and raises the national debt. In November, voters made it clear that they are fed up with the way Washington is currently run and issued a mandate for Republicans to deliver a fiscally responsible budget that cuts outrageous spending and reins in Washington's bloated bureaucracy.

Passing a short-term Continuing Resolution is essential to avoid a shutdown under the Biden administration and ensures that we can enact our America First agenda in the new year. With Republicans set to have a majority in Congress and President Trump set to return to the White House in 2025, we will have the opportunity to implement the fiscally conservative, America First priorities that voters demanded. In the meantime, a Continuing Resolution was necessary. While this

process was difficult, I am relieved we reached an agreement to prevent a shutdown and were able to secure critical funding. Thank you to President Trump, Speaker Johnson and our great leadership team for their extraordinary efforts.

This legislation provides \$10 billion in economic assistance to farmers struggling with crop loss, government overregulation, and external market forces, while also extending current farm bill programs through September 30, 2025. Additionally, a shutdown would severely impact military families in our district, cripple our defense industrial base, and hinder Customs and Border Protection Agents working to secure our border. During a shutdown, servicemembers risking their lives for our freedoms and border agents responding to an unprecedented crisis would go unpaid. Even worse, a shutdown while the Biden administration controls all the federal agencies would have surrendered complete control to un-elected staff due to the complete absence of leadership by President Biden.

House Republicans have already begun working on implementing policies necessary to usher in a new era of leadership. We are committed to growing our economy, reducing inflation by reducing taxes, cutting wasteful spending, securing our borders, and unleashing American energy dominance. House Republicans are dedicated to delivering a more efficient, transparent and accountable government that returns the Constitutional power back to the American people.

Attending the First DOGE Caucus Meeting

The DOGE Caucus is taking wasteful government spending to the chopping block.

This week, the DOGE Caucus hosted its first meeting to begin brainstorming how we can work with the DOGE to cut government waste. The Caucus Room was packed to the brim with a bipartisan group of members eager to get to work to implement effective cuts to the federal government. Under President Trump's leadership and a Republican-controlled Congress, we are determined to cut wasteful government spending and reduce costs for hard-working Americans.

Seven Years Since the Most Pro-Growth, Pro-Worker, Pro-Family, Pro-Small Business, Pro-American Tax Cuts

On December 22, 2017, President Donald Trump signed the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act into law, strengthening small businesses and putting more money in hard-working Americans' pockets.

This legislation, which I supported in 2017, reduced taxes on middle-income families and small businesses and created nearly five million domestic jobs in just two years after its passage.

Yet, if Congress fails to act, these tax cuts will expire on December 31, 2025. This would mean significant tax increases for the 440,200 taxpayers in New York's 24th District. The average taxpayer in NY-24 could face a 25% tax hike if the cuts are not extended. A family of four with a median income of \$69,878 in NY-24 would experience a \$1,373 tax increase, equivalent to about seven weeks' worth of groceries for a typical family.

H.R.1715 - Advanced Weather Model Computing Development Act - this bill requires the Department of Energy (DOE) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to carry out research on advancing weather and climate modeling and prediction. The research required by the bill must meet security and integrity requirements that apply to certain research activities of the National Science Foundation.

H.R.9699 - Pay Our Troops Act - This bill would ensure that members of the Armed Forces are paid during a government shutdown. Our servicemembers put their lives on the line to defend our country, and they should never have to worry about not being paid because Congress can't act in a fiscally responsible manner. This bill will help protect all our servicemembers, including those at Fort Drum, Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, and at Coast Guard stations throughout NY-24. (Contd. Pg. 47)

This Week with Claudia

(From Pg. 46) H.R. 10299 - The Medicaid Funds Integrity Act - This bill would prohibit federal Medicaid dollars from being used for on non-health care programs aimed at advancing the Biden Administration's radical anti-gun agenda. New York's Medicaid program, which is already facing unsustainable deficits because of bureaucratic mismanagement and fraud, should be putting its resources towards necessary health care services for New Yorkers, not operating programs aimed at undermining our Second Amendment rights.

