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Tri

Ye Olde TOWNSMAN

Valley

"The Best Journal Published by a Dam Site!"

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GRAHAMSVILLE, NY 12740

FEBRUARY 2, 2012

FIFTY CENTS

Science Fiction and Fantasy FLASH - Thorn Winter Pg. 10 • Olive Muse - Charlie Blumstein Pg. 6 • The Olive Jar - Carol Lamonda Pg. 6

TVCS FBLA Hosts "Welcome Back From Winter Break" to Benefit Children in Honduras



Grace Kelly's mission has support of the community.

On January 6th FBLA hosted a "Welcome Back from Winter Break" 7th and 8th grade dance at the Tri-Valley High School from 7-9 p.m. The dance helped to benefit the chapter's supply drive for children in Honduras. The dance was a huge success; FBLA raised \$235, which will go to help purchase supplies. If you would like to donate, the following supplies are needed: a package of pens/pencils, lined paper, dry erase markers, reward stickers, a box of band aids, and pairs of flip-flops or non-gummy children's vitamins. Donations can be dropped off at one of the following supply box locations: Tri-Valley Central School elementary office, high school principal's office or the main entrance. Grace Kelly, a ninth grade member, will be traveling to Honduras in February to deliver the greatly needed supplies FBLA would like to

thank all of the support and donations from community members! (See Page 3 - Letter from Grace Kelly)

CWC Awards Grants for Debris Removal



The Town of Halcott was awarded \$37,455 to contract for the removal of several debris jams on Vly Creek, like this one on the property of Dan Chesire. Three other Watershed applicants, all private homeowners, have also been approved for grants from the \$2.5 million CWC Stream Corridor Protection Debris Removal Program. Mr. Chesire, right, discusses the project with CWC's Nate Hendricks who administers the grant program, and Dave

Burns of the NYC DEP. Applications are available online. Call Nate, 845-586-1400 ext. 21, for more information.

A REDI Loan of \$873,733 was awarded January 3 to Birchwood Lodge, Inc. to make improvements to Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park Campground in the hamlet of Greenfield Park, Town of Wawarsing. Owner Michael Zalkin will use the funds in part to purchase five new lodging units for the campground, which employs 42 people.

In Stone Ridge, Mark Susczynski and Kimberly Weeks, partners in Elm Rock, Ltd, were awarded a \$150,000 REDI Loan to acquire SparrowHawk Bed and Breakfast. The new owners will continue the B&B, will renovate a carriage house for additional rentals and plan to add an onsite restaurant and catering facility to the property, located at 4494 State Route 209. (Contd. Pg. 3)

SC Dramatic Workshop Presents a Broadway Cabaret

Come and hear the finest voices in Sullivan County present a tribute to Irving Berlin and other wonderful Broadway composers. Performances are on Friday and Saturday, February 10 & 11, at 8:00 PM at the Sullivan County Museum in Hurleyville, NY. Homemade desserts will be served.

Featured performers are Bill Brenner, Richard Chiger, Hayley Cosgrove, Scott Eckers, Julie Fedor, Laura Garone, Sally Gladden, Terri Hall, Consuelo Hill, Carmine Pace Iantorno, Taylor Jaffe, Ellen Pavloff, Mekayla Perneszi, Ilyssa Weiner and Lori Schneider-Wendt. They are skillfully directed by Richard Chiger and enjoyably accompanied by Leon Hilfstein. Admission: \$10 per person for a grand evening for family and friends to enjoy together. For further information please call Richard Chiger at 845-794-7966 or check our website at www.scdw.net.

Is your town ready for the next disaster?

CWC will sponsor an informational workshop March 22 for town and village officials seeking to be better prepared for the next disaster. Weather date is March 23. The event will be held at the Margaretville Fire Hall, Church St., Margaretville. Register free online. Deadline is March 16. The workshop will include sessions on "Preparing and Using an Emergency Action Plan," "Declaring a State of Emergency and Emergency Orders" and "Responding to an Emergency." Following a buffet lunch, workshop attendees will hear from four people who will share "Lessons from Irene": Shandaken Town Supervisor Rob Stanley, Prattsville Town Supervisor Kory O'Hara, Fleischmanns Village Mayor Dave Morell, and Dorothy Maffei, who served as volunteer coordinator in the Town of Middletown during the most recent flood.

Bonacic Seeks to Extend Date of Hurricane Irene/Tropical Storm Lee Flood Assessment Relief Act

State Senator John Bonacic (R/C/I - Mt. Hope), has introduced legislation (S.6311), to extend the dates when a municipality can opt into the Hurricane Irene Flood Assessment Relief act. (Contd. Pg. 12)

CWC Economic Development Program Helps Business in Shandaken



Michael Triolo, who has guided the CWC's Economic Development program for nine years, closed out his career by presenting checks to Shandaken business people whose properties were damaged in the flood of August 28.

Margaret Byron Carentz, owner of the damaged Mt. Tremper Post Office building, was all smiles after Mike presented her with a

check three days before Christmas.

Mike hasn't gone away, really: he will work on the business recovery program for a few days a week for the next few months.

Sullivan County Town Clerks' Food Drive

The Sullivan County Town Clerks are concerned about their residents having to choose between heating and eating this winter. A non-perishable food drive will be held at Sullivan County's Town Halls throughout the month of February during regular office hours. The Neversink Town Hall is open Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, excluding holidays. We are located at 273 Main Street in Grahamsville. Food collected will be given to the Town of Neversink's Local Food Pantries. All donations will be greatly appreciated.

Star Gazing has a Whole new Meaning When it Comes to the Starlab



Star-gazers from left to right are Destiny Richardson, Tylik Finn, Alan Morgenstern (Techer), John Haig, and Josh Lintz.

Students at Sullivan County BOCES recently had the opportunity to learn about astrology through the Starlab when it toured through the Rubin Pollack Education Center and the White Sulphur Springs School during the week of January 17th.

According to Josh Lintz, a middle school student, "The Starlab is really cool! You can see all of the different stars as if you were outside." Tylik Finn, another classmate, was looking forward to seeing the constellations that represent Greek Mythology, which they just learned about them in class.

Edward Ehrenberg and Patsy Somers, members of the BOCES staff, instructed the student as they viewed the many marvels of the Starlab.

The Starlab is a portable dome that displays the constellations as the earth orbits. Sullivan County BOCES and the Sullivan County Teacher's Center coordinate the use of the lab throughout the eight school districts in Sullivan County.

YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN
OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER FOR

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POLICY ON SUBMISSIONS AND LETTERS TO THE EDITORS:

1. **ALL submissions** should be typewritten or printed legibly.
2. Letters should contain no more than 300 words.
3. Letters should offer worthwhile comments and avoid libel or bad taste.
4. Letters must be signed with the writer's own name. No letter will be published without a signature.
5. The writer must provide his/her full name, address and telephone number (for verification). This information will be kept on file in the YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN office.
6. Copies of letters or third-party letters will not be accepted.

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

To renew or receive a new subscription to the TOWNSMAN, please fill out the form below. Mail form to the address above or place in the TOWNSMAN drop box located on the porch of the First Aid Building in Grahamsville. Make checks payable to: *Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman*

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Subscription renewals must be received by the last Saturday of the month preceding subscription renewal date to avoid interruption of the paper or renewal notices.

A change of address must be received a month prior to change in order to make the necessary changes in our computer. All changes of address, whether seasonal or permanent, are the responsibility of the subscriber.

ADVERTISING DEADLINE:

3:00 P.M. FRIDAYS • FIRM - Drop Box, FAX, Mail or Email

WEEKLY ADVERTISING RATES

Classified ads - \$6.00 for the first 20 words and 20 cents each additional word.

- 1" Boxed ad (1" x 3") - \$6.00 per week (\$2.00/ sq in)
- Business card ad (2" x 3") - \$12.00 per week (\$2.00/ sq in)
- (3" x 4") - \$24.00 per week (\$2.00/ sq in)
- (3" x 6") - \$36.00 (\$2.00/sq in)
- (4" x 6") - \$48.00 (\$2.00/ sq in)
- 1/4 pg (5" x 7") - \$70.00 (\$2.00/ sq in)
- (6" x 8") - \$96.00 (\$2.00/ sq in)
- 1/2 pg (7" x 10") - \$140.00 (\$2.00/ sq in)
- (Full page - 10" x 14") - (\$2.00 sq in) \$280 B/W
- (Full back page - 10" x 14") - (\$3.00/sq in) \$420.00 B/W
- NEW offering:** (Full back page in Color - 10" x 14") - \$630.00

Rates are based on **B/W Camera-ready copy**. All display advertising will be based upon \$2.00 sq inch (1"x1"). Guaranteed placement is available for a 25% surcharge on a first-come, first-served basis on all pages except the front page, page 2 & page 3. **All advertising must be pre-paid** unless other arrangements have been made.

All inserts/flyers must be pre-paid. Please send the correct amount of money along with **1,500 copies** of your flyer. If the insert/flyer is printed only on one side, the rate is \$40.00 per week. If the insert/flyer is printed on both sides, the rate is \$60.00 per week. The customer must provide the correct number of pre-printed flyers. If you wish *Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman* to print the flyers the charge for a one-sided flyer based on **1,500 copies (white paper)** \$95.00; (color paper) \$125.00. If both sides of the flyer are to be printed the charge based on **1,500 copies (white paper)** \$145.00; (color paper) \$175.00.

Deadline for all submissions is 3:00 p.m. Friday.

NO EXCEPTIONS

If you are submitting your advertising by email, our email address is: tvtownsman@yahoo.com. If you do choose to send ad copy via the internet please send it in either PDF (Acrobat) files or JPG format. All press releases/articles should be sent as Microsoft Word Documents

Have a question- please call: Linda Comando (845) 985-0501.
As always, thank you for your support.

Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman

P O Box 232

Grahamsville, NY 12740

Email: tvtownsman@yahoo.com

Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman on-line:

<http://thetownsman.com>

ON THE FRONT BURNER: If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. Matthew 18:15

OBITUARY

Hilda Misner, a 68-year resident of Woodbourne, passed away on Sunday, January 22, 2012 at home surrounded by her family. She was 86. She was the daughter of the late John and Freda Kahler Jantzen, born on September 26, 1925 in the Bronx, NY. She married Karl Misner on December 14, 1943; he predeceased her in 1992.

Hilda was very involved in her community; she was a member of the Woodbourne Reformed Church. This is where she and her husband had an instrumental role in achieving National Historic Certification for the church. She was also active with the Sweet Adelines of Middletown, NY. She was always very thankful and full of gratitude. Her passion in life was gardening, and she took great pleasure in visiting people who were suffering, lonely or convalescing. She cherished her family and all the memories they shared. She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother and she will be sorely missed.

She is survived by her husband, Ralph English, whom she married in 1999; her daughter, Deborah Escott and husband, Nicholas of Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada and their children: Vanessa, Julia and Alex; her son, Steven Misner and wife, Amy of Atlanta, GA, and their children: Nicholas and Merritt; six great-grandchildren and a host of friends.

Services were held privately at the convenience of the family. There will be a memorial service at a later time.

Donations in Hilda's name can be made to the charity of one's choice.

College News

Amy VanDenBerg who is a Claryville resident has been placed on the Dean's List for the Fall 2011 semester at the State University of New York College at Cortland. Amy is majoring in Criminal Justice.

Dr. William Richards, president of SUNY Orange, has announced that the College awarded associate's degrees and academic certificates to 136 students who complete their courses of study during the recently concluded fall 2011 semester. Among those graduating is the following local student:

Lisa E. Dymond of Sundown.

Dr. Stephen J. Havlovic, vice president for academic affairs at Alfred State College, has announced the Dean's List of students for the fall 2011 semester. The following local student attained this honor:

Brian Edwards of Grahamsville. He achieved a 4.0 GPA or straight "A" student.

DAYS OF YORE...

Today's History

January 30, 1952 - When Mrs. Mary Ann Many of Grahamsville took a peak at her sixty-fourth great-grandchild last week and announced that it was getting hard to keep track, that statement became the most highly publicized of the year. The story appeared in the New York Herald Tribune, Albany papers and practically every paper and radio station within a radius of several hundred miles. Her living descendants include 8 children, forty grandchildren and sixty four great-Grandchildren.

Floyd Gorton, a life resident of this vicinity, was fatally stricken with a heart attack while fishing through the ice near Narrowsburg on Thursday, January 17th. Mr. Gorton, who was 66 years old, was born in Ulster Heights on September 12, 1885, the son of William and Katherine Rampe Gorton. A carpenter, he had lived at Ulster Heights most of his life.

January 31, 1962 - Ira Rubenzahl of Neversink was among 356 high school seniors chosen as the nation's "most promising young scientists" in the 21st annual Westinghouse science talent search. Ira, a

senior at Tri Valley Central School, was the only student from Sullivan County to place in the talent search.

Mrs. William VanWagner has announced the engagement of her daughter, Patricia Elaine, to George L. Stubblebine, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Stubblebine of Lackawack. Miss VanWagner is a graduate of Tri Valley Central School and is employed at the Ellenville branch of the New York Telephone Company. Mr. Stubblebine is a graduate of Ellenville Central School and is presently with the Army Reserves at Fort Eustis, Virginia. No date has been set for the wedding.

