

Ye Olde
Tri TOWNSMAN Valley
"The Best Journal Published by a Dam Site!"

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Mysterious Book Report John D. McKenna Pg 5 • *The Olive Jar* Carol La Monda Pg 6 • *The Scene Too* Jane Harrison Pg 11
Knarf's Classic Movie & Trivia Pg 48

Vet 2 Vet of Sullivan County Takes Part in Wreaths Across America



At the cemetery before the wreath placement is Veteran US Marine Corps Lance Corporal E3, Tom Stauch.

LONG EDDY, NY: On Saturday, December 17, Veteran Peer Advocates Lauren Roman and Marco Torres of Vet 2 Vet of Sullivan County participated in the Wreaths Across America Ceremony sponsored by VFW Post 7276. Approximately 40 people attended the ceremony, which was held at the Long Eddy Fire House because of a snow storm. Father John of Holy Cross/St. Patrick's Church offered a benediction. After the ceremony, the wreaths were placed on the Veterans' graves at St. Patrick's and Riverside/Halsey Cemeteries.



(Left to right): Vietnam Veteran US Army Sergeant John F. Mootz, Veteran US Coast Guard Petty Officer E4 Frankie Shaver, Lieutenant of the Sullivan County Sheriff's Office and Retired US Coast Guard Petty Officer Paul Slavik, Retired US Air Force Master Sergeant Doc Bolduc, Veteran US Air Force Sr. Airman Tim Mullally, Veteran US Navy Petty Officer Doris Sharp, Veteran US Marine Corps Lance Corporal E3 Tom Stauch and US Army Reserve Sergeant, Marco Torres.

YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN

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

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MYSTERIOUS BOOK REPORT - John McKenna

FALLSBURG NEWS - Larry Schafman

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 Telephone numbers will not be published.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

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

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

More than ever, thank you for your continued support.

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

Obituaries

Donald R. "Don" Phillips, of Neversink, NY passed away on December 19, 2022 at Garnet Health Medical Center, Harris, NY. He was 77.

He was the son of the late Harold and Doris (Schonberg) Phillips, born on May 17, 1945 in Queens, NY.

Don worked as a special education teacher for BOCES and then Tri-Valley School District until his retirement. Don had many hobbies, he was a HAM radio operator, with the tags WA2IKR and W2EFI. He loved everything about cars; he was a member of the Sports Car Club of America, several Mustang clubs, and he regularly attended races at Lime Rock Park. He also had an affinity for trains big and small, specifically Lionel trains that he collected. In his free time he enjoyed canoeing, kayaking, spending time at the beach, and listening to loud rock and roll. But above all else, he loved his family and spending as much time with them as he could. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, cousin, and friend. He will be deeply missed and fondly remembered.

He leaves behind to cherish his memory, his wife Ruth; daughters Amy Anderson and her husband Chris and Cara Costello and her husband Thomas; grandchildren Emma, Grace, Gavin, Zoe, and Desmond; as well as his cousin, whom he thought of more like a brother, Skip Henschel and his wife Eileen.

Donations in Don's name can be made to the Grahamsville United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 86, Grahamsville, NY 12740 or to the Neversink EMS, 7486 State Route 55, Neversink, NY, 12765.

A memorial visitation was held from 3 to 6 pm on Tuesday, December 27, 2022 at Colonial Memorial Funeral Home, 396 State Route 52, Woodbourne, NY 12788. A funeral service will be held at 11:00 am Wednesday, December 28th at Grahamsville United Methodist Church, 350 Main St., Grahamsville, NY 12740.

Arrangements under the care of Colonial Memorial Funeral Home, for further information call 845-434-7363 or visit www.colonialfamilyfuneralhomes.com.

On Wednesday, December 21, 2022, **Cyrus Ward Blade**, loving husband,



father, grandfather and great-grandfather, and friend, passed away at the age of 84, surrounded by family. Ward was a life-long family man, committed to his family, his friends and his

orchards. He was born July 8, 1938, in Liberty NY, the son of Gladys Muhlig Blade and Cyrus W. Blade, Sr, brother of Gloria Blade Hansen-Cox, all of whom preceded Ward in death. He attended Liberty High School where he excelled in football, basketball, baseball and track and field. He was a talented singer (a talent he shared more readily in his younger days) and his family remembers him crooning away to what we called "the oldies". Ward was an avid sportsman/outdoorsman, tireless woodworker, and a talented fly tyer and fisherman. Ward learned to tie flies from a master of the craft, Roy Steenrod, and only in his later days did he learn what a gift that truly was. Ward attended SUNY Delhi majoring in Civil Engineering and soon after, while coming back to Liberty to support the home-town team, he met his wife of what would come to be 61 years, Sandra Wertman. Ward worked for New York City Board of Water Supply as an Assistant Civil Engineer for over 30 years where he oversaw reservoir operations for the New York City Water Supply System. Sandy and Ward married in 1960. Soon after came Melissa, Cort, Heidi and Amanda...and Ward's days were filled with life changing events such as building the family home in Neversink, planting a 20-tree apple orchard, coaching little league, participating in the Board of Education at Tri-Valley, attending softball games, and planting a 100-bush blueberry orchard. Ward's family was spoiled by an abundance of fresh fruits, vegetables, home-crafted maple syrup, freshly made apple sauce and any bounty Ward could coax from the ground. He found himself with little spare time after keeping up with his active family and busy "gentleman's farm" but when he did find time he liked to spend it on the links with a few of his closest friends. (Contd. Pg. 4)

Days of Yore... Today's History

January 1947 - The Board of Supervisors of Sullivan County recently adopted a budget of \$793,000 for the coming year of 1948. The budget estimate put revenues at \$345,215.00 and expenditures of \$793,843.00. The difference is to be raised from the towns by taxation. Salaries were raised in the budget for most county officials, but the County Highway Superintendent's salary will remain at \$3,600.

January 2, 1957 - Route 17 will be reconstructed from Monticello to Liberty by early '57 at a cost of \$15,000,000 the Dept. of Commerce said in Albany. The new link will connect with the Liberty bypass, now under construction.

Announcement has been made of the marriage of Miss Jo Anne Garofolo, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Garofolo of Orlando, Fla., to Mr. Melvin Eugene Ayers, on Sunday, December 23rd at the First Church of the Brethren at Orlando, Fla. The Garofolos are former residents of Claryville.

January 4, 1967 - Mr. and Mrs. Archie Dean Jr. of Neversink have announced the engagement of their daughter, Carolyn Louise, to A/3C Steven T. Hill, son of Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Hill of Forest Road, Grahamsville. The future bride is a sophomore at the State University College at Fredonia. Her fiancé is now stationed at Bunker Hill Air Force Base in Peru, Indiana. No date has been set for the wedding.

January 6, 1977 - Happy Birthday to Gloria Newman who celebrated her 14th on January 5th and to Uncle George Newman, who turned 41 on the same day. Barry Newman and children were at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Klinger in Walton for the holidays.

Harold F. Wellington, 75, of Claryville, N.Y. died December 30th in Ocala, Florida. Surviving Mr. Wellington is his wife, Frances of Claryville and Ocala, Fla.; two sons, John of N.J. and Duke of N.J.; a sister, Debbie Bergman of Schenectady, N.Y. and a brother, Robert of Ocala, Fla.

January 1, 1987 - Mr. and Mrs. George Stubblebine of Samsonville, N.Y. are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Nancy, to David Brooks, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Brooks of Sundown, N.Y. Wedding plans are incomplete.

Household Hint:

Remove candle wax

Candles are great for creating a warm and cozy mood, but the mood can quickly sour if you wind up getting melted candle wax on your fine wood furniture. To remove it, first soften the wax using a blow-dryer on its hottest setting and blot up as much as you can with paper towels. Then remove what's left by rubbing with a cloth soaked in a solution made of equal parts white vinegar and water. Wipe clean with a soft, absorbent cloth.

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

The Magical Birth of a Snowflake

This past week you may have caught a moment to escape back to simple winter childhood memories - catching snowflakes on your tongue, sleigh riding or making a snowman, rather than think about the COVID Crisis or in fact, the 'old-fashioned' normal hazards that a snow fall can bring.

The birth of each snowflake is not simple. A snowflake begins when a tiny dust or pollen particle comes into contact with water vapor high in Earth's atmosphere that coats the tiny particle and freezes into a tiny crystal of ice - the "seed" from which a snowflake will grow.

There are two basic ways that water vapor condenses to become a snowflake. The first way is to form facets, like a flat face on a 3D shape such as a prism. The crystal structure of frozen ice is a six-sided shape which is where the symmetry in a snowflake comes from. The second way a snowflake grows is to form branches as water vapor condenses on the first thing it touches.

The newly-formed ice crystal is heavier than the surrounding air and begins falling. While falling toward Earth through humid air, more water vapor freezes onto the surface of the tiny crystal. The water molecules of the vapor arrange themselves so that the hexagonal crystal structure of ice is repeated. The snowflake grows larger and larger as it falls. No two snowflakes are the same as each represents the conditions of temperature and humidity and water vapor the snowflake encountered during its fall. Some combinations produce flakes with long needle-like arms, flakes with wide flat arms or branching arms all emanating from the six-sided crystal structure of frozen ice.

Scientists have pondered the mystery of snow crystals since the early 1600s. In 1611 Johannes Kepler published a short treatise *On the Six-Cornered Snowflake*, which was the first scientific reference to snow crystals. Kepler wondered why snow crystals always exhibited a six-fold symmetry. He speculated that the hexagonal close-packing of spheres may have something to do with the morphology of snow crystals. Kepler was astute in recognizing that the beginning of crystalline symmetry was an interesting scientific question, and he also realized that he did not have the means to answer it. "Does some property of water vapor, or impurities in it account for its six-cornered shape, or must an external cause be sought? And why is the snowflake flat? Why does it not assume a three dimensional shape?" he wondered.

"Each single plant has a single animating principle of its own, since each instance of a plant exists separately, and there is no cause to wonder that each should be equipped with its own peculiar shape. But to imagine an individual soul for each and any starlet of snow is utterly absurd, and therefore the shapes of snowflakes are by no means to be deduced from the operation of soul in the same way as with plants." -- Kepler, 1611

During the mid twentieth century Ukichiro Nakaya performed a true systematic study of snow crystals by growing artificial snow crystals in the laboratory under controlled conditions. From his study Nakaya was able to describe the crystal morphology under different environmental conditions, which provided a clue, however, it still stands there is no complete scientific understanding of the physics of 'snow crystal formation' - a snowflake.

Isn't it amazing with all of the technology of today, a tiny snowflake still keeps this secret hidden? Perhaps that is why it seems so quiet and peaceful after a new snowfall. Maybe each little snowflake is put here just to let us know, we don't have all the answers - but rather just to enjoy its beauty and the magic of our own emotional memory bringing back light-hearted memories.



Obituaries

(From Pg 2)

Ward was always willing to lend a helping hand and will be deeply missed by those who knew and loved him. May he rest in peace. Ward is survived by his loving wife Sandy, his children Melissa (George) Slater, Cort (Maureen) Blade, Heidi Blade (Christoph Gesenberg) and Amanda (Rommie) Samai, his grandchildren, Kaitlin, Christopher, Connor, Cole, Thomas, Clay, Avery, Sofia and his great-granddaughter Elyanna. Private services will be held by the family at a later date. In lieu of flowers the family has requested that donations be made to the Neversink Ambulance Corp. Arrangements were under the care of Colonial Ramsay Funeral Home, for further information please call 845-292-7160 or visit [http:// www.colonialfamilyfuneralhomes.com](http://www.colonialfamilyfuneralhomes.com) To plant a beautiful memorial tree in memory of Cyrus Blade, please visit our Tree Store

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT



Jennifer Mae and Michael Frank Pisaniello from Neversink, NY would like to announce the birth of their baby girl Isabella Anna-Louise. Isabella was born at Garnet Health Hospital in Harris, NY on Sunday, December 4th 2022, at 9:09pm; weighing 7lbs and 20 _ inches long. Maternal grandparents are Glenn and Bonnie VanDenberg from Claryville, NY. Parental Grandparents are Joanne and Joseph Pisaniello SR. from Woodridge, NY.

Mommy, Daddy,

Brothers Anthony and Vincent and baby Isabella are doing well!

Time to Order Tri-Valley Lions Scrumptious Milk Chocolate and Dark Chocolate Easter Bunnies

Once again this year, The Tri-Valley Lions are selling scrumptious 6.2 oz Milk Chocolate and Dark Chocolate Easter Bunnies, manufactured for the Lions by renowned Donini Chocolate Ltd. This is one of our fundraisers that we have been doing for years, and many of you may remember our dear departed member, Jack Clark, going door to door selling these delicious bunnies.

If anyone is interested in purchasing bunnies, please contact a member of the Tri-Valley Lions Club or by calling The Wizwers and leaving a message at: 845-434-2152 with your name, phone number, how many bunnies you would like and if you want milk chocolate and/or dark chocolate.



The bunnies are \$5 each and orders must be received by: Monday, January 9th.

Once the bunnies arrive in late March, you will be contacted to set up purchase location(s) and time(s). Checks can be made out to: Tri-Valley Lions Club and paid for upon pick up.

Please remember that all monies raised by our fundraising efforts go back out to the community and other organizations - in fact we just donated \$500 each to the Food Pantries of Grahamsville Reformed Church, Grahamsville United Methodist Church, Claryville Reformed Church, Ulster Heights Methodist Church and Immaculate Conception Church in Woodbourne. For more information about the Tri-Valley Lions or to become a member, please contact Lion Stuart Wizwer at 845-434-2152 or swizwer@hvc.rr.com or Lion President Stephen Miller to 845-798-1981 or sgrrecords@hvc.rr.com.