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

I voted "Yes" on H.R. 10545, the American Relief Act. While the process to reach this bill was complicated, and this bill is still not ideal, this bill will avert a government shutdown over the holiday. Thank you to President Trump, Speaker Johnson and our great leadership team for their extraordinary effort. This bill would extend Fiscal Year 2024 spending levels through March 2025 and includes \$100.4 billion in aid for victims of Hurricanes Helene and Milton; \$10 billion in economic aid for farmers; extends critical health care programs for hospitals and community health centers; and preserves access to telehealth services for seniors. Once again, despite House Republicans having gone through the regular appropriations process months ago, Democrats were insistent on brinkmanship games that would have resulted in a shutdown, leaving our servicemembers and border patrol agents without pay over the holidays. This is beyond reckless. Democrats were also willing to let farmers and hurricane victims go without desperately needed aid. Despite Democrats' recklessness, House Republicans remained committed to keeping the government open and providing this much needed relief. I am eager for President Trump to come to power in just 31 short days to ensure that Congress undergoes regular order, cuts government spending, and ends the process of last-minute continuing resolutions. H.R. 10545 passed the House by a vote of 366-34 with one present.

I voted "Yes" on H.R. 10515, the American Relief Act, although it certainly is not ideal. This bill would extend Fiscal Year 2024 spending levels through March 2025 and includes \$100.4 billion in aid for victims of Hurricanes Helene and Milton; \$10 billion in economic aid for farmers; extends critical health care programs for hospitals and community health centers; preserves access to telehealth services for seniors; and suspends the debt ceiling through January 2027. While House Republicans have gone through regular order and passed the overwhelming majority of appropriations bill, the Senate has yet to pass a single appropriations bill. This reckless behavior by the Senate has once again led to a near-shutdown just days before the end of the year. After already extending appropriations from September 30, 2024 to December 20, 2024, Senate Democrats have still refused to meaningfully engage in passing all twelve Fiscal Year 2025 appropriations bills. Despite House and Senate Democrats supporting everything included in this bill, for partisan political reasons, they refused to support this commonsense measure. Instead, Democrats are willing to let the American people suffer, our troops to spend the holidays without pay, and our farmers and hurricane victims to go without the aid they desperately need. While House Republicans will continue working for the American people and to keep the government open, Democrats seem committed to a needless government shutdown. Unfortunately, H.R. 10515 failed to pass the House by a vote of 174-235, with one member voting present.

I voted "Yes" on S. 4077, A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 180 Steuart Street in San Francisco, California, as the "Dianne Feinstein Post Office". Senator Dianne Feinstein was the longest-serving female Senator in American history, representing California for over 30 years. While I rarely agreed with Senator Feinstein, I appreciated her

willingness to stand up to the far-left, such as by opposing the Green New Deal. This bill passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 348-39.

I voted "Yes" on S. 141, the Senator Elizabeth Dole 21st Century Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act. This bill will support the men and women who have honorably served our nation by ensuring they receive the care and services they have earned and cut unnecessary bureaucracy. This bill is supported by numerous veterans' organizations because it provides much-needed reforms to the Department of Veterans Affairs, streamlining and strengthening the services and benefits relied upon by our veterans and their families. Critically, this bill ensures home and community-based services are provided at every VA center, allowing our veterans the dignity of receiving care in their own homes. This bill passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 382-12.

I voted "Yes" on S. 3998, the Federal Judiciary Stabilization Act. As our federal courts are already overwhelmed with growing caseloads, we cannot allow existing temporary judgeships to expire. This bill makes longstanding temporary judgeships that are regularly reauthorized into permanent judgeships, allowing for the American people to have certainty in the capacity of our federal courts. This bill passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 390-0.