Mr. Eugene W. Osterhout of Divine Corners, died on Saturday at Middletown after a long illness. He was 74. He was born May 16, 1887 in Yaegerville, N.Y. He was married January 6, 1909 in Liberty to Alva Krump. He lived in Divine Corners since 1949 and was a retired house mover. Survivors include three sons and four daughters.

February 2, 1972 - Peter Hepburn, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Hepburn of Yaegerville Rd. has been accepted at Ulster County Community College. He plans to major in data processing.

Edward Knapp, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Knapp of Bradley, has received word of his acceptance at Ulster County Community College for the police science program.

Pamela Strangeway, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Strangeway, has been accepted at the Agricultural and Technical College at Cobleskill. Pamela will be enrolled in the nursery education program.

Six-year old Darcia Ackerley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ackerley of Grahamsville, was crowned Regional Heart Fund Princess for 1972 at a luncheon held in D's Restaurant in Monticello. Darcia successfully underwent heart surgery two years ago.

Happy Anniversary to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wood, 10 years on Feb. 3rd; Mr. and Mrs. Milton Kortright, 18 years on the 4th; Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Mickelson, 13 years on the 7th; and to Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Hasbrouck, 14 years on the 8th.

February 4, 1982 - Harold Wells, of Ulster Heights died Friday in the Ellenville Community Hospital after a short illness. He was 71. He was a retired truck driver for the Ulster Co. Dept. of Transportation and a life-long area resident. The son of the late Harmond and Augusta Foster Wells, he was born January 27, 1911 in Arden. Survivors include his wife, Beatrice Moshier Wells, at home; a son, Bill Wells of Ulster Heights, six grandchildren and several cousins.

Virginia Mehr of Neversink and Raymond W. Mehr Jr. of Phoenix, AZ announce the engagement of their daughter, Michelle Marie to Robert Roberts, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Roberts of Woodbourne. Miss Mehr is a senior at Tri-Valley and will attend SCCC upon graduation. Her fiancé is a 1979 graduate of Tri-Valley and is completing his second year at SCCC. Miss Mehr and Mr. Roberts are planning a spring, 1983 wedding.

Liberty UMC Spaghetti Dinner

The Liberty United Methodist Church will hold a Spaghetti Dinner on Tuesday, February 7 from 4-7:30 p.m. in the church hall at 170 North Main Street. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$3.50 for children under 12. Information available at 845-292-6243.

Big Indian Native American Cultural Center, Native Gathering

On Sat. Feb. 11, from 11am - 3 pm, the Big Indian Native American Cultural Center, Native Gathering will be held at The Pine Hill Community Center.

Weather permitting, there will be drumming, storytelling, talking circles, lectures and more. Everyone is welcome. Please bring a snack to share with everyone. FMI call 845-254-4238 or 845-586-4480.

Pine Hill Community Center, 287 Main St., Pine Hill, NY 12465 (865) 254-5469

HERE AND THERE Local News from the Tri-Valley Area- Hulda Vernooy

It is almost time to wish Happy Birthday to George Ratner who will be turning 101 years young on March 5th. Ward Blade, a long-time friend of George would like to pass along George's address to those who wish to send him greetings on his special day this year. You may send your birthday wishes to: George Ratner, Foothill Manor, 5860 Foothill Blvd., Granite Pass, OR 97526.

Have a good week and God Bless.
(Call Hulda at 985-2268 with your Neversink news.)
You can also send your information via email: tvtownsman@yahoo.com

Letter to Townsman Readers:

My name is Grace Kelly and I live in Neversink. I am a freshman at Tri-Valley Central School. On February 23rd, I will be leaving on my mission trip to Juticalpa, Honduras. I will be traveling with the Honduran Mission Team of New Hampshire. This team was formed 15 years ago and my aunt Carol is an active member. The Honduran Mission Team's parent organization is The Olancho Aid Foundation. This is a faith-based organization that empowers Honduran youth to transform themselves, their communities and their country through education. This organization began 20 years ago, when Rev. Richard Donahue from Boston was sent to Honduras for 3 years as the pastor of the Cathedral parish in Juticalpa. His 3 year stint turned into 20 plus years and the Olancho Aid foundation was born. Presently, Olancho Aid Foundation operates four schools: Escuelita Nazareth, a special needs school; Centro Basico Santa Clara (primary bilingual), Instituto Bilingue Santa Clara (middle), El Instituto Cardenal Rodriguez, a Spanish-language high school. While on the trip, I will assist in medical clinics, visit schools and orphanages. My mom made this same trip 3 years ago, and is very excited for me to be going this year. I am more than thrilled to be taking part in such an enriching experience.

On the mission team coming with me is my aunt, medical professionals, teachers and high-school students. I'm very excited to be working with such kind and generous people. I may not have a doctorate degree or a teaching degree, but I'll be more than happy to assist with medical intake, assisting children with their educational lessons and most importantly playing with the young children.

I am asking you to take this journey with me by supporting me with prayers, monetary contributions or the needed supplies. The supplies I am collecting are the following: packages of pens/pencils, dry erase markers, reward stickers, lined paper, pairs of flip flops, band-aids and non-gummy children's vitamins. Monetary contributions will be donated to the educational programs in the special needs school, bilingual elementary school and high school. Checks can be made out to Honduran Mission Team New Hampshire.

If you would like more information about my trip or the organization you can visit www.olanchoaid.org or www.honduranmissionh.org. Thank you for all of your support.

Sincerely,
Grace Kelly

CWC 128 Grants Awarded to Flooded Businesses
(From Pg. 1) -

The CWC continues to put money on the street to help business owners whose properties were structurally damaged in late summer flooding. One hundred twenty eight businesses had received grants totaling \$2,232,972 as of December 31. The grants, administered by the CWC's Economic Development staff, are from the \$5 million Business Recovery Fund of the Catskill Fund for the Future, approved by the Board of Directors September 13, 2011. The NYC DEP has supplemented the fund with an additional \$1 million. The largest number of grants - 46 - have gone to businesses in the Town of Middletown, followed by 30 in Windham, 19 in Prattsville, 15 in Shandaken, six in Olive, four in Ashland, three each in Hunter and Jewett, and two in Halcott. Two more were approved in early January for Roxbury businesses, and one for a business in Denning.

Other post-flood assistance has been provided to the Copperhood Inn and Spa on Route 28, Town of Shandaken, which will receive \$12,105 to repair a stormwater culvert and rip-rap along the Esopus Creek; and to the Margaretville Car Wash, which was awarded \$7,000 to repair damage to a stormwater basin and a constructed wetland that treats runoff from the Fair Street facility.

Just across the East Branch of the Delaware River from the car wash, Margaretville Central School was granted

\$25,000 to repair a stormwater conveyance and treatment system which handles run-off from the parking lot and bus garage area. The school is applying to FEMA to cover this damage, and the money is to be returned to CWC upon receipt of FEMA funds.

Need stream help? SWCD awaits your call

County Soil & Water Conservation Districts stand ready to help landowners and municipalities with stream assessments and technical information to help restore waterways and streambanks affected by flooding. For details on the many projects that have been completed to date; on upcoming post-flood stream intervention trainings for contractors; links to flood warning services; funding agencies and individual stream management plans, visit <http://www.catskillstreams.org/> for information.

Get Ready to Renaissance - An Overview of the 2012 Grant Program and How to Apply

Volunteers interested in learning about the 2012 Sullivan Renaissance grant program and getting help in planning their projects and completing their applications should attend the "Get Ready to Renaissance" seminar on Wednesday, February 1 beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the CVI Center in Ferndale.

The seminar will review the basics of the Sullivan Renaissance program, including how to apply for grants, deadlines, youth involvement, design and maintenance changes and other requirements. Staff will discuss project ideas and review paperwork with potential applicants. Refreshments will be served.

Beginning February 1, applications are available for download from the Sullivan Renaissance web site (<http://www.sullivanrenaissance.org/participate/applications/>) in a portable document format (PDF) with fillable form fields. Applications can be completed electronically and e-mailed to Sullivan Renaissance (along with required documentation) or printed and mailed before March 23.

If requested, Sullivan Renaissance representatives will visit communities at their convenience to explain the program, review the garden design plans and assist with the application process.

Beautification and community development grant applications are due by Wednesday, March 21. These grants will be awarded at the Spring Forum on April 19 at the CVI Building in Liberty. Projects must be completed in August. Some Sullivan Renaissance grant programs have different deadlines, including: environmental and seasonal grants; and scholarships. Intern applications are due on April 7.

Sullivan Renaissance is a beautification and community development program principally funded by the Gerry Foundation.

Sign up for Winter Conference

Individuals wishing to attend the Sullivan Renaissance Annual Conference and Expo on Saturday, March 10 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the CVI Center in Ferndale will be able to register and sign up for workshops directly on-line beginning February 1. Keynote speaker Joe Lamp'l, host of the TV series "Growing a Greener World," will talk about the latest trends in eco-friendly living.

To register or for information, visit www.sullivanrenaissance.org

34th Annual WSUL/WVOS Heart-a-Thon

The 34TH ANNUAL WSUL/ WVOS HEART-A-THON will take place Saturday, February 25th at the Catskill Regional Medical Center from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Both WSUL 98.3 /95.7 and WVOS 95.9 / 105.7 will broadcast live from the hospital for the entire event. This year's WSUL/WVOS HEART-A-THON co-chairs are Alan Kesten of Yellow Cab, Roberta Byron Lockwood of the Sullivan County Visitors Association and Paul Carlucci of the Villa Roma Resort and Conference Center.

Over the last 33 years, the WSUL/WVOS HEART-A-THON has raised over \$1.6 million dollars in the name of "HEART HEALTH" making it the largest local fundraiser in Sullivan County's history. To benefit the local hospital WSUL/WVOS has presented 100% of the proceeds to the Cardio Pulmonary Department at Catskill Regional Medical Center. Each year funds are earmarked for a particular piece of support equipment. This year the focus is on wireless bedside heart monitoring systems. Listeners can participate on the day of the WSUL/WVOS HEART-A-THON by making a pledge by calling (845) 794-9898 or in person by visiting the Catskill Regional Medical Center during the live broadcast at the Garden Level Food Court. During the weeks leading up to the event donations are made by buying a heart at any one of the many participating locations around the county. For the

first time this year, pledges can be made online on the Sullivan County Visitors Association's website SCVA.net. Contact Helena Manzione WSUL/WVOS Watermark Communications 845-794-9898 Ext. 301

GROUNDHOG DAY

By Peggy DeWire



February 2nd marks the midpoint of winter. We're halfway there! If the proverbial groundhog rouses out of hibernation and sees his shadow, folks say it predicts six more weeks of winter. Do you believe the forecast or not?

A biology professor at Pennsylvania State University, Stam Zervanos, has discovered another reason besides weather forecasting for a male groundhog to wake up in early February: he shuffles around his several acres of territory and checks on burrows containing females. He ducks inside each one to cuddle for the night and leaves the next morning to continue the tour.



He doesn't mate on these getting-to-know-you visits, according to professor Zervanos, because no babies show up. At the end of his walk-around the male groundhog returns to his own burrow, curls up into a furry ball for another month of hibernation. He's probably thinking like Arnold Schwartzegger: I'll be back.

Groundhogs or woodchucks wake up for good in late march to mate and then lead solitary lives. They're vegetarians and have a hard time finding early greens.

In April 2-6 babies are born naked and blind after a month gestation.

The litter matures by autumn and lives 4-5 years if it escapes hunters, hawks, foxes and coyotes.

Groundhogs (*Marmota monax*) grow to twelve pounds and two feet long. They're brownish yellow furred animals with black feet and a short tail. Their flat top skulls with eyes and ears set low are perfect for not exposing much head poking above ground. This rodent's incisors never stop growing and can become a fatal danger unless kept worn down with constant chewing. Although groundhogs mostly graze on grass, they can climb trees and swim to forage for greenery.

They feed at sunrise and sunset, keeping out of sight during daylight hours. Groundhogs are forever alert to danger, racing back to their burrow sounding shrill alarm whistles that earn them the nickname "whistle pig." When spooked, they run 10 m.p.h.

A groundhog digs a burrow 10-15 feet long with a front entrance, spy holes, a toilet chamber and a comfortable nest room for sleeping or a nursery.

In vacant fields these burrows are refuges and homes for other small animals who aren't master diggers. However, in pastures the holes are dangerous to cows and horses.



Around farms and gardens groundhogs do considerable damage to green crops.

I think superstition or not, a bright spot in winter is February 2nd, Groundhog Day. And when you have a famous celebrity like Punxatawney Phil et al, the paparazzi will never let you forget.

Helpful Hints - Sock it Two You!

Turn a sports sock inside out, place your hand inside the sock and you have an instant and very effective duster! You can go over corners, into grooves and do a thorough dusting. When finished, simply toss into the washer and reuse again!

When polishing wood, turn a sports sock inside out and place your hand inside. Lightly dampen with furniture oil and rub over the furniture. You will be amazed at how easy this is and how easily you can reach any area with the oiled cloth. When finished with the oil, place another sock on your hand to buff and polish the furniture to a shining finish.

Have a pair of thick stockings with one good leg left? Cut the good leg off at the crotch and stuff with old socks, dryer lint or other stuffing. Sew the top closed and you have an instant way to prevent drafts from coming or going under doors.

