





"The Best Journal Published by a Dam Site!"

# VOL. 20 NO. 5 GRAHAMSVILLE, NY 12740 FEBRUARY 1, 2024

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# DPL Welcomes New Director Beth Wolpert By Lisa Carroll

GRAHAMSVILLE-Just a couple of weeks into her position as the Daniel Pierce Library's new director, Beth Wolpert, has fallen in love.

"I feel so incredibly lucky to be here. It's such a unique and special place," Wolpert said. "When I first visited, I fell in love with the board. They were so excited, and I was so excited. They spoke so beautifully of the library, so highly of the staff. It's such a unique situation," she added. And like so many others, she was charmed by the story of how the library came to be. Being a part of such a wonderful success story, she continued, and having the potential to have a hand in our future successes was an opportunity she couldn't let pass.

"It has been wonderful-getting to meet everyone here, meeting patrons," Wolpert said. She excitedly mentioned an upcoming meeting with Tri-Valley Central School District Superintendent Erin Long and how the focus of that meeting will be ways to increase teen presence at the library. While she becomes more comfortable in her role here, she will also been taking a long, hard look at the aforementioned teen usage issue, increasing volunteerism and different options in sustainable fundraising.

(Contd. Pg. 8)





# A Catskill Carnival: My Borscht Belt Life: Lived, Lost and Loved Talk by Author Bart A. Charlow Sunday, February 11th at 2 p.m. Virtual Only

[Grahamsville, N.Y.] A Catskill Carnival: My Borscht Belt Life: Lived, Lost and Loved, is an illustrated talk by author Bart A. Charlow on his book by the same name, held virtually by the Time and the Valleys Museum on Sunday, February 11, at 2 p.m.

The program is a memoir of Bart Charlow's early years growing up in the Irvington Hotel in South Fallsburg, Sullivan County, coming to terms with it and cherishing its life lessons. Bart describes memories of his youth, the hotel scene and more. It takes you behind the scenes where life was tough, turbulent, and alternately warm and hard. This is the real Borscht Belt, told by a 3rd generation insider with no illusions. (Contd. Pg. 5)

#### YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN

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Deadline for all submissions is 3:00 p.m. Monday for the current 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: Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments, even as the Lord my God has commanded me, that ye should do so in the land whither ye go to possess it. Deuteronomy 4:5

### **OBITUARIES**

# Richard Sheridan Taylor, 64,



passed away after a long illness Wedon nesday, January 24, 2024. Garnet Health Medical Center Harris, NY. Н

was born in

Ellenville, NY on October 7, 1959, 1. ALL submissions should be typewritten or in Microsoft to the late Lois Johnson Taylor and Merritt Taylor.

As a child he traveled with his parents and they eventually settled in Guilderland, NY. Rick graduated from Guilderland HS in 1977. He his future wife, Linda 5. The writer must provide his/her full name, address and (Ackerley) in Grahamsville, in 1984 and they married in 1986. Rick worked as a Correctional Officer at Sullivan Correctional Facility in Fallsburg for 25 years, until he retired. Rick loved to hunt and fish and was a true sportsman. He was crowned King of the Open Water in 2000 at the Swinging Bridge Fishing Contest. He was a true nature lover He loved his family, his pet dog and home life. He loved traveling places like Maine, Key Largo, Belize and Barbados to name a few. Rick loved boating and camping, especially in the Adirondacks and Maine. Rick passed on his love of travel, animals, and sports to his children, to whom he was devoted. Rick loved music especially Country and Rock and Roll, loving concerts and SPAC and Bethel Woods. He loved football, cold beer, and antiques.

He leaves behind his wife of 37 years, Linda, at home, his daughters Tracy (Nathan) Smith of Maine, Tara (Kurgen) of Claryville, and son Eric (Veronicka) of Texas. He is survived by his 3 sisters Margaret (Meg) White (Peter) of Massachusetts, Katherine (Kate) Martel (Jose) of Florida. and Kimberly (Kim) Foligno (Jim) of Florida, his brotherin-law and hunting buddy Donald Ackerley (Loretta) of Grahamsville, aunts Margo and Barbara of Schenectady, many close cousins, nieces and nephews, good friends and hunting and fishing buddies.

Rick was a kind and generous soul who would give the shirt off his back if you needed it. Rick was always ready to lend a helping hand. Above all Rick loved his children and family and was an excellent provider and father.

A service celebrating Rick's life will be held on Saturday, February 3, 2024, from 11:00am-1:00pm., at Colonial Memorial Funeral Home, 396 State Route 52, Woodbourne, NY 12788. There will be a Potluck gathering at the Methodist Church Hall in Grahamsville. In lieu of flowers please donate in Rick's name to the Grahamsville Methodist Church, PO Box 86 Grahamsville, NY 12740. Or the Reformed Church of Grahamsville, PO Box Grahamsville, NY 12740.

Arrangements were under the care of Colonial Memorial Funeral Home for further information please call 845-434-7363 or visit our website at www.colonialfamilyfuneralhome.com.

To plant a beautiful memorial tree in memory of Richard Taylor, please visit our Tree Store at:

https://tree.tributestore.com/memorialtree?oId=30524514&\_ga=2.47332327. 1911518023.1706466536-2085507065.1690053896

#### John Burton



Greene of Grahamsville, NY passed away January 25, 2024. He was 57.

John was born on February 6, 1966 in Bayshore, NY Thomas Greene and

Meryl Redlein. (Contd. Pg. 4)

# Days of Yore... Today's History

### February 3, 1954

Pvt. Raymond J. McNamara Jr. is currently stationed at Fort Dix for basic training. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond J. McNamara of Grahamsville. A graduate of Tri Valley High School, Pvt. McNamara had been employed by Frazer Davis Construction Co. He is engaged to Miss Betty Foster of Ellenville, formerly of Grahamsville.

Miss Charlotte Coombe, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Coombe, has just completed her practice teaching. She has been studying home economics at Beaver College, Pa.

At 2 p.m. at the Methodist Church in Liberty on Saturday, January 30, 1954, the wedding of Doris Misner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Misner of Neversink and Milton Kortright, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Kortright, was solemnized. After the ceremony the family and wedding party had dinner at Gus Corey's Restaurant.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Rubenzahl of Neversink are parents of a son born at Liberty Maimonides Hospital on Sunday, January 24th.

#### <u>January 29, 1964</u>

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Lewis of Claryville celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary on January 24th. Mr. and Mrs. George Brown, Mrs. Leora Van Aken, sister of Mrs. Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Van Aken and the Lewis' daughters, Diana and Karen, surprised them with an anniversary cake. On Sunday, the 26th, a dinner was given for them at The Old Homestead in Bridgeville by their daughter, Catherine Lewis of Monticello.

Pvt. Charles N. Nielsen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Nielsen, graduated from the University of Omaha on Saturday and left for March Air Force Base, California on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Bischert of Neversink are the parents of a son born January 24 at Liberty Loomis Hospital.

#### <u>February 6, 1974</u>

Tom McKenna, son of Mr. and Mrs. John McKenna, has achieved the Dean's List for the fall term at the State University of New York at Delhi, N.Y. Congratulations Tom!

Anniversary wishes this week to Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Mickelson, married 14 years on February 7th and Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Hasbrouck, wed 15 years on the 8th. Happy day to all.

Mike Costigan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Costigan of Lackawack Hill, has been accepted at the University of South Carolina where he plans to enroll in the Liberal Arts Program. (Contd. Pg. 4)

# **Household Hint:**

# Do this to Help Candles Burn Longer

Candles are definitely a way to brighten up a a gloomy day. Placing candles in the freezer for three hours before burning helps them last and burn longer.

# Nature Column - L. Comando

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

# The Hedgehog Still Lives in the Shadow of the Groundhog

The name hedgehog came into use around the year 1450, derived from the Middle English heyghoge, from heyg, hegge ("hedge"), and hoge, hogge ("hog"), from its piglike snout. Other names include urchin, hedgepig and furze-pig.

German settlers brought the tradition of using a hedgehog to predict spring's arrival to Pennsylvania. Since there weren't any hedgehogs in the New World, they settled for the next best thing: the groundhog. February 2, 1887 marks the day that groundhogs officially replaced hedgehogs in the United States.

A hedgehog is any of the spiny mammals of the subfamily Erinaceinae. There are seventeen species of hedgehog throughout parts of Europe, Asia, and

Africa. There are no hedgehogs native to the Americas. Hedgehogs have changed little over the last 15 million years. Like many of the first mammals, they have adapted to a nocturnal way of life.

Hedgehogs are easily recognized by their spines, which are hollow hairs made stiff with keratin. Their spines are not poisonous nor barbed like a porcupine and they cannot shoot their quills out in defense. A defense that all species of hedgehogs possess is the ability to roll into a tight ball, causing all of the spines to point outwards protecting the tucked face, feet, and belly, which are not quilled.

Hedgehogs are primarily nocturnal and sleep for a large portion of the day under bushes, grasses, rocks, or most commonly in dens dug in the ground, with varying habits among the species. All wild hedgehogs can hibernate, though not all do, depending on temperature, species, and abundance of food. During hibernation, the body temperature of a hedgehog can decrease to about 36 °F. When the animal awakes from hibernation, the body temperature rises from 36-41 °F back to its normal 86-95 °F body temperature

Hedgehogs are fairly vocal and communicate through a combination of grunts, snuffles and/or squeals, depending on species.

They occasionally perform a ritual called anointing. When a hedgehog encounters a new scent, it will lick and bite the source, Then form a scented froth in its mouth and paste it on its spines with its tongue. The purpose of this habit is unknown, but some experts believe anointing camouflages the hedgehog with the new scent of the area and provides a possible poison or source of infection to predators poked by their spines.

Like opossums, mice, and moles, hedgehogs have some natural immunity against some snake venom through the protein erinacin in the animal's muscular system,

Hedgehogs are omnivorous. They feed on insects, snails, frogs and toads, snakes, bird eggs, carrion, mushrooms, grass roots, berries, melons and water-melons

Depending on the species, the gestation period is 35-58 days. The average litter is 3-4 newborns for larger species and 5-6 for smaller ones. As with many animals, it is not unusual for an adult male hedgehog to kill newborn males.

Hedgehogs have a relatively long lifespan for their size. Larger species of hedgehogs live 4-7 years in the wild and smaller species live 2-4 years.

Hedgehogs are born blind with a protective membrane covering their quills, which dries and shrinks over the next several hours. The quills emerge through the skin after they have been cleaned.

The up and coming, National Hedgehog Day also celebrated on February 2nd each year, tends to live in the "shadow" of Groundhog Day, despite the fact that Hedgehogs were the original groundhogs that predicted when spring would arrive. We can thank hedgehogs for Groundhog Day.

Happy Ground Hog Day!

# **OBITUARIES**

(From Pg. 2)

### **John Burton Greene**

After high school, he worked various jobs in the Sayville area and eventually followed his sister to Upstate New York. Following in the footsteps of his grandfather, Mark Redlein and his Uncle Burt Redlein, John settled into a career of carpentry. He excelled at wood construction, woodworking, furniture making and all aspects of home remodeling. John was always ready to lend a helping hand and never turned away a friend. He was both a cat and a dog lover. He also was a grill master and legend has it that John could roast a mean pig barbeque.

John is survived by his mother, Meryl Dorothy Greene, of Sayville, New York; his sister, Kathleen Greene, of Catskill, New York; his brother, Thomas Mark Greene, of Blue Point, New York; and many cousins from both sides of his family in residence throughout the country.

John was predeceased by his father, Thomas Michael Greene who passed in 2013 and his older brother, Michael Thomas Greene who passed away in 2006.

A visitation wase held on Tuesday, January 30, 2024 at Colonial Memorial Funeral Home, 396 State Route 52, Woodbourne, NY 12788.

An additional visitation is to be held on Thursday, February 1, 2024 from 2pm-4pm at and under the care of Raynor-D'Andrea Funeral Home, 245 Main Street, West Sayville, NY 11796.

The internment at St. Lawrence Cemetery, 401 Lakeland Ave., Sayville NY 11782 is to follow on Friday, February 2, 2024

Arrangements are under the care of Colonial Memorial Funeral Home for further information please call 845-434-7363 or visit our website at www.colonialfamilyfuneral-home.com.

To plant a beautiful memorial tree in memory of John Greene, please visit our Tree Store at:

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# Days of Yore... Today's History

(From Pg. 3) **February 2, 1984** 

Congratulations to Tanya Ackerley of the Tri-Valley School on the winning of a trophy as one of the first place winners in the Elks National Hoop Shoot Free Throw Contest. Winners will have a chance to go on to the national championships.

Mr. and Mrs. John W. Holmes of Clarks Summit, Pa. wish to announce the engagement of their daughter, Constance E. Holmes of Loch Sheldrake to Wayne Elberth, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Elberth, Neversink, N.Y. A September wedding is planned.

(From the pen of Tom Higgins) Industry figures show that Americans eat 2 billion pounds of chocolate a year. Chocolate lovers even have their own bi-monthly publication, "Chocolate News." Its pages are chocolate scented.

# **LOOKING BACK**

by Beatrice Akerley Published February 6, 1997

In the good old days, my parents' two acres of land in the little hamlet of Grooville, was bordered on one side by Koons property and on another side by School District No. 5. On the west side, there was John P. Scherer"s cow pasture and the road ran along between our land and George Tremain's property. Trees grew on the greater part of our land and mother and dad took great care of our shade trees.

There were beautiful, tall beech trees, sugar maples and one large, tough old walnut which grew by the bar-way leading into the cow pasture owned by John P. Scherer.

Each autumn found us kids watching the weather, knowing that a good stiff frost would open the burrs on the beechnuts. Then the woods would come alive with friends and neighbors searching through the leaves for fallen beechnuts as they came early to await the arrival of the mail at our post office. Us kids loved to have company and dug along with them among the leaves, filling our containers with beechnuts. We would always keep an eye out for any walnuts that might have fallen also. We never liked to share these as mother made a delicious walnut cake and these nuts were very scarce. Us kids always felt that the old walnut tree wanted all the nuts for itself and we thought that we were entitled to a few.

We stored the nuts in the attic where they dried and we had them for a long time providing the mice didn't find them and carry them away.

# News from the NY/NJ Trail Conference

Join acclaimed archaeologist, David Johnson, on Thursday, February 8th at the Trail Conference Headquarters as he details Native American sacred and ceremonial land-scapes within our local parks. Learn about various stone features associated with these landscapes, such as snake walls, stone piles, cairns, petroglyphs, and more. By familiarizing yourself with these features, you may be able to assist researchers in locating and documenting sites within the Palisades Interstate Park Commission's jurisdiction, as well as throughout the lower Hudson Valley and northern New Jersey on your next hike!

https://www.nynjtc.org/civicrm/event/info?id=11853&reset=1

The newly updated Shawangunk Trails map set is now available, covering 200+ miles of trails and carriage roads in the northern Shawangunks of New York! This 12th edition includes several trail updates in Minnewaska State Park Preserve and Mohonk Preserve and many other updates and improvements. Get your copy today, either printed on waterproof, tear-resistant Tyvek or digitally on mobile devices through the Avenza Maps app!

https://www.nynjtc.org/maps/shawangunk-trails-map

# A Catskill Carnival: My Borscht Belt Life: Lived, Lost and Loved Talk by Author Bart A. Charlow (From Pg. 1) Set during the Golden Era of the Borscht Belt, learn how it flourished and faltered, how it felt to watch

(From Pg. 1) Set during the Golden Era of the Borscht Belt, learn how it flourished and faltered, how it felt to watch the life you knew and your livelihood fall apart, and how to pick it all up again in new ways. The dying embers of a life that was never before and will never be again.

Admission to this VIRTUAL ONLY program is FREE for Museum Members and \$5 for non-members. To join the pro-

CHARLOW'S "HOTEL IRVINGTON", So. Fallsburg, N. Y

gram, please register by email at info@timeandthevalleysmuseum.org and put Borscht Belt Talk in the subject line, or call 845 985-7700. A link will be sent to you. Non-members will be asked to please first make a donation on the Museum's website: www.timeandthevalleysmuseum. org.

**About the speaker:** Born into the carnival life of a Borscht Belt Catskills hotel family, Bart A. Charlow, has never let the ordinary con-





strain him. From professional photography to painting, he has always set his creativity free, now entering into the realm of authorship. His first book, A Catskill Carnival: My Borscht Belt Life Lived, Lost and Loved, is a memoir of his early years in a unique setting, coming to terms with it and cherishing its life lessons

Retiring from over 50 years as a career CEO, a Licensed Family Therapist and an educator, today Bart shares the wisdom gained by acting as a coach and mentor to nonprofit executives. His background is broad and deep. Originally trained in the sciences, he switched majors to Anthropology, later attaining a Masters Degree in Counseling.

Bart has been a favored speaker on TV, radio and in print media for decades. Among honors he holds is the Jefferson

Bart has been a favored speaker on TV, radio and in print media for decades. Among honors he holds is the Jefferson Award for his community leadership and service. For pleasure he pursues plein air painting and leads a group of artists regularly. He lives in the San Francisco Bay Area with his wife, grown children and grandchildren.

**About the Time and the Valleys Museum:** Connecting Water People and the Catskills, the Museum is open Saturday and Sunday, noon to 4 p.m. Memorial Day through September and from October to May by appointment and during programs. Located at 332 Main Street in Grahamsville (St. Rt. 55), Sullivan County, admission for adults is a suggested donation of \$5, children under 16 \$2, and children under six are free.

Museum exhibitions are interactive and both fun and educational for all ages:

**o** Water and the Valleys, an exhibit on the history of the Rondout and Neversink watershed area from early geological times to the 20th century. This exhibition includes interactives such as a Native American artifact guessing game, grinding corn with a mortar and pestle, videos and more.

o Tunnels, Toil and Trouble: New York City's Quest for Water and the Rondout-Neversink Story, an interactive exhibit on NYC water supply system and the towns that were removed to build the system, which includes computer interactives, games, puzzles, videos and building a dam and tunnel.

actives, games, puzzles, videos and building a dam and tunnel.

o 1930s Lost Catskill Farm, a farmhouse, outhouse, barn, electric plant, milk house and working waterwheel help visitors experience life in the 1930s through displays videos, games and hands on activities

tors experience life in the 1930s through displays, videos, games and hands on activities.

• Bittersweet Memories: Lost Towns of the Catskill Watersheds a collaborative augmented reality art exhibition of the

buildings and homes taken for NYC's water system.

The Time and the Valleys Museum is proud to be a Blue Star Museum, a collaboration between the National Endowment of the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense and over 1,500 museums across America to provide free admission to active duty military members (with ID) and up to five family members. This free admission for members of the military and their families runs from Memorial Day to Labor Day. For more information call 845 985-7700, e-mail info@time-andthevalleysmuseum.org or visit www.timeandthevalleysmuseum.org. To schedule a group tour for children or adults, please call 845-985-7700.



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.

# The Border

# Legacy Mysterious Book Report No. 73

by John Dwaine McKenna

# Mysterious Book Report No. 368

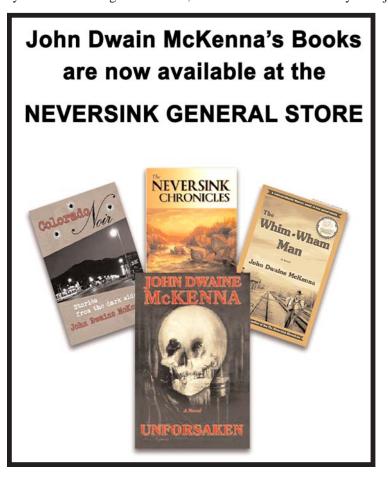
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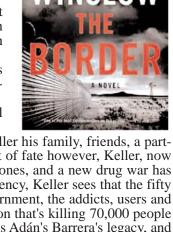
No matter what side of the political and social rift you're on, we can all agree that our southern border – the invisible line – which designates the United States of America from the United Mexican States, is one of the most contentious places on planet earth. As such, it abounds with tales of human tragedy, hope, criminality, heroism, death, life, dreams and disasters. It is a place of legend, with stories too numerous to count, as well as a place of endless fascination. And now, in the culmination of a twenty-year effort from one of America's best crime fiction and thriller writers, it's the last volume of a trilogy about the drug wars . . . as seen through the eyes of a tough, pragmatic DEA agent named Art Keller . . . that began in 2005 with the publication of *The Power of the Dog*, followed in 2015 by *The Cartel*.

Now, in what can only be called his magnum opus, crime fiction master Don Winslow brings it to a crescendo in The Border, (William Morrow/Harper Collins, \$28.99, 720 pages, ISBN 978-0-06-26648-8.)