I voted "Yes" on the Senate Amendment to H.R. 7213, the Autism CARES Act. This bill reauthorizes critical programs supporting autism education, research, and resources through Fiscal Year 2029. This bipartisan legislation ensures continued funding for vital initiatives like the CDC's Developmental Disabilities Surveillance and Research Program, early detection and intervention activities at the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), and the Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee (IACC). Additionally, it mandates reporting on ways to expand the number of developmental-behavioral pediatricians, addressing a key shortage in specialized care. With robust support in both chambers of Congress, the bill builds on two decades of progress driven by previous Autism CARES Acts, aiming to enhance quality of life, expand services, and advance research for millions of Americans with autism. This bill passed the House by a vote of 374-15.

I voted "No" H.R. 1101, the Lumbee Fairness Act. This legislation would bypass the traditional Office of Federal Acknowledgment review process within the Department of the Interior, granting full recognition to the tribe and enabling them to request federal trust land for building a casino. Skipping this established process would exempt the tribe from a thorough evaluation by experts, historians, and genealogists to verify their documentation and historical connection to the land. Maintaining this critical oversight function is vital to ensure that all recognition petitions are properly and fairly reviewed. This bill passed the House by a vote of 311-96.

I voted "Yes" on S. 3448, the Never Again Education Reauthorization Act. The bill would reauthorize the Never Again Education Act through 2030 and would direct the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum to provide schools across the country to provide teachers with training and resources to teach about the Holocaust. As anti-Semitism continues to rise throughout our country, Holocaust knowledge is at an all-time low. A recent survey showed that only 53% of American adults know that approximately six million Jews were killed in the Holocaust and 60% did not know how Hitler rose to power. These numbers are startling, and we must do more to increase Holocaust education and awareness, especially as survivors continue to diminish in number. We must never allow a horror like the Holocaust to happen again. We must never forget. This bill passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 402-12.

(Contd. Pg. 48)

This Week with Claudia

(From Pg. 47)

I voted "Yes" on H.R. 115, the Midnight Rules Relief Act. The bill would allow Congress to overturn multiple rules passed by the administration in the last 60 days in one Congressional Review Act (CRA) resolution. Current law only allows each CRA resolution to overturn one rule. As the Biden administration rushes to finalize rules en masse as their administration ends, Congress must be empowered to overturn these rules as quickly as they are finalized. This bill will expedite the process of overturning these rules and eliminating red tape created by the Biden administration. This bill passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 210-201.

I voted "Yes" on S. 759, the Beagle Brigade Act. This bill officially establishes the National Dog Training Center in Georgia, managed by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service under the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The center specializes in training dogs to inspect passenger baggage, cargo, mail packages, and vehicles for foreign pests and diseases that pose risks to domestic agriculture and natural resources. This bill passed the House by a vote of 381-20.

I voted "Yes" on the Senate Amendment to H.R. 8663, the DETECT Fentanyl and Xylazine Act. This bill would require the Science and Technology Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security to conduct research, development, testing, evaluation, and cost benefit analyses on equipment used by federal, state, local, territorial, and tribal law enforcement agencies. The Biden Border Crisis has allowed fentanyl and xylazine to flood our Nation's borders, endangering the American people and our law enforcement. This bill will bolster resources available to our law enforcement officers to detect fentanyl and xylazine. This bill passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 404-1.

I voted "Yes" on S. 3857, the Jamul Indian Village Land Transfer Act. This bill takes approximately 172.1 acres of specified lands in San Diego, California, into trust for the benefit of the Jamul Indian Village of California. Land taken into trust shall be part of the tribe's reservation. The bill prohibits gaming on the land taken into trust. A nearly identical version of this bill passed the House by voice vote last April. This bill passed the house by a vote of 405-10.

I voted "Yes" on S. 1351, the Stop Institutional Child Abuse Act. This bill creates an interagency Federal Work Group on Youth Residential Programs to promote and implement best practices related to the health, safety, care, treatment, and proper placement of youth in residential programs. The work group is tasked with developing recommendations for a national database to compile information on processes and outcomes for youth in these programs. Additionally, it is responsible for supporting the education and training of professional and paraprofessional personnel working with this population. I cosponsored the House companion to this legislation and was thrilled to see it pass the House by a vote of 373-33.