MYSTERIOUS BOOK REPORT NO. 34

by John Dwaine McKenna



A few weeks ago the *Townsmen* arrived in the mail with a couple of menus tucked inside. One was from Eureka Cafe and the other was Charlie's Pizzeria, and they both made me hungry for spicy ethnic food. When I quit thinking like Dagwood Bumstead, I realized that the menus had food from around the world: Hawaii, Mexico, America, Italy and Russia were all represented, South America and Africa too, if we mention chocolate. It sounds almost like an itinerary for a world traveler . . . and that's the subject of MBR NO. 34. It's part mystery, part swash-buckler and entirely a lot of fun as it follows the adventures of a White Russian expatriate, Count Alexander Karlov, around the globe in a rollicking good adventure story called *China Star* (Carrol & Graf, 2007, \$15.95, 442 pages, ISBN 978-078671-923-5) by Bartle Bull. The narrative begins in Paris, France in 1922, where we are introduced to a group of penniless Russian aristocrats and army officers. They're the "Whites," the loyalist aristocracy who fought for Czar Nicolas Romanov II, and lost, to the Reds, in the 1917 Russian revolution. We learn that Karlov, who fled Russia in an icebreaking ship in the last days of the empire, has regained his fortune in Shanghai, China, and is in Paris to hunt for his twin sister Katerina, kidnapped from the Trans-Siberian railway as she was fleeing the advancing Red army. We also learn that Vladimir Lenin, now in firm control of mother Russia, has teams of assassins tracking down and killing all the members of the old regime that

they can find, lest they return to Russia with the British army to overthrow the communists. All of this happens in the few pages of the first chapter. A hunt and chase follows that takes the reader from Paris to Cairo, to the island of Ceylon, and finally, to the Far East and China. It is exciting, relentless and thoroughly entertaining. Bartle Bull has been called "the most underrated, least heralded novelist of our time," by none other than Forbes Magazine. He is a member of the Royal Geographic Society and the Explorers Club and was formerly the publisher of *The Village Voice*, a New York City weekly newspaper. *China Star* will keep you entertained while you learn a lot of world history and geography at the same time. If you can switch off the TV or PlayStation and read, you'll never regret it. And who cares anyway, if you got to the highest level of this year's soon-to-be-forgotten, "must have" computer game? Besides, you can put the money you would have spent to better use. Like college tuition. Hey, there's an idea . . .

Have you been to the library lately? My four-year old nephew has. His mom takes him every week. He looks forward to it because they have so many programs for all ages of kids. You can give your kids some help up in the world by encouraging them to read from a young age.

You can read all of the Mysterious Book Reports on my website: johndwainemckenna.com

You'll find scads of other stuff too. If you don't have one already, *The Neversink Chronicles* are available there, or locally at *Cannie D's* in Neversink, the *Time and the Valleys* museum, or on Amazon.com. We are looking for other retailers too. Let us know of any please. Have a great week and take time to read. I'll see you next Thursday with Mysterious Book Report NO. 35.

--JDM

SUNY Sullivan announces new Presidential Scholars program.

Loch Sheldrake (January 27, 2012) - SUNY Sullivan's interim president, Dr. William Murabito, announced today the introduction of a new Presidential Scholars program aimed at making a college education more accessible and more affordable for high-achieving students graduating from Sullivan County high schools.

"A combination of financial factors has made it more difficult for high school students to get the college education they both deserve and need," said Dr. Murabito. "Our new presidential scholars program, which will begin with this fall's incoming class, will cover full tuition and fees for two years at SUNY Sullivan for qualifying candidates. It doesn't get much better than that."

SUNY Sullivan's Presidential Scholars funds will be awarded to the top 10% of graduates who are residents of Sullivan County who will attend the college full time. Recipients must be in the graduating class preceding the start of their first fall semester of study.

The Presidential Scholars award is a maximum continuous two-year scholarship for the fall and spring semesters. No stop outs in study are permitted and qualifying students must apply for financial aid to be considered for the award.

After the first year, continuation as a Presidential Scholar is based upon the achievement of an overall 3.25 GPA for the first year of study.

"With all that SUNY Sullivan has to offer, from a quality education to a great athletics program," Dr. Murabito added, "our new Presidential Scholars program will make a decided difference in the future of the county's best and brightest high school students."

SUNY Sullivan offers 40 academic programs. The college has added new programs in wind turbine technology, simulation and game development, and this fall expects to begin offering degree programs in respiratory care and psychology.

To learn more about the Presidential Scholars program and other scholarships for qualified incoming students, call Sari Rosenheck, the Director of Admissions, at 845-434-5750, ext. 4200.

Visit us at www.sunysullivan.edu

Are You Interested in Pursuing a Career In Nursing?

LIBERTY - On Wednesday, February 8th, and Tuesday March 6th the Sullivan County BOCES Career and Technical Education Center will be hosting two information sessions about the BOCES

LPN (Licensed Practical Nursing) Program. Potential students can choose to attend on either date, and multiple sessions are being offered to fit busy schedules: 1:00 PM to 2:00PM or 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM. All sessions will be held in the Eugene D. Nesin Theatre/Auditorium at the St. John Street Education Center, in Monticello.

Each session will include an overview of the LPN Program admission process. Learn about the application requirements, admission testing, financial aid resources and other program information. The nursing faculty will also explain the program curriculum, competencies and clinical rotations. Career advancement opportunities and college articulation information will also be presented.

Part-time and Full-time programs are available for adults and high school seniors. We are now accepting applications for September 2012.

Registration is required to attend the sessions. Attendance is strongly recommended for adults and high school seniors interested in enrolling in an LPN class for September 2012. For more information and to register please call (845) 295- 4940. Now is the time to start your nursing career!

Explore a career in nursing where the employment outlook is great!

The Career & Tech Program at BOCES prepares students with skills, knowledge and work ethics for the 21st. century.

Statement by Senator John Bonacic On Re-Districting Proposals

"I enjoy representing the four counties now included in the 42nd Senate District, and am very pleased all or parts of those four counties are in the newly proposed 42nd State Senate District. I do not look at our Senate District in terms of County lines, but in terms of people and their concerns."

"While county lines divide on the map, the issues which unite people are the same all over. People want good schools, quality healthcare, less taxes, good jobs today, and better opportunities tomorrow."

"No matter what the district boundaries ultimately look like, those will continue to be my goals."

Sullivan County Veterans Service Agency Announces "Valentines for Vets" program during National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans Week, February 12 - February 18.

Monticello: The Sullivan County Veterans Service Agency will have a "Valentines for Vets" display in the lobby of the Government Center, 100 North Street, Monticello - Tuesday, February 14th and Wednesday, February 15th, during the hours of 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Grade school children from our local school districts are invited to participate in this program by creating Valentine's Day cards for our hospitalized veterans. Gene Benson, Chairman of the Sullivan County Veterans Committee, said, "This is a great way to lift the spirits of our brave men and women who are hospitalized and let them know they are not forgotten."

The cards will be delivered to our local Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) medical centers and local nursing homes.

NY Agriculture in the Classroom Announces 2012 Ag Literacy Week

Sullivan County, NY - Cornell Cooperative Extension of Sullivan County is pleased to announce that they will be coordinating the Ag. Literacy Week programs in Sullivan County this year. With the generous support of the Sullivan County Farm Bureau the programs will be available to students across the county at no cost to them. The Ag. Literacy Week programs are a great way for the youth in the county to get acquainted with local agriculture and get connected to Cornell University!

How many kids understand where the food on their table comes from? During National Agriculture Week (March 19th-23rd), students throughout New York will be learning about the miraculous process by which air and water combine with seed, soil, and sun to create nearly all the food we eat. Using the corn plant as an example, the readers will be taken through the story of germination and growth of a tiny corn seed into a giant plant reaching high into the air with roots extending over six feet in to the ground. Once again, Cris Peterson brings both wonder and clarity to the subject of agriculture, celebrating the cycle of growth, harvest, and renewal through the book *Seed, Soil, Sun* which will be read to the class and then donated to the school library. Teachers will also receive a resource packet including additional lessons and information on the topic.

If you would like to get involved as a classroom teacher or as a volunteer reader, please contact Nikki Olsen at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Sullivan County. She can be reached by phone at (845) 292-6180 x.113 or by email at nmb62@cornell.edu.

For more information on how to get involved as a volunteer or teacher to help children understand agriculture during Ag Literacy week through the Ag in the Classroom programs, visit the website www.nyaged.org/aic.

New York Agriculture in the Classroom is a partnership of Cornell University, NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets, NYS Education Department, and NY Farm Bureau. The program works with Cooperative Extension educators, teachers, Farm Bureau members, and others throughout the state to foster an awareness, understanding, and appreciation of agriculture and the total food and fiber system.

Finance Your Education

MONTICELLO - Don't let the shortage of funds or lack of finances stop your ambitions and success.

On February 13th, the Adult and Continuing Education Program at Sullivan BOCES is offering a course on Financing Your Education.

This valuable course is ideal for anyone who is thinking about attending or preparing for college. Learn the different financial assistance programs that will help pay for your college education. This course is excellent for parents of children in college or those preparing to enroll in college.

Classes will run on Mondays and Wednesday's from February 13th through March 12th at 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. All classes will be held at the St. John Street Education Center, in Monticello. The fee for the class is \$80.00

To register and find out more information contact the Adult and Continuing Education Program at (845) 295-4900 or 791-4070 between the hours of 8:30 am and 3:30 pm or log on to scbooces.org and become a fan on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

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The Olive Jar - Facebook Addiction *By Carol LaMonda*

My husband says I am a Facebook addict. Possibly. There is now a psychological term for people who need to check e-mail or Facebook a number of times a day. The syndrome is called FOBLO or Fear of Being Left Out. For the most part, Facebook posts are not earth-shatteringly important, but sometimes they are informative. One group of Fb posters can be considered "the town criers." They tell us if there is a school delay, storm coming, power outage or an accident nearby. Another kind of poster is the "rooster" who greets you with a "good morning" or a picture of the sunrise. Others are "food critics" who take pictures of their lunch or make you salivate with their dinner menu. The "philosophers" post inspirational quotes. The "chucklers" upload cartoons, usually with cute critters on them. A few "political pundits" add their comments to the news. "Proud parents" share pictures of cute little toddlers. Lastly, there are the "curmudgeons" who grouse about everything or whine about "poor me."

Yes, I guess I am a bit addicted. Is there such a thing as "a little addicted?" What I enjoy most is sharing in a snapshot of someone's life. Over time, those little snapshot posts add up to a closeness with someone I may not see that often. Those snapshots brighten my day because they are proof positive that there are many great people out there doing positive things with their lives. Even if someone is complaining about the horrible state of affairs of something or other, I notice that the comments are usually helpful or words of encouragement.

Facebook convinces me that there are good people out there although I got a face-to-face lesson in volunteerism today. I needed to hem a pair of curtains, but my sewing machine joined a garage sale long ago. Knowing that there would be four expert seamstresses in the neighborhood, I joined a group of four women who were doing a quilting bee. Cheryl Kosarek organizes a number of groups of volunteers who create child size quilts to be shared at hospitals, shelters, firehouses, and schools. Last year these volunteers of the Linus Project (named after the Peanuts character Linus Van Pelt who carried a security blanket) made over a hundred and forty quilted blankets. Forty-five were given out here to flood victims through the Ontario Schools. Marie Pantliano, Lois Ostapczuk, Cheryl, and Jane McCabe lugged their sewing machines and created eight quilt tops in a single day. After I selfishly finished hemming the two panels, I joined in by doing simple tasks like ripping seams (I became Carol the Ripper) and ironing strips of squares. It felt good to help out.

When I see others helping others, I am reminded of a quote from Ann Frank written in the Secret Annex after spending years in hiding: "How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world." Maybe I will post that on Facebook tomorrow.

Olive Muse- Charlie Blumstein**School Daze**

Back in '06, the volunteer OCSB Budget Advisory Committee, headed up by Paul Dellesio of Woodstock (one of the sharpest fiscal minds in the region), found that if the course being charted at that time by the BOE were to be maintained, the OCSB could wind up foundered on the rocky shoals of the Isles of Bonding and Upper Taxony. A recent review by a consultant (only 15k!), made the same determination using the latest data, which revealed that an 11.8 million deficit is looming just over the horizon, should the current bearings be maintained.

Though the BOE has not yet issued its final decree, the charts being displayed seem to indicate that the same bearings will indeed be maintained. Can a deficit of 11.8 million really occur in OCSB? It could happen only if the BOE gained the power to issue bonds without voter approval, something that some scalawags are indeed trying to cook up at the Sausage factory located near the Port of Albany.

The 2% NYS Real Property Tax Cap can be overridden by the BOE, and some districts are indeed doing that, to the chagrin of hard pressed fixed-income seniors and now pretty much almost everyone else, given the 40% decline in purchasing power in the dollar that has afflicted almost everyone over the last decade. A tripling of energy costs is but one consequence of the unfolding economic ship wreck. Those in various municipal wheel house's, including schools are desperate to find a means to continue expanding budgets, even though it is clearly not sustainable, over the long term.