We wish one and all a very Merry Christmas and a happy, HEALTHY and SAFE 2023!



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

Legacy Mysterious Book Report No. 15

Published December 31, 2019

Bones of the Earth Mysterious Book Report No. 383

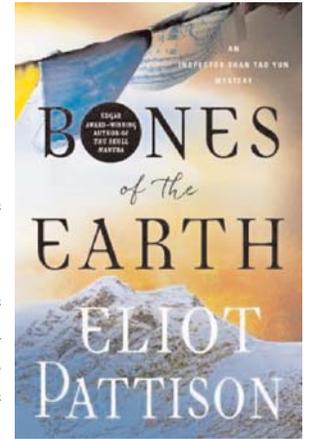
by John Dwaine McKenna

Inspector Shan Tao Yun was a senior detective on the Beijing Police Department until, "I investigated the wrong people and they sent me to prison in Lhadrung," (Western Tibet the notorious work camp number 404), "because the death rate is so high there. But the governor had a problem. I helped him, unofficially, and to show his gratitude he pulled me out of the hard labor camp."

Now, in his tenth murder mystery, *Bones of the Earth*, (Minotaur Books, \$27.99, 344 pages, ISBN 978-1-250-16968-6) by Eliot Pattison, the indomitable Inspector Shan is a lowly constable consigned to the small town of Yangkar, in the far west of Tibet . . . where a massive hydroelectric dam is being constructed.

As the novel begins, Shan is ordered by Colonel Tan, the county governor and overseer of the 404 prison camp, to attend an official function in Lhadrung, the county seat. There, he is forced to watch an execution. The dead man, a Tibetan engineer on the Five Claws Dam project, was accused of corruption, and summarily shot and killed in front of twenty official witnesses by the project manager, who didn't bother to have a trial. Shan thinks he may have witnessed a murder, not an execution.

But Shan is trying to keep a low profile, lest he run afoul of the authorities in Beijing again . . . perhaps fatally this time. So, when Colonel Tan hands Shan a special deputies badge and says, "*I need your help,*" even though it puts him in a precarious spot, he can't refuse, because Tibet is one of the most sacred places on earth. It's where more monasteries have been built by more different religions, all in harmony with each other, than anywhere else on the planet. The valley that's being



transformed into a reservoir by the Chinese is sacred to the Tibetans. It holds thousands of religious objects, deposited by many different cultures over thousands of years. The mountain overlooking the valley is known as Gekho's Roost. It's home to one of the most powerful gods in the Tibetan Buddhist pantheon, who's known as the Shaker of Mountains.

As the allegations and denials of corruption at the Five Claws site increases, more murders take place and the oppression of the Tibetan people reaches a crescendo in this finely crafted and carefully written novel, the diligent Inspector Shan must protect the Tibetans, solve the crimes, help absolve Colonel Tan of complicity in the widening dam scandal, all while keeping himself in the clear. It's a tall order but as Shan himself remarks, "*One thing I've learned in the Tibet we live in, is that everyone has their own unique path to enlightenment.*" This is the rarest of novels . . . it will entertain, educate, enthrall, and yes, enlighten every reader!

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.

And Hey! When you have a moment, please check out our secure, all brand-new and combined website that's redesigned, prettier, simple to use, and makes it as easy as pie to send us your comments! Please do. We're looking forward to hearing from all of you.

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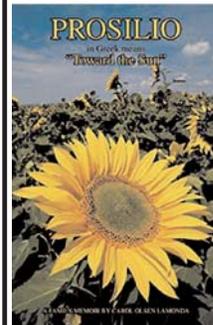
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The FamilyMemoir, PROSILIO...

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



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

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The Olive Jar by Carol Olsen LaMonda

Almost Christmas

December 23, 2022

Last year at this time, I was in surgery in a Covid-ridden hospital for a fall on black ice. This year I am ready and prepared for the holiday I missed.

Lying in the hospital in 2021 gave me time to ponder the traditions that I missed. I thought back to the times I spent with family. So, this year I resurrected some of those traditions.

I made rice pudding and hid an almond in the bowl. Whoever gets that portion, will win a small gift.

I baked peanut blossom cookies and chocolate chip cookies because those were the ones my mom always made.

I bought a ham to add to the feast the family will share on Sunday. I dug out a dried mustard sauce recipe from cousin Sue that I haven't made in two fortnights.

I will fill my husband's stocking with goodies and small gifts because that is what I liked best about Christmas morning. I am now convinced that Santa leaving a stocking on our bed was a ploy to give my parents a few more moments of morning sleep before we roused them to attack presents under the tree.

I filled vases with holly and red berries and strung lights around windows.

My Flexible Flyer sled sports a big red bow and leans against the house.

Colorful candies fill mason jars. A candle glows on the table.

A tree is lit with multi-colored lights on the deck, and two little live trees, be they only six inches and a foot-and-a-half tall, each hold one special ornament.

I left bins of ornaments and decorations in their storage space, and I kept my festivities small but just enough to feel cozy and comfortable in my own home. I pared down to the simple things I missed so much last year as I lay immobile and helpless.

May you all feel the blessings of Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanza without getting all tangled up in the tinsel and trappings. Enjoy the time with family and friends and remember while we celebrate the season.





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Sullivan County Debuts Series of Welcome Videos Short Films Highlight Area Attractions, Resources

Monticello, NY - A new icon has popped up on Sullivan County's website, sullivanny.us, and it leads to a wide-ranging exploration of the area's offerings.

This past August, a videographer from Rochester-based CGI Digital spent three days crisscrossing the County to capture footage of the region's natural beauty, tourism attractions, community-oriented agencies, and healthcare institutions.

"We'd worked with CGI a decade earlier on a similar project, so we looked forward to bringing them back to gain an updated view of the incredible variety of places, people and

companies that make Sullivan such a memorably unique spot," explained County Manager Josh Potosek.



A screen shot from the welcome video

Accessible through the camera icon located at the top right corner of the County's webpage, each one-minute video focuses on a theme: healthcare, community organizations, tourism, arts and culture, and a general welcome reel. Footage includes both ground and aerial views of downtowns, the countryside, notable attractions, and the people who populate these places.

"There's more to Sullivan County than many people know, including residents," Potosek noted. "While you can't cram all our uniqueness into five minutes, these videos aim to give everyone an appreciation of the incredible depth and breadth of offerings and communities throughout the County."

CGI Digital's services were provided free of charge to the County via its municipally-focused Community Showcase Video Program.

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Monticello Kiwanis Spreads Holiday Spirit

Members of the Kiwanis Club of Monticello helped spread the holiday spirit by donating games and toys for the United Way of Sullivan County to distribute to local families in need. Due to the Kiwanis Club meeting virtually and canceling their Annual Holiday Dinner once more this year, United Way Chief Professional Officer Julian Dawson traveled to the office of Kiwanis Club Board Member Linda Barriger to pick up some monetary donations as well as a variety of games, dolls, basketballs, stuffed animals, etc. to please children of all ages.



United Way Chief Professional Officer Julian Dawson and Kiwanis Board Member Linda Barriger displaying donated games and toys.



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

The Monticello Kiwanis Club Mission is to improve the world one child and one community at a time.

For further information regarding Monticello Kiwanis, go to the Monticello NY Kiwanis Facebook Page.

ATI Helps with Food for the Holidays

MONTICELLO, NY -- On Thursday, December 22, Action Toward Independence (ATI) provided holiday dinner food baskets to the families of their Children & Youth Program and Parents for Parents Group.

Each family received a basket containing a ham or turkey, stuffing, potatoes, green beans, corn, cranberry sauce, yams, cornbread and a pie.

Sixteen of the baskets were donated to Luis Ocasio of Hudson Valley Community Services who reached out to community agencies for toy donations for the families that he works with. ATI was not only able to connect Luis to other agencies and resources for toys, but also offered the food donation baskets as well. Luis graciously accepted the baskets to pick up and deliver to the families. And the remaining six baskets were delivered by ATI.



Light Triumphs Over Darkness in the Sullivan Catskills

We're long on fun, light-hearted good times in our Sullivan Catskills. Come embrace winter and enjoy some holiday magic with us. First, you'll need a place to stay. Pick the accommodation style that makes you happy- full-service resort, boutique inn, B&B, hotel, or cozy vacation rental. We'll take care of the rest.

The lights are bigger and brighter at Peace, Love & Lights at Bethel Woods Center for the Arts. This enchanting 1.7-mile drive-thru light show is in its final weeks (ending on January 1), so make your plans now.

Plan Ahead

The North Branch Inn holds an Evening of Georgian Cuisine on December 28 at 5 pm and December 29 at 9 pm.

Enjoy a night of laughter at Kartrite Resort and Indoor Waterpark, December 28 at 8 pm featuring Ahri Findling, Adam Mamawala and Ashley Morris.

New Year's Eve at Seminary Hill Cidery features a special 6-course meal, late night snack menu, and music by DJ Patrick from Much Music from 8 pm-1 am.

It's a formal New Year's Eve Celebration at the Bradstan Cabaret Show at Eldred Preserve, featuring a 5-hour premium open bar, elevated dining, DJ dance party, and late-night breakfast.

Put on your best roaring '20s attire and join the Roaring New Year's Eve Celebration and Prix Fixe Dinner at North Branch Inn from 8 pm - midnight.

It's a brand-new start. Join Villa Roma for a full weekend of festivities, including a New Year's Eve party with music, a cash bar, and champagne at midnight.

Eat, drink and dance from 8 pm - 1 am with the folks at Van Smokey on New Year's Eve.

Callicoon Hills is hosting a New Year's Eve dance party with an open bar and plenty of food (small plates and big bites), plus fun entertainment and surprises. Doors open at 8 pm, and tickets include food and drink.

The Heron Restaurant in Narrowsburg is taking reservations now for New Year's Eve Dinner and January 1 brunch. Ring in 2023 in the Hudson Ballroom at Kartrite Resort and Indoor Waterpark from 9 pm - 12 am with a live DJ, dancing, buffet, balloon drop, and fireworks at midnight.

Celebrate New Year's Eve at the Western in Callicoon with dinner, a show, and a champagne countdown toast from 8 pm-midnight.

Hector's Inn holds its annual Happy New Year Ugly Sweater Party on New Year's day starting at 2 pm.

Creek House Grill in Callicoon is offering New Year's Eve Prix Fix dinners from 4 pm - 10 pm with a midnight celebration.

Welcome to the Catskills

The Welcome to the Catskills webpage is the place to go if you are interested in learning more about the Catskills. It provides information about the Forest Preserve and conservation easement lands, outdoor recreation opportunities, and Leave No Trace. Be sure to check out the links to additional information and tips for recreating safely and minimizing your impacts on natural resources, recreational infrastructure, and other backcountry users in the Catskill Mountains. Go to webpage for more information:

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/120094.html>

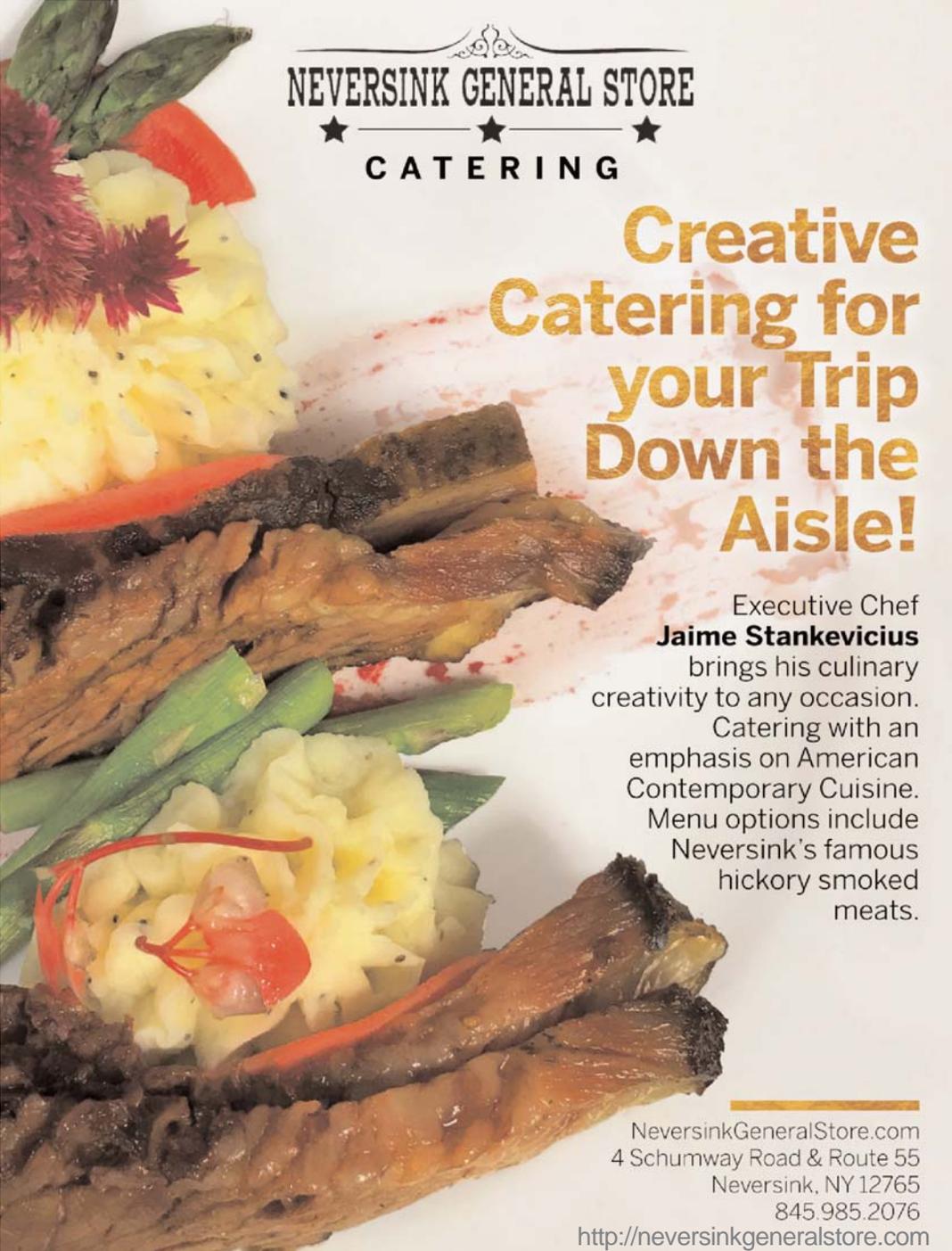
For Sundown Wild Forest go to: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/75346.html>