My FORKS Made in America Act Passes the House

Since my first term in office, I have been at the forefront of efforts to include stainless steel flatware under the Berry Amendment. Originally enacted during World War II, the Berry Amendment mandates that the Department of Defense purchase certain goods exclusively from American producers as long as they are available in sufficient quantity and at a fair market price.

Therefore, I am thrilled that this legislation was included in the FY25 NDAA. The FORKS Made in America Act strengthens the Berry Amendment by including stainless steel flatware and dinnerware, providing a much-needed boost to our domestic flatware industry.

This legislation will significantly benefit American manufac-

urers like Sherrill Manufacturing in Central New York. I look forward to seeing it strengthen New York's manufacturing sector and support our regional economy.



I want to wish you and your family the absolute best this holiday season - I hope these last few weeks of 2024 are spent alongside loved ones, friends, and community and bring you joy, rest, and peace.

This past year, our Hudson Valley community has shown that we lift each other up, and take care of our neighbors - and that when we stand up with one voice, we can accomplish anything. I have no doubt that we will carry that ethos into the next year, as well.

Every day, I'm working to deliver for you and your family and to fight for Hudson Valley priorities. Here's how I worked to deliver for our community this past week:

WISHING YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY HANUKKAH

This upcoming Wednesday, we'll celebrate Christmas and the first night of Hanukkah. I want to wish everyone who will be celebrating a time of joy, warmth, and light surrounded with loved ones.

**Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah, NY-18!
REFUSING A PAY RAISE**

Among this week's budget proposals included one with a provision to increase the salary for members of Congress.

A pay raise for members of Congress is the absolute last thing we should be considering!

Families across the country are being crushed by high costs - we should all be focused on lowering those costs. Period.

DEMANDING ANSWERS ON DRONE ACTIVITY

I've been pushing for clear answers on what is going on with this increase in drone activity, including in the airspace above Stewart Air National Guard Base.

This week, I was briefed on the unexplained drone activity that we've seen, including above Stewart Airport and the lack of urgency and transparency is outrageous and unacceptable.

First, this is a transparency issue. The American people deserve answers as to what the hell is going on. Second, this is a serious national security issue - it's clear that our country is woefully unprepared for the threat posed by drones and other unmanned aircraft.

This has to be a wake-up call. That's why I sent a letter to the heads of the Department of Defense, Department of Homeland Security, and Federal Aviation Administration demanding that they immediately release all unclassified information related to the increase in drone activity to the public. Read the letter here. <https://patryan.house.gov/media/press-releases/following-shutdown-stewart-airport-congressman-pat-ryan-slams-lack-urgency-and>

I'm also calling for a complete assessment and overhaul of counter Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) protocol and authorities. We need to take the time now to get this right. I'll keep working every day to ensure that our communities are secure and our families are safe.

(Contd. Pg. 49)

Pat Ryan

(From Pg. 48)

MAKING MENTAL HEALTHCARE MORE ACCESSIBLE

Our entire community has been pushing for years to bring back the inpatient behavioral health beds at HealthAlliance Hospital.

The path hasn't always been easy but our community wouldn't take no for an answer. This past week's announcement that 20 beds are returning to Kingston is a tremendous victory for Hudson Valley families.

These critical services save lives, period, and I want to thank all of our partners who made this possible.

When our community stands up with one voice, we can accomplish anything.

EXPANDING SOCIAL SECURITY

Teachers, police officers, and other civil servants dedicate their lives to bettering our communities. They pay into Social Security, but don't receive their full benefits.

I'm proud that the Social Security Fairness Act that I helped pass in the House is one step closer to righting that wrong when it cleared the Senate last week .

Now, it's time to get it across the finish line.

UPHOLDING MY END OF THE DEAL

I'm always proud of Army football. I'm also a man of my word.