A change in paradigm in Big Education seems to be underway, tacking in the changing winds from "No Child Left Behind", to "Race To The Top". When teachers turned "No Child" into "All Children", its fate was sealed and a new ship could then be expected to sail into port. If the teachers change "Race To The Top"

to something else, it may indeed be wash, rinse, repeat, and once again we will start to scan the horizon for the next fast packet from the Port of DC, w/ trans-shipment at the Sausage factory located near the Port of Albany. More on this as details filter in.

Byway Bywater Blues

The next 2 Olive Town Board meetings are expected to be lively and some say that they may be all hands on deck affairs, possibly to be held in the palace auditorium, located at the SS OCSB High School in the Port of Boiceville. The Olive Town Board has been asked to consider the change in venue due to the widespread interest in the Catskill Mountain Scenic Byway designation, scheduled for airing, and which has suffered recently from allegations of a possible ethics lapse, which has recently floated to the surface near the Isles of Olive.

The proposed Catskill Mountain Scenic Byway designation being sought by the Central Catskill Collaborative (CCC), a group of 7 municipalities organized by Regional Planner Peter Manning of the Catskill Center for Conservation and Development (CCCD), and located within the Rt. 28 corridor from Hurley to Andes, and which has evidently sailed into uncharted waters due to 2 presentations to the Olive and Shandaken Town Boards which seemed to suffer from gross omissions of material facts which indicate that provisions buried near the end of the voluminous document amount to a privatization of the zoning and land use functions of the 7 municipalities comprising the CCC. No mention of this or of the potential ramifications of such a profound change was offered. No copies of the 130 page tome were available for the public or media, at the Olive meeting, which was not advertised. When this writer asked CCCD Regional Planner Peter Manning for the minutes of the 30 CCC meetings, he replied: "Don't have to, per Albany. We are a private

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non-profit NGO, without the protection of NYS sunshine laws", thus illustrating the dangers to the public, of privatizing what are at present lawfully transparent government functions. When queried, CCCD Executive Director Alan White directed Mr. Manning to provide the minutes, which did not disappoint, providing a wealth of important information. Mr. Manning's employment by the CCCD has been terminated and he is preparing for the final attempt at passage of the Scenic Byway by the Olive Town Board at the next Olive Town Board meeting on Feb 14th, 7:30pm, Olive Meeting Hall, Bostok Rd., Shokan. All hands are requested to attend and weigh in on the various related matters. The Byway plan is posted at the Town of Shandaken website. (To be contd. next week)

Pancake Breakfast Benefits Food Pantry

Sat. Feb. 11th, 7:30am 'til 11am. Olivebridge United Methodist Church, Rt. 213, Olivebridge. Come eat early and then go on to Rob Overton's free course on bee-keeping at the Olive Free Library, Rt. 28a, West Shokan. Olivefreelibrary.org. Or, come before 11am, eat up a storm and walk it all off at the reservoir promenade, a world class mountain view walkway spanning the Ashokan Dam, just around the corner from the Pancake Breakfast.

Professor Louie and the Crowmatix Headline Valentine's Day Concert at MAMA

Professor Louie and the Crowmatix are the lead, followed by Mr. Roper and then The John McCormick Trio will be playing at the annual Valentines Day concert on Sat., Feb. 11th, which will benefit computers4needy.org, a not for profit organization that provides re-furnished computers to those unable to afford digital access. The event is sponsored by computers4needy.org and the Food Bank of the Hudson Valley. Sat. Feb. 11, 2012, MAMA (Marbletown Multi Arts), Main St., Stone Ridge. 845-687-8890

**RESERVOIR MUSIC NOTES-**

*Fred Perry, Owner of Reservoir Music Center,
3179 Route 28, Shokan, NY 12481. 845-657-6127.*

Greetings! And welcome to this week's Reservoir Music Notes. They announced the preliminary lineup for Mountain Jam this week. The usual suspects are back (Warren Haynes, Michael Franti), but this year's festival will be headlined by Stevie Winwood! Also new to the Jam this year will be The Word, a new band consisting of sacred steel ace, Robert Randolph, John Medeski, and The North Mississippi Allstars! They should have called it The Wow! Other new acts added this year will be Lukas Nelson (Willie's son), The Carolina Chocolate Drops, and local bands, Sister Sparrow and The Dirty Birds and Connor Kennedy. AND Trombone Shorty and Orleans Avenue will return for the third time. Sounds like they've done it again!

Friday night, I took my own advice and went over to The Bearsville Theater for the Jonny Monster Band, and they were even more impressive than the first time I saw them! Jon opened their set solo acoustic with a resonator guitar, doing a short set of old school blues. Not as comfortable onstage without his band and electric guitar, he nevertheless managed to pull off a very competent set. Gotta give him props just for doin' it, ya know! Then the band came on, and you could tell immediately that they were all at home now! Roaring into their set, I was struck by how good the rest of the band were. At my first exposure to Jonny, the guitar playing was so mindblowing that I barely noticed the rhythm section! Chalk it up to the element of surprise! This time, knowing what to expect, I had the room to relax and listen to the whole band. Drummer Roger LaRochelle is a dynamic powerhouse who never loses

sight of the groove and fits Jonny's guitar playing perfectly! Bassist Rob Kissner just stands there playing the exact right notes. This is a band of equals! But, of course, the focus is always on Jonny, as it should be. He's the one who's making you sit there thinking, "Can this kid really be as good as I think he is?" Over and over again, Jonny Monster answered that question with a resounding "Yes!". I'm telling you, catch them once and you'll be hooked!

This year is the 50th anniversary of The Rolling Stones! While still waiting for an official announcement, rumours abound! One is that Bill Wyman and Mick Taylor will be back on board! Do it to me one more time baby!

GRAMMY awards are next week. Should be the usual snooze fest, but maybe there'll be some good performances. One can only hope.

Almost all of this week's live music picks are in the city, or at least downstate.

Friday, February 3 - Okay! You've got THE YARDBIRDS and VANILLA FUDGE at Irving Plaza and THE CANNABIS CUP BAND in a BOB MARLEY BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION at BB King's, both in Manhattan. Over at Maxwell's in Hoboken, THURSTON MOORE of Sonic Youth continues his trek through the Northeast. And at The Towne Crier in Pauling, GARLAND JEFFREYS alternately rocks and punks it up for his fans.

Saturday, February 4 - MARSHALL CRENSHAW joins the aforementioned Mister GARLAND JEFFREYS at Maxwell's in Hoboken and if it's the first Saturday in the month, it's the BLUEGRASS JAM at

Banjo Jim's in Manhattan. This one starts early, so be forewarned. Call for showtimes.

Monday, February 6 - It's the last night of STEVE EARLE'S residency at City Winery in Manhattan, so if you haven't caught his act yet, don't miss this one.

Tuesday, February 7 - Well if it isn't the Pick of the Week! MARK LANEGAN, of the sadly overlooked and very underrated Seattle grunge band, Screaming Trees, stops by at the Bowery Ballroom in Manhattan. I love Screaming Trees and if there's any way I can make it to this, I will!

Wednesday, February 8 - THE YARDBIRDS and VANILLA FUDGE reprise Friday's show, but tonight it's at the Tarrytown Music Hall.

Here's a heads up for next week. On Saturday, February 11, The Fab Faux, make their first trip to the Hudson Valley, with an appearance at UPAC in Kingston. If you don't know them, The Fab Faux is a band that performs the music of The Beatles. They're not a tribute band though, and make no attempt to look or dress like The Fab Four. What they do do, is to play the music, note perfect. As they say on their website, "It's not a tribute. It's a recreation." And it is! When they do "Within You, Without You", guitarist Jimmy Vivino plays the part on sitar! When they do "Savoy Truffle" or "Got to Get You into my Life", a horn section appears. For "She's Leaving Home" or "Eleanor Rigby" a string quartet walks onstage. These guys are so good that when listening to them, they have at times, actually made the music of The Beatles clearer! What I mean is, you can hear the musical parts being played better than on The Beatles' records! Not always, but often! (Contd. Pg. 7)

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Reservoir Music Notes (From Pg. 6) And the musicians are top notch! The bass player is Will Lee from The Late Show Band, whom no less than Paul McCartney praised as one of the world's best bassists, and the guitar player is Jimmy Vivino from Conan O'Brian's Band, who also spends time in The Levon Helm Band, as well as numerous other projects, all first rate! This is the closest you'll get to the Fab Four today! They often do a complete Beatles album in each set. I've seen them do "Sgt. Pepper", "Rubber Soul", "Revolver" Magical Mystery Tour, "The White Album", and "Abbey Road" as well as the psychedelic singles "All you Need is Love", "I am the Walrus", "Strawberry Fields", "Penny Lane" and "Hey Jude". The Beatles themselves never performed these songs live, so this is really special! I'll be on this again in my

next column, and I can tell you right now, this will be my Pick of the Week next week! See you then!

February is National Career & Tech Month
LIBERTY: Career And Technical Education (CTE) has a long and rich history in the United States. Today's CTE has evolved from a limited number of vocational programs available at the turn of the 20th century into a broad system that encompasses a variety of challenging fields in diverse subject areas which are constantly evolving due to the changing global economy.

Today's CTE provides students: Academic subject matter taught with relevance to the real world; Employability skills, from job-related skills to workplace ethics; Career pathways that link secondary and

postsecondary education; Second-chance education and training; Education for additional training and degrees, especially related to workplace training, skills upgrades and career advancement.

The Career and Technical Education Center at Sullivan BOCES offers high school students the opportunity to learn job skills through instruction and hands-on experience in seventeen different career and tech programs, as well as a pre-tech career exploration program. Each program enables students to learn the essentials for a specific career or trade while meeting industry and learning standards. (Contd. Pg 10)

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Get Your Swing Dance On

On February 7th, the Adult and Continuing Education Program at BOCES is starting its first swing dance class. Classes will be held at the St. John Street Education Center on Tuesdays, from February 7th through March 13th from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm. The fee for the class is \$60.00 per person or \$100.00 per couple.

You never know! You may end up on Dancing with the Stars or use your new dance steps to marvel other guests at a party or wedding. You can even use the class as exercise to stay in shape. Either way, come join the fun and learn the gaits and moves of Swing Dancing. No experience or dance partner needed.

A second set of sessions will begin on Tuesday, April 3rd through May 8th from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm. The fee for the class is \$60.00 per person or \$100.00 per couple.

To register and find out more information contact the Adult and Continuing Education Program at (845) 295-4900 or 791-4070 between the hours of 8:30 am and 3:30 pm or log on to scooces.org and become a fan on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

Sullivan County Community Chorus Prepares for 35th Annual Spring Concert Under the Direction of Kevin J. Giroux



Program, a re-grant program of the New York State Council on the Arts, administered by the Delaware Valley Arts Alliance.

Dues are \$20 with a one-time \$15 music deposit for those new to the chorus. Those wishing to sing in the Spring Concert are encouraged to arrive for the first rehearsal at 6:00 p.m. to sign in and receive packets of the concert music. For further information regarding rehearsal schedules, contact Lucille Horton at 845-794-786

It's All Hands-On for Science Olympiad at SUNY Ulster - College Hosts Area High Schools for Division C Competition on Feb. 11

More interactive hands-on-science, math and technology events will spotlight the regional competition at SUNY Ulster as the nationwide Science Olympiad returns to the college on Feb. 11 with 26 teams from high schools throughout the mid-Hudson competing for top honors.

The event, which draws hundreds of participants to the Stone Ridge campus, will start at 8 a.m. in Vanderlyn Hall with the award ceremony scheduled to begin at 3:30 p.m., in Quimby Theater. The snow date is Feb. 12.

Teams and individuals will compete in 20 events in the 2012 Division C competition with hopes of advancing to the state level. New events, including Robot Arm and Magnetic Levitation, were selected by the college event organizers to offer more hands-on competition. Among the other events are: Disease Detectives, Dynamic Planet, Gravity Vehicle, Microbe Mission and Protein Modeling.

"To make the day fun and entertaining for participants and observers, we have chosen as many hands-on events as possible," said event organizers Karen Goodell and David Edinger, both from the college's Office of Information Technology. "With the assistance of over 50 volunteers we hope to have a fun and successful day as students compete for four slots at the State Competition."

The local competition is part of the 28-year-old nationwide Science Olympiad, one of the premiere science competitions in the nation, providing rigorous, standards-based challenges to more than 14,000 schools participating in all 50 states and Ontario, Canada. The regional event is organized by educators, community leaders and business partners from the Hudson Valley.

Last year's first place winning team was from Spackenkill High School, followed by Goshen High School, John Jay High School and Roy C. Ketcham High School. For more information on the day's schedule and events that are open to the public, see:

<https://sites.google.com/a/sunyulster.edu/2012-regional-science-olympiad/>

A LIGHT IN THE DARK: A Showcase of High School Darkroom Photography

ASK is excited to present a comprehensive exhibit of black and white photographs created by local Ulster County high school students. All images in this show were created in the darkroom without any digital manipulation.

Four high school art educators have prepared this show from work submitted by students currently studying darkroom techniques. Debra Tampone, Art Teacher at Kingston High School has organized a beautiful show along with the following art teachers: Stewart Schuenemann from Oteora High School, Mary Rappleyea from New Paltz High School and Beverly Bennett from Rondout High School.