Hike Smart NY <https://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/28708.html>

National Weather Service <https://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lat=42.0842&lon=-74.3166#.YrXXCm4pAWq>

Summit Weather Conditions: <https://www.weather.gov/aly/mountain>

Tick Information: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/public/111538.html>



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CATERING

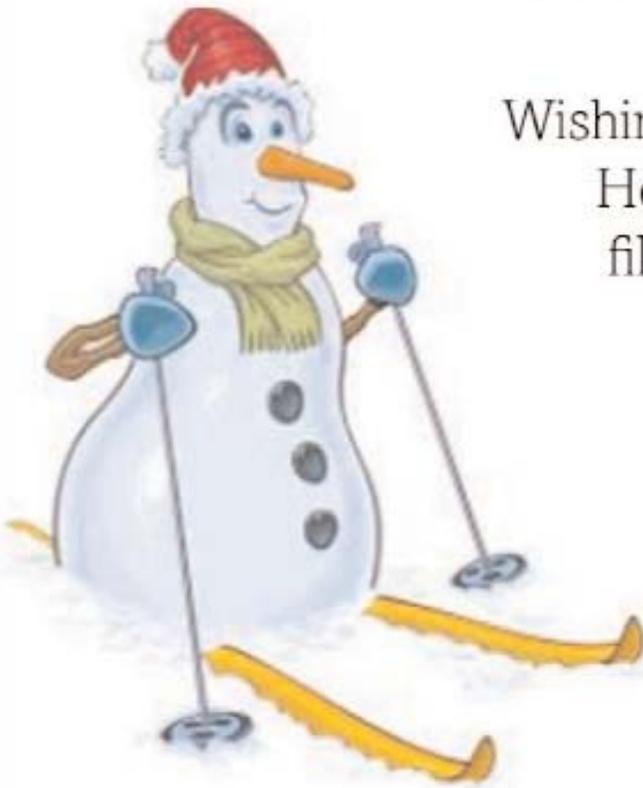
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DEC Forest Rangers - Week in Review

12/15-1/6

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

Town of Shandaken –Ulster County Wilderness Recovery: On Dec 17 at 2:50 p.m., Forest Ranger Stratton overheard radio traffic from Ulster County 911 requesting assistance with an unconscious subject on the Rochester Hollow Trail in Shandaken Wild Forest. The 69-year-old from Clinton Corners was hiking with two friends when he collapsed. One of the friends started CPR while the other hiker called for help. Ulster County EMS reached the subject and determined he was deceased. Rangers Allwine, Clute, and Stratton assisted the State Police with processing the scene and recovering the subject from the woods. Resources were clear at 6:30 p.m.

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

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

The Scene Too

By Jane Harrison

No column this week. Wishing you all a Happy New Year!

Local Kiwanis Clubs Spread Cheer to Homebound Meal Recipients

The members of the Kiwanis Clubs of Monticello and Woodridge joined forces once more to bring holiday cheers to the Office for the Aging Meals on Wheels Recipients. They presented greeting cards to Office for the Aging Director Lise-Anne Deoul and Nutrition Coordinator Jane Bozan.

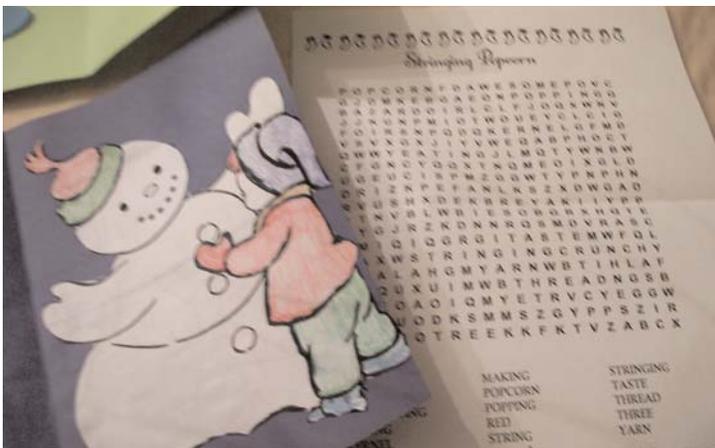


- From Left - Woodridge Kiwanis Treasurer Diane Garritt, OFA Director Lise-Anne Deoul, Nutrition Coordinator Jane Bozan, Aging Services Assistant Albert Patalona and Monticello Kiwanis Publicity Chair Sheila Lashinsk



Assortment of hand made greeting cards for Meals on Wheels Recipients

In addition to the Kiwanis Club members, the Monticello High School Key Club, Mrs. Jill Weiner's Liberty Middle School Students as well as the Aktion Club of Sullivan County, sponsored by both Kiwanis Clubs and comprised of individuals from Arc The Greater



Hudson Valley, New Hope Community and Center for Discovery, contributed a large amount of beautifully hand- made greeting cards and little holiday related ornaments and find the word puzzle sheets.

“Our homebound meal recipients will have a brighter holiday thanks to the generosity of the Kiwanis Club Groups” stated Aging Director Lise-Anne Deoul. This is in compliance with the Clubs' project mission, which is to give back to the community and reassure our residents that they are thought of and try to make their holiday a little more enjoyable.

Legislation A.3904B/S.5579A Protects Against Cyber Threats to New York's Electric Grid

New York Leads Nation in Response to President Biden's Calls to Further Secure Critical Infrastructure

Governor Kathy Hochul today signed legislation (A.3904B/S.5579A) that will create strongest-in-the-nation cybersecurity protections for the state's energy grid. This action, taken during a global surge in cyberattacks against critical infrastructure, will ensure New York's grid, the backbone of the state's economy, remains reliable and secure.

"The first modern electric grid was built in New York State, and 140 years later, we continue to take nation-leading steps to keep the lights on for all New Yorkers by strengthening our cybersecurity," Governor Hochul said. "We understand that as the financial capital of the world and a leader in clean energy, New York is a target for hackers. This critical legislation will help protect millions of New Yorkers who depend on reliable electric service and ensure a smooth transition to clean energy."

Legislation A.3904B/S.5579A, which passed unanimously in both the New York State Assembly and New York State Senate, strengthens protections for the local distribution system and requires utilities to secure critical infrastructure against cyberattacks. The legislation will require utilities to prepare for cyberattacks in their annual emergency response plans - similar to what utilities do to prepare for storms. The new protections will provide the Public Service Commission enhanced auditing powers to ensure that critical infrastructure and customer data is secured.

This action comes following guidance from President Joe Biden requesting that state's set minimum cybersecurity requirements for critical infrastructure, including the energy system. In several instances over the past decade, cyberattacks have proven capable of shutting down electric grids.

Chief Cyber Officer Colin Ahern said, "New York is leading on cybersecurity and this legislation is an important step in creating secure energy infrastructure across the state. Governor Hochul is leading the charge to combat emerging threats, a priority for the state and nationally. I'm excited to continue our progress on this front and work with our partners on this important mission."

Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services Commissioner Jackie Bray said, "Under Governor Hochul's leadership, New York State has significantly enhanced its cyber defenses. We have made substantial investments in resources and services to help our local government partners defend against cyberattacks. This legislation builds on these achievements by helping protect critical energy infrastructure from disruption. DHSES looks forward to continuing to work closely with our critical infrastructure partners on ensuring New York's energy infrastructure is secure."

Chair and CEO of the New York State Public Service Commission Rory Christian said, "I applaud Governor Hochul's vision to recognize the importance of protecting the State's energy grid from the potential of a cyberattack. Our economy and society depends on a receivable power grid, so protecting it should be amongst our highest priorities."



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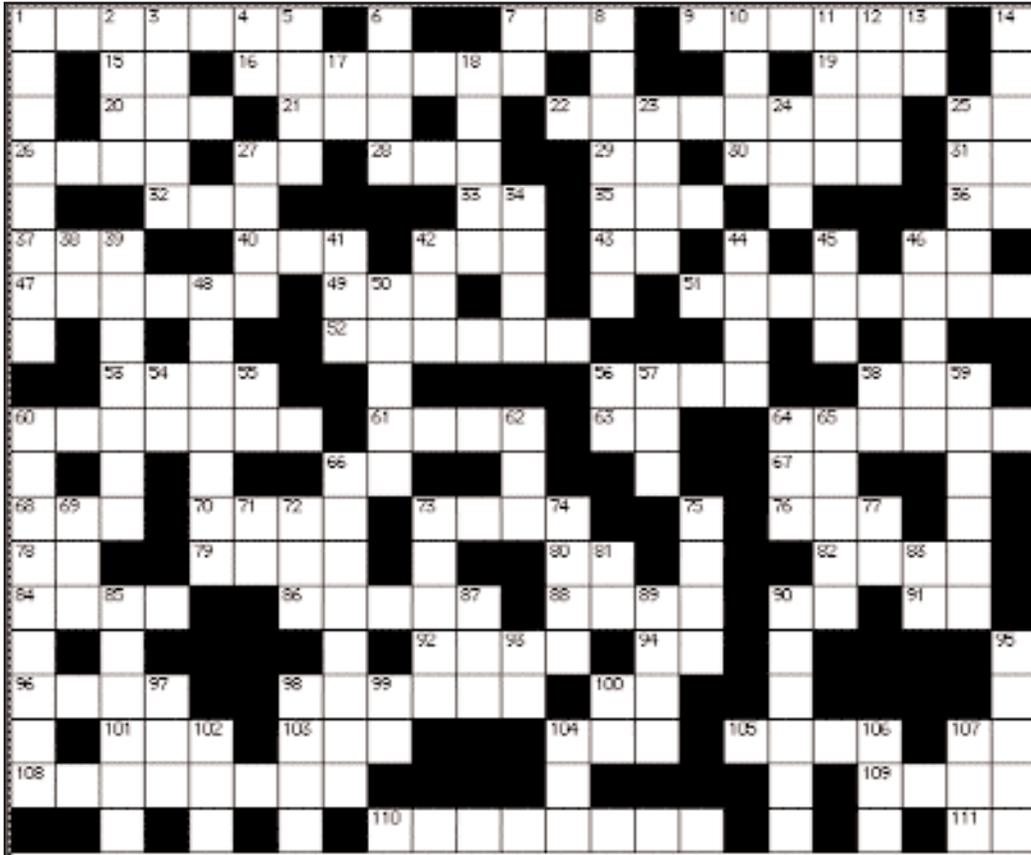
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In With the New! Out with '22!- L. Comando



DOWN
 1 Formal residence
 7 Short for goodbye
 9 Last
 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

Argon
 32 Consume food
 33 Connecticut (abbrev)
 35 Lowest cardinal number
 36 Radio-telegraphy
 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 Represent on a map
 61 Network of paths
 63 Elevated railway
 64 Concerning people as a whole
 66 Exclamation of triumph
 67 Indefinite article
 68 Furrow
 70 Capital of Norway
 73 Having two or more different colors
 76 Twitch
 78 To be
 79 Look to be
 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 LaGuardia and Kennedy
 109 Besides
 110 Commission formed 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 Game platform series "Super ____"
 27 Irritation

34 Woody perennial plant
 38 Physically supported by
 39 Brass musical instrument
 41 Capture
 42 Performance enhancing drugs
 44 Announcer
 45 Archaic use for over
 46 "____mail" not email
 48 Public rooms used for gaming
 50 1983 NYS Governor
 54 Internet Protocol
 55 Chemical element tin
 56 Northeast
 57 Large deer
 58 Chemical element antimony
 59 Authority to perform
 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

commercial websites
 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 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, onion, carrots, celery, potatoes, mushrooms, garlic and bay leaf. Cover, and cook on Low 6 hours, stirring occasionally.