A huge thank you to the Newburgh Brewing Company for helping me uphold my end of the bargain with my colleague in Congress, Naval Academy grad Rep. Chris Deluzio following this year's Army v. Navy football game. Watch here. <https://x.com/RepPatRyanNY/status/1870147143152935171>

This year, he got a taste of the Hudson Valley's finest - next year though he'll get the taste of defeat. Go Army! Beat Navy!

WORKING TO END THE GUN VIOLENCE EPIDEMIC

Last weekend, we solemnly remembered the 26 lives senselessly stolen by a gunman at Sandy Hook 12 years ago.

It's been 12 years of heartbreak with countless more lives stolen and too many politicians only sending "thoughts and prayers." And only days later, our country saw another tragedy at a school in Madison, Wisconsin.

My heart absolutely breaks every time a community faces the tragedy of young lives stolen by gun violence. Our kids deserve the freedom our nation promises them - that means the freedom from fear of losing their lives from guns in their classrooms and communities.

I've had enough of "thoughts and prayers" from politicians beholden to the gun lobby. There are countless pieces of common sense gun legislation that are sitting, waiting for a vote that could save kids' lives.

They can't wait any longer. We need action NOW.

CELEBRATING OUTSTANDING CADETS

Brandon from my team recently joined in celebrating

Cadet Captain Aiden Ortiz being awarded the Civil Air Patrol's Amelia Earhart Award.

Aiden truly represents the best of the Hudson Valley - way to go!

I had the great privilege of meeting some of our Civil Air Patrol cadets in my DC office earlier this year - truly inspiring youth with bright futures.

I also want to congratulate West Point Cadet Knox Watson on being named a 2025 Marshall Scholar!

Knox, the entire West Point community is proud of you, way to embody Duty, Honor, Country.

CONGRATULATING OUR CONGRESSIONAL APP WINNERS

Every year, the Congressional App Challenge invites our nation's outstanding STEM students to demonstrate their skills by designing their own app.

I want to congratulate this year's winner for NY-18, Joe Marra, Abhay Gupta, and Rishabh Nambiar!

Their app Invest4Better makes sustainable investing accessible to everyone, empowering them to build a better future while building their portfolios.

Joe, Abhay, and Rishabh, way to go! Thank you for utilizing your impressive skills and intellect to improve our world.

HONORING OUR SENIORS IN MIDDLETOWN

I'm grateful that Maria from my team could join to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Mulberry House and Golden Age Seniors Club in Middletown.

I want to give a huge thank you to the Mulberry House for the vital support it's provided to and community it's created for our seniors in Orange County.

I'm looking forward to celebrating the profound impact it has on our community for many more years to come!

HELPING YOU ACCESS AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE COVERAGE

The Affordable Care Act made healthcare coverage easier to access for scores of American families and the New York State Health Marketplace has even more cost-saving provisions going into effect in 2025.

Learn more, see what you may qualify for, and enroll here!

FIGHTING FOR CLEAN WATER FOR HUDSON VALLEY FAMILIES

This past week, we celebrated 50 years since the Safe Drinking Water Act was signed into law.

Everyone deserves safe, clean drinking water. From cracking down on toxic PFAS 'forever chemicals' to fighting to get rid of lead pipes from our water systems, I'm pushing every day for clean water for Hudson Valley families.

CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITIES WITH FEDERAL FUNDING

Federal investments do more than just transform the infrastructure of a town - they bring neighbors together and create community.

I'm proud that this over \$1 million in federal funding will do just that throughout Orange County by increasing ADA accessibility, creating community recreation spaces, and more!



Newsletter from Senator Peter Oberacker

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As the holiday season begins, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to you. This time of year reminds us of the importance of community and I am truly blessed to represent and work alongside such caring and passionate individuals. Your voices, your concerns, and your hopes inspire everything I do in the State Senate.

In this edition of our newsletter, I'm excited to share updates about the work we've been doing together—important legislative initiatives, upcoming events, and issues that directly affect our district. My commitment to you has always been clear: to listen, to act, and to ensure that every decision reflects the best interests of the people who make this community so special.