Amidst our fast paced, digitally overloaded world, the fine art of developing film in the darkroom is on the brink of extinction. However, despite such forces as Photoshop, area high school students who have discovered the darkroom are developing their artistic voices through this traditional 19th century process. Translating the image in the darkroom with chemicals and light brings the artist closer to the spirit of photography as it was originally experienced. This back-to-basics, hands on process demands more commitment and involvement; hence there is a greater connection and more meaning to the work. The excitement of "pulling their first print" has enough impact to drive students to explore all the capabilities of this time-honored traditional, process and has produced a new generation of photographers who value the power of darkroom photography.

CAS ARTS CENTER Hosts Second Artist Talk for "Middle Ground" on Saturday, January 28 Featuring the work of Kathe Blackbird Frantz & Matthew Zappala

Announcing The Catskill Art Society is hosting a second Artist Talk for "Middle Ground," a two person exhibition featuring the work of local artists Kathe Blackbird Frantz and Matthew Zappala, at 1pm on Saturday, January 28 at the CAS Arts Center, 48 Main Street, Livingston Manor, NY. There is no cost to attend this event and all are welcome. A reception with light refreshments will follow.

The Artist Talk will start with Zappala, a graphic artist from Saugerties, NY, who wasn't able to attend the first talk due to weather. Zappala is presenting black and white woodcuts created from winter landscapes and unique collages that have the visual look of a woodcut. Frantz is a painter from Callicoon, NY whose work for this exhibition was inspired by the Delaware River Valley. She will also be available to answer questions during the Artist Talk and reception.

"Middle Ground" runs through Sunday, February 26. CAS Gallery hours for this exhibition are Thursday - Saturday 11am - 6pm, and Sunday 11am - 3pm. The CAS Arts Center is wheelchair accessible and open to the public.

Summer Registration Opens at SUNY Ulster

Students can earn credits quickly and affordably at SUNY Ulster through summer classes offered during two seven-week sessions at the college and online.

Summer classes offer students the opportunity to lessen their fall course loads, catch up on requirements and stay on track for graduation. Most credits transfer to other schools, making it an affordable option for local residents attending other colleges to earn credit while at home this summer.

Registration is underway and will continue until the beginning of the two sessions: May 17 to June 28; and July 5 to August 15. Day and evening courses are offered at the college's Stone Ridge campus and the Business Resource Center in Kingston. In addition, many courses may be taken online.

On-campus and online offerings include: accounting, art, biology, business, chemistry, communications, criminal justice, earth sciences, economics, education, English, French, history, human services, industrial technology, information literacy, math music, psychology, sociology, Spanish, theater and veterinary technology.

Tuition cost for New York State residents is \$142. per credit, plus fees. For information and registration, phone the Registrar's Office at 800-724-0833, or email admissions@sunyulster.edu or visit the college's website at www.sunyulster.edu/summer.



Upcoming Specials & Events

Weekend Dinner Specials:

Friday: Lasagna

Saturday: Meatloaf, mashed potatoes & gravy

Sunday: No special, focusing on take-out for Super Bowl

Events:

Sun, Feb 5: Let us cater your Super Bowl party, think pizza, chips & dip, 2 liter bottles of soda, trays of ziti or lasagna. We close at 8pm on Sundays.

Tues, Feb 14: Valentine's Day. Reserve your table for a memorable evening of delicious food (we'll have a special menu for the occasion) and live music featuring guitarist Larry Kitzmiller.

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Villa Roma, Callicoon

WHEN: Friday, February 17. **DETAILS:** Leave the Town Hall 8:30 am to ride school bus to Villa Roma, return at approximately 5:30 pm. Spend the day off from school swimming in the pool, bowling, and snow-tubing. Please bring all required clothing with you. Included is lunch and make your own sundaes. **SIGN-UP: If you plan to attend \$15 residents/\$30 non-residents must be paid no later than ASAP.**

MARITIME AQUARIUM, CT

WHEN: Saturday, April 21. **DETAILS:** Leave the Town Hall at 8:30 am and return at approximately 5:30 pm. Come explore this vibrant & entertaining learning environment, with living exhibits, marine science and environmental education. Please bring money for lunch and if you choose to see an IMAX Movie or Adventure Ride Film. **SIGN-UP: If you plan to attend \$22 residents/\$31 non-residents must be paid no later than February 28 this includes motorcoach transportation & admission.**

Westchester Broadway Dinner Theatre

WHEN: Wednesday, April 25. **DETAILS:** The performance is Legally Blond. Leave the Town Hall 9 am and return at approximately 5:30 pm. **SIGN-UP: If you plan to attend \$40 residents/\$53 non-residents must be paid no later than February 28 this includes admission to show, lunch, dessert & motor coach transportation.**

ALBI CONCERT

WHEN: Sunday, July 15. 5 pm-8pm **DETAILS:** Outdoor Stage by Town Hall Parking Lot. Rain or Shine. Please bring your own lawn chair or blanket to sit on. Hot dogs, soda & water will be for sale for \$1 each.

Mountain Creek Water Park, NJ

WHEN: Saturday, August 4. **DETAILS:** Leave Town Hall 8:30 am to explore this Big Thrills, Big Value water park with over a dozen rides. Please bring money for food and treats during the day. Return to Town Hall at approximately 6:30 pm. **SIGN-UP: If you plan to attend \$12 residents/\$36 non-residents must be paid no later than June 26 this includes motorcoach transportation and admission.**

FREE MAD SCIENCE Fire & Ice Show

WHEN: Wednesday, August 8. **DETAILS:** Join us for an evening of scientific fun with fire & ice. This is going to be a live, interactive educational experience at the Grahamsville Fairgrounds at 5 pm. Rain or Shine. Please bring your own lawn chair or blanket to sit on. Hot dogs, soda & water will be for sale for \$1 each. **SIGN-UP: If you plan to attend this event is free please just call to register to attend no later than July 31.**

LIBERTY SCIENCE MUSEUM, NJ

WHEN: Saturday, November 3. **DETAILS:** Leave the Town Hall at 8 am to explore 9 exhibition galleries on your own. Return to Town Hall at 6:30 pm. Please bring additional money for Imax and 3D MOVIES if you choose to view one. **SIGN-UP: If you plan to attend \$22 residents/\$31 non-residents must be paid no later than July 2 this includes admission and motorcoach transportation.**

SHOPPING ALBANY, NY

WHEN: Friday, November 16. **DETAILS:** We will leave the Town Hall at 8 am to shop Colonie Center, a 1.3 million square-foot enclosed two-level, shopping center with over 100 specialty stores, including Boscov's, Macy's, Sears, LL Bean, and Christmas Tree Shops stores, and return to the Town Hall at approximately 7 pm. **Sign-Up: If you plan to attend \$21 residents and non-residents must be paid no later than October 16.**

TRANSPORTATION TO NYC

WHEN: Saturday, December 1. **DETAILS:** We will be dropped off near Times Square and will be free to spend the day as you wish! We will leave Town Hall at 8 am and return at approximately 8 pm. **SIGN-UP: If you plan to attend \$21 residents & non-residents must be paid no later than November 8.**

Procedure to Attend Events - One of the following MUST BE DONE BEFORE the cut off date: 1. COME & fill out permission slips & bring payment to the Town Hall Upstairs Parks & Recreation office between 3 pm & 6 pm on Tuesdays. 2. MAIL permission slips & payment to Parks and Rec Dept PO BOX 307 Grahamsville, NY 12740

PLEASE make NOTE the following: For your convenience permission slips can be downloaded from our website www.townofneversink.org or picked up in the Parks and Recreation office in the Town Hall on Tuesdays from 3 pm to 6 pm. If you need to contact the director for any reason I can be reached at the Town Hall on Tuesdays between the hours of 3 pm and 6 pm; any other time please leave a voicemail at 985-2262 ext. 312 or email me at racerrj12d@aol.com.

Thorn Winter's SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY FLASH

DRIFT

Scene I

By Thorn Winter

The first thing Lucas Knight saw when he opened his eyes was the black rubber and rusty, stainless steel wheel on the bottom of a dumpster. He was lying face down in a thin layer of fine ashes and broken concrete. His nose and throat burned and he ached. A violent series of coughs seized him, unsettling the dust that blanketed his clothes, hair, and skin.

Lucas sat up, fighting for air between choking spasms. He pulled a steel flask from his coat pocket, spinning the top off and draining it of half of the scotch it contained in a prolonged suckle. The liquid burned on the way down his throat and lit a fire in his belly that diffused quickly into his extremities. He licked his lips and wiped muddy tears on his sleeve, careful not to push more particles into his swollen, red eyes.

He stood, fighting dizzy light headedness, and patted the dust away from his clothes, taking care to sweep clear a patch that read "New York State Certified Paramedic". He coughed a few more times and spit out the results before taking an uneasy step forward. His ears rang and he went momentarily blind as he fell forward and vomited. After the heaving ceased and his senses returned, he caught his breath and straightened up. He sipped at the scotch and then capped the flask and stuffed it into his pocket while he surveyed his surroundings. He spit a gritty mouthful of spit, scotch, and stomach acid onto the pavement where it made a wet crater in the moon like layer of ash.

The sky was solid grey and from it ashes fell like snow. He was in an alley and it was daytime but the sun was not visible. He recalled being in the Garbage Bar on West Sixtieth, amidst the music, horns, sirens, and cacophony of the city. But now, Manhattan was as silent as a punch drunk boxer.

Lucas looked down the alley to where the buildings had caved in, blocking it off completely. Turning around he could see what he reasoned was West Sixtieth. But the street was gone, filled in my collapsed steel and masonry. A half buried, burning car, its nose smashed into the corner of the brick building to Lucas's left, billowed smoke into the air, obscuring the view beyond the alley.

Lucas pulled a handkerchief from his pocket, shook it free of dust and held it over his nose and mouth. He looked up suddenly, alertness in his eyes, as he heard the familiar sound of dog paws running on pavement. A moment later a white and light brown Jack Russell Terrier slid around the corner and down the pile of rubble and ran into the alley, barking loudly. The dog ran fearlessly to Lucas, stopping in front of him to jump up and down while continuing its staccato string of barking. Lucas laughed lightly behind the handkerchief and muddy ash on his face as he squatted to pet the dog. It stopped barking and licked at his hands.

"Okay, easy boy, you don't want to eat that stuff," Lucas said, his voice muffled by the cloth. "Where's your owner, huh?" The dog ceased its barking and lapping, and trotted back the way it had come. It stopped just short of the alley's end to turn,

look back at Lucas, and bark out another string of commands.

The dog cowered suddenly as a bloodcurdling, distant scream echoed down the alley. Lucas's paramedic instincts fired and adrenaline burst through him as he instinctively sprinted toward the cry. When he reached the end of the alley he gorilla jumped over the rubble and the trunk of the burning car while the dog ran through a space underneath it. When Lucas landed his eyes went wide with shock and his draw dropped in horror. The world spun around him as he stumbled about like a man in a dream - all of Manhattan lay destroyed around him.

Black smoke poured from cars and the smashed windows of collapsed buildings. A burning sign sat atop a pile of demolished rubble in front of Lucas. It read "Baldwin's Café 1830 West 60th St". All that once was there -- the street meat carts, the massive video screens, and the tall skyscrapers -- was gone, replaced by a war-torn landscape of smoldering rubble and twisted metal. Screams came from all directions and distances.

Dead and dying people were scattered over the piles of demolished structures, mangled trucks, crushed buses, and overturned cars. The walking wounded climbed carefully among the wreckage beneath telephone and traffic poles that lay scattered about like fallen trees, wary of sparking power lines that hung like vines. Lucas knew that thousands more victims were beneath the wreckage that filled and hid the streets. Ruptured gas lines and fuel tanks, marked by the flames they shot into the air, dotted the grey wasteland as far as Lucas could see.

The paramedic spun slowly in a circle on his wobbling legs, a look of desperate panic stretched across his face. The destruction extended in all directions. People all around him limped about calling for help or babbling incoherently from shock. Others were digging in the rubble, looking for survivors. Most lay strewn about like broken, bloody, ash covered dolls -- unconscious or dead.

Across the street from Lucas, loomed the towering lower section of skyscraper, the upper floors of which had collapsed across the obliterated city block. It jutted from the rubble, creaking and groaning as it swayed and settled under its own weight. Steel beams, window panes, concrete, and other materials broke loose and fell like bombs from the twisted, torn top -- crashing into the ground below with thunderous booms and the clang of steel.

A young man with dust-filled, green, spiky hair that stood out like a splash of color in the ash grey world, stood at the base of the swaying structure, seemingly ignorant of the debris raining down around him. The back of his black leather jacket read "Jeff" in the same electric green as his bedhead mane.

Jeff stared up at the skeleton of the skyscraper -- as though at any moment reality might return and put the building and all of Manhattan back the way it was. Lucas watched as Jeff looked down and was startled by something, his face contorting with terror. Jeff fell backward a few steps before he turned, scrambling hand and foot over the rubble, and ran. Lucas saw a bloody hand rise from the spot where Jeff had been standing and then slowly fall.

To be continued next week...

Greetings True Believers!

Drift has been a project of mine for a while. I'll be pulling it apart and giving it to you in small doses week to week. Try not to get too far out there. But if you do, say hello to the Doctor for me. See you next week space cowboys and cowgirls.

If you'd like to support this column by purchasing advertising that targets science fiction and fantasy fans, email thornwinter@gmail.com.