Art Keller has spent his entire adult life fighting the drug cartels and trying to capture or kill the head of the Sinaloa Cartel:

Adán Barrera, the godfather of all the Narcos. It's been a long and bloody fight that's cost Keller his family, friends, a partner who was like a brother, and a piece of his soul . . . but it cost Barrera his life. In a cruel twist of fate however, Keller, now the politically appointed head of the DEA, finds that killing one monster has created thirty new ones, and a new drug war has broken out in Mexico, with fresh young Narcos vying to take over. From his position atop the agency, Keller sees that the fifty year War on Drugs is a failure, and realizes that the enemy isn't just in Mexico, it's his own government, the addicts, users and





dope slingers who sell the poison that's killing 70,000 people a year from overdoses. Heroin is Adán's Barrera's legacy, and every time a junkie uses, someone makes money. Keller thinks it's fueling the US economy, but still puts together a far-ranging clandestine program called "Operation Agitator," targeting the politicians, financiers and bosses of the cartels. It's ambitious, far-reaching and possibly fatal . . . because one of the Narco targets has proof of Keller's involvement in a crime in Central America and is threatening him with exposure . . . while at the same time, Keller has evidence implicating the newly-elected US President's sonin-law of being involved in a real estate deal that uses drug cartel money to complete the financing.

From the slums of Guatemala City, to the financial canyons and corporate board rooms of Wall Street, to the halls of Congress and even the Oval Office of the White House, *The Border*, is epic in scope and far-reaching in content. It is a work of immense scale and deep impact that should be read by each and every voting adult in America. It's a thought-provoking blockbuster, and one for the ages!

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

http://Johndwainemckenna.com

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http://Mysteriousbookreport.com

# The Scene Too By Jane Harrison

It was a 'should have, could have' type of week, musically,

but I still got some creative 'stuff' in.

A Very Happy (now belated) Birthday to my friend JOHN-NY JULES! I was privileged to be invited to an small family gathering to celebrate this past Thursday complete with a Thanksgiving-like feast with all Johnny's favorites. It was going to be a full JOHNNY'S Birthday weekend, with continuing celebrations with his band performing Friday night at CABERNET FRANK'S and Sunday at the HASBROUK TAVERN from 2-4. This became a quandary for me, and I decided to go to the HAS-BROUK TAVERN because I really want to try their brunch because their food has been outstanding! Every time I've had a free Sunday...well, you know. And this Sunday was no different. The HASBROUK very wisely closed Sunday, due to "inclement weather", that means the snow and freezing rain that



made travel, including walking impossible. So, that was that. Saturday was a decent day, before snice-meggedon, and I

wandered down the street to FIBER ON MAIN for MEND-ING SATURDAY. Although I make as many Open Studios as I can, I don't often make their special days like this. I confess that I have a handful of black 100% cotton socks that are all missing part of their heel. I'm sorry, I love them and the thought of turning them into cleaning mitts, well I just can't. So, my friend RACHEL CORRIGAN, who heads FIBER ON MAIN, lent me this super cool little device for darning. There are many modern of these devices, but what makes this one so special is that it has to be from the



1940s or 50s and works perfectly. The directions, too, are for those who have been darning 'the



newbies. So I gave this a try. And here's first Not perfect, not the









'right' darning material, but heck, it was fun.

This was fun group. Two were mending store-bought well worn wool sweaters. One was raising the hems on curtains as she had recently moved. Even if you are not mending the same things, you learn from others in case you ever need to do that and we all had the same mind set about not being part of a

'throw away' culture....except bananas. DO NOT buy bananas right now, unless you are a big fan of fruit flies. I and another woman there made that mistake. A third, a botanist, piped in with "Oh, yes. This is the time they hatch." Note to self, written into December 31st of this year for inclusion in next year's calendar to NOT buy bananas in January and February 2025. Who knew?

So what's coming up:

Sunday, February 4th is the HEART-A-THON at the BRIDGE AND TUNNEL BREWERY in Liberty from 2pm-4 with a very special performance by THE SEARCH AND RES-CUE ORCHESTRA featuring **JOANNA GASS**. This fundraiser is very close to her heart, having lost her beloved ARTHUR, to a heart attack. \$25 donation at the door.

Friday, February 1st, there's a new Open Mic in Hurleyville at the **FORAGER/GATHERER** on Main Street from 5pm to 8.

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Stay well, stay safe Until next time.....



# Daniel Pierce Library Between the Bookends

# DPL Welcomes New Director Beth Wolpert By Lisa Carroll (From Pg. 1)

And she is coming armed with nearly two decades of library services experience to aid in these endeavors. She has held numerous positions throughout the years in both public and academic library settings; running the gamut from library clerk to circulation support, to reference librarian and chairperson.

But libraries weren't originally on her radar.

She initially graduated from Fordham University with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology, with a minor in journalism, but then didn't know what her next step looked like. When her daughter, Alannah, came along, she knew she wanted to lead a life that would meld work and family cohesively. After a lot of soul-searching, the idea of working in the library field-where she could put her varied interests and desire to help others to work-blossomed. With her daughter in school full-time, she finished her dual masters-a MA in Urban Affairs and a Master of Library & Information Science (MLIS)-and set off on her way.

Of all of her work experience thus far, Wolpert said, being in the public sector has been her favorite. A public library, she explained, gives her that opportunity to meet a wide-range of people, to help with a variety of different problems at any given time and to share her varied interests with those around her.

When she's not at work...she loves hanging out with her family: Nick and their five children (Alannah and 4 boys: Ian (20), Andrew (14), Matthew (11) and Erik (10)! She often attends concerts and Broadway shows with Alannah, or can be found hiking with Nick. And, of course, she loves to read. Her three favorite books include: A Prayer for Owen Meany by John Irving, Midnight's Children by Salman Rushdie and South of Broad by Pat Conroy.



"Patrons said they really enjoyed watching the documentary and having a chance to discuss it and ask questions as they went along," Nicole Richardson, DPL Community Programs Associate, said regarding the Thursday, January 25 Saturn program. Participants joined local experts John Kocijanski and Irene Pease for an evening of exploration. They watched the PBS Nova documentary on Saturn and held a Q & A session. On Thursday, February 22, the second planetary program on Jupiter will be held from 6 to 7PM.



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Can you paint a snowman? These children can! It was a full house for our children's snowman painting program on Wednesday, January 24. Miss. Deirdre, our Children's Program Coordinator, said everyone had a blast and that the children's paintings came out beautifully. She added that she was incredibly thankful that the weather held up this year.





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# The Scene Too By Jane Harrison

It was a 'should have, could have' type of week, musically,

but I still got some creative 'stuff' in.

A Very Happy (now belated) Birthday to my friend JOHN-NY JULES! I was privileged to be invited to an small family gathering to celebrate this past Thursday complete with a Thanksgiving-like feast with all Johnny's favorites. It was going to be a full JOHNNY'S Birthday weekend, with continuing celebrations with his band performing Friday night at CABERNET FRANK'S and Sunday at the HASBROUK TAVERN from 2-4. This became a quandary for me, and I decided to go to the HAS-BROUK TAVERN because I really want to try their brunch because their food has been outstanding! Every time I've had a free Sunday...well, you know. And this Sunday was no different. The HASBROUK very wisely closed Sunday, due to "inclement weather", that means the snow and freezing rain that



made travel, including walking impossible. So, that was that. Saturday was a decent day, before snice-meggedon, and I

wandered down the street to FIBER ON MAIN for MEND-ING SATURDAY. Although I make as many Open Studios as I can, I don't often make their special days like this. I confess that I have a handful of black 100% cotton socks that are all missing part of their heel. I'm sorry, I love them and the thought of turning them into cleaning mitts, well I just can't. So, my friend RACHEL CORRIGAN, who heads FIBER ON MAIN, lent me this super cool little device for darning. There are many modern of these devices, but what makes this one so special is that it has to be from the



1940s or 50s and works perfectly. The directions, too, are for those who have been darning 'the



newbies. So I gave this a try. And here's first Not perfect, not the









'right' darning material, but heck, it was fun.

This was fun group. Two were mending store-bought well worn wool sweaters. One was raising the hems on curtains as she had recently moved. Even if you are not mending the same things, you learn from others in case you ever need to do that and we all had the same mind set about not being part of a

'throw away' culture....except bananas. DO NOT buy bananas right now, unless you are a big fan of fruit flies. I and another woman there made that mistake. A third, a botanist, piped in with "Oh, yes. This is the time they hatch." Note to self, written into December 31st of this year for inclusion in next year's calendar to NOT buy bananas in January and February 2025. Who knew?

So what's coming up:

Sunday, February 4th is the HEART-A-THON at the BRIDGE AND TUNNEL BREWERY in Liberty from 2pm-4 with a very special performance by THE SEARCH AND RES-CUE ORCHESTRA featuring **JOANNA GASS**. This fundraiser is very close to her heart, having lost her beloved ARTHUR, to a heart attack. \$25 donation at the door.

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Stay well, stay safe Until next time.....

# Farm Arts Collective Open Training Sessions

Damascus, PA--- Farm Arts Collective, based on Willow Wisp Organic Farm in Damascus, PA is holding Open Training Sessions in performance skills, music, and writing. The sessions are open to all individuals interested in exploring creative performance skills with others. The sessions are FREE.



Every Thursday at 5:30-8:00 PM, the Farm Arts Collective of local performers, farmers, writers, musicians, and folks from all disciplines and backgrounds meet to explore performance skills and creative collaboration. The ensemble is inviting new participants to join the work sessions.

The 2024 winter training location is The Western Inn on 22 Upper Main Street, Callicoon, NY 12723. Start time is 5:30 PM Thursdays and promptness is required.

Led by Tannis Kowalchuk, organic farmer and theatre artist who specializes in devised ensemble theatre, the sessions will include physical exercises, vocal work, and creative composition. Some sessions will be led by guest teachers. On Thursday, February 1st, guest teacher will be Morgan Kaufman, an actress and movement teacher from the Philadelphia area who has worked with Almanac Dance Circus Theatre, Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble, and at Farm Arts Collective (last summer she led a Feldenkrais workshop at the farm).

Participants should wear clothes to move in, bring indoor sneakers or dance shoes, water, notebook and pen. Registration is not required.

Contact company manager Jess Beveridge for more information at jess@farmartscollective.org

Farm Arts Collective is dedicated to engaging community in life-sustaining practices of Performance, Farming, Food, and Ecology to enhance rural life. Based on Willow Wisp Organic Farm in Damascus, Pennsylvania, Farm Arts Collective is a not-for-profit organization that offers public programming that creatively bridges Art with Agriculture. Founded in 2018 by farmer and theatre artist, Tannis Kowalchuk, the company programs farm-based workshops, performances, education, and community events. Its signature event is DREAM ON THE FARM, an annual site-specific environmental performance presented on the farm every August. The company is committing a decade of creative work to create one new play every year from 2020-2030 on the subject of climate change and environmental action.

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# Building a Winning Culture: The Rise of Fallsburg Football

FALLSBURG - Good things come to those who wait, and that especially rings true for the Fallsburg Comets varsity football team. After finishing the 2023 season with a 5-3 record and winning their first-ever playoff game, the Comets have a newfound optimism for their program's future. They are also entering into uncharted territories as they have never before experienced a period of success. Their path to becoming a winning program has been a long and challenging one.



Varsity football head coach, Dominick Scanna, speaking with his team before kick-off

Things were off to a disappointing start for Fallsburg when they began their varsity program. From 2010 to 2012, the team finished with a 1-26 record and was outscored 1,135-260. Problems with the program went beyond just a lack of playing experience. Losing players due to being academically ineligible was the most significant setback. But most of all, the team also found it challenging to draw interest from more students to play. This ultimately led to the program to fold.

Despite no varsity football team in 2013 and 2014, the district maintained its modified and junior varsity programs. The possibility of reviving the varsity team was in serious doubt. It only took the resilience and initiative of Dominick Scanna, a Benjamin Cosor Elementary School first-grade teacher and experienced youth baseball coach, to restore hope in a comeback.

Dominick was determined to keep the program alive in any way possible after becoming the head coach of the restored varsity team in 2015. The program's absence disheartened him, but he was also concerned about the lack of football sports connection with the district and community. He believed sports, particularly football, are essential to building community bonds.

"I figured that it [the varsity football program] would be a good program for our community," said Dominick. "It felt like our community was severed; there wasn't a good connection between the school and community. Football can fix that."

He viewed the role of a coach as more than simply guiding the players to victory but also being a positive influence in the players lives. He wanted to create an environment that allowed his players to flourish outside of the football field. Providing extra tutorial help, hosting team dinners, and opening the weight room in the offseason offered such an environment. But despite his best efforts, many of the problems that plagued the team in their first few seasons continued to persist.

The Comets finished their first season back in 2015 with a 0-7 record, one of their losses resulting in a forfeit. Things only worsened in 2016 as the team registered another winless record of 0-8; all but three games resulted in a forfeit due to a lack of eligible players. With no end in sight to their roster and performance issues, the program folded yet again in 2017.

This seemed like it was indeed the final nail in the program's coffin. A glimmer of new hope came to pass in 2018, thanks in part to the introduction of eight-man football. The program now had another fighting chance for survival.

Several schools throughout Sullivan County transitioned to eight-man football, and Fallsburg was right there with them. Dominick would not take this new opportunity for granted, as he believed it was the team's last saving grace.

"We went to eight-man to save our program," said Dominick. "A lot of schools went to eight-man to win and build off of wins and hopefully bring [more] players in. Because if you win, kids want to play. We did it strictly to save our program."

The transition to eight-man football did pay off significantly as the team snapped their 29-game losing streak (which was the New York State record at the time) in the 2018 season. Although, the win didn't come until the very last game when Fallsburg triumphantly defeated visiting Dover 34-26. That single win, after it looked certain that the team was headed for another winless season, was precisely the kind of momentum the team needed.

There were clear signs of maturity and growth within the Fallsburg football program in the following seasons. The team has compiled a 13-21 record between the 2019 and 2023 seasons. There was also a considerable decline in the number of players on the academically ineligible list throughout this period, with 2023 being the first season not to have a single player make the list. And after achieving the once unthinkable endeavor of winning a playoff game, Fallsburg now strives for newer heights.

The 2024 season will introduce new challenges to the Fallsburg football team as they transition back to eleven-man football and elevate to Class B competition. When asked about how he feels about the change, Dominick said, "The goal of our program was to go back to eleven-man and not to stay as an eight-man for life."

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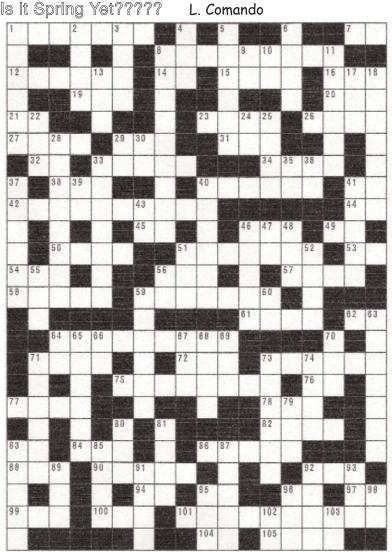
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# Spinach and Feta Stuffed Chicken

8 ounces fresh spinach (about 10 cups) 1-1/2 teaspoons cider vinegar 1/2 teaspoon sugar 1/8 teaspoon pepper 2 boneless skinless chicken thighs 1/2 teaspoon chicken seasoning 3 tablespoons crumbled feta cheese 1 teaspoon olive oil 3/4 cup reduced-sodium chicken broth 1 teaspoon butter

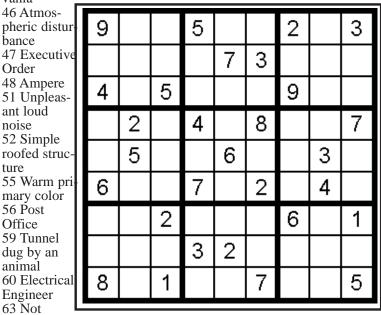
Preheat oven to 375°. In a large skillet, cook and stir spinach over medium-high heat until wilted. Stir in vinegar, sugar and pepper; cool slightly.

Pound chicken thighs with a meat mallet to flatten slightly; sprinkle with chicken seasoning. Top chicken with spinach mixture and cheese. Roll up chicken from a long side; tie securely with kitchen string.

In an ovenproof skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat; add chicken and brown on all sides. Transfer to oven; roast until a thermometer inserted in chicken reads 170°, 13-15 minutes.

Remove chicken from pan; keep warm. On stovetop, add broth and butter to skillet; bring to a boil, stirring to loosen browned bits from pan. Cook until slightly thickened, 3-5 minutes. Serve with chicken...

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Answer on page 23

To play SUDOKO online: https://sudoko.com

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SPRING



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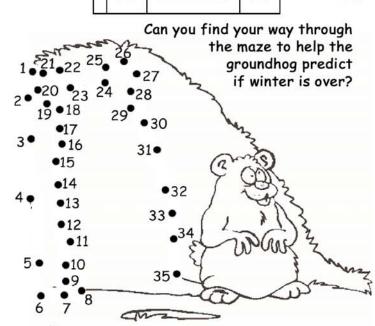


WINTER

SPRING WINTER GROUNDHOG SHADOW FEBRUARY FORECAST HIBERNATE HOLE HOLIDAY WEATHER UNDERGROUND PREDICTION BURROW CLOUDY SUNNY PENNSYLVANIA SIGN PUNXSUTAWNEY **EMERGE** WOODCHUCK

# Ground Hog Day Wordsearch

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Connect the dots to see the Prognosticator of Prognisticators

# Town of Neversink Parks and Recreation Ice Skating Rink has opened for the Season





# ICE RINK HOURS 2023-24 Season

(effective 12/17/23)

Wednesday

7pm-9pm

Thursday

7pm-9pm

Saturday

1 pm - 3pm

Sunday

1pm-4pm

NOTE: Hours may change during the season based on weather, volunteer availability or usage.

# The Daniel Pierce Library

# Spring Children's Programs 2024

The library is a wonderful place to ignite your child's love of reading!

The following children's programs are open to caregivers and their children ages 12 months to 5 years who are residents of the Tri-Valley Central School District. The spring eight-week long session begins the week of April 8th.

These programs are free and are made possible through the generosity of our community. Registration is required.

Mother Goose Time (12-23 months) Beginning Wednesday, April 10th
This program is specially designed for very young children. It includes "read together" time
(each child has his or her own board book), nursery rhymes, felt stories, playtime and
music for our tiniest patrons ages 12-23 months. Two programs will be held each
Wednesday: one from 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. and one from 11:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.
Must be 12 months by 12/1/23.

Toddler Time (24-35 months) Beginning Thursday, April 11th
Stories, felt stories, crafts, music and friendship-building geared for wee ones ages 24-35 months. Two programs will be held each Thursday: one from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and one from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. Must be 24 months by 12/1/23.

Story Hour (3, 4 and 5 year-olds) Beginning Friday, April 12th
Our classic, beloved program for three, four and five year-old children, featuring the
"Magic Bag," a read-aloud, felt stories, craft projects, homework and music. Two programs
will be held each Friday: one from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and one from 11:00 a.m. to
12:00 a.m. Must be 3 years or older by 12/1/23.

Universal Pre-Kindergarten Story Hour

Our "Story Hour on the Road" program visits the three UPK classes at Tri-Valley Central
School. Children will be registered at school.

Give your child a head start by enrolling in one of these valuable programs this spring.

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

www.danielpiercelibrary.org by April 1st. If you have any questions, please email

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# LEGALS/PUBLIC NOTICES

# **Tri-Valley CSD**

# Tri-Valley's next Board Meeting:

Regular Meeting #15
Thursday, February 1, 2024
7:00 p.m.
Secondary School Library

The Agenda will be available on BoardDocs three days before the Board Meeting.

This Board Meeting will be on Tri-Valley's YouTube LIVE Channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC kl224vKQ8nAWhR6NVao24w/live

# DEC Announces Annual Tree and Shrub Seedling Sale Dozens of Species Available from Colonel William F. Fox Memorial Saratoga Nursery School Seedling Program Application Period Now Open

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Colonel William F. Fox Memorial Saratoga Tree Nursery officially kicked off the annual spring seedling sale, which is now open to the public and runs until May 10. Each year, the nursery offers low-cost, New York-grown tree and shrub species for sale to encourage plantings that help conserve New York's natural resources and foster the next generation of forests.