数字は単数に限る

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				2	8		4
9	7						2
	3		6				1

CRYPTOGRAM

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

3 7 8 14 26 26 23 2 21 7 19 21 14 2 20 26 21 23 6 14 24 26

22 7 15 16 14 3 14 11 19 14 22 24 18 23 10 9 3 14 10 14 9 3



Follow the dots to complete the festive greeting

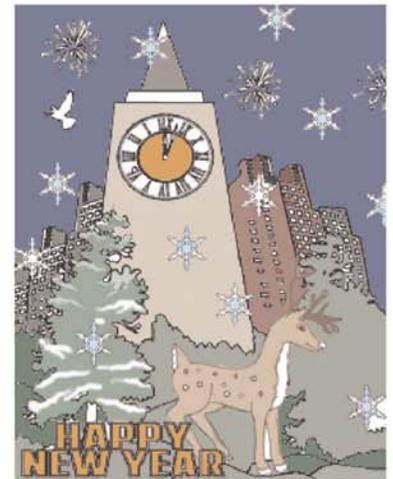
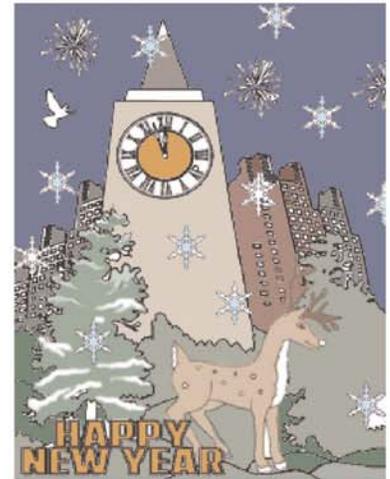
New Year's Wordsearch

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

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

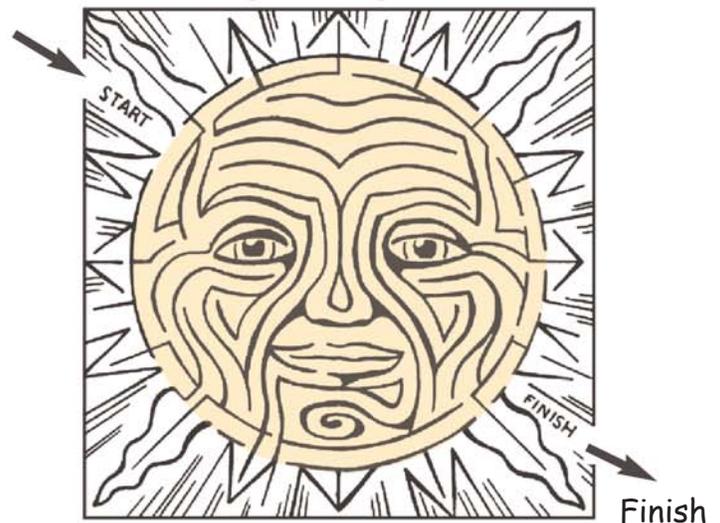


It's almost time! What are five differences between the two pictures?



Welcome 2023 Fun Page L. Comando

The sun is beginning its journey back North. Can you get through this maze?



CRYPTOGRAM KEY

Z	ZZ	5	6	7	8	9	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Z	Y	X	W	V	U	T	S	R	Q	P	O	N	M	L	K	J	I	H	G	F	E	D	C	B	A

Acting Ulster County Executive Johanna Contreras Signs 2023 Budget

2023 budget invests in essential services including emergency management, social services, environmental health, mental health, transportation, and public safety

2023 budget reflects County's strong financial position, including a historic 3% decrease in the tax levy and robust fiscal reserves

KINGSTON, N.Y. - Acting Ulster County Executive Johanna Contreras announced today that she has signed the 2023 budget. At approximately \$381 million, the 2023 budget invests in essential services including emergency management, social services, environmental health, transportation, and public safety, and also includes funding to support the Crisis Stabilization Center, enhanced mental health services, expanded child care eligibility and a pilot program to provide home energy assistance. The adopted budget includes a historic 3% decrease in the tax levy. The budget highlights Ulster County's record of sound financial management by balancing relief for our taxpayers, enhancing county services and strengthening our fiscal reserves for the future.

"Ulster County's continued strong financial position allows us to make critical investments toward our community's well-being, while providing the largest property tax decrease in 40 years," Acting County Executive Contreras said. "The adopted budget will allow Ulster County to hire additional front-line staff to meet increasing demands on our emergency management, social services, environmental health, mental health, aging and public safety services. The Office of the Ulster County Executive looks forward to continuing to work with the Legislature to implement these shared priorities in 2023."

"I am proud of our collaborative work to deliver a fiscally responsible budget that makes long-term investments in critical infrastructure and essential services while reducing taxes by three percent," said Ulster County Legislature Chair Tracey Bartels (District 16 - Gardiner, Shawangunk). "In addition to fostering continued economic growth, the spending plan also provides expanded resources to promote safe, healthy communities and better serve our senior citizens."

"We in the Legislature examined the Executive's proposal and modified it as needed to support vital initiatives and better serve Ulster County residents. Through this spending plan we will increase support for our neighbors without burdening the tax base," said Legislator John Gavaris, Chair of the Ways and Means Committee (District 15 - Ellenville, Wawarsing).

"This budget represents months of hard work to diligently manage county finances during one of the most fiscally challenging times in recent history. I, and the Republican Caucus are especially proud of the increase in attention and support dedicated to Ulster County First Responders and Law Enforcement personnel to provide them with the resources necessary to respond to crises," said Minority Leader Ken Ronk (District 13 - Shawangunk).

The 2023 Adopted Budget will be published at <https://ulstercountyny.gov/budget>

Gillibrand Brings Home Major Win for NYS in the FY2023 Spending Package

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Today, U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand is announcing major wins for New York State that she helped secure in the recently-passed \$1.7 trillion FY2023 spending package. As part of this funding, Senator Gillibrand fought for 172 New York-based projects, totaling over \$269 million in congressionally directed spending spanning the state of New York.

The \$1.7 trillion end-of-year spending package includes transformational provisions that will expose young people to educational opportunities and job training, help families access better health care and SNAP benefits, create good-paying jobs across the state, provide nutritional services for older adults, and help ensure every person in New York can keep the heat on this winter. The final bill also takes important steps to protect women and address the ongoing maternal mortality crisis in the United States. This congressional funding will bring urgent relief to New Yorkers and make long-term investments that will be felt for years to come." -Senator Gillibrand

The Into the Light for Maternal Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders Act, which expands grants to states to address maternal mental health (MMH) and substance use disorders (SUD) and establishes and funds a national dedicated MMH hotline providing 24/7 voice and text services.

Older Adult Nutrition programs received \$1.067 billion, an increase of \$100 million. These programs deliver critical nutrition services to older adults.

Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) received \$47 million, an increase of \$2 million. AHECs serve over 85% of all counties nationally and diversify the health workforce by recruiting diverse youth to health care careers, especially in rural and underserved communities.

The Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) received \$305 million to provide critical funding to faith-based and other nonprofit institutions at risk of terror attacks, allowing them to improve security and conduct emergency preparedness exercises.

The Multi-State Information Sharing & Analysis Center (MS-ISAC) received \$43 million to combat growing cyber threats to state and local entities, such as with hospital ransomware or the Suffolk County cyberattack. This also includes election security support and additional Albert sensors to monitor state and local networks, as well as and additional cybersecurity services.

The Emergency Food & Shelter Program (EFSP) received \$130 million to support mass shelters and food for those facing severe economic crises. The final bill also includes \$785 million for the Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Shelter and Services Program to be funded through the Emergency Food and Shelter Program-Humanitarian (EFSP-H).

EBT Benefit Fraud (SNAP Skimming) Prevention provision requires Secretary Vilsack to investigate and develop methods to prevent fraud, improve security measures, and provide replacement of stolen SNAP benefits.

Summer Meals for Children provisions update the summer food service program to permanently allow states to provide non-congregate meals and summer EBT benefits nationwide to eligible children as other options. Non-congregate meals, such as grab-and-go or home delivery, would be provided in rural areas to eligible children, and summer EBT benefits would be capped at \$40 per child per month. This provision is fully offset.

DOL's YouthBuild program received \$105 million, an increase of nearly \$6 million from FY2022. YouthBuild is a community-based pre-apprenticeship program that provides job training and educational opportunities for at-risk youth ages 16-24 who have previously dropped out of high school.

Ben Ferencz Congressional Gold Medal: The omnibus awards a Congressional Gold Medal to Benjamin Ferencz. Ferencz was raised in NYC and served in the Army during WWII before serving as Chief Prosecutor for the United States in the Einsatzgruppen Case, in which commanders of SS mobile death squads faced charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity

LEGALS/PUBLIC NOTICES**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:**

The Town of Denning will hold its Organizational Meeting on Monday, January 3rd, 2023 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 20th, 2022

12/29

**NEVERSINK FIRE DISTRICT END OF YEAR MEETING
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

Please be advised that the End of the Year meeting of the Neversink Fire District for the year 2022 will be held on December 28, 2022 at 6:00 pm at the Neversink Firehouse. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss any unfinished business.

The Annual Organizational meeting of the Neversink Fire District for the year 2023 will held on January 3, 2022 at 6:30 pm at the Neversink Firehouse. The purpose of this meeting is to set salaries and compensations, establish polices and procedures as well as handle any other matter that has come before the board.

Both meetings are open to the Public.

December 21, 2022

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS NEVERSINK FIRE DISTRICT
7486 STATE RT 55
NEVERSINK, NY 12765

12/29

Neversink Fire District is hiring for a Part-time Fire District Secretary position: This person will report directly to the Board of Fire Commissioners. Overall responsibility to have custody and maintenance of all records, books and documents of the Neversink Fire District. The secretary shall attend all meetings of the Board of Fire Commissioners and keep a complete and accurate record of the proceedings of each meeting and of all the propositions, rules and regulations adopted. Prepare meeting agenda and post and distribute prior to meeting. Distribute meeting minutes timely. Prepare, publish, and post all Legal Notices within required time frames. Conduct all other duties assigned by the Board of Fire Commissioners. Minimum Qualifications: Excellent written and verbal communications skills are required. Five years of specialized experience (or its part-time equivalent) in Secretarial duties Relevant experience in organizational management is preferred High degree of proficiency in Microsoft Word, email, Excel and is required. Candidates for this position should be a resident of the Neversink Fire District. Wages commensurate with qualifications and experience. New hires will be required to take mandatory trainings as the Board desires. Email resume and salary requirements to neversinkfiredistrict@gmail.com by 1/18/23

12/29

**Please Take Notice:
Covid-19 Home
Test Kits**

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Town of Denning Town Hall
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Signature required**

**Tri-Valley Central
School District
Board of Education**

The next scheduled Board of
Education Meeting will be
**Thursday, January 5, 2023. Meeting
Opening Call to Order 6:00 p.m.,
Secondary School Library Lower
Level. Anticipated Proposed
Executive Session
6:00 p.m., Secondary School
Library Upper Level. Regular
Meeting #10 Resumes 7:00 p.m.,
Secondary School Library Lower
Level**

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Gillibrand, Schumer, Cardin, Wicker Announce Omnibus Includes Measure to Award Congressional Gold Medal to Benjamin Ferencz, the Last Living Nuremberg Prosecutor

Washington, D.C. - Today, U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY), Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY), Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD) and Senator Roger Wicker (R-MS) announced that their bill to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Benjamin Ferencz was included in the FY2023 omnibus funding package. Ferencz, the last living Nuremberg prosecutor, will receive the award in recognition of his work prosecuting Nazi war criminals, most notably the Einsatzgruppen, and his service in World War II. The bill previously passed the House in May and was introduced by Representatives Lois Frankel (D-FL) and Joe Wilson (R-SC).

"I am honored to have secured the awarding of the Congressional Gold Medal to Benjamin Ferencz, a champion for human rights and the last living Nuremberg prosecutor," said Senator Gillibrand. "As chief U.S. prosecutor during the Nuremberg trials, Mr. Ferencz held Nazi war criminals accountable for their crimes against humanity, and spent the many decades since then fighting for human rights, justice and peace. Mr. Ferencz's life exemplifies what it means to dedicate oneself to compassion, empathy and righteousness. Few people have been more deserving of this tremendous honor."

"I am honored to recognize Benjamin Ferencz, the last living Nuremberg prosecutor, with the Congressional Gold Medal, one of the greatest honors an American can receive," said Senator Schumer. "Mr. Ferencz, a Jewish immigrant who went on to serve our country in the Army, and honorably serve as a chief prosecutor for the U.S. in the Nuremberg trials, bravely held notorious Nazi war criminals to account. This award rightfully recognizes Mr. Ferencz for his fervor for justice and lifelong devotion to human rights and peace."

"Ben Ferencz embodies the fight for justice and this honor is well deserved. His remarkable contributions to the Nuremberg tribunal's prosecution of some of the 20th century's most notorious war criminals have rightly been recognized by numerous organizations, including the U.S. Holocaust Museum and Memorial, which continues its important work to give real meaning to the words 'never again,'" said Senator Cardin. "Throughout his long life of accomplishments, Mr. Ferencz continued to be an outspoken advocate for the rights of the oppressed. I was proud to join my colleagues in making this award a reality. The Congressional Gold Medal is a fitting tribute to a life of purpose and service to humanity."

"By awarding Ben Ferencz, the last living Nuremberg prosecutor, with the Congressional Gold Medal, Congress is sending an important message: that hate, bigotry, and antisemitism can never be tolerated. This message couldn't come at a more important time with antisemitism and Holocaust denial on the rise," said Rep. Frankel. "Mr. Ferencz is a hero of the Jewish community who has dedicated decades of his life to combatting antisemitism, prosecuting those who act on their hatred, and keeping the lessons of the Holocaust alive. It is a privilege to recognize his remarkable lifelong commitment to justice, peace, and human dignity with the Congressional Gold Medal—Congress's highest expression of honor."

Ben Ferencz immigrated to the United States from Hungary when he was ten months old and his family settled in New York City. Ferencz grew up in New York City and attended The City College of New York and Harvard Law School.

After graduating from Harvard Law School, Ferencz joined an anti-aircraft artillery battalion preparing for the invasion of France.

Ferencz was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army in 1945 with the rank of Sergeant of Infantry. Soon after being discharged, he was recruited to work on the Nuremberg trials.

Ferencz, along with roughly 50 other researchers, examined Nazi offices and archives in Berlin, finding staggering evidence of genocide by the Nazis. Ferencz, in his first-ever case and aged 27, served as Chief Prosecutor for the United States in the Einsatzgruppen Case, in which commanders of SS mobile death squads faced charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity. Twenty-two defendants were charged, prosecuted, and convicted of murdering over a million people. Fourteen were sentenced to death.