February is National Career & Tech Month (From Pg. 7) Upon successful completion of an approved two year CTE program, students may earn up to three credits towards graduation in English, Math or Science. All CTE programs provide Technical English/Language Arts which meets the requirements for English 12 and Career & Financial Management, which is also a required NYS graduation requirement. Most programs offer Technical Math and Technical Science as well.

All of our SED approved programs include articulation agreements with colleges or trade schools. This affords successful students the opportunity to earn credit toward an associate or bachelor degree while still in high school, which is a significant financial savings for parents/students. Upon completion, students enter the workforce, participate in apprenticeships, continue in post-secondary programs and/or enter the military.

Among the wide variety of programs offered at the Career & Tech Center are: Animal Science, Auto Body, Automotive Technology, Broadband Academy, Computer Networking, Construction Technology, Cosmetology, Culinary Arts,

Precision Machining Technology, Early Childhood Education, Health Occupations, Internet Business and web design, Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN), Natural Resources, New Vision Animal Science, New Vision Health, and Public Safety Services, in addition to CORE and the Community Based Work Program which are more of a vocational program.

The Career & Tech Center also has a program called the Pre-Tech Career Exploration Program that offers a project-based experience for students in grades 9 and 10. This program gives students the opportunity to earn three credits each year towards a Regents Diploma. It is a half-day program that emphasizes core character education, positive work habits, and life and communication skills, while giving students a glimpse of the vocational possibilities they may have at the Career and Tech Center as juniors and seniors.

All students who attend the Career & Tech Center automatically become members of SkillsUSA. SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. SkillsUSA helps each student excel. It provides quality education experiences for students in leadership, teamwork, citizenship and character development. It builds and reinforces self-confidence, work attitudes, and communication skills. It emphasizes total quality work, high ethical standards, superior work skills, life-long education, and pride in the dignity of work. SkillsUSA is a national nonprofit organization serving teachers and high school and college students who are preparing for careers in trade, technical and skilled service occupations, including health occupations. It was formerly known as VICA (Vocational Industrial Clubs of America). The Career & Tech Center at Sullivan BOCES strives to work with students to help them transform into responsible, qualified professionals. We pride ourselves in preparing the youth of our county so they are able to continue to college or go out into the workforce to become our leaders of tomorrow.

For more information on the programs available through the Career and Technical Education Center browse our website at www.scboces.org or call 295-4152. For program updates, become a fan of Sullivan County BOCES on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

The Career & Technical Education Program at Sullivan BOCES provides "Skills, knowledge and work ethic for the 21st century"

Viewing of Yogawoman

Body Mind and Spirit Wellness Center presents a viewing of *Yogawoman*. Monday, February 13, 7:00PM This exceptional documentary is directed by Saraswati Clere and narrated by Annette Bening. It is two years' worth of travel and discovery with interviews with top women yoga teachers. From the streets of New York to rural Africa *Yogawoman* explores the power, strength and vision of woman from all over the world.

The film will be followed by a Question and Answer session facilitated by Susanne Spring who is a personal yoga coach. Teaching and sharing her yoga experience for over 22 years, Susanne has led yoga trainings in India, Mexico, the U.S. and Canada. Her sessions motivate students by introducing them to the joy and benefits of yoga. She also focuses on therapeutic yoga. Refreshments will be served.

Please call for reservations. 845-583-7777


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Bonacic Seeks to Extend Date (From Pg. 1) The new date would be December 9, 2012. The legislation also provides that State aid will be used to offset losses to localities who lost in excess of 2% of their taxable tax base or \$10,000 in lost tax revenue, whichever is less.

"Communities hit the hardest are unable to take advantage of this law because it will simply cost them too much in revenue they were already anticipating. Towns adopted their budgets in November, but the new law was not enacted until December. Therefore, this would amount to an unanticipated cost to localities who opt in. The legislation I am putting forward will ensure that hard-hit communities can opt in, and give more time to make the decision," Senator Bonacic said.

The legislation will be sponsored in the Assembly by Assemblywoman Donna Lupardo of Broome County and Assemblyman Peter Lopez, of Schoharie County.

Town Supervisor Karl Brabenec, of Deerpark, Orange County said, "Senator Bonacic's proposal will help towns, villages, and most importantly, people. We in Deerpark strongly endorse it and hope the Senate and Assembly act on it."

Senator Bonacic met with the Governor's Chief Counsel on the legislation yesterday. "The Governor is very aware of the flooding devastation. He has acted with unparalleled leadership in the wake of the floods. I have simply never seen a more hands-on and responsive Governor in any of the disasters which have impacted my District in the past several years. I know he is sensitive to the plight of the taxpayers, and know his office will give this serious consideration," Senator Bonacic concluded.

Hinchey Statement on President Obama's State of the Union Address

Washington, DC - Congressman Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) tonight released the following statement on President Obama's State of the Union Address.

"President Obama has articulated a vision for an economy that lifts up all Americans - not just the wealthiest 1 percent. This path forward recognizes that we face a make or break moment for the middle class and those trying to reach the middle class. While our economy has shown encouraging signs of recovery since 2008, the underlying economic problems, which have been evident for decades, continue to hinder our ability to ensure economic security and the promise of America for those who work hard and play by the rules.

"We simply cannot afford to settle for a country where a shrinking number of people do extremely well, while a growing number of Americans can barely get by. Since 1979, the top 1 percent of Americans have seen their incomes grow by 275 percent, and in recent years the top one-fifth of income earners raked in more than the rest of the country combined. To address this crisis we must take bold action to reform our tax code so that millionaires and billionaires no longer pay a smaller percent of their income in taxes than their secretaries and personal drivers.

"We must also invest in rebuilding American infrastructure so that it can sustain a 21st century economy, and restore our manufacturing sector so that we make things in America again. Our schools need to be well funded so that we can retain and hire good teachers who can educate a skilled workforce, and we must shift away from a fossil fuel based economy and towards a sustainable and renewable energy future.

"The path forward set forth by President Obama is a prescription for a stronger America where the dreams we have for our children can come true. It is a sharp departure from the picture of austerity and decline painted by those who are focused on winning the next election instead of winning our future."

Statement from Assemblymember Cahill on Redistricting Proposal

(Albany, NY) Assemblymember Kevin Cahill (D-Ulster, Dutchess) released the following statement:

"I will begin reviewing the just released Legislative redistricting proposal. While I would have preferred and independent process, having sponsored legislation to establish a nonpartisan redistricting commission (A.5602 and A.5388), these are the lines that have been proposed and it is important they be thoroughly vetted to make sure no one is disenfranchised and communities remain whole.

"Public participation in the process will be essential as the current commission works to develop the final maps. Hearings will be held across the state beginning this Monday in Albany. I will work to ensure that everyone in the 101st Assembly District has the opportunity to have their voices heard before the Legislature votes on the new districts.

"I believe that an objective, non-partisan panel is the best way to develop Legislative and Congressional Districts and I will continue to push for this important reform."

Hurricane Irene-Tropical Storm Lee Flood Recovery Grant Program Now Accepting Applications - Grants to help businesses & counties with flood recovery and flood mitigation efforts

A \$30 million-grant program for communities and businesses in New York recovering from Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee is now accepting grant applications, Empire State Development and the Department of Environmental Conservation announced today. The program consists of two components: \$21 million through the Business Flood Recovery Grant Program to be directed to eligible entities that sustained direct, physical flood-related damage and \$9 million through the Flood Mitigation Grant Program to be used to support flood mitigation or flood control projects in waterways impacted by the record-breaking storms.

Empire State Development President, CEO & Commissioner Kenneth Adams said, "Under the leadership of Governor Cuomo, communities across the state devastated by historic flooding are continuing to get the critical assistance they need to clean-up and recover. This grant program provides the funding necessary to help our businesses, farms and owners of multiple dwellings get the help they need as well as to restore and secure our waterways to ensure homes and businesses will be better protected in the future."

DEC Commissioner Joe Martens said, "Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee caused significant damage to New York's waterways. With these grants and working in partnership with DEC staff, localities will be able to take action to repair streams and prevent future harm to property, infrastructure and the environment. This money will help these hard-hit regions clean up its waterways and protect public and private infrastructure from future flood events."

Empire State Development (ESD) will administer the \$21 million Business Flood Recovery Grant Program, which will provide grants of up to \$20,000 for eligible small businesses, farms, multiple dwellings, and not-for-profits that sustained flood-related damage in Hurricane Irene or Tropical Storm Lee. Funding is geared to help offset the costs of storm-related repairs and restoration of structures not covered by other federal, state or local recovery programs. Preference will be given to applicants that demonstrate the greatest need.

Applicants can access the application form, instructions, and guidelines, as well as additional information about the program at <http://www.esd.ny.gov/BusinessPrograms/FloodRecovery.html>. Information can also be obtained by calling 518-292-5340 or emailing floodrecovery@esd.ny.gov. The deadline for the application is March 16, 2012.

The \$9 million Flood Mitigation Grant Program will be made available to counties through DEC and ESD. Eligible counties can apply for a grant for projects within their boundaries to reduce potential threats to public and private infrastructure. This funding can also be used as non-federal match to the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service Emergency Watershed Protection Program. Through this program, NRCS has allocated \$31.5 million for New York localities.

Grants will range from a minimum of \$300,000 to a maximum of \$500,000 per county. Preference will be given to applicants that demonstrate the greatest need and to those projects that can start work expeditiously and leverage other federal, state and local funding resources.

The funds can be used for the planning, design and implementation of eligible projects and cannot be used for work that is already complete.

Planning costs will only be eligible for inclusion for projects that receive funds for implementation. Eligible projects include stream debris removal, gravel removal in or directly around bridges and culverts, stream bank stabilization and restoration, and culvert replacement. Local or regional flood planning initiatives are not eligible under this program.

This funding is also not eligible to be used as non-federal match for projects reimbursable by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Hinchey Reacts to State of the Union Remarks on Fracking

Washington, DC - Congressman Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) today released the following statement addressing President Obama's State of the Union remarks regarding shale gas.

Hinchey is a leader in Congress of the effort to protect drinking water and the environment from the risks of hydraulic fracturing. He is a co-author of the FRAC Act, which would mandate public disclosure of chemicals used in frack fluid and allow the EPA to regulate fracking activities under the Safe Drinking Water Act. The

congressman also authored the appropriations language that led to the current EPA study on hydraulic fracturing.

"Last year, I asked Interior Secretary Salazar if and when the administration would put in place strong disclosure provisions for chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing on public lands. Last night, President Obama gave us our answer. I am pleased to know that if drilling for natural gas occurs on public lands, the American people will know exactly what chemicals are being pumped into the ground, making it easier to hold drillers accountable if those chemicals end up in someone's well or our water supply. I am hopeful that he will move quickly to endorse legislation I have coauthored, which would extend this requirement to all hydraulic fracturing that takes place on American soil.

"I am disappointed, however, that the State of the Union address endorsed questionable estimates of shale gas reserves and overstated industry claims about job creation. Just this week, the Energy Information Administration slashed its shale gas reserve estimates by half. And given that the Environmental Protection Agency has yet to complete the first ever broad scale study on the risks hydraulic fracturing poses to drinking water, it is hard to see how the administration can make fully informed decisions on this matter at this time.

"The shale gas industry has made a habit of overstating fracking's benefits and understating its risks. It likes to point only to economic benefits, which are mostly isolated and temporary, while ignoring a rising number of reports of broken industry promises, harm to local communities, and air pollution and water contamination. Just recently, in Pavillion, Wyo., the Environmental Protection Agency found fracking chemicals in well water.

"We cannot afford to ignore these reports. If we don't take steps to safeguard our water resources, air quality, and public health, the harm we would suffer would far outweigh the purported economic benefits associated with fracking.

"We all know that the air we breathe and the water we drink don't respect state boundaries. That's why Congress passed laws like the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Safe Drinking Water Act. The fracking industry should have to abide by those public health laws, just like everyone else."

POLITICAL SLANT- Frank Comando -

House and Senate leaders abandoned plans to move on SOPA and PIPA on Friday - the surest sign yet that a wave of online protests have killed the controversial anti-piracy legislation for now and maybe forever. SOPA sponsor Lamar Smith, the Republican chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, said his committee won't take up the bill as planned next month - and that he'd have to "wait until there is wider agreement on a solution" before moving forward.

Obama Administration Responds to We the People Petitions on SOPA and Online Piracy

The White House has responded to two petitions about legislative approaches to combat online piracy. In their response, Victoria Espinel, Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator at Office of Management and Budget, Aneesh Chopra, U.S. Chief Technology Officer, and Howard Schmidt, Special Assistant to the President and Cyber Security Coordinator for National Security Staff stress that the important task of protecting intellectual property online must not threaten an open and innovative internet. Any effort to combat online piracy must guard against the risk of online censorship of lawful activity and must not inhibit innovation by our dynamic businesses large and small. Across the globe, the openness of the Internet is increasingly central to innovation in business, government, and society and it must be protected. To minimize this risk, new legislation must be narrowly targeted only at sites beyond the reach of current U.S. law, cover activity clearly prohibited under existing U.S. laws, and be effectively tailored, with strong due process and focused on criminal activity. Any provision covering Internet intermediaries such as online advertising networks, payment processors, or search engines must be transparent and designed to prevent overly broad private rights of action that could encourage unjustified litigation that could discourage startup businesses and innovative firms from growing.