"Since 1911, the Saratoga Tree Nursery has helped shape the future of New York's forests by providing seedlings for restoration and conservation plantings," said DEC Commissioner Basil Seggos. "Planting trees helps us all invest in a greener future by providing a renewable resource for wood products, preventing erosion, improving air and water quality, lowering energy needs for heating and cooling, and combating climate change. Trees also provide habitat for native wildlife and increase overall health and well-being."

DEC's tree nursery grows more than 50 conifer and hardwood species from local seed sources, creating seedlings well-suited to New York State's climate. Seedlings are available in bundles of 25 or more, plus there are several mixed species packets for those looking for a variety. Seedlings are a minimum of five inches tall and are one to three years old, depending on the species. For more information including how to order, visit the Spring Seedling Sale webpage on DEC's website. Some species sell quickly, so it is recommended to place orders by phone for the most up-to-date availability information.

The seedling sale supports Governor Hochul's 2024 State of the State commitment to plant 25 million trees by 2033 to invigorate New York State's tree planting efforts, advance steps to meet the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act's net-zero goal, and grow the state's vital forest products industry.

Free Seedlings Available for Youth Education Through the School Seedling Program

Applications are now being accepted for the nursery's School Seedling Program. From now until March 29, schools and youth education organizations across New York State may apply to receive up to 50 free tree or shrub seedlings to plant with their students.

The goal of the program is to help instill a sense of environmental stewardship at a young age and set a foundation that will allow students to make informed decisions about the use of natural resources. The program is an excellent tool for educators to use in meeting the Next Generation Science Standards as it provides a hands-on opportunity for students to learn about natural systems and the valuable role that trees play, while building their awareness of conservation issues.

All schools (public, private, nursery, elementary, secondary, vocational, college or university), homeschool groups, and any youth education-based organization may apply, provided trees are planted in New York State. Individual homeschools must apply through a homeschool group, co-op, or other association. Seedlings are two to three years old, approximately four to 12 inches tall, and bare-root. There are three packets available - 50 jack pine, 25 red oak or 30 mixed shrub species good for wildlife habitat - and each school or organization may only receive one packet per year. For more information and to apply online, visit DEC's website. For assistance or questions, contact the Colonel William F. Fox Memorial Saratoga Tree Nursery at nysnursery@dec.ny.gov or 518-581-1439.

**Note**: View video and sound featuring Colonel William F. Fox Memorial Saratoga Tree Nursery Manager David Lee (MP4, 288 MB).

PAGE 20 THE TOWNSMAN FEBRUARY 1, 2024

# Dept. of Motor Vehicles dates for the Neversink Town Hall. Feb. 8 & Mar. 7, 2024.







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Hortonville - 104 Lower Main Street, Hortonville, NY (rotating schedule)

Wurtsboro - 2948 US 209, Wurtsboro, NY (rotating schedule)

Narrowsburg - 210 Bridge Street, Narrowsburg, NY (rotating schedule)

Liberty - 15 Sullivan Ave. Liberty, NY (rotating schedule)

Bloomingburg - 13 North Rd. Bloomingburg, NY (rotating schedule)

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Yard Sale will be available for sale at the Supper. Come check them out.

United Methodist Church Hall

Grahamsville United Methodist Church

Wishing you all a Happy and **Healthy** New Year!

# St. Mary's and St. Andrews Church

139 S Main Street • Ellenville, NY 12740

#### **Mass Times** SUNDAY EUCHARIST

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

#### WEEKDAY EUCHARIST

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

#### HOLY DAY EUCHARIST

Schedule will be listed in the bulletin https://smsaparish.org/bulletins

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=R21JYUh
yTVdsQWdMUXZvTEtCeGdLZz09
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

## **Loucks Funeral Home**

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

#### CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

(Embraces Fallsburg, Neversink, Sundown and Ulster Heights) 6317 Rtc. 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 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

# Clarpville Reformed Church

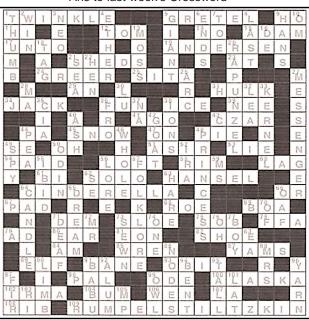
Claryville Road Claryville, NY 12725 845-985-2041



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

#### 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





SUUJI WA TANSU NI KAGIRU

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email: tvtownsman@yahoo.com
or visit our Virtual Mall
http://gnomehomeinc.com

# GRAHAMSVILLE UMC THRIFT MINISTRY



We are no longer accepting donations for the Thrift Ministry. 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

https://grahamsvilleUMC.org
GrahamsvilleUMC@gmail.com-Seung Jin Hong, Pastor

# Sundown United Methodist Church Covered Dish Supper Saturday,

February 3, 2024 5:30 pm at the Church Hall

# Check out the tables with Yard Sale items available for sale

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

# Sullivan County Soil & Water Conservation District Annual Tree & Shrub Sale

The Sullivan County Soil & Water Conservation District is pleased to announce their annual spring Tree & Shrub Program. Landowners can choose from a wide variety of deciduous and conifer trees and shrubs and specialized packets such as Nut Tree, Flowering Tree & Shrub, Wildflower, Butterfly, and perennials. Seedling varieties allow for you, the purchaser, to select what's right for your needs. We offer a range of quantities at reduced costs to promote conservation plantings.

Other items available through the program are fruit trees and wildlife habitat housing.

Trees and shrubs offered through the District program can be planted for a number of purposes such as wildlife habitat, windbreaks, hedges, screens and streambank and road bank stabilization.

To order, please contact the District Office at (845) 292-6552 and request the brochure and order form or go online at sullivanswed.org. The order deadline is April 8, 2024.

**VETERANS** always **Free** search of the Archives for family or history of Sullivan County

at the **Sullivan County Museum**, 265 Main St., Hurleyville, NY. For information call 845-434-8044.

# **LOCAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

2/3/24	Sundown UMC Covered Dish Supper 5:30 Church Hall
2/6/24	Claryville Fire District Monthly Meeting 6:30 pm
2/7/24	Town of Neversink Planning Board Meeting
2/8/24	Town of Neversink Board Meeting 7:00 pm
2/13/24	Denning Town Board & Business Meeting 6:00 pm Denning Town Hall
2/15/24	Neversink Fire District Commissioner Meeting 7:00pm
2/15/24	Denning Town Planning Board Meeting 6:00 pm Denning Town Hall
2/19/24	Town of Neversink Holiday PRESIDENTS' DAY
2/20/24	Town of Neversink Zoning Board Meeting 7:30 pm

### TOWN OF OLIVE MEETINGS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

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

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

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

# Ulster County Legislature Weekly Calendar Update

for the Week Of January 29 - February 2, 2024

All Legislative Committee Meetings are Livestreamed at <a href="https://www.youtube.com/@UlsterCountyLegislature/streams">https://www.youtube.com/@UlsterCountyLegislature/streams</a>

#### Monday, January 29

• 5:00 PM - Ulster County Board of Ethics, in the Ulster County Human Services Complex, Building 2, Veterans Agency Entrance, 100 Development Court, Kingston

#### Tuesday, January 30

- 4:30 PM Energy, Environment & Sustainability Committee, in the KL Binder Library, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston & Via Livestream
- 6:00 PM (Or Immediately Following EES Committee) Economic Development, Planning, Education, Employment, Arts & Agriculture Committee, in the KL Binder Library, 6th Floor County Office Building, Kingston & Via Livestream

### Wednesday, January 31

- 1:00 PM Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency Reform Committee, in the KL Binder Library, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston
- 5:00 PM Law Enforcement & Public Safety Committee, in the KL Binder Library, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston & Via Livestream
- 6:30 PM Ulster County Environmental Management Council, in the SUNY Ulster Kingston Center, 94 Marys Avenue, Kingston

#### Thursday, February 1

- 4:00 PM American Rescue Plan Act Special Committee, in the KL Binder Library, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston & Via Livestream
- 5:00 PM (Or Immediately Following ARPA) Health, Human Services & Housing Committee, in the KL Binder Library, 6ht Floor, County Office Building, Kingston & Via Livestream

#### Friday, February 2

No Meetings

# 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"x3")\$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)

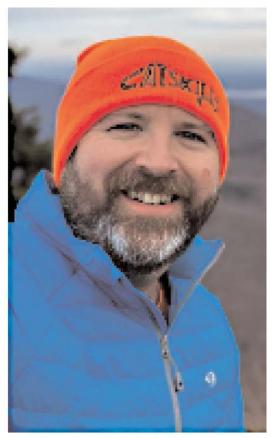
As in the past, there is no fee for advertising for our local churches

Low Rates High Visibility!

# Jeff Senterman Recognized as ADK Hero

-Beth Rowland

In a time when division and conflict seem to be the order of the day, the idea of working together for a common goal can seem, well, quaint. That's what makes this issue's ADK Heroes especially delightful to recognize.



Jeff Senterman

Jeff Senterman is executive director of the Catskill Center for Conservation and Development, which has been a critical partner with ADK in the push for Forest Preserve funding. Based in Arkville, New York, in a position he has held for over eight years, Jeff manages a staff of nineteen full-time employees and up to twenty seasonal workers.

Founded in 1969, the Catskill Center has led the effort to protect the more than 700,000 acres of the Catskill Park and Catskill Forest Preserve, with the mission to "protect and foster the environmental, cultural and economic wellbeing of the Catskill Region."



b1/18-2/8

Both ADK and the Catskill Center share common values and purpose in supporting visitors and responsible recreation in the Forest Preserve. Each manages a visitor center that is often the first step toward educating visitors to their respective areas, and introducing outdoor ethics concepts such as Leave No Trace.

So given the commonalities between the two organizations, it just makes sense to work together, says Jeff. "We're doing similar work anyway. And by working together, we get the benefit of a multiplier effect," able to more effectively advocate with one voice.

Those results include raising the visibility of the Forest Preserves and influencing policy, leading to the last two years of significant funding in the state budget for wilderness protection and visitor safety.

That collaborative approach is something that comes naturally to Jeff. "There's no shortage of problems," he says, "and for me, working together on the big picture is a place I'm personally comfortable with [while promoting] the ethos of the Catskill Center as well."

Ben Brosseau, ADK director of communications, says of Jeff, "We're grateful for Jeff's super collaborative approach and his tireless activism for the Forest Preserve in the legislature. Over the last two years, he has been integral to pushing forward our combined efforts to raise the visibility of the Forest Preserve in New York."

Looking ahead to the challenges of the future for both the Catskill Center and ADK, Jeff identifies climate change as the central issue facing the Forest Preserve. In the short term, there are the damages recently seen with record flooding, directly affecting how people live and recreate in the Adirondacks and Catskills. Longer term, Jeff sees a future that is "vastly more challenging" as the Northeast area in general becomes a place of refuge for people fleeing increasingly inhospitable locales. Communities such as those on valley floors may become uninhabitable as waters rise, forcing residents to relocate. That disruption, combined with many more visitors coming to the Forest Preserve, will pose significant tests for the Catskill Center and ADK, as well as other organizations, to manage and protect "a place as truly special as the Forest Preserve."

But with the dedication of the great minds working together and the commonality of approaches between the Catskill Center and ADK, it seems clear both are up to the task.

# TV Bear Cub Basketball Program

- Omar De La Cuadra

Our program is extremely grateful to continue to grow our partnership with the Tri-Valley School District. The school has been an amazing supporter of our program. Their support has allowed us to utilize all our fundraising dollars and invest them directly back into the children. Our fundraising efforts have allowed us to implement a few kid centered initiatives.

- 1. Last year we started a snack program where each child receives a snack bag after each game.
- 2. This year we were able to purchase water bottles for each child embossed with our logo and made personal with the child's name.
- 3. We were able to purchase additional needed equipment.
- Our program serves children from 1st thru 6th grade. Last year was our first year extending our registration to first graders and the participation has been better than we expected.
- o This year we had our highest enrollment year with us serving roughly 145 our Tri-Valley kids. This in conjunction with our Liberty collaboration and our basketball clinics have us touching the lives of over 200 children.
- o Last year, it was brought to my attention the Liberty kids did not have a basketball program.
- On 1/27, we held the first of 4 basketball clinics for our Kindergarten and 1st grade children. We had 17 kids signed up for the first clinic with three more to go.
- o On Friday nights we have open gym time for 3rd thru 6 grades where kids can show up to play basketball and work with our coaches.
- o The Liberty Parks and Rec team were holding basketball clinics with the kids. Part of our mission is instilling the value of community and sportsmanship within our children. As such, our program extended an offer to have the Liberty kids come play against ours and two 5th and 6th grade teams participated in our program. This year that collaboration has grown and they will have 4 teams in total playing within our program.
- o This year we saw a growth in the economic needs in our community. In keeping with our philosophy of every child plays no matter the circumstance, we were able to "sponsor" over 25 kids by covering their registration costs.
- o Last year, we gave each child a trophy at the end of the season and we are excited to continue it this year.
- o In November, our program partnered with the TriValley Little League program to provide Thanksgiving dinners to families in our community with food needs.
- o We partnered with the TV PTO program to start a concession stand during our games helping them raise monies for their initiatives going back to the kids.
- o This year we have approximately 14 high school and middle school children from the school volunteering to be scoreboard keepers and referees. Most of them have been through the program and are giving back to our community. It is a value we try to instill in them and this is a testament our program is not just about basketball.
- o Our community has shown up and this year we had a huge turnout for coaches. It has allowed us to have two coaches per team for all the 3rd thru 6th grade teams.

Our board consists of 4 members(Melissa Wilhelm, Tom Conjura, Jessica Dymond and Omar De La Cuadra.

We are midstream with our annual fundraiser. The online orders can be placed until 3/14 and orders can be directly shipped anywhere in the US. Even if someone is not interested in buying

chocolates, we are encouraging everyone to share the link with their family members and friends. Below is the link for the fundraiser.

https://fundraising.gertrudehawkchocolates.com/fundraising-products/index/index/organization\_id/720363/seller\_id/49

The link can also be found on our Facebook group page(TV Bear Cub Basketball). I've included a QR code below that takes you directly to our page.



If you can't tell, I am very passionate about this program and take extreme pride in everything we do for the kids. Since I took the helm three years ago as President, the board and I have worked very hard to improve the program year over year. Three years ago, we had to bounce back from Covid and literally starting everything from scratch. Our first year, we were at Shoprite, Dollar General and throughout the community raising funds via coin drops at times in the freezing snow. We have come a long way and all our efforts year after year have positioned us to try to make the basketball experience for our kids the best possible.

Below are excerpts from our bylaws that showcase the culture we have tried to create within our program.

- 1. The purpose of TV Bear Cubs shall be to promote youth boys' and girls' sports in the Tri-Valley Central School District and to further promote the development of leadership, character, sportsmanship, tolerance, discipline and athletic ability, and to nurture youth fitness, volunteerism, and a lifelong love of basketball.
- 2. Mission Statement
- a. Our organization will make every effort to make sure that every child with the desire to participate gets the opportunity to play, without regard to prior experience, athletic ability or size.
- b. We are committed to instilling Honesty, Loyalty, Integrity, Teamwork, Discipline, Sportsmanship, Respect, Leadership, Trust, Commitment, and the importance of Education in our young participants. We believe these values and virtues are important to their growth and to them becoming active members of our community and society.
- c. We will instill in our youth the challenge of competition, the joy of victory, the reality of defeat, the importance of commitment and community service.
- d. These goals will be achieved through organizing our dedicated volunteers, caring parents, and business associates who wish to partner with our great youth sport program.

17/02/27											
2024 Bear Cub Basketball Game Schedule											
	1st &	& 2nd	3rd	& 4th G	irade	5th & 6th Grade					
Date/Time	1:00 PM	1:45 PM	2:45 PM	3:45 PM	4:45 PM	12:00 PM	1:30 PM	3:00 PM	4:30 PM		
FEB 4TH	Red v.	Yellow v	Orange v.	Yellow v.	Liberty1 v.	Orange v.	Yellow v.	Black v.	Grey v.		
	Black	Green	Black	Red	Liberty2	Green	Liberty l	Liberty2	Red		
FEB 11TH	Orange v.	Green v.	Liberty1 v.	Yellow v.	Green v.	Libertky2 v	Green v.	Liberty1 v.	Orange v.		
	Yellow	Black	Red	Orange	Black	Grey	Black	Red	Yellow		
FEB 18TH	Yellow v.	Orange v.	Red v.	Black v.	Yellowv.	Orange v.	Red v.	Green v.	Liberty1 v.		
	Black	Red	Liberty2	Liberty1	Green	Black	Yellow	Grey	Liberty2		
FEB 25TH	Orange v.	Green v.	Yellow v.	Black v.	Orange v.	Liberty1 v	Black v.	Yellow v.	Orange v.		
	Black	Red	Liberty 1	Liberty2	Green	Green	Grey	Liberty2	Red		
MARCH 3RD	Yellow v.	Black v.	Orange v.	Green v.	Yellow v.	Orange v.	Red v.	Liberty1 v.	Yellow v.		
	Red	Green	Red	Liberty 1	Liberty 2	Grey	Liberty2	Black	Green		
MARCH 10TH	Black v.	Orange v	Liberty2 v.	Red v.	Black v.	Orange v.	Grey v.	Red v.	Black v.		
	Yellow	Green	Orange	Green	Yellow	Liberty2	Liberty1	Green	Yellow		
MARCH 17TH	Orange v.	Green v.	Orange v.	Green v.	Red v.	Black v.	Liberty1 v.	Grey v.	Liberty2 v		
	Red	Yellow	Liberty1	Liberty2	Black	Red	Orange	Yellow	Green		
MARCH 24TH	Black v.	Red v.	Yellow v.	Red v.	Black v.	Grey v.	Black v.	Orange v.	Yellow v.		
	Orange	Green	Orange	Green	Liberty l	Red	Liberty2	Green	Libety1		
	Joe/Paul- James/Do Angelina	evin–Red /Sonny–Blagio–Yellow II–Green	ack	Coach—Jersey Color Melissa/Darren—Orange Tom/Ben—Yellow John/Chassidy—Grey Patrick/Robert—Green Omar/Heather—Black Tim/James—Red Liberty l Liberty 2							

# Celebrate Groundhog Day at the County Museum! Join the First Annual Groundhog Day Afterparty on February 4

Hurleyville, NY - Every year in a celebration of all that is unserious, Americans tune in to see if Pennsylvania's famed "Seer of Seers," Punxsutawney Phil, will emerge from his den and see his shadow. Should the sun shine on

that day - casting a shadow that Phil sees - he will with absolute certainty predict six more weeks of winter. This year, the Frederick Cook Society will honor the tradition by inviting those who love winter (and those who don't) to join them at the Sullivan County Museum for the First Annual Groundhog Day Afterparty. They will celebrate Phil's prediction with hot chocolate, live music, and a ping-pong tournament. Prizes will be awarded to anyone who can beat Carol Smith (organizer and Little Sparrow member) at ping-pong! To register for the tournament, call 845-434-8044. supporting the work of the Cook Society are always welcome. on vocals and guitar, and the inimitable Jeff Anderson will be on bass.

Freddd Scholl

The Afterparty will take place on Sunday, Feb. 4 from 2-4 p.m. at the County Museum, 265 Main Street, Hurleyville (snow date of Sunday, Feb. 11). Admission is free, though donations

The event will feature New Jersey's own special guest guitarist, Fred Scholl, who has performed in Grateful Dead bands for over 30 years and is currently coming off a tour with the Dude of Life Band featuring Steve Pollak (of Phish fame). Local Henry Simon joins the band

Bill Murray, who perhaps unbeknownst to many is a fan of both Punxsutawney Phil and Phil Lesh, has also been invited to perform. His attendance is as of yet unconfirmed (and

Oh, and while you are at the party, be sure to visit the new Frederick Cook Exhibit in the upstairs gallery of the Museum, along with the many interesting displays that showcase the history of Sullivan County!

For more information, call 845-434-8044 or visit the Frederick Cook Society's Facebook Page at https://www.facebook.com/groups/317097986891247.

# 2024 HEALTHIEST FIRE DEPARTMENT CHALLENGE

# Naming Sullivan County's Healthiest Fire Department

[LIBERTY, NY] - With the success of the 2023 Healthiest Fire Department Challenge, and based on participant feedback, the 2024 Healthiest Fire Department Challenge launched on January 1, 2024. This year, 20 of Sullivan County's Volunteer Fire Departments have joined, and in just three short weeks, completed almost 200 healthy activities!