The Congressional Gold Medal is Congress' highest expression of national appreciation for distinguished achievements and contributions.

The first Congressional Gold Medal was given to George Washington in 1776 and has been awarded just 184 times to our nation's heroes, activists, scientists, and other important figures in our society.

Gillibrand announces Inclusion of Her Legislation to Protect SNAP Beneficiaries from Fraud in Omnibus Bill

This Year Alone, Scammers Stole Over \$730,000 From New York SNAP Beneficiaries; Legislation Will Help Ensure Victims Of Theft Don't Go Hungry

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Today, U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand announced that the framework of her legislation, the SNAP Theft Protection Act, is included in the end-of-year omnibus funding package for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023. This year, thousands of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) beneficiaries have had their benefits stolen through identity theft and skimming scams; Gillibrand's legislation directs states to promptly reissue these benefits using already allocated federal funds. The legislation also helps states track SNAP fraud data and develop mechanisms to enhance security technology.

"No one should go hungry because they fell victim to identity theft or a skimming scam," said Senator Gillibrand. "Today, I'm proud to announce that our bill to reissue SNAP benefits to those who had them stolen will be included in this year's omnibus bill. SNAP provides a lifeline for millions of New Yorkers, and I will keep doing everything in my power to protect the families who rely on it."

"SNAP benefits are a lifeline for many families, seniors, veterans, college students, and others who need them to feed themselves and their families," said Andres Vives, Executive Director of Hunger Solutions New York. "SNAP recipients deserve protections against lost benefits due to card skimming. We want to thank Senator Gillibrand for her leadership in elevating the issue of EBT card skimming and ensuring swift restitution for affected households."

"Empire Justice Center is grateful for Senator Gillibrand's leadership on benefits skimming," said Kristin Brown, Empire Justice Center President and CEO. "The omnibus bill will compensate some of the 4,000 low-income households that have already been victimized, and ensure that future skimming victims are at least partially compensated for their losses. We will continue working with the state and legislators in Albany to quickly update our benefit issuance system to put a stop to skimming altogether and to make sure that cash assistance victims are also compensated for their losses. (Contd. Pg. 28)



Your Community Ice Rink has opened for the season

*If you don't have skates or helmets, no
worryes we have them for you to use!*

*If you have never been to ice rink now is the
time to check it out.*

Town of Neversink Parks and Recreation

Russian Mule New Year's Eve Party
at the Claryville Event Center
Saturday, December 31

MENU

Starters

spring rolls *beef empanadas *spanakopita
*shrimp cocktail *crudite platter

Taste of Russia

olivier salad *vinaigrette salad *kabanosy *smoked fish platter
*stuffed cabbage *pelmeni *blinis with salmon caviar

Mains

beef brisket *chicken marsala *baked salmon *mashed
potatoes *garlic vegetables *teriyaki chicken * garden salad

Russian Dessert Table

coffee & tea station

\$55 per person, plus tax & gratuity

Live Music: Jesse Noren 5-8pm

Buffet 4-7:30pm

Cash Bar 4-9pm

Make Your Reservation As Space Is Limited

RSVP at (845)985-0247

ST. MARK'S UMC
68 Clinton St
Napanoch NY

INDOOR YARD and CLOTHING SALE

Will be opened every Friday from 10 - 3

Something for Everyone!



COLONIAL FAMILY of FUNERAL HOMES

PRE-PLANNING, FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICES VETERAN'S CARE, MONUMENTS & ENGRAVING

LOCATIONS IN WOODBOURNE, LIBERTY, MONTICELLO, LIVINGSTON MANOR & KAUNEONGA LAKE

434-7363 292-7160 794-2700 583-5445 439-4333

<http://www.colonialfamilyfuneralhomes.com>

MONUMENTS INSTALLED IN ALL CEMETERIES
CREMATION MEMORIALS & BENCHES, MONUMENT LETTERING & CLEANING

Sundown United Methodist Church

Covered Dish Supper
5:30 pm

Jan. 7, 2023
Tables with Yard Sale items will be available during the supper

Sundown United Methodist Church Hall



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Grahamsville United Methodist Church

Wishing you a Blessed Advent Season and a Christmas filled with Peace and Love



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

Join Zoom Meeting - Worship Service & Tuesday Evening Bible Study Zoom Link
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2029912673?pwd=R2lJYUhyTVdsQWdMUXZvTEtCeGdLZz09>
Meeting ID: 202 991 2673 Passcode: 012740

Dial by your location
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

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

Grahamsville Reformed Church

The Church with a friendly welcome

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

Claryville Reformed Church

Claryville Road
Claryville, NY 12725
845-985-2041



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

Loucks Funeral Home

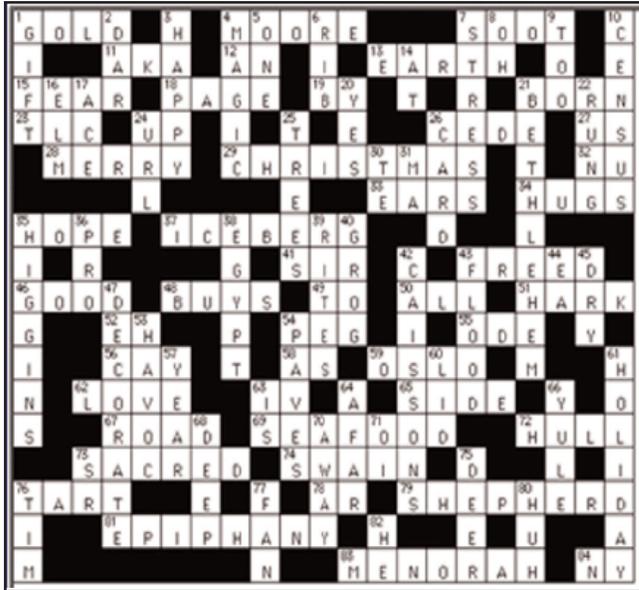
Geoff and Heather Hazzard
"Celebrating Life, One Family at a Time"

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

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

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

Ans to last week's Crossword



**GRAHAMSVILLE
UMC THRIFT MINISTRY**

We are no longer accepting donations for the Thrift Ministry as of November 1, 2022. Thanks to all for your generosity which has helped to make a successful season. We look forward to returning in the Spring of 2023.

The Grahamsville UMC Mission Team

**Sundown
United Methodist Church**

**Covered Dish Supper
Saturday, Jan. 7, 2023 5:30 pm
at the Church Hall**

Check out the tables with Yard Sale items available for sale

(Covered Dish Suppers will be held the First Saturday of each month at 5:30 pm at the Church Hall)

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

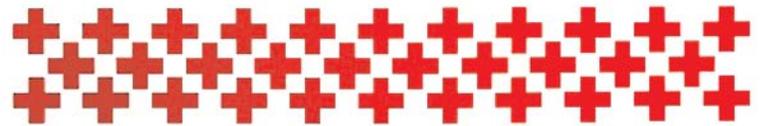
SUUJI WA TANSU NI KAGIRU answer

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

ARTISTS • CRAFTERS
Need a place to show and sell your crafts?
Call us at 845-985-0501
email: tvtownsman@yahoo.com
or visit our Virtual Mail
<http://gnomehomeinc.com>

American Red Cross

Give blood. Help save lives.



**Community Blood Drive
Proudly Hosted by
Daniel Pierce Library**

In the Community Room
328 Main St.
Grahamsville, NY 12740

**Tuesday, January 17, 2023
2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

Please Call 1-800 RED CROSS or visit redcrossblood.org to make your lifesaving appointment today!

Walk-ins Welcome - Appointments Preferred!

Please consider giving a Power Red Cell donation if you are O-, O+, A- or B-!

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

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

LOCAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 1/2/23 Town on Neversink HOLIDAY -**NEW YEARS DAY**
 1/7/23 **Sundown UMC Covered Dish Supper** 5:30 Church Hall

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

Please remember to send us your **Events Calendar for 2023** 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

Save the Date!

February 4, 2023 **2nd Annual Town of Neversink Winterfest** (Blizzard date Feb. 11, 2023)-Watch for details.
 May 6, 2023 f **Tri-Valley Lions' Journey For Sight Walk** at 8:30 am at Grahamsville First Aid Squad Bldg and Fairgrounds. Call Lion Esta Jacob for more information at 845-866-1579.

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.

Ulster County Legislature Weekly Calendar Update for the Week of December 26, 2022 - December 30, 2022

Monday, December 26

- o Holiday - County Offices Closed

Tuesday, December 27

- o **5:15 PM - Ulster County Commission on Reapportionment:** Public Hearing on Revised Proposed Map of 2024 - 2033 County Legislative Districts, in the Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston, and 1432 Lake Josephine Dr, Sebring, FL. Public Comment may also be offered by videoconference or phone at: Web: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81562207899> Phone: (646) 558-8656; ID: 815 6220 7899. One tap mobile: +16465588656, 81562207899#

Wednesday, December 28

- o **3:00 PM - Ulster County Electrical Licensing Board,** at Rondout Municipal Center, 1915 Lucas Ave, Cottekill, NY
- o **6:30 PM - Environmental Management Council,** at the Restorative Justice & Community Empowerment Center, 733 Broadway, Kingston, the public may also join via Zoom, Meeting ID: 974 4254 9615, Passcode: 278571, By Phone (646) 558-8656

Thursday, December 29

- o **5:15 PM - Ulster County Commission on Reapportionment,** in the Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston, 1432 Lake Josephine Dr, Sebring, FL, and 735 S. State St., Ann Arbor, MI

Friday, December 30

- o **5:15 PM - Ulster County Commission on Reapportionment,** in the Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston, and 735 S. State St., Ann Arbor, MI

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

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

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

1" Boxed ad (1" x 3")- \$6.00 per week
 Business card ad (2" x 3")
 - \$12.00 per week

(3" x 4") - \$24.00 per week
 (3" x 6") - \$36.00 per week
 1/4 pg (4" x 5") - \$40.00 per week
 1/2 pg (4"x8") - \$64.00 per week
 (6" x 8") - \$96.00 per week

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

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

•• Full Page Flyer for Local Municipalities
 and Organizations -
 one time fee- \$20.00
 (once the flyer is inserted we will
 publish it each week
 through the week of the event)
 As in the past, there is no fee for
 advertising for our local churches

Low Rates
 High Visibility!

Dept. of Motor Vehicles dates for the Neversink Town Hall.

12/8/2022, 1/5, 2/2 & 3/2/2023.



Go on the DMV Website to make a reservation.

Search [sullivancountydmscheduling](#)

Please read all appointment types before selecting one. If you select the wrong appointment type you may have to reschedule due to time constraints.

Now conveniently doing business at 9 locations:

- Neversink Town Hall - 273 Main Street, Grahamsville, NY (rotating schedule)**
- Callicoon Town Hall - 19 Legion Street, Jeffersonville, NY (rotating schedule)**
- Rockland Town Hall - 95 Main Street, Livingston Manor, NY (rotating schedule)**
- Delaware Town Hall - 104 Lower Main Street, Hortonville, NY (rotating schedule)**
- Mamakating Town Hall - 2948 US 209, Wurtsboro, NY (rotating schedule)**
- Tusten Town Hall - 210 Bridge Street, Narrowsburg, NY (rotating schedule)**
- Town of Liberty Senior Center - 119 N Main St. Liberty, NY (rotating schedule)**
- Bloomingburg Town Hall - 13 North Rd. Bloomingburg, NY (rotating schedule)**

Customers **MUST** have all forms completed **PRIOR** to arriving for their appointment. You can access forms through the NYS DMV website - [dmv.ny.gov](#)

***** IF YOU ARE LATE OR NOT PREPARED YOU WILL BE ASKED TO RESCHEDULE *****

Please limit the number of people coming to your appointment. Additional people not necessary to the transaction may be asked to wait outside.

The DMV will continue to take mail-in license renewals with proof of an eye exam and registration renewals to: Sullivan County DMV, 100 North Street, Monticello NY, 12701

For further information please contact us at: 845-794-3872

NY Power Authority Transmission System Enables Access to High-Speed Internet for More Than 2,000 Residents and Businesses in the Village of Sherburne and Town of Nichols

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced completion of New York's first ever municipal broadband network as a major milestone for the state's ConnectALL program. The network is the first phase of the ConnectALL 21st Century Municipal Infrastructure pilot program, which began in May using fiber optic infrastructure on the New York Power Authority's existing transmission system and is ahead of schedule due to NYPA and the Village of Sherburne and Town of Nichols optimizing implementation plans.

"Broadband connectivity has become as vital a service as electricity and water and New York State is determined to make sure that no citizen is without access," Governor Hochul said. "The collaboration among our federal, state and non-profit partners has been critical to the ConnectALL program's rapid progress and deployment and we are looking ahead to expanding the program even further in the new year."

The \$10 million, four-municipality pilot project has completed construction enabling reliable, high-speed internet access to more than 2,000 previously unserved or underserved households and business

customers. In addition to the completed network in the Village of Sherburne, Chenango County, construction is rapidly progressing in the Town of Nichols, Tioga County. The pilot program, which kicked off in May, is part of the \$1 billion ConnectALL initiative, announced in Governor Hochul's 2022 State of the State address—the largest public investment in broadband in the state's history that aims to transform New York's digital infrastructure and expand broadband access, affordability and equity statewide using public and private investments.

In addition to the Village of Sherburne and the Town of Nichols, the pilot program is building fiber optic infrastructure in the Town of Diana in Lewis County and the Town of Pitcairn in St. Lawrence County.