To have your comments and/or questions, (space allowing) posted, or answered here
Email politicalslant@yahoo.com.

WOODBOURNE FIRE DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST SUNDAY

FEBRUARY 5, 2012

7:00AM – 12:00PM
WOODBOURNE FIRE HOUSE
ADULTS - \$7.00
CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER - \$4.00
CHILDREN 5 AND UNDER - FREE
FOR MORE INFO. CALL 434-6763
TAKE OUTS AVAILABLE



DISCOUNTS FOR BEAUTIFICATION -Local Merchants Offer Discounts for Community Projects

[MONTICELLO] - Local businesses can support community beautification projects throughout Sullivan County by joining the Merchant Discount Program organized by the Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce and Sullivan Renaissance.

Now in its eleventh year, the program links volunteer Renaissance projects with businesses offering discounts on products and services used to clean up and beautify communities.

Sullivan Renaissance grants provide community groups with seed money for beautification and spruce up projects. Grant amounts range from \$200 to \$5000 depending on the size of the project. The discount program helps this money go farther, while encouraging local spending.

"Everyone wins with this program," said Chamber President and CEO Terri Ward. "Merchants get an increase in business; community groups are able to stretch their resources while keeping the dollars local; and Sullivan County looks more inviting to visitors and residents alike."

Merchants set the savings amounts - typically 10% to 20% or more - and are given a list of participants. Project leaders are given special cards to identify that the items they are purchasing will be used for community projects. Stores are publicized in flyers, news releases and on the Sullivan Renaissance website [www.sullivanrenaissance.org].

To register for the program, individuals should contact the Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce at 845-791-4200 or Sullivan Renaissance at 845-295-2452. Businesses do not need to be chamber members to participate.

BUSINESS WORKSHOPS AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND EXPO

Merchants are invited to attend the Sullivan Renaissance Annual Conference and Expo on Saturday, March 10 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the CVI Center in Ferndale. "Main Street Success Stories" and "Enhance Your Storefront for Under \$200" are free workshops geared for business. Keynote speaker Joe Lamp'l, host of the TV series "Growing a Greener World," will talk about the latest trends in eco-friendly living. For information on how to register, go to www.sullivanrenaissance.org or call 845-295-2445.

SUNY Ulster Accepting Registration for Spring 2012 ExpressSemester


SUNY Ulster is accepting registrations for the Spring 2012 ExpressSemester. These accelerated 5-12 week courses begin between February 14 and March 20 and carry 1-3 college credits each.

Day and evening courses take place on the college's Stone Ridge campus or at the Business Resource Center in Kingston. Online offerings give maximum flexibility for those juggling work and family. Over 30 courses make up this semester's ExpressSemester. Courses range from Business and Criminal Justice to History and Psychology.

This accelerated format is an effective way to get your degree completed faster, improve career skills or simply study a subject of interest. For more information or to register, call the Registrar's Office at (800) 724-0833 or visit our website at www.sunyulster.edu.

CLARYVILLE FIRE DEPT.

ALL YOU CAN EAT



PRESIDENT'S DAY Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, Feb. 19
Serving 7:00 until 12:00 Noon
ADULTS \$7
CHILDREN UNDER 12 YRS. \$3
UNDER 5 YRS. FREE
\$50 FROM EACH MONTHLY BREAKFAST IS DONATED TO THE CLARYVILLE REFORMED CHURCH FOOD PANTRY

Merchants set the savings amounts - typically 10% to 20% or more - and are given a list of participants. Project leaders are given special cards to identify that the items they are purchasing will be used for community projects. Stores are publicized in flyers, news releases and on the Sullivan Renaissance website [www.sullivanrenaissance.org].

TIME & THE VALLEYS MUSEUM

GRAHAMSVILLE, NY

Time and the Valleys Museum has copies of every *Townsmen* printed since the beginning classified by year for anyone to research.

timeandthevalleymuseum.org



The Hurleyville and Woodridge United Methodist Churches

invite you to weekly worship:
9 am in Hurlyville,
10:30 am in Woodridge.

For more information, call Pastor Susan Woodworth 985-2283


Day and evening courses take place on the college's Stone Ridge campus or at the Business Resource Center in Kingston. Online offerings give maximum flexibility for those juggling work and family. Over 30 courses make up this semester's ExpressSemester. Courses range from Business and Criminal Justice to History and Psychology.

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CrossWay Assembly of God

Service Times
Sunday School 9:30 am
Sunday Worship Service/ Children's Church 10:30 am
Monday Night Home Bible Study 7 pm
Tuesday Night Youth Home Bible Study 7 pm
Friday Youth Night 7 pm



Ismael Berrios Lead Pastor

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

Email: crosswayaog@aol.com
www.crosswayaog.com



WINTER HOURS FOR ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL

The Little Church with the Big Heart
Sundays, 3 pm: Communion
Music by Susan and Fred Van Wagner
Coffee hour follows service
All are welcome!

For Information: Mother Joan LaLiberté 845-887-4742

5277 State Rt. 42
South Fallsburg

St. Augustine's Chapel

Watson Hollow Rd. • West Shokan, NY

Sunday Mass - 9:30 am
Holy Days 5:30 pm
Penance 9:00 am, 2nd Sunday of the month

Rev. George W. Hommel, Pastor




Sundown United Methodist Church

Sunday Worship Service • 8:30am

Grahamsville United Methodist Church

Sunday Worship Service 10:30am
985-2283

Claryville Reformed Church



Claryville Road
Claryville, NY 12725
845-985-2041

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



Covered Dish Supper

February 4, 2012
5:30 pm
Sundown United Methodist Church
at the Sundown Church Hall



Grahamsville United Methodist Church

Feb 18, 2012
Thrift Sale Only
9 am-1 pm

RAMSAY'S FUNERAL HOMES, INC

Serving Sullivan County Since 1896

66 John Street, Monticello, New York (845) 794-2700
275 S Main Street, Liberty, New York (845) 292-7100
Route 55, Kauneonga Lake, New York (845) 583-5445

CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

(embraces Fallsburg, Neversink, Sundown and Ulster Heights)

6317 Rte. 42, Woodbourne, NY

Weekend Mass schedule:
Saturday afternoon: 5:00.
Sunday morning: 9:00 am and 11:30 am

Holy days of obligation: as announced in church bulletin.

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

Saturday afternoon confessions: 4 to 4:45.

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

Grahamsville Reformed Church

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

Rev. Paul Z. Ruter, Pastor

845-985-7480

Loucks Funeral Home

Geoff and Heather Hazzard & Anthony Perito

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

2

Public Notice:

The Annual Plot-Holders' meeting for the Grahamsville Rural Cemetery will be held on February 9, 2012 at the Neversink Town Hall at 7:00pm.

126; 2/2/12

TRI-VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL
GRAHAMSVILLE, NY 12740
AGENDA
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
February 2, 2012
6:00 p.m. - Policy Sub-Committee
7:00 p.m. - Board Meeting
Secondary School Library Lower Level

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A. GUESTS

B. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Minutes

2. CSE Recommendations

3. Building Use Forms

4. Personnel

o John Tenbus Paternity Leave Request

o Kristin Vetrero - Long-Term Leave

Replacement ES

o Christopher Patete - Long-Term Leave

Replacement ES

o Substitute Aide/Teacher - Mary Beth

Woolsey

o Tutors - Gayle Burger and Michelle Nichols

o Special Education Itinerant Teacher

("SEIT") - Gayle Burger

o Letters of Intent to Retire

1. Elaine Iatauro

2. Dave Moore

3. Sandy Bernstein

4. Patricia Krom

5. Mary Zanetti

6. Paula Gray

7. Marianne Markle

8. Deb Lordi

o Extra-Curricular Spring Coaching Position

Appointments

5. Discards/Obsolete

6. Adult Ed Schedule for Spring Semester

7. Community Survey Results

8. Policy Adoption "7530 - Child Abuse"

9. Policy Adoption "7316 - Personal Electronic

Devices"

10. Policy Section 8000 "Instruction" Adoption

C. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1. Athletic Director

2. Director of Pupil Personnel Services

3. Director of Curriculum and Instruction

4. Elementary Principal

5. Secondary Principal

D. OLD BUSINESS

E. BUSINESS REPORT

1. Warrants

2. Warrant - Non-Check Entries Report

3. Bank Reconciliations for December 2011

4. Cash Receipts Report

5. Revenue Budget Status Reports

6. Appropriation Status Reports

7. Proposal Submitted by Bearsch Compeau

Knudson Architects and Engineers PC for

architectural and engineering services: Roof

Replacement Project - RFP Dated 1/14/12.

F. LATE-BREAKING NEWS

G. EXECUTIVE SESSION

H. ADJOURNMENT

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

The new Sullivan County Legislature had its first true test during the full board meeting this past Thursday, and it failed miserably. The new legislators who campaigned on a platform of openness and integrity in county government literally threw their ethics out the window in less than 30 days. At the center of this controversy is a resolution to put out to bid the Sullivan County Visitors Association contract. This resolution did not appear on any official county agenda, on the county website, or in any official county notice to the public. It was not introduced into one of the legislative committees where it would be discussed openly and then, if passed, sent to the full legislative board for a vote. Instead, it was verbally added as the next to last item at the full legislative board to the amazement of all the citizens gathered in the room. This is exactly what the people voted to change this past November and we have apparently been fooled. Congratulations to Ira Steingardt, Kitty Vetter, John Rouis, and Alan Sorenson. You voted against this charade and your integrity is intact. As for all the other legislators, shame on you!

Etta Barbanti
Liberty, NY

Obama Announces Mortgage Crisis Unit to be Chaired By New York Attorney General Schneiderman

During his State of the Union address President Obama announced the creation of a special unit to investigate misconduct and illegalities that contributed to both the financial collapse and the mortgage crisis.

The office, part of a new Unit on Mortgage Origination and Securitization Abuses, will be chaired by Eric Schneiderman, the New York attorney general, according to a White House official.

Schneiderman is an increasingly beloved figure among progressives for his criticism of a proposed settlement between the 50 state attorneys general and the five largest banks. His presence atop this new special unit could give it immediate legitimacy among those who have criticized the president for being too hesitant in going after the banks and resolving the mortgage crisis. He will be in attendance at Tuesday night's State of the Union address.

"The goal of this joint investigation will be three-fold: to hold accountable any institutions that violated the law; to compensate victims and help provide relief for homeowners struggling from the collapse of the housing market, caused in part by this wrongdoing; and to help us finally turn the page on this destructive period in our nation's history," reads a White House document outlining the objectives.

"This is a big achievement and something the entire progressive advocacy community wanted [with respect to] housing policy," added the White House official.

The unit will not supersede the efforts already underway by the Department of Justice. Instead, it will operate as part of the president's Financial Fraud Enforcement Task Force. In addition to Schneiderman, the unit will be co-chaired by Lanny Breuer, assistant attorney general at the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice, Robert Khuzami, director of enforcement at the SEC, John Walsh, a U.S. attorney in Colorado, and Tony West, assistant attorney general in the Civil Division at DOJ.

News of the new mortgage unit comes amidst reports of a potential settlement between the five biggest banks, the Obama administration and the state attorneys general. Under the deal, banks would agree to follow existing laws against abusive foreclosures and set aside \$25 billion to both help homeowners who are underwater on their homes or who were wrongfully foreclosed. The agreement has been in the works for months, with disagreements over the level of legal immunity granted to banks accused of wrongdoing, and the scope of violations covered by the deal.

Critics of the pending settlement have argued that the president should couple the financial relief for homeowners with a robust law enforcement effort targeting lawbreaking by big banks. Schneiderman has been among the settlement's most prominent critics for months, insisting that a deal not release bankers from criminal charges, and urging Attorney Generals to look into violations outside the foreclosure process, including issuing fraudulent loans and improprieties in the packaging of those loans into complex bonds that would become toxic assets.

Statement by Attorney General Schneiderman on President Obama's State of the Union Address

Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman released the following statement today on President Obama's State of the Union address: "I would like to thank President Obama for his leadership in the creation of a coordinated investigation that marshals state and

federal resources to bring justice for the victims of the misconduct that caused the mortgage crisis.--"In coordination with our federal partners, our office will continue its steadfast commitment to holding those responsible for the economic crisis accountable, providing meaningful relief for homeowners commensurate with the scale of the misconduct, and getting our economy moving again.--"The American people deserve a robust and comprehensive investigation into the global financial meltdown to ensure nothing like it ever happens again, and today's announcement is a major step in the right direction."

Statement from Senator Gillibrand on Insider Trading by Members of Congress

Like millions of American's all across the country, I was shocked to learn that insider trading by members of Congress, their families, or their staff, using non-public information gained through their Congressional work is not clearly and expressly prohibited by law and the rules of Congress.