The challenge calls attention to the mental and physical health of our firefighters. From the moment the tones drop, a firefighter's heart rate increases 47 beats per minute. Firefighting is physically and emotionally demanding. More than half of all firefighters have elevated blood pressure, are obese and pre-diabetic. 90% or more have poor diet or exercise habits, additionally, suffering from heart disease, PTSD and lead in suicide more than any other first responder. Firefighters are consistently managing the balance between family, work and serving their community. Absorbing the trauma of each call has impacts that are not always visible or obvious.

"This challenge began last year providing great opportunities for our firefighters to participate in some healthy fun, health creative meals and thinking outside the box challenges." Said Sullivan County Fire Coordinator John Hauschild. "This is another opportunity to honor our brave firefighters of Sullivan County for their commitment and hard work they have completed during the challenge to remain healthy."

2024 Participating Fire Departments: Bloomingburg, Grahamsville, Highland Lake, Hortonville, Hurleyville, Jeffersonville, Kauneonga Lake, Lake Huntington, Livingston Manor, Loch Sheldrake, Lumberland, Monticello, Narrowsburg, Rock Hill, Roscoe-Rockland, Smallwood-Mongaup Valley, White Lake, Woodridge, Wurtsboro, Youngsville.

To make this challenge fun and competitive, Departments receive credit in the form of 'turtle points' for each health focused activity they complete. The department that earns the most turtles will be eligible for grant funding through Sullivan 180 and our partners. The grant level is based on the final



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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

points completed by September 1, 2024. The two departments that earn the most turtle points will be eligible for amounts of \$15,000 and \$10,000, respectively. Additional grants will be awarded based on a tiered point system. Winners will be announced at the Sullivan County Volunteer Firefighters Parade in Livingston Manor on September 7, 2024.

During last year's challenge, departments chose better food options, increased physical activity and recognized the sense of comradery that returned to their houses and between departments. (With a little competition as well.) Grahamsville Fire was named the Healthiest Fire Department and awarded a well-deserved grant in the amount of \$15,000. Jeffersonville Fire was awarded a \$10,000 grant, coming in second. To follow the challenge and its participating departments, visit Sullivan180.org.

Sullivan 180 is working to build a healthy community, one degree at a time, through people, places and policy with support from Bold Gold Media Group, Manor Ink, The River Reporter, The Sullivan County Democrat and WJFF Radio Catskill. Learn more at Sullivan180.org or Facebook.com/Sullivan180inc.



# THE 2024 BAGEL FESTIVAL

VENDOR REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

AUGUST 11, 2024 - BROADWAY IN MONTICELLO, NY

**CLICK FOR MORE INFO!** 

https://thebagelfestival.org/vendor-registration/

# DEC Delivers Banner - Stay Connected with Your Environment

DEC and NYSERDA Announce Virtual Information Session on Draft

Disadvantaged Communities Investments and Benefits Reporting Guidance

Public Invited to Feb. 1 Information Session on Draft Guidance For New York State Entities that Supports Implementation of Climate Act's Equity and Justice Requirements

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) will host a virtual information session on Feb. 1, about the draft reporting guidance to implement the requirement that New York State entities account for investments and benefits in disadvantaged communities under the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (Climate Act).

The draft Disadvantaged Communities Investments and Benefits Reporting Guidance is a blueprint for reporting energy efficiency and clean energy program investments by State entities in disadvantaged communities and will advance consistency and transparency in complying with the Climate Act requirement that a minimum of 35 percent, with a goal of 40 percent, of the State's clean energy investments benefit disadvantaged communities.

On Jan. 3, 2024, DEC and NYSERDA released the draft Disadvantaged Communities Investments and Benefits Reporting Guidance for New York State entities, for public comment. At the Feb. 1 information session, DEC and NYSERDA will provide an overview of the proposed guidelines and take questions on the draft guidance and future implementation.

When: Thursday, Feb. 1, 2024, 2 p.m. ET
Where: Via WebEx
Webinar number: 161 230 4381
Webinar password: welcome2.1.24
(93526632 from phones)
Audio: Dial 1-518-549-0500; Access code: 161 230 4381

All New Yorkers are welcome to provide input on the draft guidance for how New York State will track progress toward addressing the interests and priorities of historically marginalized communities as the State continues to transition to an inclusive clean energy economy that reduces pollution, addresses systemic inequities, and expands economic opportunity for all New Yorkers.

Written comments on the proposed guidance may be submitted until close of business Feb. 23, 2024. Comments can be submitted to Alanah Keddell-Tuckey, NYSDEC - Office of Environmental Justice, 625 Broadway, Albany, New York 12233-1550 or email justice@dec.ny.gov. Include "Draft Disadvantaged Communities Reporting Guidance" in the subject line of the email.

For more information about New York's climate efforts, visit the Climate Act website.

https://climate.ny.gov/

# Gillibrand, Cotton, Colleagues Introduce Legislation to Address Cybersecurity Threats to American Agriculture

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Today, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) and Senator Tom Cotton (R-AR) introduced the Farm and Food Cybersecurity Act, legislation that would strengthen cybersecurity protecting the agriculture and food critical infrastructure sectors. The bill will identify vulnerabilities and improve protective measures of both the government and private groups against cyber threats.

Cosponsoring the legislation are Senators Pete Ricketts (R-NE), Katie Britt (R-AL), John Barrasso (R-WY), Cynthia Lummis (R-WY), Jerry Moran (R-KS), and Mike Rounds (R-SD). Congressman Brad Finstad (MN-01) and Congresswoman Elissa Slotkin (MI-07) are introducing companion legislation in the House.

Bill text may be found here

https://www.gillibrand.senate.gov/wpcontent/uploads/2024/01/farm\_and\_food\_cybersecurity\_a ct\_bill\_text1.pdf

"Protecting our nation's farms and food security against cyberattacks is a vital component of our national security," said Senator Gillibrand. "The Farm and Food Cybersecurity Act is a crucial step toward preparing our nation's agriculture sector to respond to potential cyberattacks. I am committed to ensuring our American agriculture sector is ready to defend against these cyber threats and look forward to working with my colleagues to get this important bill passed."

"America's adversaries are seeking to gain any advantage they can against us-including targeting critical industries like agriculture. Congress must work with the Department of Agriculture to identify and defeat these cybersecurity vulnerabilities. This legislation will ensure we are prepared to protect the supply chains our farmers and all Americans rely on," said Senator Cotton.

"Food and farm security is national security," said Congressman Finstad. "With growing threats at home and abroad, it is increasingly important that we ensure our nation's agriculture sector and food supply chain remain secure. I am proud to join Rep. Slotkin and Senator Cotton in introducing the Farm and Food Cybersecurity Act, which will provide us with a greater understanding of the susceptibility of our country's food supply to cyber-attacks, and more importantly, help us prevent these attacks from occurring in the future."

"Food security is national security, so it's critical that American agriculture is protected from cyber threats," said Congresswoman Slotkin. "No longer just some tech issue, cyber attacks have the potential to upend folks' daily lives and threaten our food supply - like we saw a couple years ago when the meat-packing company JBS was taken offline by a ransomware attack. (Contd. Pg. 30)

# Gillibrand, Cotton, Colleagues Introduce Legislation to Address Cybersecurity Threats to American Agriculture

This legislation will require the Department of Agriculture to work closely with our national security agencies to ensure that adversaries like China can't threaten our ability to feed ourselves by ourselves."

The Farm and Food Cybersecurity Act would:

1. Direct the Secretary of Agriculture, in coordination with the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, to conduct a study every two years of the cybersecurity threat to, and vulnerabilities in, the agriculture and food sectors and submit a report to Congress.

2. Direct the Secretary of Agriculture, in coordination with the Secretaries of Homeland Security and Health and Human Services, as well as the Director of National Intelligence, to conduct an annual cross-sector crisis simulation exercise for food-related cyber emergencies or dis-

ruptions.

Supporting the legislation are the American Farm Bureau Federation, North American Millers Association, National Grain and Feed Association, National Council of Farmer Cooperatives, National Cattlemen's Beef Association, National Pork Producers Council, USA Rice, Agricultural Retailers Association, American Sugar Alliance, and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

# UC Executive Metzger Secures Commitment from NYS DOT to Conduct Road Safety Investigation on Rte. 28 in Mount Tremper

KINGSTON, NY - In the wake of a tragic vehicle crash on January 8 that claimed the lives of two Kingston high school students, County Executive Jen Metzger has secured a commitment from the New York State Department of Transportation (NYS DOT) to conduct a thorough investigation into road safety at the intersection of State Routes 28 and 212 in Mount Tremper. On Friday afternoon, the County Executive sent a letter to NYS DOT requesting the safety analysis and received a response from the DOT Region 8 Regional Traffic Engineer later that afternoon granting the request.

"I want to thank the DOT Region 8 Office for its responsiveness to our request for a road safety investigation at the Mount Tremper intersection where this tragic accident occurred," said County Executive Jen Metzger. "As a mother of young adults, my heart breaks for the families of the young people we have lost, and the state must make every effort to ensure that our state roads are as safe as possible to prevent future tragedies from

occurring."

County Executive Jen Metzger also thanked local residents for their advocacy in addressing the road's safety.

"I deeply appreciate the advocacy for improvements to Route 28 in Mount Tremper that we have received from concerned citizens and first responders alike," said Ulster County Executive Jen Metzger. "This commitment from NYS DOT is the first step in determining any necessary changes to the road design, and my office will be sure to communicate any updates to the public as this process plays out."

# Governor Hochul Announces Application Period Now Open for 2024 Empire State Fellows Program

Program Prepares the Next Generation of Policy Makers to Lead New York State Applications Opened on January 5, 2024 and will be Accepted Through April 1, 2024

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced that the application period for the 2024 class of Empire State Fellows is now open. The prestigious program attracts exceptional and diverse talent from New York State and across the country to serve in high-level positions in the administration. Since the program's inception 12 years ago, graduates of the Empire State Fellows program have gone on into senior roles, including Deputy Commissioner, Deputy Secretary and Chief of Staff positions throughout State agencies.

The Empire State Fellows Program has served as a gateway for some of New York's best and brightest looking to make a difference in their communities through a career in public service," Governor Hochul said. "We look forward to welcoming the next class of Fellows into this transformative program. Anyone who dreams of making a positive change in the lives of New Yorkers is encouraged to apply and join the ranks of our future leaders."

The Empire State Fellows Program is a full-time leadership training program that prepares the next generation of talented professionals for careers as New York State policymakers. The incoming class of Empire State Fellows will serve from September 12, and receive an annual salary of \$85,000, plus a generous benefits package. At the end of the fellowship, the program will identify high-performing Empire State Fellows that will be given the opportunity to continue to serve as leaders in New York State government after completing the program.

Engagement in the work of the New York State government lies at the heart of the Empire State Fellows Program. The Governor's Office will appoint each Empire State Fellow to work directly with a Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner, or other high-level policymakers at a New York State agency or authority, or in the Executive Chamber. Work assignments offer Fellows unparalleled experience collaborating with senior officials and

participating in the policy-making process.

While taking part in the work of State government, Empire Fellows will participate in educational and professional development programs that will help them to serve as effective and ethical government leaders. The educational component of the Empire State Fellows Program kicks off with an orientation course in September. Educational coursework will continue on a semimonthly basis. Meanwhile, professional development activities, including a mentoring program and regular meetings with Cabinet members and other government leaders, will enhance Empire Fellows' collaboration with policymakers.

Applications opened on January 5 and will be accepted through April 1. More information on the program and instructions on how to apply are available here. https://www.ny.gov/new-york-state-fellowship-programs/empire-state-fellows-program

# Daniel Pierce Library Valentine's Day Card Event

for ALL ages

Want to make your heart smile too?

You can, by making homemade cards along with the Daniel Pierce Library for the residents at Achieve Rehab and Nursing Facility!

DIY Valentine's Day cards will be available (while supplies last) at the library for pick-up starting Thursday, February 1st.

You may also use your own supplies.

Please return cards to the red box in the library foyer by 1 p.m. Monday, February 12, 2024 for our special delivery.







# Daniel Pierce Library

320 Main Street | P.O. Dox 268 Grahamsville, New York 12740-0268 | 845-985-7233 www.danielpiercelibrary.org

# Governor Hochul Announces Nearly \$3 Million Grant Awards to Support Invasive Species Prevention Projects Across the State Funding Provides Critical Support to Address Negative Impacts of Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive Species

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced nearly \$3 million in grants for 43 projects to reduce the negative impacts of invasive species on New York State's natural resources, economy, and communities. These grants are part of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's Invasive Species Grant Program, which provides funding for aquatic and terrestrial invasive species spread prevention, early detection and rapid response, lake management planning, research, and education and outreach.

"We are committed to protecting New York's waterways, forest lands, and agricultural crops from dangerous invasive species," Governor Hochul said. "This funding supports projects across the state that will help prevent the spread of invasive species in New York, protecting our natural resources, economy and public health from the negative impacts of this threat."

Environmental Department of Conservation Commissioner Basil Seggos said, "DEC is pleased to offer this comprehensive grant program to address the negative impacts of invasive species. There is no single action that can address the threats invasive pests pose to New York's environment. Simultaneous investments in researching control methods, actively managing invasive populations, addressing pathways for spread, and educating the public about invasive species, are essential for mitigation efforts. In Governor Hochul's proposed 2024-2025 Executive Budget, the State's Environmental Protection Fund would designate \$17 million for projects and programs to help address invasive species across the state.'

Awarded projects total \$2,992,793 spread across six categories:

- o \$263,390 to fund two aquatic invasive species watercraft spread prevention projects through boat steward outreach/voluntary inspection to help educate recreational boaters
- o \$340,437 to fund five projects related to aquatic invasive species watercraft spread prevention stewards and boat decontamination by deploying and utilizing high-pressure hot water decontamination equipment and delivering boat steward programs and site decontamination stations at boat ramps or road travel corridors.
- o \$1,762,442 for 23 invasive species early detection/

rapid response and control (terrestrial and aquatic) projects to promote the removal of invasive species through physical and mechanical removal, chemical treatments, and biocontrol release.

o \$269,682 for four invasive species research projects to help improve invasive species control methodologies. o \$159,598 for five lake management planning and implementation projects to help address the underlying causes of aquatic invasive species infestations and provide context for their control and management; and

o \$197,243 for four invasive species education and outreach projects to increase public knowledge of invasive species and motivate the public to engage in invasive species management and community science.

#### Award in Mid-Hudson

**Dutchess County** 

o Bard College: \$80,379 - Invasive Species Early Detection / Rapid Response and Control Terrestrial and Aquatic Species

Multi-County

- o New York-New Jersey Trail Conference: \$84,139 Invasive Species Education and Outreach
- o New York-New Jersey Trail Conference: \$100,000 Invasive Species Early Detection / Rapid Response and Control Terrestrial and Aquatic Species

Orange County

o Town of Chester: \$12,136 - Invasive Species Early Detection / Rapid Response and Control Terrestrial and Aquatic Species

**Rockland County** 

o Town of Clarkstown: \$67,500 - Invasive Species Early Detection / Rapid Response and Control Terrestrial and Aquatic Species

Sullivan County

- o Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan County: \$71,368 - Invasive Species Education and Outreach Ulster County
- o Mohonk Preserve, Inc.: \$90,000 Invasive Species Early Detection / Rapid Response and Control Terrestrial and Aquatic Species

Westchester County

o Research Foundation for SUNY Purchase: \$99,480 - Invasive Species Early Detection / Rapid Response and Control Terrestrial and Aquatic Species

The grants announced today are supported by the State's Environmental Protection Fund (EPF). The EPF is a critical resource for environmental programs such as land acquisition, farmland protection, invasive species prevention and eradication, recreation access, water quality improvement, and environmental justice projects. Governor Hochul's proposed 2024-25 Executive Budget maintains the EPF funding at \$400 million, the highest level of funding in the program's history.

The Invasive Species Grant Program is administered by the Bureau of Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health in DEC's Division of Lands and Forests. For more infor-

mation, please visit DEC's website.

# Governor Hochul Announces \$160 Million Federal Investment from the National Science Foundation to the New Energy NY Storage Engine to Lead the Nation in Battery Technology and Manufacturing

Governor Hochul today announced that the U.S. National Science Foundation has designated the New Energy New York (NENY) Storage Engine as a Regional Innovation Engine (NSF Engine) as a part of President Biden's Investing in America agenda. The NENY Storage Engine, anchored at Binghamton University in New York's Southern Tier Region, will receive up to \$15 million for two years and up to \$160 million over 10 years to establish a hub that will accelerate innovation, technology translation and the creation of a skilled workforce to grow the capacity of the domestic battery industry. Through Empire State Development, New York State will match up to 20 percent for the first five years of the project as well as provide support through established programs. The NENY Storage Engine was chosen for its diverse, cross-sector coalition that will build a leading ecosystem driving battery technology innovation, workforce development and manufacturing to support U.S. national security and global competitiveness.

"With this transformative National Science Foundation grant, we are putting Binghamton and all of New York State back at the cutting edge of manufacturing and innovation," Governor Hochul said. "The modern era of battery technology was born right here in New York, and thanks to Majority Leader Schumer, President Biden and New York's congressional delegation, the CHIPS and Science Act is helping to ensure that the future of batteries is

built here as well."

Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer said, "Up to \$160 million is now on its way to supercharge Upstate NY as a booming battery research hub being led by Binghamton University. Thanks to my CHIPS & Science Law, Binghamton will be the beating electric heart of federal efforts to help bring battery innovation and development back from overseas to spark growth of this critical industry vital to our nation's national and economic security. With the prestigious NSF Engines award, the Southern Tier and Upstate NY has officially secured its place as the next loop on America's battery belt. Lightning has struck not once, not twice but three times to supercharge Binghamton and the NENY coalition as best in class to grow cutting edge research in America's battery industry. For years I have worked to craft and lead to passage these new programs to spur economic development, create good-paying jobs, and spark scientific innovation, specifically with places like Binghamton and Upstate NY in mind. Binghamton's battery hub is already electrifying Upstate New York's workforce and economy, but this investment is the crown jewel that will help fuel the scientific discovery and innovation to ensure this industry is here to stay in America."

The NENY Storage Engine was one of sixteen national finalists for this designation across the country, out of an original pool of 188. The proposal came from the NENY project, a coalition led by Binghamton University, a leader in lithium-ion battery research, in a region that has become renowned for its battery manufacturing capabilities. NENY's proposal brings together diverse partners to tackle the battery technology value chain and ensure the U.S. is ready as demand grows for electric vehicles and reliance on battery storage grids increases. This includes chemistry research, new components and applications, and recycling plans. The coalition is comprised of 14 industry partners, 50 networked sector companies, 4 core university partners, 5+ high tech incubators, 17 vocational & tech training partners and 3 international collaborators.

The NSF Engines represent one of the single largest broad investments in place-based research and development in the nation's history - uniquely placing science and technology leadership as the central driver for regional economic competitiveness. The announcement delivers on the bipartisan priorities outlined in the "CHIPS and Science Act of 2022," which authorized the

NSF Engines program. Launched in May 2022, the NSF Engines program uniquely harnesses the nation's science and technology research and development enterprise and regional-level resources.

Empire State Development President, CEO & Commissioner Hope Knight said, "This designation marks another win for New York State and the Southern Tier, which is poised to become a global hub for research, innovation, and advanced manufacturing. This funding will provide needed resources to support the researchers and entrepreneurs who are working to advance the growing energy storage industry, which will super-charge economic development and job creation in the region and statewide."