Please know that your ideas, questions, and concerns are always welcome. It's through open conversations and shared effort that we'll continue to build a brighter, stronger, and safer future for all.

Thank you for being an active part of this journey. It's an honor to serve you and I look forward to the work we'll do together in the coming year. Wishing you and your family a joyful holiday season filled with peace, love, and togetherness.

With warmest regards,
Peter Oberacker
Senator, 51st District

Happy Holidays, 51st Senate District!

As we gather with loved ones to celebrate this joyful season, the Oberacker Family extends our warmest wishes to each and every one of you. The holiday season is a time to reflect on the blessings of the past year, cherish the bonds we share, and look forward with hope to the new year ahead.

We are incredibly grateful for the strength, kindness, and resilience of our community. Your support and generosity continue to inspire us and we are honored to serve and celebrate alongside you.

May your holidays be filled with love, laughter, and peace, and may the new year bring health, happiness,

and endless possibilities to you and your families.
Thank you for being part of our lives.

With heartfelt gratitude,
Peter and Shannon Oberacker

Congratulations, Lauren!

Congratulations to Lauren Eaton on her graduation from the Utica Fire Academy!

Lauren has made history as the first female firefighter in the City of Oneonta Fire Department to complete this rigorous training and begin her career as a professional firefighter.

Thank you, Lauren, for your dedication to protecting and serving our community!

First Annual 51st Senate District Coat Drive

As we enter the holiday season, we're giving back to make this festive season a little warmer to those who may be in need. Please join Senator Peter Oberacker for the first annual Senate District 51 Coat Drive. We will be accepting new or gently used winter coats and jackets in any size to distribute to families this winter.

Find a Drop-Off Location Near You!
<https://www.nysenate.gov/newsroom/articles/2024/peter-oberacker/first-annual-51st-senate-district-winter-coat-drive>

Social Media Spotlights Thank you, LifeNet of Sidney!

As a first responder, I've witnessed the life-saving impact of rapid and efficient medical transportation. That's why I was proud to visit the Air Methods LifeNet base in Sidney to personally thank their amazing team!

Fort Hill Auxiliary's 100th Year!

I was honored to join Fort Hill Post 376 in celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Legion Auxiliary!

It was incredible to witness such a remarkable milestone and I cannot thank them enough for the invite!

BOCES Legislative Luncheon!

I had a fantastic time at the NCOC BOCES Legislative Luncheon!

I also had the chance to say hello to the students working hard on their projects and enjoyed an incredible meal prepared by the culinary program—absolutely delicious!

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





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CDs and music to stream or download



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There is hope.




988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE

VOICESUNITED4CHANGE'S VIRTUAL

YOUTH SUPPORT GROUP

JOIN US!






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

Contact Rebekah at rumarbashar@asfl.org for more information.

EVERY 1ST & 3RD

WEDNESDAY


@ 6:30 PM

VOICESUNITED4CHANGE'S VIRTUAL

PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

JOIN US!






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

Contact Anne-Marie at afreitas@asfl.org for more information.

EVERY 2ND & 4TH

WEDNESDAY

@ 6:30 PM

Sullivan County Intervention Line for Parents and Teens

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

Help is available now!

We are here anytime you need to talk.

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



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

Calls and texts are answered 24/7

A program of the DRC

Sullivan County Text For Teens

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



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



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

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

Text "Start" to:
845-637-9486

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



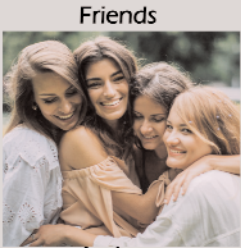
Text for Teens is supported by a Grant of the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation



Rewarding lives. Healthy communities.

COVID-19 Vaccines Save Lives

Who will you protect?



Friends

Amigos

Family

¿A quien protegerás?

Get the facts.



Familia

Obtenga los hechos.