NYPA is managing the broadband deployment in the four locations leveraging its existing fiber optic infrastructure for the "middle mile," as authorized by the state legislature in April. Sherburne Electric, Development Authority of the North Country, and Southern Tier Network are partnering on the last mile broadband infrastructure. Private internet service providers are using the public infrastructure to deliver internet service to residents. The new customers in Sherburne are paying approximately \$40 per month for service, well below the average price for broadband in Chenango County, based on the Department of Public Service's Regional 2022 Survey of Internet Service Pricing.



2023 SULLIVAN COUNTY DMV

winter schedule

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



<p>JEFFERSONVILLE</p> <p>Tues January 10</p> <p>Tues February 7</p> <p>Tues March 7</p> <p>License & Registration Appts</p> <p><i>19 Legion Street, Jeffersonville, NY</i></p>	<p>WURTSBORO</p> <p>Thurs January 19</p> <p>Thursday February 16</p> <p>Thursday March 16</p> <p>Registration Appts Only</p> <p><i>2948 US 209, Wurtsboro, NY</i></p>	<p>NARROWSBURG</p> <p>Tues January 24</p> <p>Tues February 21</p> <p>Tues March 21</p> <p>Registration Appts Only</p> <p><i>210 Bridge Street, Narrowsburg, NY</i></p>	<p>HORTONVILLE</p> <p>Thurs January 12</p> <p>Thurs February 9</p> <p>Thurs March 9</p> <p>Registration Appts Only</p> <p><i>104 Lower Main Street, Hortonville, NY</i></p>
<p>LIVINGSTON MANOR</p> <p>Tues January 17</p> <p>Tues February 14</p> <p>Tues March 14</p> <p>Registration Appts Only</p> <p><i>95 Main Street, Livingston Manor, NY</i></p>	<p>GRAHAMSVILLE</p> <p>Thurs January 5</p> <p>Thurs February 2</p> <p>Thurs March 2</p> <p>License & Registration Appts</p> <p><i>27 T Main Street, Grahamsville, NY</i></p>	<p>LIBERTY</p> <p>Tues January 31</p> <p>Tues February 28</p> <p>Tues March 28</p> <p>License & Registration Appts</p> <p><i>15 Sullivan Ave Liberty, NY</i></p>	<p>BLOOMINGBURG</p> <p>Thurs January 26</p> <p>Thurs February 23</p> <p>Thurs March 23</p> <p>License & Registration Appts</p> <p><i>11 North Rd. Bloomingburg, NY</i></p>

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

Montigram - Monticello Rotary News

The Gala Monticello Rotary Holiday Celebration was initiated by a cocktail hour as members of our club enjoyed the delicious appetizers provided by Albellas. Following the Pledge of Allegiance and the 4-Way Test, it was time for the formal induction of our newest member, Shayna Benskie.



President Brad Rutledge presided as our newest Rotarian was introduced to fellow Rotarians and their guests.



Lori lighted a menorah and said Hanukkah prayers before explaining the meaning of the holiday ritual.

Celebration of the Holiday Season followed with the usual excellent cuisine prepared by Albellas.



The "Rotarian Revelers" ate, drank and were merry with good tidings and cheer!

"Life Is Good" - (thanks to Orshii for always reminding us with these inspiring words!)



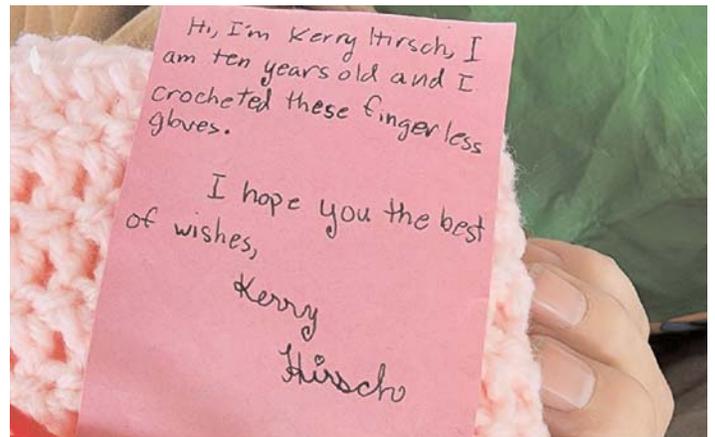
Bag-of-Joy Senior Comfort Closet Warms the Hearts of Achieve Clients



Monticello Rotary along with the 3rd Judicial District in Sullivan County of the NYS Court System collected and distributed Bag-of-Joy items to the Achieve Nursing and Rehab Facility in Liberty, New York. Rotary Drive Chairperson and Rotary Club Vice President, Lori Orestano-James said the Director of Program Services



was humbled to receive the donation stating that the clients at the facility will be able to use all of the items individually and in their therapeutic needs. "Being away from loved ones during the Holiday Season is very difficult. Many of our Senior Citizens have no family locally



and the Holiday's can bring on sadness and depression. Thank you to all who helped us make a difference," said Orestano-James. Special thanks to Wendy Weiner-Galligan who led the charge in the Courts. Rotary Bag-of-Joy Committee Members Peter Chester and Lynka Rivera assisted with collection and distribution. Monticello Rotary President Brad Rutledge said, "This was a beautiful partnership that will continue to flourish and grow in years to come as we provide support in our community."

PILATES
**HAPPY
BODY**

Join the Neversink General Store community for **Pilates Mat Classes**, taught by **Audra Lang**.

Sundays @ 10AM
Wednesdays @ 5PM

Details:

- Drop-in, no RSVP required.
- Mats and props are provided (students may bring their own if they prefer).
- All classes are 50 minutes long.
- \$15 per class. Payable via cash or Venmo.

Sun Trail Storage

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

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



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

Please call for availability first

Gillibrand announces Inclusion of Her Legislation to Protect SNAP Beneficiaries from Fraud in Omnibus Bill

(From Pg. 19)

Low-income New Yorkers should be able to access the same protections as credit and debit card holders - to have cards that offer basic security features and to be compensated when they are the victims of fraud.”

“We are grateful that Senator Gillibrand was able to get into the Omnibus Bill provisions that will reduce the risk that already-struggling New Yorkers will face the double whammy of having their meager food benefits stolen from them with no recourse to get them replaced,” said Joel Berg, CEO of Hunger Free America, a national direct service and advocacy organization headquartered in New York City. “Such Stolen food benefits increase hunger, reduce income for local food retailers and farmers markets, and harm health by making it more difficult for families to obtain nutritious foods. The Omnibus language addresses this problem in a common-sense, compassionate, manner, enabling families to be reimbursed. Senator Gillibrand continues to be one of the nation’s top champions in the fight against domestic hunger.”

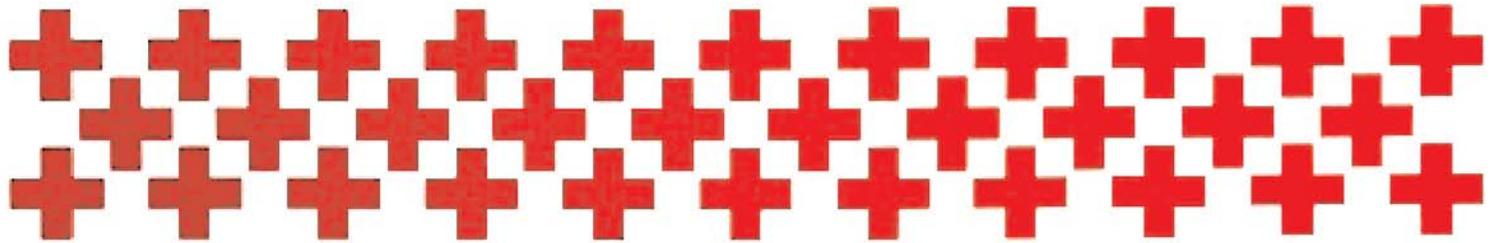
“The Legal Aid Society thanks Senator Gillibrand for her leadership on finding federal solutions for the 4,000 New York households who have been victims of skimming to date,” said Susan Welber, staff attorney with the Civil Law Reform Unit at The Legal Aid Society. “We are pleased that the omnibus bill would provide at least partial relief for New York skimming victims, but we continue to call on Albany to ensure that families who are struggling to feed their families because their benefits were stolen by skimming receive the full value of the benefits lost as soon as possible. Skimming victims deserve full compensation, just the same as customers of credit card fraud receive.”

Skimming occurs when criminals place a “skimming” device on an ATM or POS (point of sale) device to capture a person’s PIN information and the data stored on the magnetic strip of the SNAP EBT (Electronic Benefits Transfer) card. This allows thieves to use that information to duplicate the EBT card and to access the benefits in the SNAP beneficiary’s account, even without the original card. Unlike credit card, debit card and pre-paid cardholders who are covered by the federal Electronic Fund Transfer Act (EFTA) and Regulation E against losses from unauthorized electronic transactions, SNAP EBT beneficiaries are not afforded the same protections. New York State reports that thousands of New Yorkers have had their EBT cards skimmed and benefits stolen this year, losing a total value of more than \$730,000.

Gillibrand introduced the SNAP Theft Protection Act alongside Senators Ben Cardin (D-MD) and Chris Van Hollen (D-MD) earlier this month. Additionally, in October, Senator Gillibrand led her colleagues in sending a letter urging action from USDA to better protect SNAP beneficiaries at risk of having their benefits stolen through skimming scams.

American Red Cross

Give blood. Help save lives.



Community Blood Drive **Proudly Hosted by** **Daniel Pierce Library**

In the Community Room
328 Main St.
Grahamsville, NY 12740

Tuesday, January 17, 2023
2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Please Call 1-800 RED CROSS or visit redcrossblood.org
to make your lifesaving appointment today!

Walk-Ins Welcome - Appointments Preferred!

Please consider giving a Power Red Cell donation
if you are O-, O+, A- or B-!

**Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15
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DEC Announces 2023 Catskills Fire Tower Challenge

*Challenge Encourages Experienced Hikers to
Visit Region's Six Fire Towers
Highlights Opportunities for Recreation in the
Catskill Park*

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos today announced the 2023 Catskills Fire Tower Challenge to highlight the world-class tourism destinations and recreational opportunities in the Mid-Hudson region.

"The annual Fire Tower Challenge is a great way to keep the history and traditions of our Catskills fire towers alive for future generations to appreciate and enjoy," said Commissioner Seggos. "The Fire Tower Challenge provides opportunities for New Yorkers and visitors to reach the unique viewing experience of the spectacular Catskill Mountains while making everlasting memories with family and friends. I encourage anyone that has participated in years past, or those looking to try the tower hikes for the first time and take the 2023 Challenge."

For nearly a century, observers watched the forests of New York State - including the Catskill and Adirondack forest preserve - from more than 100 fire towers perched atop the highest peaks, searching for the dangerous, telltale signs of forest fires.

The Catskills Fire Tower Challenge encourages experienced hikers to visit the region's remaining fire towers located on Balsam Lake Mountain (Hardenburgh), Hunter Mountain (Hunter), Overlook Mountain (Woodstock), Red Hill Mountain (Denning), and Tremper Mountain (Shandaken), along with the Upper Esopus Fire Tower at the Catskills Visitor Center. The Upper Esopus Fire Tower allows visitors who may not otherwise be able to undertake the challenging hike of several miles to experience a fire tower on the high peaks in the Catskills.

Stewardship of the fire towers is a partnership with the Catskill Center for Conservation and Development. The Catskill Center, through the Catskill Fire Tower Project, manages six fire towers in the Catskill Park for public access and interpretation under a Volunteer Stewardship Agreement with DEC. Dedicated volunteers help maintain and staff each of the fire towers on weekends and holidays throughout the summer and fall seasons. For more information about the Catskills and to experience the newest and easiest to reach fire tower in the region, the Upper Esopus Fire Tower, consider a visit to the Catskills Visitor Center on Route 28 in the heart of the Catskill Park.

To participate in the challenge, hikers must hike to all six DEC-owned fire towers in the Catskills between Jan. 1, and Dec. 31, 2023. Once completed, participants submit a log of their completed hikes along with a favorite photo or selfie via a web form or to the designated email inbox: CatskillsChallenge@dec.ny.gov. Entries must be postmarked by Jan. 7, 2024.

All participants who complete the challenge will receive a letter and a commemorative Catskills Fire Tower Challenge patch designed with the 2023 completion year. The first 1,000 finishers will also receive a one-year subscription to DEC's Conservationist magazine. Upon completion, finishers will also be able to download a customizable certificate and will be eligible to win prizes after the challenge period is closed. To promote responsible recreation, DEC will offer a bonus prize entry to finishers who also submit a photo of themselves practicing Leave No Trace™ while participating in the Catskills Fire Tower Challenge (e.g., picking up litter, carrying out, planning and preparing for their hikes, staying on trail).

New for 2023, finishers who completed the challenge multiple times will receive an additional commemorative Catskills Fire Tower Challenge prize.

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Executive Director of the Catskill Center Jeff Senterman said, "We're thrilled to be part of the Catskills Fire Tower Challenge. The Challenge is a great way to introduce new visitors to the Catskill Park. By bringing visitors to the fire towers, we are directing them to durable trails, amazing views, and the opportunity to interact with our fire tower stewards to get information about the Park, history, and much more. We love that having the Upper Esopus Fire Tower, included as part of the Challenge, brings more people to the Catskills Visitor Center where they can learn about the Park, get information on how to recreate responsibly while they visit, and learn more about the communities of the Catskills that they can visit before and after their hikes."

Empire State Development Vice President and Executive Director of Tourism Ross D. Levi said, "New York State is unsurpassed when it comes to outdoor recreation destinations. The Fire Tower Challenge represents another chance to invite visitors from around the world and residents alike to explore all that New York has to offer when it comes to enjoying the great outdoors. I LOVE NY looks forward to promoting the Fire Tower Challenge and all the amazing opportunities to hike the Empire State."