This designation builds upon prior federal and State combined investments of \$113.7 million through Binghamton University to support the creation of Battery-NY, a cutting-edge technology development, manufacturing, and commercialization energy storage hub. In addition to \$50 million in State funding first announced by Governor Hochul in her 2022 State of the State address, Binghamton University was selected by the U.S. Commerce Department's Economic Development Administration to receive \$63.7 million in federal funding from the American Rescue Plan's Build Back Better Regional Challenge, a national competition that is providing transformative investments to develop and strengthen regional industry clusters across the country, that also enhance economic equity, create good-paying jobs and further the United States' global competitiveness. Binghamton University was one of 21 chosen out of more than 500 applications originally which were narrowed to 60 applicants in round two of the challenge.(Contd. Pg. 34)



# Governor Hochul Announces \$160 Million Federal Investment from the National Science Foundation to the New Energy NY Storage Engine to Lead the Nation in Battery Technology and Manufacturing

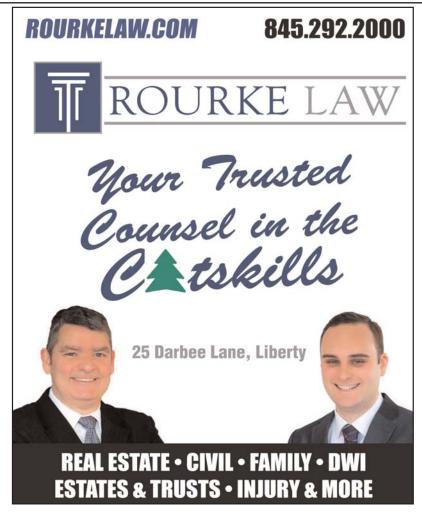
(From Pg. 33)

New York State's Nation-Leading Climate Plan

New York State's nation-leading climate agenda calls for an orderly and just transition that creates family-sustaining jobs, continues to foster a green economy across all sectors and ensures that at least 35 percent, with a goal of 40 percent, of the benefits of clean energy investments are directed to disadvantaged communities. Guided by some of the nation's most aggressive climate and clean energy initiatives, New York is on a path to achieving a zero-emission electricity sector by 2040, including 70 percent renewable energy generation by 2030, and economywide carbon neutrality by mid-century. A cornerstone of this transition is New York's unprecedented clean energy investments, including more than \$40 billion in 64 large-scale renewable and transmission projects across the State, \$6.8 billion to reduce building emissions, \$3.3 billion to scale up solar, nearly \$3 billion for clean transportation initiatives, and over \$2 billion in NY Green Bank commitments. These and other investments are supporting more than 170,000 jobs in New York's clean energy sector as of 2022 and over 3,000 percent growth in the distributed solar sector since 2011. To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality, New York also adopted zero-emission vehicle regulations, including requiring all new passenger cars and light-duty trucks sold in the State be zero emission by 2035. Partnerships are continuing to advance New York's climate action with 400 registered and more than 100 certified Climate Smart Communities, nearly 500 Clean Energy Communities, and the State's largest community air monitoring initiative in 10 disadvantaged communities across the State to help target air pollution and combat climate change.

# Shumer, Gillibrand Announce Over \$157 Million in Federal Funding to Reimburse NYS for COVID-19 costs

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Today, U.S. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer and U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand announced \$157,605,755.44 in federal funding to reimburse the New York State Division of the



Budget for the cost of emergency protective measures taken to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. During the pandemic, New York State utilized equipment, materials, and contracts to implement emergency protective measures to reduce and prevent the spread of the virus. These measures taken by New York State allowed testing center operations to run smoothly and safely, ensuring that thousands of New Yorkers could be tested to minimize the spread of the virus. This funding was allocated through the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and authorized under Section 403 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.

"We are proud to deliver this \$157+ million in federal funding to compensate New York for COVID response, including the costs of equipment, materials, testing centers, and emergency protective measures taken to keep our communities safe during the pandemic," said Senator Schumer. "I will always fight to make sure New York has the resources needed to keep our communities healthy and safe."

"Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, New York State provided efficient and essential testing centers that kept New Yorkers safe," said Senator Gillibrand. "These federal funds will reimburse New York State for the costs associated with running and maintaining these critical testing centers that helped protect the health and safety of New Yorkers. I am proud to deliver this federal funding and will continue to fight for federal resources to keep New Yorkers safe."

# Beginner Farmer Program Events coming up this spring!

LIBERTY, NY - The Beginner Farmer Program has plenty of classes and events coming up this year on a variety of topics and open to folks at all levels of farming.

## **Farmer Mixer at Upward Brewing Company** Thursday, February 8th 5-7PM

Enjoy an evening with great conversation and community with folks from our farming community. Food and beverages will be available for purchase.

### **Agricultural Funding Series**

- o Monday, February 5th 6 -7 PM -Class #2 with the USDA-FSA
- o Thursday, March 14th 6 -7 PM -Class #3 General Funding Opportunities
- o Date and Time TBA -Class #4 with NYS Grown & Certified

Learn about the variety of funding opportunities out there for agricultural businesses with speakers from different Agricultural Organizations! Can't make it? These classes will be recorded and posted to our YouTube channel.

# Marketing Series (Registration opens first week of February)

- o March 13th 6-7:30PM -Tips and Tricks for Marketing Tools
- o March 27th 6-7:30PM -Where to Start with Marketing Your Business
- o April 10th 6-7:30PM -Get the Scoop on Marketing with Social Media with Kendra from the Herbal Scoop

Explore the magic of marketing and all the tools you can use to grow your business. Learn how to utilize marketing tools, how to develop a marketing plan, and how a farmer uses marketing to create a successful farm business. At each session, the presenters will share information with participants, and there will be a time allocated for a Q&A for the participants.

If interested, please visit https://sullivancce.org/events to learn more about these events and register. Those with related questions can email Taylor Adam at beginner-farmer@cornell.edu or call845-292-6180 ext. 130. Many more programs and events from the Beginner Farmer Program are to come, so stay tuned!

This project is supported by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture award #2022-06508.

Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan County provides equal program and employment opportunities. The public can contact the office to request accommodations.

# Celebrate Winter at the 4th Annual SnO&W Snowshoe or Hike on the Historic O&W Rail Trail in Hurleyville on 2/24



[HURLEYVILLE] - Come out and celebrate winter with the Sullivan O&W Rail Trail Alliance on Saturday, February 24th at 10 AM on the historic O&W Rail Trail in Hurleyville.

The SnO&W started in 2020 as a snowshoe fun run and walk and rotates locations each year to feature a different segment of the Sullivan O&W Rail Trail.

Participants are encouraged to bring their own snowshoes or similar gear if they have them. The first 20 people to arrive needing equipment will receive their choice of either a free snowshoe or microspike rental, depending upon trail conditions. Snowshoe rentals will be available at a discounted rate of \$12 through Fortress Bikes, and Morgan Outdoors will be offering a "SnO&W Special" microspike rental for only \$5 (normally \$12). "The Sullivan O&W Rail Trail is a trail for everyone, and winter is a great time to experience the trail!" said Heather Jacksy, from Sullivan County Planning and member of the Alliance. Visit the event Facebook page at bit.ly/2024SNOW or call (845) 807-0531 for more information.

Participating fire departments in the Sullivan 180 Healthiest Fire Department Challenge will receive 3 points for attending with five or more active members.

The Sullivan O&W Rail Trail Alliance grew out of the 2019 Sullivan O&W Rail Trail Feasibility Study and is a partnership of local government entities, non-profits, and volunteers which serve as the stewards for the trail. For more information about the O&W Rail Trail and the work of the Alliance, visit www.SullivanOandW.com.

# Daniel Pierce Library





Get 5 in a row – up, down, across or diagonal – to win! Return this sheet to the library when you complete BINGO to receive a prize!

Read a book for 30 minutes

Read a magazine Take a walk Read aloud to someone Read a book with a one word title

Recommend a book to a friend

a picture book Read a new author

Visit the library's website Read book 1 of a series

Work on our library puzzle Read a book with a blue cover Sign up for a DPL library card. Free space if you have a card.

Read a book under 200 pages

Checkout a

Read a book from the year you were born

Recommend the library to a friend Read a book with pictures Read a book with "winter" in the title A book less than 150 pages

Read a book suggested by a friend

Read a graphic novel Read a book that has won an award Use our catalog and place a book on hold

Read a book with an animal on the cover

Get your reading logs and bingo sheets here!

https://danielpiercelibrary.org/Pages/Index/228365/winter-reading-challenge

hildren of All Ages

## DEC Announces the Passing of Fallen Environmental Conservation Police Lieutenant David McShane



New Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos and Division of Enforcement Director Karen Przyklek saddened announce the line of duty death of retired Environmental Conservation Police Lieutenant David J. McShane.

On January 22, 2024, Lieutenant McShane passed away from an illness related to his assignment at the World Trade Center following the terrorist attack on September 11, 2001.

Following the events of 9/11, Lieutenant McShane was assigned to New York City to assist in search and recovery efforts.

"When America came under attack on 9/11, changing the world as we knew it and crippling us with fear, Lt. McShane put the safety of New Yorkers and his country ahead of his own," Commissioner Seggos said. "The bravery and courage displayed by him and so many other law enforcement officers and first responders played an integral role in the recovery from one of the most terrible days in our state and country's history. On behalf of the entire DEC family, and his brother and sister Environmental Conservation Police Officers, I want to express my deepest condolences and gratitude to the family, friends, and colleagues of Lt. McShane."

Division of Law Enfrcement Director Karen Przyklek said, "Much like that terrifying day in 2001 where thousands of Americans lost their lives and millions more were forced to come to grips with an awful new reality, we will never forget Lt. McShane and the ultimate sacrifice he paid for all of us. I personally hold him up as a shining example of leadership, courage, and pride for his unselfish sense of duty. We extend our condolences to the McShane family at this difficult time."

Lieutenant David J. McShane, 50, entered the Environmental Conservation Police as a member of the 12th Basic School for Uniformed Officers on Feb. 15, 1999, and served with the DEC Division of Law Enforcement for 22 years. Lieutenant McShane was last assigned to DEC's Region 7 where he supervised Environmental Conservation Police Officers in Onondaga and Cayuga counties. An illness contracted during his 9/11-related service returned after several years of remission; Lieutenant McShane formally retired on June 26, 2022.

Lieutenant McShane was from Marcellus, Onondaga County. He is survived by his wife and three children.

# Trivia at the Tango TANGO TRIVIA is back!

(It never really went away).

Let's make 2024

the most trivial year EVER!!!!

#### UP NEXT:

Third Thursdays Trivia at the Tango 7:00 pm at the Tango Cafe at Hurleyville Performing Arts Center, Hurleyville, NY

Second Wednesday Character Trivia at the Sullivan House Bar and Grill 7:00 pm at 544 Wurtsboro Mountain Rd.

# Governor Hochul Directs Flags to Half-Staff to Honor Fallen Lieutenant David J. McShane Flags were Flown at Half-Staff on January 29

Governor Kathy Hochul announced flags were flown at half-staff until sunset on January 29 in honor of fallen New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Police Lieutenant David J. McShane.

"Lieutenant David J. McShane's exemplary work to protect our natural resources and ensure public safety benefitted all New Yorkers," Governor Hochul said. "In responding to assist in the recovery at the World Trade Center after 9/11, Lieutenant McShane exhibited further bravery and courage in service to our state and country. I offer my deep gratitude and appreciation for his service and extend my condolences to his family, colleagues, and all of those who knew him."

On January 22, 2024, Lieutenant McShane passed away from an illness related to his assignment at the World Trade Center following the terrorist attack on September 11, 2001. Following the events of 9/11, Lieutenant McShane was assigned to New York City to assist in search and recovery efforts. He had retired from the Department of Environmental Conservation's Division of Law Enforcement after 22 years of dedicated service on June 26, 2022. Lieutenant McShane was from Marcellus, Onondaga County, and is survived by his wife and three children.

# Check out NYS DEC How To videos for more Winter Hiking Safety

Safety and preparedness are extremely important no matter your physical ability or destination. Properly preparing for winter conditions is essential for a more enjoyable and safer experience.

How To Layer for a Cold Weather Hike

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nKHqlzpigDE

How To Pack and Prepare for a Winter Hike

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qbID87wGVjU

How To Recognize and Avoid Hypothermia

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aDAqWLpHXXU

#### Plan Ahead

Learn about the area you'll be visiting ahead of time; know the opportunities and the regulations. Check maps, guidebooks and websites. Visit state lands near you.

https://dec.ny.gov/places/peekamoose-blue-hole https://dec.ny.gov/places/slide-mountain-wilderness https://dec.ny.gov/places/sundown-wild-forest https://dec.ny.gov/places/big-indian-wilderness

Arrange to go with a group or at least one other person; Know your skill level and physical capabilities-choose trails within your or your group's ability. Remember it takes more effort and energy to move through snow; Days are short-know what time the sun sets and plan your hike so you can return before dark; Inform someone of your travel planslet them know where you are going, your planned route, when you plan to return, and emergency numbers to call if you do not return at the scheduled time; Program cell phones with the DEC Dispatch phone numbers, but do not rely on cell service in all areas;

#### 1-833-NYS-RANGERS (1-833-697-7264) or 911

Check the weather forecast, but keep in mind that temperatures will be lower, winds will be stronger, and snow will be deeper on mountain summits. Prepare accordingly and postpone your trip if the conditions are too harsh; Check trail conditions before hiking; Catskills Area <a href="https://dec.ny.gov/things-to-do/hiking/catskill-backcountry-information">https://dec.ny.gov/things-to-do/hiking/catskill-backcountry-information</a>

Make sure you know how to use a map and compass when planning to hike in remote locations;

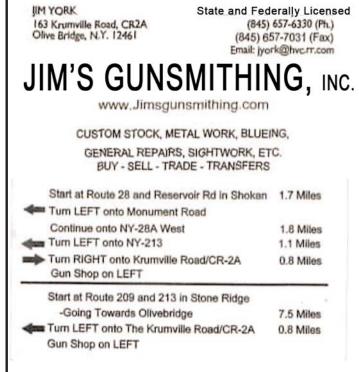
#### What to Wear

Base layers of moisture-wicking fabric to keep your skin dry, insulating layers such as wool or fleece, and waterproof or water-resistant outer layers. Avoid cotton fabrics, which hold moisture; Thick socks, a winter hat, and gloves or mittens; Waterproof, insulated boots; Skis or snowshoes, if snow depths are deeper than 8 inches; Sunscreen (sunburns occur year-round) and sun glasses; A watch or other time-keeping device. What to Pack

Day pack large enough to carry your gear; Water and high energy snacks; First aid kit; Trail map and compass or GPS unit; Extra clothing, including extra hat, socks and mittens; Plastic whistle (avoid metal, which can freeze); Micro-spikes or crampons for icy conditions; Flashlight or headlamp and extra batteries; Pocket knife; Trekking poles; Bivy sack, space blanket and heavy-duty garbage bags for emergency shelter; Fire starter kit: matches in waterproof container and cotton balls soaked in petroleum jelly;

#### On the Trail

Keep an eye on the weather-if conditions worsen, head back immediately; Drink water regularly; eat and rest often; Add or remove layers of clothing to keep body temperature comfortable-overheating and sweating can result in significant cooling and hypothermia; Keep track of time and remember it will take you as long to return to your starting point as it did to hike out; Turn off cellphones or switch to "airplane mode" to conserve the battery. Do not use your cell phone as a light source, which will drain the batteries. Use the flashlight you packed instead; Stay on trails to avoid unseen obstacles covered by snow; Use snowshoes or skis in deep snow to reduce injuries and ease travel. Their use also prevents "post-holing"-leaving deep footprints in the snow - which makes trails more difficult and hazardous for others to use. The use of snowshoes or skis is required in the High Peaks Wilderness when snow depths exceed 8 inch-



# Bingo at the Monticello Elks Lodge Every Tuesday at 7 PM 46 North Street in Monticello For information

contact Past Exalted Ruler Ronni Scannell at (845) 701-0695

es; When hiking with dogs, keep them to the side of trails to avoid "paw post-holing" as wel; Skiers and snowshoers using designated snowmobile trails should keep to the side and move off the trail to allow safe passage of snowmobiles. Snowmobilers should slow down when passing skiers and snowshoers; Use caution when on ice over water bodies. Ice that holds snow may not hold the weight of a person; Check ice thickness before traveling across it; Avoid ice over running water, and near inlets, outlets, boathouses, and docks (especially those with "bubblers" or other ice prevention devices).

#### If you get Lost

Stop where you are. Keep calm and assess your situation; Try to determine your location-look for recognizable landmarks and listen for vehicles on nearby roads; If you are sure you can get yourself out of the woods using a map and compass, do so-otherwise stay put; If you have cell service, call the DEC Dispatch (see above). The dispatcher will ask questions to collect information needed to help searchers locate you quickly; If you don't have cell service, move to a location close by where you are visible to searchers on the ground or in the air. If you have something brightly colored, wear it or place it in a conspicuous location; If it appears that you will need to spend the night; Clear an area of snow to build a campfire for heat, light and comfort. A fire will help searchers locate you; Using snow or items from your pack, build a shelter that will serve as a "cocoon" to keep you warm and sheltered from the weather. You can also use dead branches, conifer boughs and leaf litter to insulate the shelter

# Daniel Pierce Library Presents...

# Take Your Child to the Library Day



Saturday, February 10, 2024 Open House 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.





Magic Show 10:00 a.m.

Come visit the library and unveil the MAGIC of reading!

Step into the world of wonder with the Amazing Mr. Mystic and be swept away by his amazing magic show.

The magic of books and developing a life-long love of reading begins with pictures, stories and rhymes. After the show, take a tour of our beautiful children's floor. With a relaxing vibe and plethora of good books, you and your children will never want to leave. Peruse our picture books, check out our newest chapter books or grab a graphic novel...so much magic can be found between the pages of a good book. For older children and leens, come check out our leen room, featuring a well-stocked assortment of

today's bestsellers and treasured classics!

It's not a show, unless it's AMAZING



In the event of inclement weather, please check our website and social media for cancellations.



#### **Daniel Pierce Library**

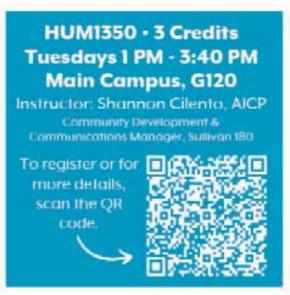
328 Main Street | P.O. Box 268 Grahamsville, New York 12740 0268 | 845 985 7233 www.danielpiercelibrary.org

# Spring 2024 Special Topics Course: Creating & Activating Public Spaces



#### Are you interested in parks or public spaces? Want to know how these places can improve the health of your community? Looking to explore more of Sullivan County?

Consider taking HUM1350 this spring, which will introduce students to the importance of public spaces for community health and wellness; careers and opportunities associated with caring tor public spaces, tacilities and grounds, parks and main streets; an understanding of the effort to engage citizens in creating public spaces.







# 2023 – 2024 - WOODSTOCK FARM FESTIVAL -VINTER MARKET

OVERLOOK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 233 TINKER STREET

SATURDAYS, 10 - 2



# Claryville Fire Dept.

1500 Denning Road Claryville, NY 12725

# All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast



# Sunday, February 18th

Serving 8:00 until 12 Noon

Adults: \$13

Senior Citizens (age 65 +): \$11

Children Ages 5-11: \$5

Under 5 Yrs. Free

Take-outs: \$13

Call 845-985-7270

Pancakes, French Toast, 3 eggs any style, Hash brown, Sausage, Man-n-moon, Spud-eggo, Oj, Coffee / Tea

\$50 from the Breakfast Is Donated to the Claryville Reformed Church Food Pantry

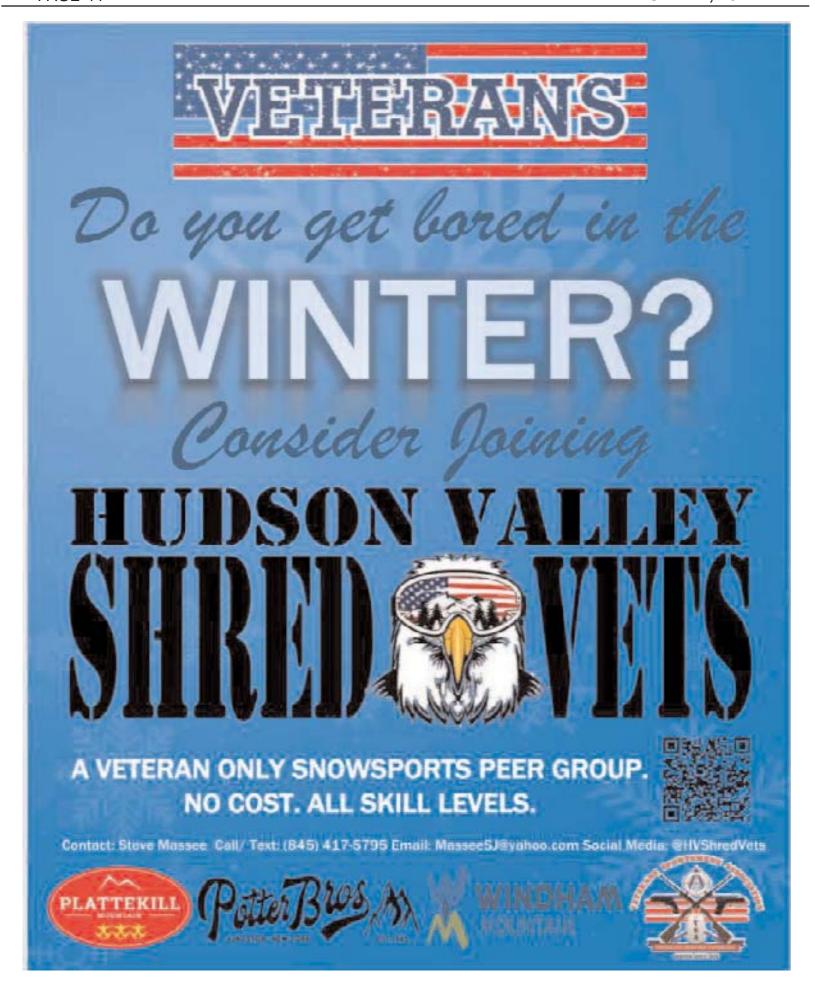


# February 3, 2023 5:30 pm

Bring a covered dish to share Enjoy good food and fellowship

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

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





Saturday, May 18, 2024 4 to 6 p.m.