Talk to your healthcare provider about the COVID vaccine.



Comunidad

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

#VaccinateSullivan

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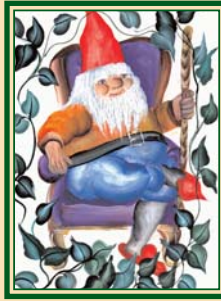
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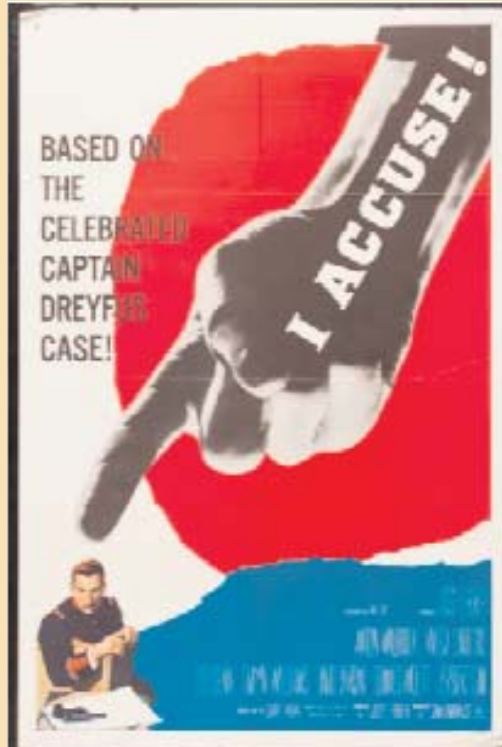
**"KNARF'S CLASSIC
MOVIE"**

I Accuse

**See it on: Amazon Instant Video, Roku
IMDb**

(Approved - 1 hr. 39 min.)

In 1894 France, a Jewish officer in the French Army is falsely accused of spying for Germany.



Alfred Dreyfus, a German-Jewish captain serving in the French Army, is falsely accused of treason and made a scapegoat for military espionage in an act of institutional anti-Semitism. Sent to prison, he becomes a controversial issue that attracts a great deal of public attention for the novelist Émile Zola, who dubs it the "Dreyfus Affair."

Eventually, Dreyfus is pardoned when the military cover-up is made public, and he returns to France. But his name is forever tarnished by the accusations of treason.

Directed by José Ferrer.
Starring José Ferrer
(Captain Alfred Dreyfus)

Anton Walbrook (Major Ferdinand Esterhazy) Viveca Lindfors (Lucie Dreyfus) Leo Genn (Major Georges Picquart) Emllyn Williams (Émile Zola) David Farrar (Mathieu Dreyfus) Donald Wolfit (General Auguste Mercier) Herbert Lom (Major DuPaty de Clam) Harry Andrews (Major Hubert Henry) Felix Aylmer (Edgar Demange) Peter Illing (Georges Clemenceau) George Coulouris (Colonel Sandherr) Carl Jaffe (Colonel Maximilian von Schwarzkoppen) Eric Pohlmann (Bertillon) John Chandos (Drumont) Ernest Clark (Prosecutor - 1st Dreyfus Trial) Anthony Ireland (Judge - 1st Dreyfus Trial) John Phillips (Prosecutor - Esterhazy Trial)

(Contd. Pg. 54)

Answer to last week's Trivia Question: Lauren Bacall

This weeks' Trivia question:

Name the parents of *The Addams Family*

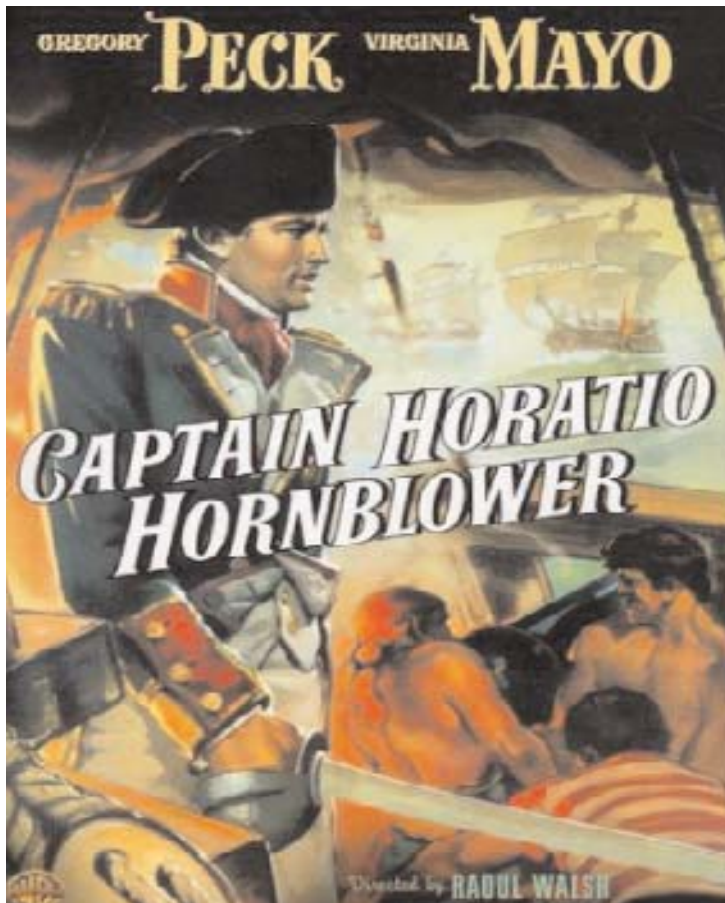
(From Pg. 53)

“KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE II”
**Captain Horatio
 Hornblower**

See it on: Prime Video, IMDb, DirectTV

(Approved - 1 hr. 57 min.)

Screen legend Gregory Peck brings to life C.S. Forester's classic nautical hero, *Horatio Hornblower*. Hornblower battles the French and the Spanish forces during the Napoleonic wars, but also finds time for romance.



Capt. Horatio Hornblower (Gregory Peck) steers the HMS Lydia for a treacherous transatlantic mission near the dawn of the 19th century, during which his faithful crew battle both a Spanish warship and a ragged band of Central American rebels. In the process, he also saves Lady Barbara Wellesley (Virginia Mayo), whose brother is the Duke of Wellington. Though the couple fall in love during their return to England, she is betrothed to Hornblower's rival, Rear Adm. Leighton (Denis O'Dea).

Directed and Produced by Raoul Walsh and Gerry Mitchell. Starring Christopher Lee, Gregory Peck, Virginia Mayo, Robert Beatty, James Robertson-Justice, Denis O'Dea, Terence Morgan, Moultrie Kelsall, Richard Hearne, Michael Dolan, Stanley Baker, Alan Tilvern, and Alec Mango

“KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE III”

A Star is Born

Musical - Rated PG

See it on: Prime Video, IMDb, DirectTV

(Approved - 2 hrs. 56 min.)

A 1954 American musical drama, *A Star Is Born* directed by George Cukor, written by Moss Hart, and starring Judy Garland and James Mason.



Hollywood actor Norman Maine (James Mason) is a celebrity whose star is on the wane, but when he meets aspiring actress Esther Blodgett (Judy Garland), he is inspired to help her, and soon the two appear in a musical together. Now known as Vicki Lester, she marries Norman and finds herself in demand, while his reputation continues to decline, resulting in heavy bouts of drinking. Eventually, Vicki must choose between moving forward with her career and attempting to save her husband.

Hart's screenplay is an adaptation of the original 1937 film, based on the original screenplay by Robert Carson, Dorothy Parker and Alan Campbell, and from the same story by William A. Wellman and Carson, with uncredited input from six additional writers-David O. Selznick, Ben Hecht, Ring Lardner Jr., John Lee Mahin, Budd Schulberg and Adela Rogers St. Johns.

Happy New Year!

Stay Safe
 Knarf Odnamoc
 Gnome