Earlier this week, Governor Hochul encouraged New Yorkers to spend time in the outdoors this holiday season and celebrate the New Year at state parks, historic sites, wildlife areas, canal trails, and public lands across the Empire State on Jan. 1, 2023 as part of New York's First Day Hikes program, which offers varied hike options for people across the state to enjoy. There is an opportunity for a First Day Hike in the Catskill region at Upper Esopus Fire Tower at the Catskills Visitor Center. The 0.5-mile loop provides an accessible hike for everyone. For those interested, the Upper Esopus Fire Tower will be open and available to climb.

The 2022 challenge, which continues through the end of the year, has drawn more than 800 finishers to-date. Entries have been received from every region of New York, 12 other states, Canada, and the United Kingdom.

With DEC giving participants a full year to complete the challenge, hikers can take their time. Hikers are reminded to practice Leave No Trace™ principles and to Love Our NY Lands by recreating safely, sustainably, and hiking in suitable conditions based on weather and experience level.

For more information about the fire towers and challenge rules, visit DEC's website at: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/76620.html>

Under the Adventure NY initiative, DEC is making strategic investments to expand access to healthy, active, outdoor recreation; connect more New Yorkers and visitors to nature and the outdoors; protect natural resources; and boost local economies. Read more about the Adventure NY initiative on DEC's website.

Housing Works, a Non-Profit Supporting Formerly Incarcerated New Yorkers, to Make First Cannabis Sale in Manhattan December 29

*Completes the Cannabis Supply Chain
Started by the Seeding Opportunity
Initiative*

Governor Kathy Hochul announced today that sales of legal, regulated adult-use cannabis will start on December 29 at a dispensary in Manhattan, operated by Housing Works, the nation's largest minority-controlled HIV/AIDS service organization and largest community-based HIV/AIDS service organization. The non-profit, based in New York City, operates a range of direct and support services for people living with HIV/AIDS, the homeless, formerly incarcerated, and justice involved individuals. It also operates a network of charitable retail storefronts.

"We set a course just nine months ago to start New York's adult-use cannabis market off on the right foot by prioritizing equity, and now, we're fulfilling that goal," Governor Hochul said. "The industry will continue to grow from here, creating inclusive opportunity in every corner of New York State with revenues directed to our schools and revitalizing communities.

This historic event will mark a critical milestone in the Seeding Opportunity Initiative, which was designed to set New York on a path to fulfilling the goals of New York's Cannabis Law by building an adult-use cannabis industry that offsets the harms resulting from the disproportionate impact of cannabis prohibition.

Announced by Governor Hochul in March, the Initiative has provided for the licensing of 280 family farmers to grow the first adult-use cannabis in New York State. These tested, safer cannabis products will be sold by the first licensed adult-use dispensaries in New York, which are either owned by successful business operators, or a close family member, who have a cannabis conviction (justice involved); or non-profit organizations that provide services to individuals who have been harmed by the unequal enforcement of cannabis prohibition.

To qualify, nonprofits, such as Housing Works, also need to have at least one justice-involved board member and create vocational opportunities for those with a marijuana conviction. Housing Works has served justice-involved New Yorkers since its inception in 1990 through direct services and advocacy initiatives. Today, Housing Works' Justice Initiative tailors the non-profit's services to meet the needs of formerly incarcerated individuals, including those with marijuana convictions.

Cannabis Control Board Chairwoman Tremaine Wright said, "I'm excited that a non-profit like Housing Works, with its support for formerly incarcerated individuals, will lead the way with sales. The start of sales through the Seeding Opportunity Initiative is just the beginning of the robust ecosystem we're building - the equitable and inclusive market will grow from here with supports throughout to ensure licensees are able to overcome barriers and build this new industry."

Cannabis Control Board Member Jen Metzger said, "New York is taking the right path in building its legal cannabis industry, with the state's first retail dispensaries operated by entrepreneurs and non-profits dedicated to serving their community and prioritizing public health. At the same time, we are strengthening the linkages between our urban and rural communities to the benefit of consumers, stocking the shelves of these first dispensaries with sustainably grown, high-quality, sun-grown cannabis that was cultivated on New York's small and family farms."

Cannabis Control Board Member Jessica Garcia said, "Positioning justice involved individuals, and the non-profits that support them, as the first to make sales is putting New York on the right track to meet the goals of the New York Cannabis Law while providing protections to workers in the industry by creating pathways to union cannabis careers. This is a big, first step forward for the cannabis industry we're building in New York - it's an important one and it's only the beginning."

(Contd. Pg. 32)

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Housing Works, a Non-Profit Supporting Formerly Incarcerated New Yorkers, to Make First Cannabis Sale in Manhattan December 29

(From Pg. 31)

Cannabis Control Board Member Adam Perry said, "This is history in the making as we work to address the harm caused by cannabis prohibition and fully implement the goals of New York's Cannabis Law. This is the right start for the industry, and I look forward to continuing to work with our team to support all license types to ensure we're not only delivering licenses to social equity entrepreneurs, but also setting them up for success over the long-term."

Chris Alexander, Executive Director for the Office of Cannabis Management, said, "I'm proud of the supply chain we built from the ground-up through the Seeding Opportunity Initiative by relying on family farmers and justice involved individuals and the non-profits that support them, and I'm thankful to Governor Hochul and the Legislature for their support in bringing it to fruition. Not only have we ended the prohibition in New York, but we're showing the nation, and the world, how to build a market that's truly equitable and inclusive, and works to undo the harms caused by the disproportionate enforcement of cannabis prohibition. Every dollar spent in this growing industry will help support independent businesses, our schools, and our communities."

State Senator Liz Krueger said, "I am gratified to see the start of the adult retail cannabis sales, and that Housing Works will be launching the first store. Their decades of work with marginalized communities make them a perfect partner in the effort to ensure that New York's Cannabis market provides meaningful opportunities to those most impacted by the failed cannabis criminalization policies of the past."

Assembly Majority Leader Crystal Peoples-Stokes said, "Today's historic announcement is a monumental development in establishing a cannabis economy in New York centered on justice and equity as envisioned by the Marijuana Regulation and Taxation Act and the Seeding Opportunity Initiative. I am excited for Housing Works and the other justice involved individuals and non-profits that will soon be opening their doors to the public for the purchase of safe and reliable cannabis products. This initial completion of New York's first home grown cannabis supply chain is just the beginning of what is sure to become a thriving and equitable new industry."

Charles King, CEO of Housing Works, said, "At our core, we're a healing community dedicated to providing housing, healthcare and vocational programs for New Yorkers. This opportunity will not only give our team the resources to further our overall mission, but to feature and elevate products coming from LGBTQ+, BIPOC and women-led cannabis brands across the state."

Sasha Nutgent, Store Manager of Housing Works Cannabis Co, said, "This is a once in a lifetime moment. That said, our nonprofit's mission remains as urgent as ever. We are eager to take the lead as a social equity model for America's cannabis industry, specifically with our hiring practices and continued support of individuals and communities disproportionately impacted by the unjust War on Drugs."

The storefront operated by Housing Works is located at 750 Broadway in the Astor Place neighborhood. All proceeds from dispensary sales will be directed to parent organization Housing Works, Inc., founded in 1990 to address the dual crises of HIV/AIDS and homelessness. The self-sustaining nonprofit provides job opportunities, legal advocacy and comprehensive housing and health services funded, in part, by revenues from its thrift stores, SoHo bookstore and now its cannabis dispensary. With a focus on compassion and dispelling stigmas, Housing Works endeavors to move the cannabis industry forward by supporting the practical needs of their community through an equity-driven and harm reduction approach.

Spanning 4,400 square feet, the iconic building where the dispensary will be, known as 1 Astor Place, was completed in 1883. Housing Works Cannabis Co will welcome patrons with an introductory shopping experience upon opening, with plans to carefully build out an expanded and thoughtfully curated space as cannabis products become more available.

Housing Works Cannabis Co, located at 750 Broadway in Manhattan's Astor Place neighborhood, will be open seven days a week, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Hours will adjust in the coming weeks. Learn more here.

To date, the New York State Cannabis Control Board has approved 36 Conditional Adult Use Retail Dispensary Licenses, including 28 for qualifying businesses and 8 for non-profits. Earlier this month, the Office of Cannabis Management released guidance to support retail businesses in starting their operations with delivery service to help jumpstart sales.

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Governor Hochul Signs Legislation Establishing Statewide Rape Kit Tracking System

Legislation S7867-A/A9596-A Will Help Survivors of Sexual Assault Track Evidence Collection Kits

Governor Kathy Hochul today signed legislation (S7867-A/A9596-A) to establish a statewide electronic tracking system for sexual offense evidence collection kits, commonly known as rape kits. This tracking system will ensure that all survivors of sexual assault have access to information about the status and location of their kits.

"Survivors of sexual assault deserve support, compassion, agency, and justice, and we are committed to doing everything in our power to deliver the accountability they deserve," Governor Hochul said. "This new tracking system will be a critical tool to empower survivors with the ability to track these kits, and support our overall efforts to make New York State safer and more supportive for all."

Legislation (S7867-A/A9596-A) directs the Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) to create a tracking system for kits in the custody of law enforcement agencies. This tracking system will allow survivors to access information about the status of their rape kit and will be critical to ensure accountability for timely processing.

Office of Victim Services Director Elizabeth Cronin said, "We applaud the Governor and legislature for ensuring victims of crime have this valuable tool to help keep them informed as evidence is processed for victims who choose to report crime to law enforcement. OVS is dedicated to providing victims of crime with the support and resources they need whether or not they choose to move forward with criminal cases."

The DCJS system will track kits from the point they are collected by law enforcement and their subsequent testing by crime labs as evidence. This tracking system complements the tracking system which will be available to survivors who choose not to submit to law enforcement, but whose kits are to be stored by OVS for a 20 year period.

State Police Acting Superintendent Steven A. Nigrelli said, "I want to thank Governor Hochul for her leadership in providing support for survivors of sexual assault. This new tracking system will ensure that survivors have access to updates about the evidence kit collected in their case, and will hold medical providers, forensic laboratories and law enforcement accountable to ensure the kits are processed in a timely manner."

OVS is responsible for storing sexual offense evidence collection kits that have not been released to law enforcement. Public Health Law requires the state to store kits for 20 years and a victim of crime may request certain information about their kit or personal items in storage. OVS is currently developing a consent form, which will be available on the agency's website, allowing victims of crime to complete and submit a request to OVS via email at soeck@ovs.ny.gov. This helps give victims and survivors of sexual assault time they may need to decide whether to report the crime and release their kit to law enforcement for testing.

Earlier this year, Governor Hochul announced nearly \$373.2 million in federal and state funding over three years to 219 non-profit organizations and coalitions, hospitals and government agencies to support 239 victim assistance programs that provide crisis

counseling, therapy, emergency shelter, civil legal assistance, case management and advocacy. This is the single largest investment of funding ever administered by OVS and nearly half of the funding, 47 percent, will support programs serving victims and survivors of domestic violence and their families while 13 percent will provide funding for programs serving victims and survivors of sexual assault.

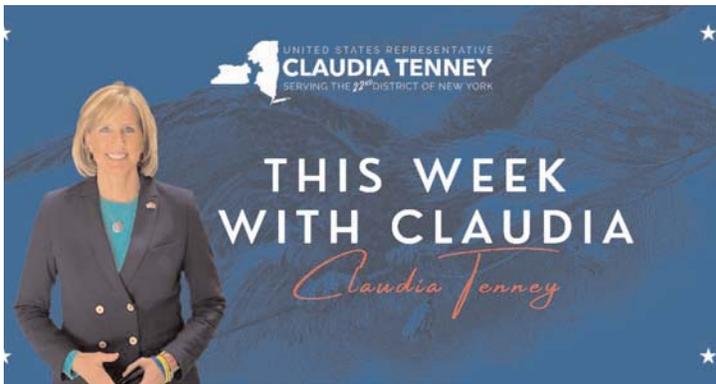
Financial assistance administered by OVS provides a critical safety net and helps victims, survivors and family members with medical and counseling expenses, funeral and burial expenses, lost wages and support, in addition to other assistance. New York is the only state in the nation with no cap on medical or counseling costs, which means individuals can receive assistance as long as they need it.

Victim assistance programs also help individuals file claims with OVS to obtain compensation or reimbursement for expenses directly resulting from the crime. While eligibility for compensation or reimbursement is determined by an individual's income and access to other resources, such as health insurance, victim assistance programs provide services and support at no cost to anyone who needs them. OVS Resource Connect allows New Yorkers to easily search for programs by specific concerns or issues they are facing. Visit the Office of Victim Services' website for more information and follow the agency on Twitter and Facebook. For more information about services offered by the agency, including eligibility guidelines, visit ovs.ny.gov or call 1-800-247-8035

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As we celebrate with family and friends this holiday season, may we take time to reflect on the season's true meaning and the many blessings we have in our lives. As we gather with our families, let us also remember those who cannot. From the brave frontline workers and first responders to the courageous men and women of the Armed Forces serving at home and abroad, thank you!

From my family to yours, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

I opposed Democrats' reckless spending bill

Just yesterday, the government funding bill for Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23) passed the House by a vote of 225-201. I strongly opposed the bill for many reasons, including several of the bill's wasteful spending provisions and anti-Second Amendment measures. The funding package also failed to address inflation, fix the crisis at our border, or expand American energy production.

After the reckless allocation of trillions in supplementary spending this term by House and Senate Democrats, they capped off their fiscal recklessness with this \$1.7 trillion monstrosity of a funding bill. This bill fails to address America's energy crisis or expand funding to proactively secure the border. Further, it does not include backpay for our military men and women who were unjustly placed on leave or dismissed due to the COVID-19 vaccine mandate. I could not, in good faith, support this legislation, which at more than 4,000 pages, completely fails to provide the relief that the American people are demanding.