Museum and Library Parking Lot 332 Main Street, Grahamsville

Supports the Time and the Valleys Museum's Educational Programs



Time and the Valleys Museum, P.O. Box 254, Grahamsville NY 12740 845 985-7700 info@timeandthevalleysmuseum.org

## Farm Arts Collective to Receive \$10,000 Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts

Damascus, PA- Farm Arts Collective is pleased to announce it has been approved by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) for a Challenge America award of \$10,000. This grant will support DREAM ON THE FARM, play #5 in a decade-long climate change performance project presented at the collectove's home base, Willow Wisp Organic Farm in Damsacus, PA.



In total, the NEA will award 257 Challenge America awards across the country totaling \$2,570,000 for its first round of fiscal year 2024 grants.

"The NEA is delighted to announce this grant to Farm Arts Collective which is helping contribute to the strength and well-being of the arts sector and local community," said National Endowment for the Arts Chair Maria Rosario Jackson, PhD. "We are pleased to be able to support this community and help create an environment where all people have the opportunity to live artful lives"

Tannis Kowalchuk, Farm Arts Collective founding artistic director says, "We are honored and very happy to receive support once again from the NEA. Receiving a government award carries with it a civic responsibili-



ty that we take very seriously-- to serve our community with engaging programs that bridge farming, art, food, and ecology. We look forward to providing agri-culture

and innovation in our rural community."

Farm Arts Collective's award will support artist fees and production costs for the 2024 DREAM ON THE FARM production (play #5 in a 10-play series).

The 2024 performance entitled Conference for Those Still Living will be a site--specific performance collectively created by the Farm Arts Collective ensemble, and





directed by Tannis Kowalchuk. The new work will explore themes of climate change and environmentalism and will be presented on Willow Wisp Organic Farm August 8-11 and August 15-18, 2024.

For more information about Farm Arts Collective visit https://www.farmartscollective.org/

# Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan County

# 2024 Caregiver Resource Center Virtual Support Groups



Wednesdays | 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

January 17th

January 31st

February 14th

February 28th

March 13th

March 27th

Via Zoom or Phone

For all family caregivers of any age caring for an individual with any illness, chronic disease or disability (including seniors or someone with early-stage dementia).

Register: email <u>sullivancre@cornell.edu</u> or at <u>http://tinyurl.com/eztf9kzn.</u>

# ALZHEIMER'S PS ASSOCIATION

sullivancce.org - sullivan@cornell.edu - 845-292-6180

This program is supported by a grant from the NYS Department of Health antide again meeting between Granell Gooperative Expension. Stillivan County Office for the Aging, and the Alabeimer's Association.





# ELEMENTARY SOCIAL SKILLS

#### Registration is open for Grades K-5.

Action Toward Independence offers fun and interactive Social Skills groups for children with Autism and other developmental, learning, emotional, and behavioral disabilities. These informative sessions cover topics that promote positive behavior, improve interactions with others and build confidence.

- Manners
- Listening
- Hygiene
- Emotions

Social skills classes will be held in person at ATI Main Office at 309 E Broadway in Monticello, NY. Parents may be required to attend some sessions with their child to offer guidance and support.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Family Peer Advocate (845) 794-4228 info@atitoday.org

Funding is provided by OPWDD. There is no cost to the student or family of students on the Autism Spectrum who receive or are eligible to receive.

OPWDD services.



# Middle School Social Skills



Action Toward Independence offers interactive and fun Social Skills groups for children with developmental, learning, emotional, and behavioral disabilities grades 5 - 8.

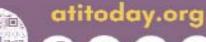
The informative sessions cover age-appropriate topics for pre-teens and teens that promote positive behavior, respectful communication, and building confidence.

Social skills classes will be held in person at ATI Main Office at 309 E Broadway in Monticello, NY

## For more information:

Family Peer Advocate (845) 794 - 4228 infoeatitoday.org Funding is provided by OPWDD. There is no cost to the student or family of students on the Antism Spectrum who receive or are eligible to receive OPWDD services.

Visit our website at









# SAVE A LIFE! DONATE! SHARE OUR STORY!



# NICK NEEDS KIDNEY -TYPE O

(IN SOME CASES TYPE A BLOOD COULD WORK)

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

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

#### More about our warrior Nick....

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

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

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

For any other questions 845.798.2077 nickneedsokidney@gmail.com

Follow Nick
@nickneedsokidney



VET 2 VET OF SULLIVAN COUNTY
PFC JOSEPH P. DWYER VETERANS
PEER SUPPORT PROJECT

# WEEKLY WARRIOR WALK

NO DOG REQUIRED TO WALK
WALNUT MOUNTAIN
LIBERTY, N.Y.
THURSDAYS @ 1500 (3 PM)

VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES ARE WELCOMED

ALL ANIMALS ARE ENCOURAGED, BUT MUST BE ON A LEASH.

For more information, or to register, please call 845-794-4228 or email smurphy@atitoday.org

CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK OR ONLINE @ WWW.ATITODAY.ORG





# Are You Ready?

## STARTS JANUARY 2024!



# **WORK READINESS EDITION**

This series is tailored for 16 to 25-year-olds with developmental, learning, emotional, and behavioral disabilities. It helps prepare individuals for the workforce by developing skills such as appropriate workplace behavior, social etiquette, time management, and interview techniques. Other topics include wearing proper clothing and using social cues, such as a good handshake.

Every Friday from 5:00pm to 6:15pm 309 East Broadway Monticello, NY 12701

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

(845) 794-4228 info@atitoday.org



Funding is provided by OPWDD. There is no cost to the student or family of students on the Autism Spectrum who receive or are eligible to receive OPWDD services. Visit our website at atitoday.org











After a busy week here at home in the Hudson Valley, I wanted to send an update on how I'm fighting for Hudson Valley families.

#### DELIVERING FOR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

Our local law enforcement officers work tirelessly to keep our communities safe, and I'm pushing every day to get them the support they need.

Proud to have secured \$375,000 to create a new Community Policing Unit in the Town of Poughkeepsie!

The new unit will bolster the department's ability to address chronic crime, increase community outreach, and significantly strengthen public safety in Poughkeepsie.

Too often, our smaller police departments don't get the resources they need - we took a huge step towards fixing that this week. Watch the video here

. https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?ref=watch\_permalink&v=7027422380708228

# CALLING TO REJECT CENTRAL HUDSON'S RATE INCREASE

Central Hudson's proposed double-digit rate increase is blatant corporate greed. With Hudson Valley families already feeling the economic pressure and with its parent company raking in \$1 billion in profit last year, raising prices this much would be unacceptable even if everything at Central Hudson was running perfectly.

But everything isn't running perfectly or even close to it. Customers across the region are still reeling from years of systemic failure.

This week, I joined with some of them to share their stories and stand up for the single-mother in Poughkeepsie trying to put food on the table for her kids, the senior on fixed-income in Kingston who simply can't afford another inflated bill, the small business owner in Newburgh struggling to keep his store open, and everyone in between.

On behalf of our entire Hudson Valley community, I'm calling on the PSC to reject Central Hudson's rate increase. Watch the press conference here

https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?ref=watch\_permalink&v = 1789084474940010

#### PROTECTING THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE

The American people have made it clear they want a government that protects and expands freedom.

Yet the far-right's attacks on freedom, particularly reproductive freedom, continue to escalate. More than half of House Republicans now explicitly sponsor a national abortion ban, and just last week, they passed two more damaging anti-choice bills.

On the 51st anniversary of the Roe v Wade decision, the time for action is now.

I'm fighting to protect our foundational freedoms, including women's right to choose.

#### FIGHTING FOR HUDSON VALLEY PRIORITIES

I had a great time this week discussing healthcare, housing, protecting reproductive rights, combating gun violence and other

Hudson Valley priorities at the Ulster County Chamber of Commerce breakfast.

From introducing legislation to reduce the cost of living, like my Stopping Pharma's Ripoffs Act to securing monumental grants to revitalize our neighborhoods, like the \$21 million RAISE grant in Kingston, I'll keep fighting to deliver the resources needed to uplift our families and communities.

# STRENGTHENING THE BACKBONE OF OUR LOCAL SUPPLY CHAIN

Thank you to the Teamsters Local 294 and the 70 UPS drivers and staff who met with me this week in Poughkeepsie before the morning routes.

You're the backbone of our local supply chain and I'll keep working to deliver the support you need to keep our community running!

#### SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS

I had an awesome time this week dropping off books donated by the Library of Congress in D.C. to SUNY New Paltz's School of Education for its student teachers to bring to classrooms across NY-18.

I'll keep working every day to deliver for our teachers and kids!

#### WORKING TO END GUN VIOLENCE

Too many futures have been stolen and lives shattered because weapons of war are allowed on our streets.

This past week marked Gun Violence Survivors Week, and I'm fighting for common sense gun reform to prevent these tragedies from happening again.

# NOMINATING THE NEXT GENERATION OF MILITARY LEADERS TO SERVICE ACADEMIES

As a proud West Point alum, one of my favorite parts of this job is calling our nation's future leaders to let them know I've nominated them for appointments to our service academies. Watch the reaction of one future cadet here

https://twitter.com/RepPatRyanNY/status/1750187139684261967?s=20

Congratulations to this year's nominees - NY-18 is proud of you!

# MAKING AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE MORE ACCESSIBLE

NY-18: There's only a few days left to sign up for Affordable Care Act healthcare plans before the January 31st deadline.

Learn more about the affordable plans available through New York State's health insurance marketplace here

https://nystateofhealth.ny.gov/ or contact my office here https://patryan.house.gov/services

or by calling (845) 443-2930 if you need assistance.

#### OFFERING WELL-DESERVED CONGRATULATIONS

A huge congratulations to Bard's Dr. Sayed Jafar Ahmadi and Dr. Zeinab Musavi for receiving the American Psychology Association's International Humanitarian Award.

Your lives and work are truly inspiring.

The Hudson Valley is lucky to have you and our world is a better place because of you. Read their story here. https://www.timesunion.com/hudsonvalley/news/article/bard-psychology-scholar-awarded-humanitarian-award-18600138.php

(Contd. Pg. 54)

# Pat Ryan (From Pg. 53)

**GRANTS CORNER** 

APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR:

The Volunteer Fire Infrastructure & Response Equipment (V-FIRE) Grant Program provides critical funding to strengthen volunteer fire departments and districts statewide. Eligible applicants can apply for up to \$1,000,000 if proposing projects for construction, renovation, or purchase costs for critical facilities (buildings, training facilities, etc.) that support fire operations, or up to \$500,000 if proposing projects for allowable fire service equipment to upgrade and improve their response capabilities. Application due April 30. See the following for more information and resources: Request for Applications (RFA), Application Worksheet, Frequently Asked Questions, E-Grants Tutorial

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)'s Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) provides support to meet the firefighting and emergency response needs of fire departments and non-affiliated emergency medical service organizations. Since 2001, AFG has helped firefighters and other first responders obtain critically needed equipment, protective gear, emergency vehicles, training and other resources necessary for protecting the public and emergency personnel from fire and related hazards. The FY 2023 AFG application period is expected to run Jan. 29 through March 8, 2024. The AFG Program will conduct application development workshop webinars for the 2023 AFG starting on Jan. 8, 2024. The schedule is posted HERE

https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/firefighters/work-shops

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)'s Specialty Crop Block Grant program is now accepting proposals for projects that work towards the following outcomes: improved pest and disease control, develop new seed varieties and specialty crops, expand specialty crop research and development, and improve environmental sustainability of specialty crops. The potential grant award was recently increased to \$250,000.Learn more about this grant and others here . https://nyfvi.org/

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is accepting applications on a rolling basis for \$2 billion in Inflation Reduction Act funding available through its Community Change Grants Program to support community-driven projects that build capacity for communities to tackle environmental and climate justice challenges, strengthen their climate resilience, and advance clean energy. This opportunity will be available for a year, closing on November 21, 2024, and EPA will review applications on a rolling basis. This allows applicants to utilize technical assistance and possibly resubmit a new application if not initially selected. EPA encourages applicants to apply as early as possible.

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) is now accepting applications for \$1.5 billion in grant funding through the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) discretionary grant program for 2024. The popular program helps communities around the country carry out projects with significant local or regional impact.\_RAISE discretionary grants help project sponsors at the state and local levels, including municipalities, Tribal governments, counties, and others complete critical freight and passenger transportation infrastructure projects. Application due by February 28, 2024 https://www.transportation.gov/RAISEgrants/apply

New York State's Urban Farms and Community Gardens Grant Program has announced that \$1 million is available to support community growing spaces and fund projects geared toward the development and enhancement of urban farms, school gardens, and community gardens across the state. Learn

more here . https://agriculture.ny.gov/rfp-0318-urban-farms-and-community-gardens-grant-program

New York State recently announced more than \$60 million in capital grant funding will be available to nonprofit human services organizations through the Nonprofit Infrastructure Capital Investment Program to support the delivery of critical services to New Yorkers. Eligible nonprofit organizations that provide direct programs and services to New Yorkers may receive grants ranging from \$50,000 to \$500,000 for the completion of small- and large-scale construction projects. Learn more here. https://www.dasny.org/NICIP

If you want to stay up-to-date on all of that my office is doing, I encourage you to follow along on our social media channels: Facebook and Twitter.

Please remember that my office is always here to help if you have a question or need assistance. You can reach us using the contact information above and below and we will do everything we can to connect you with the resources you need.

I look forward to hearing from you soon!



#### **Protecting the Sanctity of Life**

We must continue to defend the lives of children in the womb and stand up against the radical pro-abortion, anti-life agenda pushed by the Biden administration and the radical left. It is an honor to receive SBA's highest rating on their national Pro-Life Scorecard; it further reiterates my commitment to defending the unborn and supporting expecting and new mothers.

In 2024, I have already led multiple legislative efforts to ensure Congress protects and supports expecting mothers and their born and unborn babies. My bill, the Supporting Pregnant and Parenting Women and Families Act, which prohibits the Biden administration from limiting the ability of states to spend Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds on pregnancy centers, passed the House by a vote of 214-208 last week. I also introduced the Unborn Child Support Act to enable expecting mothers to receive child support payments during pregnancy. I will always stand up for the unborn and fight to protect the sanctity of life!

View my scorecard and learn more about some of my legislative initiatives to protect life here. https://sbaprolife.org/representative/claudia-tenney

# ICYMI: I'm Working to Keep Donald Trump on the Ballot

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e5zj3fnSkFg

I recently joined over 175 Members of Congress in sending an Amicus Brief to the Supreme Court calling for the overturning of Colorado's decision to remove President Trump from the ballot. The Colorado Supreme Court's attempt to remove President Donald Trump from the ballot is weaponization of our government and a gross misinterpretation of the 14th Amendment. (Contd. Pg. 55)

#### This Week with Claudia

(From Pg. 54)

Following Colorado's unconstitutional decision, Maine's Secretary of State single-handedly decided to remove the former President and Republican frontrunner from the ballot. I am beyond confident that the Supreme Court will reverse both these dangerous decisions and restore confidence in our self-governing Constitutional Republic.

READ MORE: Rep. Claudia Tenney supports effort to keep Donald Trump on Colorado ballot https://www.fltimes.com/news/rep-claudia-tenney-supports-effort-to-keep-donald-trump-on-colorado-ballot/article\_832fc00c-b6e8-11ee-94b6-3b111f89a770.html

# We Must Impeach Secretary Mayorkas and President Biden for their Failures!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1SQZLp0t2Zs

Since President Joe Biden took office, there have been 8 million illegal border crossings nationwide. At our Southern Border, thousands cross each day, yet the Biden administration is refusing to restart border wall construction or restore law and order at our border. Texas has been left to its own devices and is trying to defend its border against an invasion and a lawless President.

Here in New York, instead of addressing this crisis plaguing our resources, Mayor Adams and Albany Democrats are dumping more taxpayer dollars into this crisis to incentivize more illegal immigrants to come to our state! Taxes are continuing to rise, and our far-left liberal governor, Kathy Hochul, has allocated an additional \$2.4 billion of your tax dollars to host these migrants. This crisis sits squarely in Mayor Adams, Albany Democrats, and the Biden Administration's hands.

Secretary Mayorkas and President Biden's repeated failure to implement the laws of our country and keep our communities safe is grounds for impeachment, and I am eager to vote for this on the floor of the House of Representatives in the upcoming weeks.

# Standing with NY-24's Law Enforcement Officers https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HJH2ruGRkls

Over the past few years, law enforcement officers have faced unprecedented challenges with rising violent crime and the left's efforts to undermine officers' ability to safely do their jobs. This week, I hosted a roundtable discussion in Watertown to provide a forum for local law enforcement leaders to discuss the issues impacting law enforcement officers and problems facing our community.

I want to thank the law enforcement leaders that participated in the event: New York State Trooper Robert Simpson, Customs and Border Patrol Patrolman in Charge Andrew Reagan, Watertown Chief Charles P. "Chip" Donoghue, New York State Correctional Officers and Police Benevolent Association (NYSCOBA) Vice President Bryan Hluska and NYSCOBA Associate Jason Combs. I was also joined by many local elected officials, including Assemblyman Scott Gray, Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush, Jefferson County Legislative Chair Bill Johnson, Watertown Mayor Sarah Compo Pierce, and representatives from the office of Senator Mark Walczyk.

Thank you to all of the public servants who attended this roundtable event and participated in the robust discussion on how we can combat the growing crime crisis in our nation and support brave law enforcement officers. I remain committed to ensuring that our law enforcement officers who serve our community have the resources they need to do their jobs effectively and keep our nation safe.

READ MORE: Manpower, crime, border top list of law enforcement concerns

https://www.wwnytv.com/2024/01/25/manpower-crime-border-top-list-law-enforcement-concerns/

#### **Advocating for our National Guard**

Thank you to Major General Shields and Major General Donnell of the New York National Guard for giving our team an informative tour and overview of Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station. I'm dedicated to ensuring our National Guard has the resources they need to continue their excellent work.



Welcome to the Molinaro Memo: catching you up on my latest moves and work for Upstate New York!

#### Rallying For Bill To Support Local Workers & Farmers

At National Pipe & Plastics in Endicott, I stood with workers to push for passage of my bipartisan Leveraging Efficiency Awareness for Pumping Systems (LEAPS) Act. This bipartisan bill is going to get more efficient pump and irrigation systems in the hands of farmers. It'll save them money, reduce our impact on the environment, and support the men and women who proudly produce these systems right here in Endicott. Conference

#### **Supporting Dairy Farmers In Upstate NY**

Acting on the feedback I got from my Farm Bill Listening Sessions, I wrote the Organic Dairy Data Collection Act, a bipartisan bill to help farmers make smart financial decisions and provide for their family by providing them with cost-of-production data for organic milk. Dairy Graphic

#### **Fighting For Seniors Facing Unexpected Bills**

The Social Security Administration overpaid seniors and Social Security recipients billions of dollars and is still demanding money back. Lives are being torn apart because these people are getting massive, unexpected bills - with no clear way to pay them back. I'm not going to stop until the Social Security Administration stops prosecuting Social Security recipients.

#### **Demanding Security At Our Border**

https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=335729716089913

At Eagle Pass I saw firsthand the absolute chaos at our southern border. Upstate New York is now suffering because the Biden Administration's open border policies created the migrant crisis and is allowing fentanyl to pour into our communities.

# Norwich Chief of Police Came To DC To Testify On Local Crime

Thanks again to Chief Reuben Roach for his insight during our recent House Committee on Small Business hearing. For small businesses and our economy to prosper, cops need the tools to keep violent offenders behind bars. Albany's bail reform handcuffs law enforcement - preventing them from intervening early and stopping violent offenders from terrorizing our communities.

#### **Candlelight Vigil For Israel**

January 17, 2024 marked 100 days since the gruesome attacks by Hamas against Israel. I joined my colleagues from both sides of the aisle at a candlelight vigil to call for the immediate release of the hostages still being held by Hamas and to honor the innocent lives lost. America stands with Israel. (Contd. Pg. 56)

# Molinaro Memo (From Pg. 55)

#### Congressional Hearing On Railroad Safety In Upstate NY

I have worked side by side with Jared Kraham, the Mayor of Binghamton, to address railroad safety & deteriorating infrastructure in Binghamton. There is much more to be done. The Federal Railroad Administration has the funds but is not using them effectively to make safety improvements. They need to be held to account.

#### **Honoring Sergeant Christopher Filli of Hudson**

https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1358840332179743

I honored Sergeant Christopher Filli of the Hudson Police Department, a man who embodied the essence of community, duty, and passion. I was friends with Chris's family and knew him to be a devoted husband, father, son, and sibling. He left us on January 12th while faithfully serving the community he loved. May Chris rest in peace and may we cherish his memory forev-

#### Shark Tank Star Joined Our Small Business Committee Hearing

https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=347515741569728

Shark Tank's very own Kevin O'Leary joined us on the House Committee on Small Business. "Subtle" but important advice for lawmakers in Washington & Albany. Watch here. We need to provide financial certainty to working families and small businesses.

**Investments in Upstate New York** 

Delaware Opportunities Inc. received over \$1 million in federal funds and Greater Opportunities for Broome and Chenango, Inc. got nearly \$3 million in federal funding to provide Head Start early education programming. This program is a crucial tool that ensures every child, regardless of family income, has a fair opportunity at success. I am proud to continue securing these funds.

#### **Around New York**

The Energy in Education Kickoff at Chenango Forks High School marked the launch of the New Energy Lab! This is part of the initiative to transform Broome County into a battery manufacturing hub. The facility will support students interested in entering STEM fields and prepare them for jobs in renewable energy and battery energy industries.

Loved checking out Upstate Films Orpheum Theatre! They'll be converting the upstairs to one of the finest screening rooms in the region! Already a great attraction in Saugerties and contributor to educational institutions & the community, the Orpheum is a wonderful non-profit vintage movie theater that will only get better!

Visited iPark87 in Ulster County again to review the progress on efforts to create a hub of activity & innovation to Kingston.

Enjoyed my visit with B&B Forest Products Ltd. in Greene County. A family-owned, log brokering business, they've been serving the community for over 30 years.

Met with community leaders on a number of critical issues and visited to see progress on another community project in Sullivan County.

I held a roundtable in Binghamton with local insurance agents from State Farm. We talked about how to address the challenges insurers face & what I can do to help. Good to hear from every-

Stopped by Archtop Fiber to check in on their broadband build throughout Upstate New York. Working hard to bring fast & reliable internet to all our rural communities!

Serving Broome & Chenango Counties, the Crime Victims Assistance Center offers 24/7 crisis support through their life saving hotline, outreach programs, and counseling. It can be difficult to speak up if you are in a violent relationship. The CVAC provides tremendous support and resources for anyone in-need. Thankful to have their services in the community. Visit https://cvac.us/ for more information.

Met with my Congressional Agriculture Advisory Committee to discuss a few updates on the Farm Bill's progress and our work to deliver more targeted support for local farmers and families. In The News

Spectrum News: Molinaro introduces bipartisan bill to prevent damage from record floods

https://spectrumlocalnews.com/nys/central-ny/politics/2024/01/19/molinaro-introduces-bill-to-prevent-damagefrom-record-floods?fbclid=IwAR0vUMGT2gQ0r82jQmNOjv1GIhAEl1f7TG2276cyy8wbkFjSFaD36GeUiQ

Fox News: New York congressman discusses migrant crisis https://www.livenowfox.com/video/1400566

# NYS Senator Oberacker Presses for Education Funding in the State Budget

ALBANY - 01/29/24 - Senator Peter Oberacker (R/C-Schenevus) today joined with members of the Senate Republican Conference to unveil a legislative package aimed at keeping education a priority for all New Yorkers. Key among the legislative package's provisions is reversing the devastating cuts to schools that Governor Hochul included in her budget proposal.



"Students statewide should have access to a quality education that prepares them for future success - regardless of where they live," said Senator Peter Oberacker. "The governor's budget is gutting many of the schools I represent and the elimination of the "hold harmless" provision will be devastating for districts that are already struggling. We need to reduce state mandates that are burdensome and unnecessary and ensure that our schools - all of our schools - are receiving their fair share of state aid."

The elimination of the "hold harmless" provision that provides critical stability to local school districts is a glaring example of Albany Democrats' misplaced priorities. This bloated \$233 billion budget siphons state aid away from local schools while dedicating \$2.4 billion in taxpayer dollars earmarked for migrants, bringing the total to \$4.3 billion over the last two years. (Contd. Pg. 57)

### NYS Senator Oberacker Presses for Education Funding in the State Budget

(From Pg. 56) The migrant crisis continues to get worse because the Democrats refuse to put an end to wrongheaded sanctuary city policies. Instead, they continue to throw more money at the issue and away from programs that provide for our New York families, including school aid

Education should always be among the top priorities for state government, and the Senate Republican Conference is committed to ensuring that New Yorkers' hard earned tax dollars help schools obtain the resources they need. (Contd. Pg. 57)

The legislative package unveiled today includes proposals that will keep our students safe and improve educational outcomes in school throughout the state:

- Reversing misguided changes in the education formula proposed in the Executive Budget that will take resources away from our local schools:
- Closing the pandemic learning loss gap by ensuring unspent Federal emergency relief aid supports academic recovery programs, expanding state grant funding, creating an office in the State Education Department to track outcomes of such programs and focusing on future aid increases for early education to ensure students are provided a solid foundation for future academic challenges;
- Prohibiting the housing of migrants in K-12 schools or on school grounds throughout the state (S.7391, Senator Alexis Weik); and
- Committing greater resources for school building security by creating a school resource officer program to permit the employment of retired law enforcement officers and provide grants to school districts and non-public schools. (S.4985, Senator Oberacker).

"From the moment the governor laid out her budget proposal I have heard from a number of concerned school superintendents, teachers, and parents. By cutting school aid, property taxes will be going up in areas that can least afford to take the hit and more people will be packing up and leaving our state. I will be pressing for changes to ensure our schools and our students are not short-changed," added Senator Oberacker.

## Governor Hochul Announces Holocaust Claims Processing Office Secured Over \$183 Million for Victims and Beneficiaries

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced that the New York State Department of Financial Services' Holocaust Claims Processing Office, which assists Holocaust victims and their heirs recover stolen assets, has helped secure and return over \$183 million in compensation to victims and their heirs for bank, insurance, and other material losses. Additionally, through this initiative, the Department of Financial Services has facilitated settlements involving over 250 cultural objects since its inception in 1997.

"With each passing year our living memory of the Holocaust may get further away, but it is imperative that we stand firm in our goal of dispelling antisemitism," Governor Hochul said. "Hate has no home in New York - and my administration remains committed to uplifting Holocaust survivors and their families while continuing to honor the memory of the six million lives taken far too soon"

Superintendent of Financial Services Adrienne A. Harris said, "At DFS, we are committed to honoring survivors and delivering justice to those who suffered through the unspeakable horrors of

the Holocaust. The Department will continue working to return these invaluable cultural artifacts and facilitate the restitution of long-lost artworks for Holocaust victims and their families."

The Holocaust Claims Processing Office (HCPO) is a unit of the New York State Department of Financial Services. It was created to help Holocaust victims and their heirs recover assets deposited in banks; unpaid proceeds of insurance policies issued by European insurers; and artworks that were lost, looted, or sold under duress. The HCPO does not charge claimants for its services. Since its inception, the HCPO has responded to thousands of inquiries and received claims from all 50 U.S. states and 53 countries.

Under the direction of Superintendent Harris, HCPO has announced the resolution of Nazi Looted Art Claims for four paintings and ten 18th Century Chasubles from the Collection of Johann Bloch, completed the first joint recovery with the Carabinieri for the Protection of Cultural Heritage, and alongside the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation (SPK), returned three paintings to the heirs of Dr. Ismar Littmann. For more information, visit the HCPO website.

## Owner of Maeve's Place in Phoenicia to Join Molinaro for Committee Hearing on Employment Opportunities for Individuals with Disabilities

Washington, DC - U.S. Rep. Marc Molinaro (NY-19), Chairman of the House Small Business Subcommittee on Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Workforce Development, today announced Iva Walsh, owner of Maeve's Place in Phoenicia (https://maeves-place.com/) has accepted his invitation to testify before a House Small Business Committee hearing. The hearing will explore how Congress can help break down employment & entrepreneurial barriers for individuals with intellectual, developmental, and physical disabilities.

Iva Walsh was motivated by her daughter Maeve's experience with Down syndrome to open a coffee shop in 2018, with the goal of providing a safe learning environment for her daughter once she aged out of school. Today, the business works with the Arc Greater Hudson Valley to provide employment opportunities to individuals with disabilities.

Rep. Molinaro said, "Nearly 80% of individuals with intellectual, developmental, and physical disabilities are unemployed. It's a stunning stat and unacceptable. We need to 'Think DIFFER-ENTLY' and break down barriers so every person of every ability is able to access meaningful employment & entrepreneurial opportunities. Iva Walsh developed a tremendous model with Maeve's Place and I'm excited to have her share her expertise in Washington this week."

Iva Walsh said, "Our dream is to provide employment opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and all different abilities. We are a part of the culture where diversity is not just appreciated, it's celebrated. With the proper reforms, advocating for knowledge on the situation, and persistence from small businesses, I believe we can help every working age person with intellectual and developmental disabilities find meaningful employment."

In 2015, Rep. Molinaro launched the 'Think DIFFERENTLY' initiative, which aims to break down barriers for individuals with intellectual, developmental, and physical disabilities. In Congress, Rep. Molinaro has built on the effort by crafting a package of bipartisan legislation.



# ANGER MANAGEMENT

Mark your calendars! The course will run from Thursday, January 18, 2024, to Thursday, February 29, 2024. Class starts at 10:00 AM and ends at 12:00 PM.

Join us for this six-week course, which will provide you with effective tools for managing your anger. Learn how to identify anger re-activators and gain valuable tips to help you stay calm and in control.



For more information

and to register:

845-794-4228

www.atitoday.org

ati@atitoday.org

# Fundraiser for St. Judes

Sponsored by:

**United Methodist Church of Shady** 

# Penny Social Sat. Feb. 10

For your convenience:

12:00 Kitchen Opens

1:00 Tables Open

2:00 Calling

# Lake Hill Firehouse

Rte. 212 8 miles West of Woodstock Information: 679-2982



# Valentine's Valentine's

Sale

30% OFF

NEW SPRING COLLECTION!
BAGS, CLOTHING, JEWELRY & DECOR

Tuesday, February 13 & Wednesday, February 14 10am -3:30pm

Main Lobby Entrance

ERHNY.org 845.647.6400



### **Sullivan County Intervention Line** for Parents and Teens

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

Help is available now!

We are here anytime you need to talk.

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



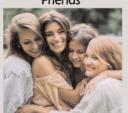
Calls and texts are answered 24/7

A program of the DRC

#### **COVID-19 Vaccines Save Lives**

Friends

Who will you protect?



¿A quien protegerás?

Amigos Family

Get the facts.



**Obtenga los** hechos.

Talk to your healthcare provider about the COVID vaccine.



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

Communidad



For more information, visit www.sullivanny.us



## Sullivan County **Text For Teens**

4pm-10pm



#### GET SIGNED UP TODAY FOR **OUR UPCOMING**

**CERTIFICATION CLASS!!** 

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

#### Contact:

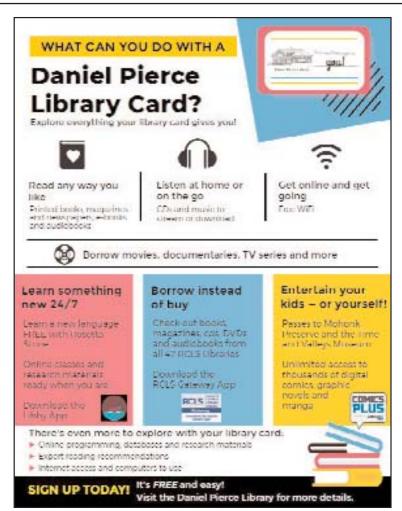
Alyssa Wowk (845) 645-6544 awowk@chowc.net



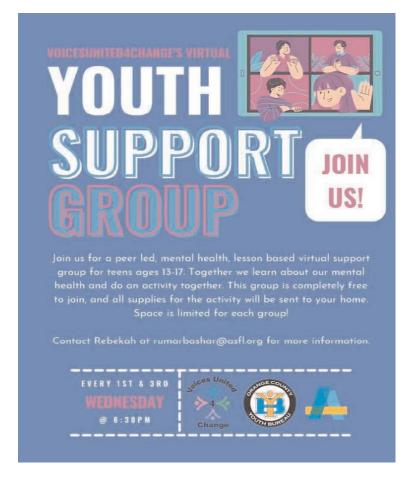
# **FOSTER HOMES**

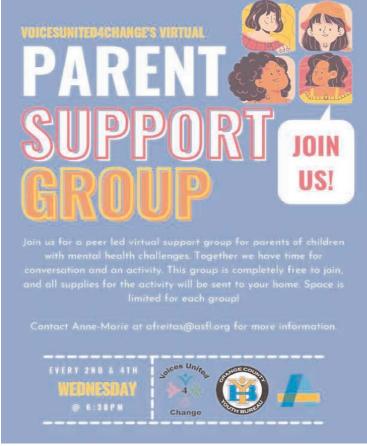
# NEEDED!











# Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan County

# Tai Chi for Arthritis & Falls Prevention

Tuesdays & Fridays Jan 30- Mar. 22, 2024 4:00-5:00 pm

A \$10 fee for the cost of the participant handbook is refundable upon completion of the series.



# What is Tai Chi?

Tai chi is an ancient Chinese practice that combines slow and gentle movements with deep breathing.

# Tai chi helps:

- Increase strength, balance, and posture
   Prevent the risk of falls
- Improve the mind, body, and spirit
- Reduce stress

# Register:



All movements are adaptable to meet your needs and can be performed from a chair! This is an 8-week series; classes are held 2x week for 1 hour.

# sullivancce.org - sullivan@cornell.edu - 845-292-6180

This program is supported through funding from the NYS and Sullivan County Offices for the Aging.







# **ULSTER HEIGHTS ROD & GUN CLUB**

RAFFLE

SUPPORT OUR CLUB AND FUTURE YOUTH EVENTS

BY PURCHASING A RAFFLE TICKET WITH A CHANCE TO WIN A

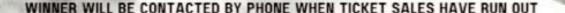
## WICKED RIDGE - RAIDER 400 DE-COCK CROSSBOW



A VERY BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THINGS ACCURACY OF LIBERTY, N.Y.
FOR MAKING THIS FUNDRAISER POSSIBLE.

RAFFLES ARE \$10.00 EACH

CONTACT FOR TICKETS: RYAN BOLLIN 845.399.6703 - CLUB PRESIDENT ERIC AKERLEY 845.707.1483 - CLUB MEMBER



# **Daniel Pierce Library**

# PBS Nova Documentary Jupiter



# Thursday, February 22, 2024 6:00-7:00 p.m.

(For adults and students ten and up)

Join local experts John Kocijanski & Irene Pease for an evening of exploration! We will watch the PBS Nova documentary on Jupiter, discovering this beautiful planet with additional insight from our experts. Weather permitting we will head outside for a viewing of this spectacular planet and its moons.

If you are curious about the galaxies, this program is for you.

For Tri-Valley residents. Advanced registration is required at www.danielpiercelibrary.org.

In the event of inclement weather, please check our website and social media for cancellations.



### Daniel Pierce Library

328 Main Street | P.O. Box 268 Grahamsville, New York 12740-0268 | 845-985-7233 www.danielpiercelibrary.org



# Time and the Valleys Museum

Grahamsville, NY

## Are you interested in local history?

Did you know that Museum membership is only \$25 a YEAR? Members receive:

- Free admission to all diverse in-person and virtual programs
- · Free admission to the Museum and expanding Catskill Farm
- Invitations to exhibit openings and special events (there are TWO exhibit openings in 2023!)
- · Around the Reservoirs Newsletter
- Monthly historical and informative emails
- 10% discount in the Museum Shop



# Join now & get 10% off!

Join at the \$100 (Patron) level for FREE admission to thousands of museums all across North America! You can use the form below, or go to <a href="https://www.timeandthevalleysmuseum.org">www.timeandthevalleysmuseum.org</a> to join with paypal.

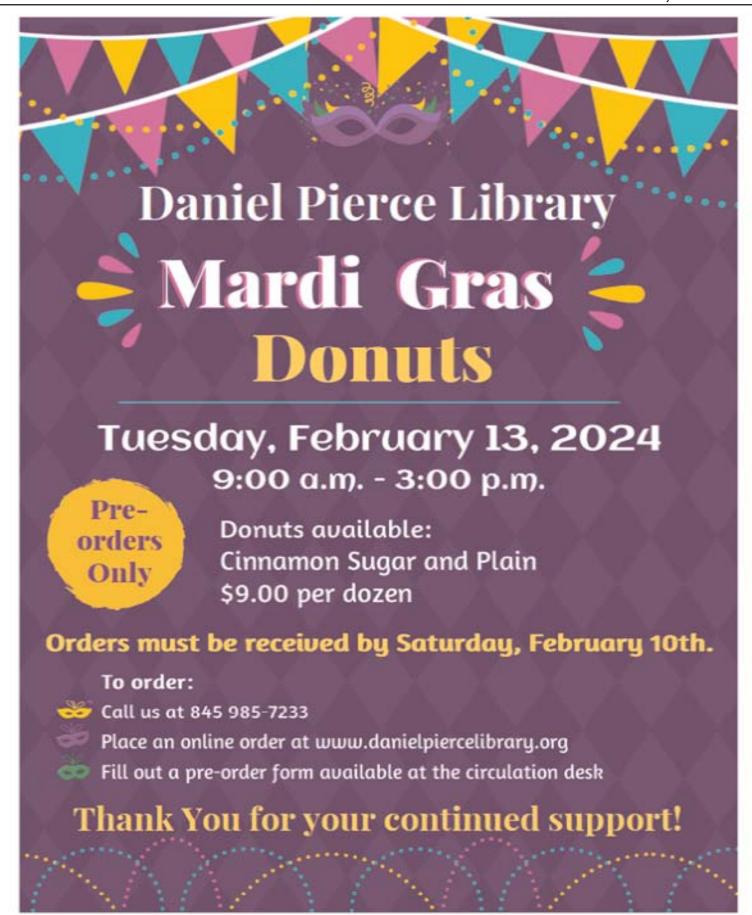
Time and the Valleys Mus	eum, P.O. Box 254, Grahamsville, New York	12740
845 985-7700	www.timeandthevalleysmuseum.org	

		Name:			
[ ] Individual	\$25_ \$ 22.50				
[ ] Double	\$40, 536	Address:			
Eamily	\$88-, \$45				
Patron	\$100, \$ 90	City:		State & Zip:	
Patron Silver	\$200 \$180				
[ ] Patron Gold	\$500 \$450	Phone:	e-mail:		

Thank you for supporting local history and the Museum.



BONUS - Free Art Catalogue!