Among the only encouraging aspects of this legislation is that it included several requests I advocated for through the Community Project Funding initiative, each of which was subjected to a rigorous review process to ensure it was fiscally responsible and necessary. Importantly, these projects are spending-neutral and simply ensure federal spending reflects the priorities of our communities.

When I served in the New York State Assembly, we referred to runaway spending bills like the one the House considered yesterday as the "Big Ugly." I joined Mornings with Maria this week to share my concerns with the omnibus spending bill, which may just be the biggest ugly I've ever witnessed.

House Democrats' partisan decision to release President Trump's tax returns sets a dangerous precedent

The partisan decision by Democrats on the House Ways and Means Committee to release the private tax returns of former President Donald J. Trump is absolutely unprecedented. It shows just how far the Left will go to weaponize the bureaucracy against the American people.

Releasing the tax returns of a private citizen in this manner sets a dangerous new precedent, and House Democrats are proving to the American people exactly why we should resist their partisan efforts to enlarge and empower the IRS. One of the greatest threats to our freedom and our nation's prosperity is an overly

powerful bureaucracy that can target and destroy a taxpayer's reputation and livelihood on a whim, without any accountability or oversight.

This extreme move by congressional Democrats should alarm every American citizen. It is a direct attack on your privacy, overturning long-held precedents and setting the stage for many more Americans to have their tax information and personal records exposed for purely political reasons.

I recently introduced the DIRECT Funds for Border Security Act to stop Joe Biden's plan to use the IRS to target and extort working families. The bill redirects funding for Biden's new army of IRS agents to the border so we can invest in law enforcement and restore operational control.

Introduced the bipartisan REGIME Act to hold Iran accountable

The Iranian regime continues to deny its people dignity and fundamental human rights. The same regime thugs who are complicit in the abuse, detention or killing of peaceful protesters are also the ones sending their own children and family members to study, live, and thrive here in the United States.

The bipartisan REGIME Act will ensure that U.S. visas issued to members of the Iranian regime and their families are immediately revoked so that these individuals cannot seek residency and reap the benefits bestowed by the taxpayers of this country while continuing to deny those same opportunities to so many in their own country. I was honored to stand with my colleagues and co-sponsor this important legislation. Click here to read more about this bill.

I'm committed to restoring transparency to government, which is why I explain every vote I take on the House floor. While we may not always agree, you will always know where I stand on the issues and how I vote in Congress. This Congress my office has already explained more than 400 votes.

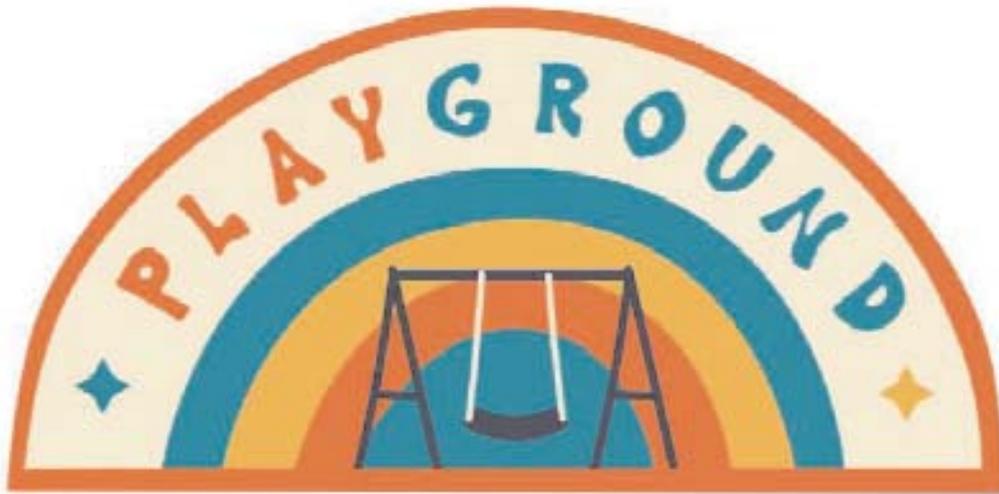
Some of the key bills we considered this week are explained below. To read more about these votes and see the full list with explanations of all the legislation considered this week by the House of Representatives, please click here.

I voted "Yes" on the Senate Amendment to H.R. 7939, the Student Veteran Emergency Relief Act.

This bill would authorize the VA to pay additional education and training benefits to veterans negatively impacted by emergency situations. The bill also expands eligibility for Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits to those veterans who receive sole survivorship discharges. Professional licenses would also be made portable for military spouses so they can continue working while they are stationed with their spouse. This important legislation extends GI Bill flexibilities that were established by Congress for COVID-19 to all emergencies, ensuring our heroes can continue to have access to their benefits. This bill passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 380-35.

I voted "No" on H.R. 2617, the bloated and inflation fueling omnibus government funding bill for Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23).

I opposed the bill for many reasons, including several of the bill's wasteful spending provisions and anti-Second Amendment measures. The bill also failed to address inflation, fix the crisis at our border, or expand American energy exploration. Among the many faults of the bill it hires only 300 Border Patrol agents and reduces the capacity of ICE detention centers, spends \$2.4 billion to house illegal immigrants without appropriating any money to building the border wall, and it spends millions to encourage states to enact unconstitutional "red flag" laws. It is time to bring fiscal sanity back to congress so we can finally bring wage-killing inflation under control. This bill passed the House by a vote of 225-201 with 1 member voting present.



WE ARE BUILDING A PLAYGROUND!!!

**WHERE? At the Route 42 Community
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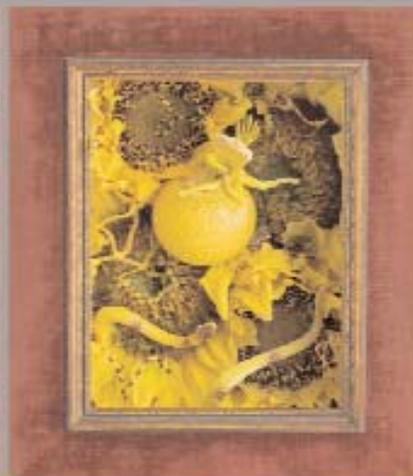
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Contact Rebekah at rumarbashar@asfl.org for more information.

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

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@ 6:30PM



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

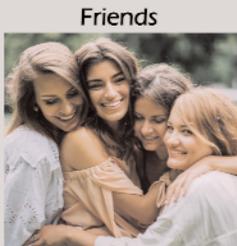


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Contact:

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



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Monticello Kiwanis Annual Bernie Shore/Rose Raimond Fundraising Dinner

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Dinner platter choices:

Hot Open Roast Beef, Grilled Chicken, Gyro Platter or Vegetarian Crepe

Included are choices of soup or salad as well as two side dishes and dessert.

Dinners can be socially distant “eat in” or
“take out” at the window by ordering ahead

Dinner available at a time of the ticket buyer's choosing

Tickets must be purchased in advance and
are valid currently until **December 31, 2022**

Tickets are \$25 each

Tickets are available by contacting a Monticello Kiwanis member
or by mailing a check made out to Kiwanis Club of Monticello,
P.O. Box 413, Monticello, NY 12701

All proceeds benefit charitable projects in the community helping the
Kiwanis Club fulfill their mission of “serving the children of the world,
one child and one community at a time”.

For further information on obtaining tickets,
contact Marvin Rappaport at 845-701-1655.



SUBZERO HEROES

Berean Lake, Highland • Feb. 25, 2023



Join us to get cold for a great cause! Be a Hero and take the frigid plunge into Berean Lake in Highland. Or be a Sidekick, who helps a Hero raise money. All funds raised go to the Alzheimer's Association Hudson Valley Chapter!



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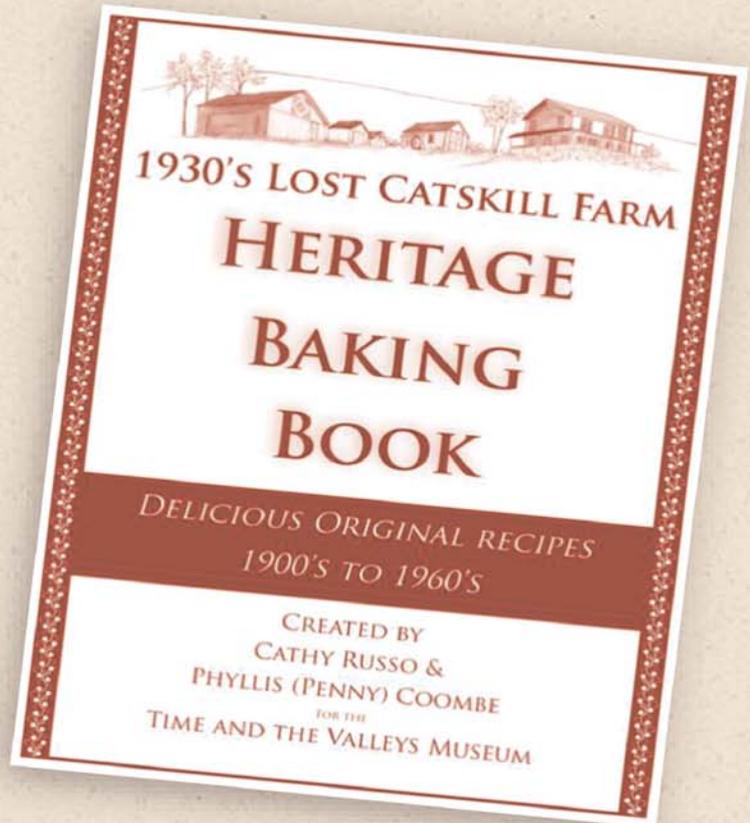
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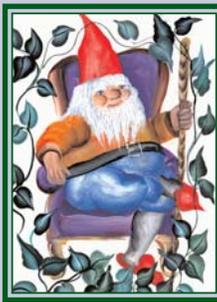
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We are in the planning stage of adding a few more new shops this fall at the Gnome Home Mall. We will keep you posted!



"KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE" ON AMAZON, NETFLIX, ROKU

STEVEN SONDHEIM influenced several generations of theater songwriters, particularly with such landmark musicals as "Company," "Follies," "Sweeney Todd," and "Camp" which are considered among his best work. His most famous ballad, "Send in the Clowns," has been recorded hundreds of times, including by Frank Sinatra



Six of Sondheim's musicals won Tony Awards for best score. He also received a Pulitzer Prize ("Sunday in the Park"), an Academy Award (for the song "Sooner or Later" from the film "Dick Tracy"), five Olivier Awards and the Presidential Medal of Honor.

In 2008, he received a Tony Award for lifetime achievement. Sondheim's music and lyrics gave his shows a dark, dramatic edge, whereas before him, the dominant tone of musicals was frothy and comic. He was sometimes criticized as a composer of *unhummable* songs, a badge that didn't bother Sondheim. Frank Sinatra, who had a hit with Sondheim's "Send in the Clowns," once complained: "He could make me a lot happier if he'd write more songs for saloon singers like me."

Behind every great performance are hours of dedicated work of such was the task of Steven Sondheim when creating wonderful musical scores for all of our pleasures. Steven Sondheim on to a new learning level at 91. RIP—the soul is immortal. The sound of his music goes on for us to enjoy.

(Contd. Pg. 59)



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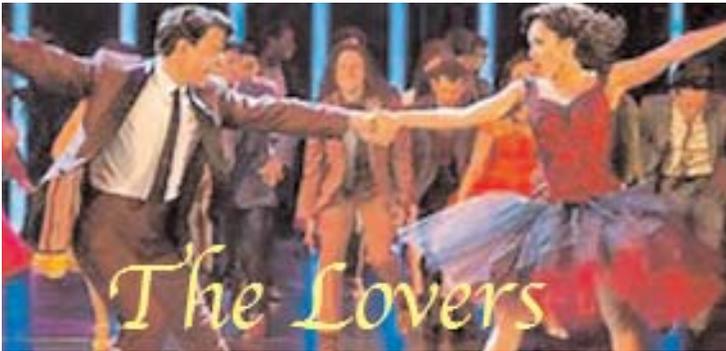
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“KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE II ”
ON AMAZON PRIME

WEST SIDE STORY

A STEVEN SONDHEIM MUSICAL

West Side Story is a musical based on a book by **Arthur Laurents**, music by **Leonard Bernstein**, and lyrics by **Stephen Sondheim**. It was



inspired by William Shakespeare's play *Romeo and Juliet*. The story is set in the mid 1950s in the Upper West



Side of New York City, then a multiracial, blue-collar neighborhood. The musical explores the rivalry between the Jets with multiple instigator's for fighting led by an unwilling Tony, and the Sharks, led by Bernado steeped in deteriorated Spanish tradition of fighting for your family, now extended to gangs, and war because you are different. How foolish! All souls are the same, only differences, our choices.

“KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE”
STREAMING NOW! ON AMAZON PRIME
A STEVEN SONDHEIM MUSICAL
**SWEENEY TODD: THE
DEMON BARBER OF
FLEET STREET**

Rated: NR / 4.8 stars

"Amazon's Choice for "Sweeney Todd 1982"



Sweeney Todd is originally a Stephen Sondheim musical which Tim Burton used as a base for his 2007 film.



Benjamin Barker has been exiled and imprisoned for 15 years in Australia. He manages to escape and is rescued from the sea by Anthony Hope, a sailor on the Bountiful from Plymouth.

Stay safe, and stay well
Knarf Odnamoc
Gnome