#### WHAT'S HAPPENING IN ULSTER COUNTY FEBRUARY 2024

# TRENDING

#### NOW TRENDING ... TOP EVENTS



Feb. 2: Reelin' in the Years, Woodstock
Feb. 3: Seventh Anniversary Black History Kick-Off Event, Kingston
Feb. 2-4: Ashokan Winter Hoot 2024, Olivebridge
Feb. 10: Speed Dating at Quartz Rock Vineyard, Marlboro
Feb. 10&17: The Village Revealed: Two Lenses, One Vision, Kingston
Feb. 11: Galentine's Brunch Cooking Class, New Paltz
Feb. 16-18: Ole Savannah's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Winter Festival, Kingston
Feb. 17-18: Ashokan Hot Chocolate Festival 2024, Olivebridge
Feb. 10,11,14,17,18: Wine with your Valentine at Robibero Winery, Marlboro
Feb. 23-25: Saugerties Moon Festival & Parade, Saugerties

## Celebrating the Legacy: Black History Month

Date	February 2024 Calendar of Events — Black History Month
Please Note	This calendar is now digital and is no longer printed for mass distribution. To receive a digital copy via email, please contact tourism@co.ulster.ny.us or call 800-342-5826. Provide your name and email address. Calendar listings are based on information received prior to publication. Changes may occur after distribution.
3	Seventh Anniversary Black History Kingston Kick-Off Event: Enjoy a fantastic day of celebration! Performances, MyKingstonKids dance party, African dance, poetry, singing, activities, vendors, special appearances, and so much more! Family-friendly event! 1-4pm. FREE! YMCA of Kingston & Ulster County, 507 Broadway. Call 845-338-3810 for more or visit ymcaulster.org!
9	HUNG A Durational Performance Art Piece by Shola Cole AKA Pirate Jenny: In hand washing garments, HUNG continues to be an offering, an intentional journey, a meditation and an act of joy, gratitude, and purpose within a seemingly functional mundane and needed task. The durational performance of HUNG at the Art/Life Institute is from 4pm-8pm including a Q&A with the artist at 8pm. Attendees are invited to come and witness Pirate Jenny's labor at any stage of the evening. 185 Abeel Street. Please visit https://blackhistorymonthkingston.org/event/hung-a-durational-performance-art-piece-by-shola-cole-aka-pirate-jenny/ for more information!
10&17	The Village Revealed: Two Lenses, One Vision: This event will feature a slide show of restored photographs of the Black Community in Kingston during the 1970s. Photographs were captured by Sharon Fitzgerald and Benjamin Wigfall as part of the mission of Communcations Village. 12-2pm on the 10 <sup>th</sup> and 4-6pm on the 17 <sup>th</sup> at the Riverview Missionary Baptist Church. Find more information on https://blackhistorymonthkingston.org/event/the-village-revealed-two-lenses-one-vision/.

Date	replacify 2024 Calendar of Events
14	<b>Do You Know Who You Are?</b> A celebration of African American pioneers who utilized their talents, voices, and experiences to shape the world of business and entrepreneurship, education reform, and political advocacy in Ulster County and all over the world! From 6:30-8pm. Come check it out! 507 Broadway (Kingston YMCA). Visit https://blackhistorymonthkingston.org/event/do-you-know-who-you-are/ for more!
15	Black Panther Movie Night: The film supplements its superhero genre mechanics with a relevant commentary on history, racism, and human injustice. But Black Panther is more than a cultural statement; it's a terrific film that energizes a genre as it has a community, elevating superhero cinema to thrilling new heights while telling one of the Marvel Cinematic Universe's most absorbing stories – and introducing some of its most fully realized characters. Ulster Performing Arts Center from 7:30-9:30pm. Visit https://blackhistorymonthkingston.org/event/black-panther-movie-night/ for further details!
17	<b>Fifth Annual Sojourner Truth Life Walk:</b> Starts from Port Ewen to UC Courthouse. Re-live the life highlights of legendary abolitionist Sojourner Truth. Includes brief stops. Free bus available at Kingston Plaza for pick-up and drop-off. The pick-up time for the bus is 11am SHARP! The walk will end at the Old Dutch Church. 11am-2pm. FREE! Visit https://blackhistorymonthkingston.org/event/5th-annual-sojourner-truth-life-walk/ for more information!
19	Maple Tapping Demonstration and Cultural History Discussion: The Maple Tapping Demo & Cultural History event in collaboration with Kingston's A.J William Meyers African Roots Center. Discover the fascinating heritage at the African Roots Library. 43 Gill St from 1-5pm. Go to https://blackhistorymonthkingston.org/event/maple-tapping-demonstration-and-cultural-history-discussion/for more!
19	<b>Fighting for Freedom: Black History of USA:</b> Harambee Kingston NY, Inc. presents an exhibit of historical artifacts, books, posters, musical instruments, photos, music, magazines, manuscripts from slavery to the present. 231 Clinton Ave at 4pm! Visit https://blackhistorymonthkingston.org/event/fighting-for-freedom-blackhistory-of-usa/ for further information!
20	Part 1: The Legacy of Black Horseman: This is a documentary that was produced by KET (Kentucky Educational Television)/PBS and aired on November 20, 2023. "An exploration of the contributions of Black jockeys, trainers, owners, grooms and exercise riders in the 1800s and their impact on the Thoroughbred industry in America". The run time will be 57 minutes and 28 seconds. 6-7pm. Check out https://blackhistorymonthkingston.org/event/part-1-the-legacy-of-black-horseman/ for more info! This will be a virtual event! Visit @blackhistorymonthkingston on Facebook to view the showing!
24	Maple Sugaring and Black History: Maple tapping tour, pancake brunch and stories! "We Are the Land," the Executive Director of the AJ Williams Myers African Roots Center explores the profound and enduring connection between people of African descent and the land. The speech delves into the historical, cultural, and contemporary aspects of this relationship, emphasizing its significance in shaping identity, fostering resilience, and preserving heritage. The event will take place at 11am at 160 Esopus Ave. Visit https://blackhistorymonthkingston.org/event/maple-sugaring-black-history/ for more information!
24	The 5 <sup>th</sup> Annual Black Artivist Experience: CCE Presents The 5 <sup>th</sup> Annual Black Artivist Experience - community artists who use their art to uplift, motivate and inspire personal and social change. "The Black Experience will bring to light the diverse experiences of the black community expressed through song, poetry, dance, imagery, music, and more. This performance will be impactful, informative and inspirational. It's going to make you laugh, cry, lift your spirits and make you think." 16 Cedar Street at 6pm! Visit https://blackhistorymonthkingston.org/event/the-5th-annual-black-artivist-experience/ for more information!
24	<b>A Taste of Harlem:</b> Stop in Kingston to enjoy an evening of African American Soul Food, Music, and Poetry that celebrates the rich cultural texture of Harlem, NY! 4-5pm at 231 Clinton Ave.
27	Part 2: In the Field: A virtual panel discussion hosted by Kelly O'Hara interviewing Black horsemen and women who are involved in thoroughbred racing today. Kelly is a former professional jockey, currently Remington Park's paddock host and race analyst and actionable host for cable and radio interests. Panelists include Jockey Kendrick Carmouche, a native of Louisiana, is a multiple graded stakes winning jockey of over 3,500 races, with horse earnings of more than \$144,000,000. Ron Mack, founder of <i>Legacy Equine Academy</i> which promotes increasing diversity in the sport and ways to involve the next generation. Trainer John Henry Prather Jr., a native of Columbus, Georgia, is a stakes winning trainer for over 25 years. He is currently training at Oaklawn Park, Arkansas. Others TBA! Make sure to check out https://blackhistorymonthkingston.org/event/part-2-in-the-field/ for more information! Tune into @blackhistorymonthkingston on Facebook at 6pm!
29	<b>Black History Month Gallery:</b> View the ceramic arts from Larissa (Lala) Alvarado. Woman of color and local Mid-Hudson Valley Ceramist! Go to https://blackhistorymonthkingston.org/event/black-history-month-gallery/ for more information! 6pm at 209 Clinton Ave. Make sure to stop by!

February 2024 Calendar of Events

Date

Date

Date	February 2024 Calendar of Events
Please Note	This calendar is now digital and is no longer printed for mass distribution. To receive a digital copy via email, please contact tourism@co.ulster.ny.us or call 800-342-5826. Provide your name and email address. Calendar listings are based on information received prior to publication. Changes may occur after distribution.
2	<b>Reelin' in the Years:</b> Timeless music of Steely Dan with an ensemble of world-class touring and recording musicians. 8pm. \$35-\$50. Bearsville Theater, 291 Tinker St, Woodstock. Call 845-684-713 or check out bearsvilletheater.com/events for more information!
2-4	<b>Ashokan Winter Hoot 2024:</b> A down-home, down-to-earth festival! Live roots music, local food, crafts, and so much more! All ages and all people are welcome! Visit https://ashokancenter.org/product/winter-hoot-2024/ for more information or call 845-657-8333! 477 Beaverkill Rd. (The Ashokan Center)
2-5	26th Annual Catskill Ice Climbing Festival: Choose from multiple clinics on all the skills and techniques you need to get out on the ice! From basic skills, to dry-tooling, and glacier travel techniques. Rock and Snow of New Paltz will offer 25% off for apparel and 15% off ice gear for all ice climbing festival registrants! PO Box 291, Rosendale. Call 877-486-5769 or visit alpineendeavors.com for more details!
2-25	Annual Valentine's Day Wine & Cheese Pairing at Benmarl Winery: Indulge yourself in some of Ulster County's local delights. One ticket includes 4 different wines and a curated cheese board featuring some of the Hudson Valley's best cheeses, locally sourced jams, and house made chocolates! Visit their website, benmarl.com or call 845-236-4265 for more details. Reservations are required! \$35 per ticket. 156 Highland Ave, Marlboro.
3&17	<b>"Marriage Can Be Murder" – A Valentine's Themed Murder Mystery:</b> During this evening of fun and fright, a sea of potions and curses will summon three unworthy grooms because the first two perish before your dinner is even served. <b>2/3:</b> Edgewood at Hutton Brickyards. 132 Lindsley Ave. For reservations, call 845-514-4853 or visit murdercafe.net! <b>2/17:</b> Couldn't make it on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> ? Hudson House Distillery will be hosting the same event from 7-9:30pm! Visit https://www.thehudsonhouseny.com/event-details/marriage-can-be-murder-dinner-theatre to claim or tickets or call 845-834-6007 for more! 1835 Route 9W.
3	<b>Stand-Up Comedy Show with Quartz Rock Vineyard:</b> Join Quartz Rock Vineyard (formerly known as Glorie Farm Winery) for an outstanding night of laughs with comic Danit Sibs! Doors open at 5:30pm with food, wine, cider, beer, and spirits ready for purchase! Claim your tickets now for \$25! Call 845-236-3265 or visit https://quartzrockvineyard.com/music-and-events for more! 40 Mountain Rd.
3	Femme Fatale Follies: A Burlesque & Cabaret! Deemed the scandal that rocked Woodstock, an evening of burlesque, cabaret, pole aerial, flow arts, belly dancing, music, and more! Tributing the classic Femme Fatales and Smokin' Sirens! It's not only sizzling-it's KILLER! Featuring performances by Tryst La Noir, Wicked Red, Sweetie Laissone, Erika Miller, and Ashley Rose! There will be raffles, prizes, and make sure you bring your dollars! Tickets both online and at the door! 18+ at 10pm. Visit https://www.eventbrite.com/e/strangehouse-presents-femme-fatale-follies-tickets-791184954497 to claim your tickets online or call 845-679-7625 for more! 22 Rock City Rd.
9	Alentine's Day at Old Dutch Church: Join Al for a night of music and <i>very</i> special guests (TBA). Spend the night laughing and smilling with the ones you love or just stop in by yourself! Everyone is welcome! Doors open at 6pm and showtime is 7:30pm! You don't want to miss it! \$20 to pay for tickets in advance and \$25 to pay for tickets the day of. Visit https://www.tixr.com/groups/impactconcerts/events/alentine-s-day-2024-87114 to claim your spot! 272 Wall St.
10	Speed Dating! Man Seeking Woman & Woman Seeking Man: Whether you're looking for love, a new relationship, or a fun night out, Quartz Rock Vineyard is the place to be on February 10th! This is your chance to meet new people in a beautiful, low-pressure environment! Each date will last 5 minutes. \$25 per ticket. Visit https://quartzrockvineyard.com/music-and-events or call 845-236-3265 for more information! 40 Mountain Rd, Marlboro.
10,11, 14,17,18	Wine with your Valentine at Robibero Winery: Stop by Robibero Winery with up to 4 of your loved ones for an amazing 5-course chocolate and wine pairing event featuring Hudson Valley chocolates! Guests will have 90 minutes to enjoy their tastings and are able to spend the rest of their day around the cozy firepit! Visit https://www.robiberofamilyvineyards.com/event or call 845-255-9463 for more details and/or to make a reservation! \$35 per person. 714 Albany Post Rd.
11	Galentine's Brunch Cooking Class: Come enjoy an afternoon out with the gals to celebrate self-love and friendships at Watergrasshill Bed & Breakfast! The experience includes a hands-on cooking demonstration, mocktail bar, full brunch menu, self-love Valentine's postcard station, and a Galentine's take-home swag bag! 12-3pm. Visit https://www.watergrasshillny.com/events/galentines-brunch-cooking-class or call 845-419-2661 for more details and even more events to come this February! \$115+ per person. 105 Phillies Bridge Rd.

11	Saugerties Pro Musica: CreArtBox with Josefina Urraca: As the co-director of CreArtBox, Spanish pianist Josefina Urraca has garnered a host of prizes and accolades across Europe and the United States. Deemed one of the New Yorker's "art and music top picks" watch their classical and new music arrangements accompanied by carefully crafted visual aesthetics! Make sure to stop by the Saugerties United Methodist Church to witness the magic for FREE! Visit https://saugertiespromusica.org for more details! 3-5pm at 67 Washington Ave, Saugerties.
16	An Evening of the Beatles HELP! The Beatles HELP! Performed by an extraordinary ensemble that includes the Hudson Valley's most gifted veteran players, under the direction of bassist, producer, and arranger, Scott Petito! Make sure to stop by! You're not going to want to miss this! Dining will take place from 5:30-9pm with music starting at 7pm. Visit https://www.liveatthefalcon.com/ to book your tickets or call 845-236-7970 for more! 1348 Route 9W, Marlboro.
16-18	Ole Savannah's 3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Winter Festival: Stop by Ole Savannah's 3rd Annual Winterfest for a weekend full of fun! Festivities will kick-off at 5pm on Friday with Bartending for a Cause! Bartenders will donate all tips to a nonprofit organization of their choice! Ice skate under the stars with DJ Eddie Parker, participate in the Flip it for Charity Flip Cup Marathon, and so much more! Visit https://olesavannah.com/event/winterfest/ or call 845-331-4283for more information! Both the ice bar and ice castle will be open! Don't miss out! 100 Rondout Landing.
17	Western Dreamland: A Country and Disco Dance Party! Country dolls and dancing queens: Saddle up for a night under the neon moon, where timeless classics by country music legends such as Dolly Parton, Shania Twain, Garth Brooks, and The Chicks guide your every step on the dance floor in a technicolor world of disco icons such as ABBA and Cher along with modern pop artists Dua Lipa, Kacey Musgraves, Miley Cyrus, and more. Come fly away with us, in the glittering sky of Western Dreamland. Doors open at 8:30pm and the show will start at 9pm! 18+ Visit https://www.eventbrite.com/e/western-dreamland-a-country-disco-party-18-tickets-758927180627?aff=oddtdtcreator claim your tickets online or call 845-679-7625 for more! 22 Rock City Rd.
17-18	Ashokan Hot Chocolate Fest 2024: Enjoy a fan-favorite winter beverage – hot chocolate! Choose from the 8 different flavors being offered at the Ashokan Hot Chocolate Fest! One ticket covers 2 cups of hot chocolate, and each additional cup is \$3. Fun for the whole family! Come see what they're all about! Children up to 5 years old are free of charge! 477 Beaverkill Road (The Ashokan Center). Call 845-657-8333 or visit ashokancenter.org/product/hot-chocolate-fest-2024/ for more!
22	Lara Hope and the Ark-Tones: Winner of an Ameripolitan Music Award and named the "Best-Up-And-Coming Band" by New York's Hudson Valley Magazine, Lara Hope and the Ark-Tones are the Northeast's premier Roots Rock n' Roll outfit! Come check them out for yourself! Don't miss out! Dining will take place from 5-9pm with music starting at 7pm. Visit https://www.liveatthefalcon.com/ to book your tickets or call 845-236-7970 for more! 1348 Route 9W, Marlboro.
23	<b>Trombone Shorty and Orleans Avenue - Shortygras Tour with The Soul Rebels:</b> Trombone Shorty will have you dancing in your seats with a high energy jazz, funk, rock show. 8pm. Tickets starting at \$49. Ulster Performing Arts Center. Visit https://www.bardavon.org/show/trombone-shorty-orleans-avenue-2/ or call 845-473-2072 for more! 601 Broadway at 8pm.
23-25	<b>Saugerties Moon Festival &amp; Parade:</b> Weekend-long event to spread light, joy, and love throughout the village of Saugerties! Stop by and witness the variety of events that the Saugerties Snow Moon Festival has to offer! Markets, comedy shows, outdoor winter bars, craft fairs this event has it <i>ALL</i> . Make sure to pop in and spread good cheer! All proceeds will be donated to area food banks. Call 914-388-2375 or check out https://saugertiessnowmoonfestival.com/events for further details.

February 2024 Calendar of Events



**Date** 

ULSTER COUNTY TOURISM, Ulster County Office Building, 244 Fair Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Kingston 800-DIAL-UCO (800-342-5826) tourism@co.ulster.ny.us

STAY INFORMED. Capture QR code below with your smartphone to sign up for our newsletter.









#### **RENTALS**

Store for Rent in Grahamsville (845) 985-7411

#### **FOR SALE**

Sundown Camp and Bait Shop! Firewood for sale

#### **HELP WANTED**

**Typing Help Wanted** 

Experienced or Student. Full/Part time. Work in Grahamsville. Busy Law Office.
William Brenner
(845) 985-7411



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#### "KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE I

# GROUNDHOG DAY

ON AMAZON, IMOB, NETFLIX (1993 / Rated - PG / 1h 41m) https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0107048/

On February 1, self-centered and sour TV meteorologist Phil



Connors (Bill Murray), news producer Rita Hanson (Andie MacDowell) and cameraman Larry (Chris Elliott) from fictional Pittsburgh television station WPBH-TV9 travel to Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, to cover the annual Groundhog Day festivities with Punxsutawney Phil, the Groundhog. How-

ever, Phil, is caught in a time warp at the annual emergence of Punxsutawney Phil, and he keeps repeating the same day until he learns what should be.



#### **MENU:**

INNERCIRCLE GROUNDHOG BALL, LUNCH WITH PHIL, ANNUAL GROUNDHOG BANQUET, HOSPITALITY VILLAGE, THE DUELING PIANOS, GOBBLER'S KNOB GOT TALENT FAQ, MEMBERS RECEPTION, PARTY ALL NIGHT, ABOUT LEGEND & LORE, RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS, GROUNDHOG DAY 2022 EVENTS, STAY CONNECTED;

COUNTDOWN CLOCK https://www.groundhog.org/

Answer to last week's Trivia Question: Blazing Saddles

**This weeks' Trivia question**: Who makes his fourth appearance as 007 in *Die Another Day*?

(From Pg. 74)

## KNARF'S

CLASSIC MOVIE OF THE WEEK II ON AMAZON, NETFLIX, IMOB

## TORTILLA FLAT

(1942 · 1hr 45min · Romance/Comedy / G) Directed by Victor Fleming. Starring Spencer Tracy, Hedy Lamarr, John Garfiel and Frank Morgan.



A wonderful romp through the characters of the antiquity of the early nineteen forties. You will enjoy and be mexmerized by the bevy of interesting Mexican-American characters played by many familiar faces as seen by classic film lovers. The setting is early 1940s life in Monterey California. As written by *John Steinbeck*, in his world renown book; "TORTILLA FLAT," Spencer Tracy plays Pilon. He amazes us with his portrayal of a Mexican-American gentleman of the streets who is a totally selfish con-man. Let's not forget his *Salacious B. Crumb* friend played by **AkimTimmorif**, who keeps you chuckling.



Then we see **Hedy Lamarr.** The audience is stunned by her beauty as she plays Danny's girl friend.

Hedy Lamarr was one of the most intelligent women in the 1940s. Her IQ was 154. She had a degree in Psychobiology from Vassar. She invented "Frequency Hopping." that would have provided great help to the U.S. military during WWII. However, the Navy shelved her idea, and told her to go sell war bonds. Next one up, one of my very favorite actors **John Garfield**, plays **Danny**, a poor, naive, highly emotional northern Californian Mexican-American who inherits two houses and is swindled out of them for the good of his friends.

### KNARF'S

CLASSIC MOVIE OF THE WEEK III
ON SPECTRUM OR YOUR FAVORITE MOVIE CHANNEL

# Sex, Lies, and Videotape

(1989 / Rated NR Adult Language / 1 hr 41 min) https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0098724





Sex, Lies, and Videotape is directed by Steven Soderbergh; Starring James Spader, Andie MacDowell, Peter Gallagher, and Laura San Giacomo.

A sexually obsessed woman's husband is having an affair with her sister. The arrival of one of her husbands old friends with a rather unusual fetish changes her life, effects everything going on in her life.

The film focuses on the complexities of human intimacy and deception in the modern age.



Stay safe and stay well, Knarf Odnamoc Gnome