The American people need to know that their elected leaders play by the exact same rules that they play by. They also deserve the right to know their lawmakers' only interest is what's best for the country, not their own financial interests. Members of Congress, their families and staff shouldn't be able to gain personal profits from information they have access to that everyday middle class families don't. It's simply not right -- nobody should be above the rules. I introduced a bipartisan bill in the Senate with 28 of our colleagues - from both sides of the aisle -- to close this loophole. This STOCK Act legislation is very similar to the legislation introduced by my friends in the House of Representatives, Louise Slaughter and Tim Walz. I want to thank them for their longstanding and dedicated leadership. I want to thank Chairman Lieberman, Ranking Member Collins and all of the Committee members for their work in acting swiftly to move this bipartisan common sense bill to the floor for a vote. I also want to thank Leader Reid for his leadership and support for bringing up this bill before the full Senate. Our bill, which has received the support of at least seven good government advocacy groups, covers two important principles:

- First -- Members of Congress, their families and their staff should be barred from buying or selling securities on the basis of knowledge gained through their Congressional service - or from using that knowledge to tip off anyone else. The SEC and CFTC must be empowered to investigate these cases. To provide additional teeth -- such acts should also be a violation of Congress's own rules, to make clear that this activity is inappropriate.

- And, second, members should be required to disclose major transactions within 30 days and make this information available online for their constituents to see, providing dramatically improved oversight and accountability from the current annual reporting requirements.

I am pleased the final product that passed with bipartisan support in the committee is a strong bill with teeth - and includes measure such as ensuring members of Congress cannot tip off others with non-public information gained through their duties and ensures trading from this information would also be a violation of Congress' own ethics rules.

"Some critics will say this bill is unnecessary and already covered under current statutes."

"I have spoken with experts tasked in the past with investigations of this nature who strongly disagree. We must make it unambiguous that this kind of behavior is illegal. As my home state newspaper the Buffalo News noted, "... the STOCK Act would ensure that it's the people's business being attended to."

President Obama said to us in his State of the Union - send this bill and he'll sign it right away. We shouldn't delay. It is time to act and take a step right now to begin restoring trust to this broken Congress.

ASK brings Local Florists and Artists Together this February and Showcases High School Dark Room Photography

The Arts Society of Kingston (ASK) welcomes "Hearts and Flowers" a members' exhibition with a unique twist, to Main Gallery and "A Light in the Dark", a showcase of local high school darkroom photography to The Members' Lounge during the month of February. The shared opening reception will take place during First Saturday, February 4th, 5-8 pm. Both exhibitions will run until February 25th.

Hearts and Flowers

ASK combines the talent of local florists and local artists this February for the "Hearts and Flowers" Exhibit. Several local flower shops including, Burgevin Florists Inc., Flowers by Maria, Adam's Fairacre Farms, Flower Nest, Bella Flowers and more will create floral arrangements that replicate paintings from the exhibit. The arrangements will be displayed next to the paintings that they mimic. It will bring life to the opening, as the artwork will literally be popping off the canvas! The arrangements will be raffled off during the first Saturday reception.

THE TRI-VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

A Regular Board Meeting
Will be held

On Thursday, February 2, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

A Policy Sub-Committee Mtg. will be before the regular meeting starting at 6:00 p.m.

In the Secondary School Lower Library Level,
Grahamsville, New York

Town of Neversink Parks & Recreation Department
www.townofneversink.org
 (845) 985-2262 extension 312

FREE BINGO Friday, January 27 at Neversink Town Hall 6:30 pm. Please bring a can good for the local food pantry. The prizes are \$5 gift cards to Walmart or McDonalds. Refreshments will be served. Come out for some old-fashion fun! Bring your grandkids!

Maritime Aquarium, CT Saturday-April 21. Leave the Town Hall at 8:30 am-return at approximately 5:30 pm. \$22 residents/\$31 non-residents must be paid no later than February 28 this includes motor-coach transportation & admission.

Westchester Broadway Dinner Theatre-Wednesday, April 25. -*Legally Blond.* Leave the Town Hall 9 am- return at approximately 5:30 pm. \$40 residents/\$53 non-residents must be paid no later than February 28 this includes admission to show, lunch, dessert & motor coach transportation.

Mountain Creek Water Park, NJ - Saturday, August 4 Leave Town Hall 8:30 am-return to Town Hall at approximately 6:30 pm. \$12 residents/\$36 non-residents must be paid no later than June 26 this includes motorcoach transportation and admission.

Permission slips can be downloaded from our website www.townofneversink.org or picked up in the Parks and Recreation office in the Town Hall on Tuesdays from 3 pm to 6 pm. For more information call 985-2262 ext. 312 or email racerj12d@aol.com.

Don't forget FREE FUN every FRIDAY afternoon 1- 4 pm in the upstairs meeting room in the Neversink Town Hall.



Daniel Pierce Library hours of operation beginning September 1, 2011.
 Tuesday: 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
 Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
 Thursday: 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
 Friday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
 Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 Sunday and Monday: Closed
 If you have any questions, please call the library at 985-7233.

The Library Board of Trustees meets at 7:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month. On occasion, a meeting date is changed. Please call ahead to confirm.

AL-ANON MEETINGS -

<http://www.al-anon.alateen.org>
Monday 7:00 p.m. United Methodist Church, 170 N. Main Street, Liberty
Thursday 7:00 p.m. Immaculate Conception Church Annex, 6317 Rt 42, Woodbourne
Saturday 8:00 p.m. United Methodist Church, 170 N. Main Street, Liberty

Pine Hill Potluck Dinner and Presentation for Application to National Register of Historic Places

On Tuesday, February 21, The Pine Hill Main Street Committee will hold a presentation of the application to the National Register of Historic Places for nomination of the Hamlet of Pine Hill, as an Historic District.

The presentation will take place at 7 pm., preceded by a Potluck Dinner at 6 pm. The presentation will include a slide show

SUUJII WA TANSU NI KAGIRU
 answer

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

- 2/1/12 Town of Neversink Planning Board
- 2/3/12 First Friday Readers - Daniel Pierce Library
- 2/4/12 **Sundown Methodist Church Covered Dish Supper** - 5:30 pm Sundown Church Hall
- 2/5/12 Woodbourne Fire Dept Annual Pancake Breakfast 7 am-noon call 434-6763
- 2/8/12 Town of Neversink Board Meeting
- 2/9/12 Claryville Fire District Meeting - 6:30 pm
- 2/16/12 Dept. of Motor Vehicles Neversink Town Hall 10:00 am - 2:30 p.m.
- 2/16/12 Town of Neversink Zoning Board of Appeals(subject to cancellation due to inclement weather)
- 2/18/12 Grahamsville UMC **Thrift Sale only** - 9 am - 1 pm
- 2/19/12 Claryville Fire Dept. **Pancake Breakfast** 7 am - Noon
- 2/20/12 Town of Neversink Holiday - **PRESIDENT'S DAY**
- 2/28/12 Town of Neversink Parks and Recreation 7 pm Town Hall
- 3/21/12 Neversink Rondout Antique Machinery Assoc. Meeting - 7:30 PM (No Meetings until March 2012)

GAMES & SOCIALIZING -FREE FUN every FRIDAY afternoon 1- 4 pm in the upstairs meeting room in the Neversink Town Hall.

To All: Municipalities, Civic Organizations, Churches, etc.
Please remember to send us your Events Calendar for 2012
 so that we may continue to post your meetings and events throughout the coming year.
 You may send them by regular mail: **Townsmen, PO Box 232, Grahamsville, NY 12y40**
 or email: tvtownsman@yahoo.com
 or drop them in the Drop Box on the porch at the Grahamsville 1st Aid Building

Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman is available at the following retail stores and restaurants:

SUNDOWN CAMP & BAIT SHOP
 GRAHAMSVILLE DELI
 GRAHAMSVILLE AUTOMOTIVE
 CANNIE D'S
 BLUE HILL LODGE

ARATI GIFT SHOP (Brickman Rd.)
 VALERO MINI MALL (Loch Sheldrake)
 WOODBOURNE CITGO STATION
 MO'S GAS STATION (Woodbourne)
 P.D. SMITH ENTERPRISE (Woodbourne)
 AGWAY • J.B. MAK (Liberty)

JAMES NAPANOCH GROCERY
 MATTHEW'S PHARMACY
 NAPANOCH APPLIANCE
 PLEASANT STONE FARM
 PETER'S MARKET

NEW LOCATIONS in the TOWN OF OLIVE & SHANDAKEN

The Good Stuff Cafe • Boiceville IGA • J & G Log Homes, LLC • Ange's • Tetta's • Boiceville Florist • Reservoir Music • Snyder's
 Phoenicia Pharmacy • Phoenicia Deli • Mama's Boy • Ricciardella's • Emerson Resort

TOWN OF OLIVE MEETINGS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Town of Olive Board Auditing Meeting every **second Monday of each month.** This meeting is open to the public and all bills being reviewed are available for the general public to see.

Town Board meets **every second Tuesday of each month.** Both meetings begin at 7:30 PM at the Town Hall on Bostock Road, Shokan, NY.

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

Town of Denning Message Board: <http://www.denning.us>
Town of Neversink Website: <http://townofneversink.org>
Daniel Pierce Library - <http://www.danielpiercelibrary.org>
Time and The Valleys Museum - <http://timeandthevalleysmuseum.org>
Tri-Valley CSD: <http://tvcs.k12.ny.us>
Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman On-Line Edition:
<http://thetownsman.com>

about the application and a question and answer opportunity with state officials about the Historic District process. The application is a document that contains a wealth of detailed information about Pine Hill, including a full inventory of Pine Hill's buildings stating the year built, architectural style, and early owners. Each property owner in the district can look up the individual history of his or her building.

Since October of 2009, the Pine Hill Main Street Committee has been working with the Ulster County Planning Department to learn how to improve the vitality of Pine Hill's Main St. Over 30 residents participated in meetings with a core team that has met monthly to explore ideas for fostering economic activity and civil pride in the hamlet.

In November of 2010 the group presented the historic district project to the Shandakan Town Board. With the help of the Pine Hill Community Center, they were able to get foundation funding and support from local residents to hire a local firm, Larson Fisher to prepare the application. A mass mailing to Pine Hill residents about the program in December 2010 and two public meetings in January 2011 served to assist in the information gathering. The Town Historian and informal historians provided valuable resources to help create a strong application.

Jan Jaffe, who provided strong leadership throughout the process says, "We've come a long way done a lot of work to get to where we are today. The application is an exciting document. Our next step is to create a walking tour of Pine Hill that will point out the many interesting buildings and the history behind them."

Designation as a Historic District puts a community on the map for those who visit the area and are interested seeking out villages and hamlets of special interest, but there are no additional governmental regulations on what a property owner can do or not with their residential or commercial property. The hamlet incurs no additional costs as a result of historic designation. Owners who choose to fix up their property qualify for a 20% state tax credit, and commercial owners qualify for an additional 20% federal tax credit. Public and private programs exist to support rehabilitation of properties in historic districts and Pine Hill property owners would qualify.

Sullivan BOCES Career & Technical Education SkillsUSA Roast Beef Dinner

LIBERTY: On Wednesday evening, February 8, 2012, the SkillsUSA chapter of Career and Technical Education at Sullivan BOCES will host its famous roast beef dinner in the Career & Tech Dining Room at the Rubin Pollack Education Center in Liberty. (Snow date February 9th)

Take out dinners will be available between the hours of 3:30 P.M. and 7:30 P.M.; sit down dinners will be available from 5:00 P.M. to 7:30 P.M. The cost is \$10.00 per dinner. The meal will consist of Roast beef with gravy, baked potato, vegetable, roll, and dessert, all prepared by Culinary Arts students and staff. This popular mouthwatering event will have limited quantities. For additional information or to buy tickets, please call 295-4152. Participants will also have the opportunity to take part in two other events that evening.

In the Career & Tech Dining Room, there will be a Career

& Tech Program Expo which will contain various program displays, student projects, and demonstrations, in addition to blood pressure screenings by our Health Occupations students and paraffin dips and manicures from our cosmetology.

In classroom B1, our new Polar Heart Technology, under the supervision of our physical education staff, will be available for individuals to try. The Polar Heart Technology will allow you to measure your height, weight, bicep strength, body fat percentage, take a "risk for heart disease" test, and print out a personalized computer generated fitness status that you can take with you. You will even have the opportunity to try out our new activity monitors and computer programs. All for free!

The Polar Heart Technology was purchased through the Carol M. White Physical Education Program Grant (PEP Grant). This three year federal grant provides money to school districts and the BOCES to improve the quality of the Physical Education Programs being offered to students.

The grant provides staff and teacher training and education and the purchase of curriculum, equipment and supplies that will enable students to actively participate in Physical Education activities. Sullivan BOCES is in the second year of the grant.

SkillsUSA is a national nonprofit organization serving high school and college students who are preparing for careers in trade, technical and skilled service occupations, including health occupations. This year is the first year that all Career & Tech students are members of our SkillsUSA chapter.

For more information on dinner or the programs available through the Career & Tech Program browse our website at www.scboces.org or call 295-4152. For information about PEP Grant contact Sharon Branning at 295-4022. For program updates, become a fan of Sullivan County BOCES on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

Join the Blast! Celebrate Washington's Birthday

A celebration of Washington's Birthday is being planned for Saturday Feb 18 at Person House in Kingston, at John and Crown St.(coinciding with the indoor Farmer's Market). It will be members of the First Ulster and members of the 16th Queens Light Dragoons (British Unit) who will be doing musket demos, some drills, perhaps a small cannon firing, and recruiting new members. There might even be firing a couple of salutes to the War Veterans buried in the Old Dutch Church yard. The expect to be there from 10am until 3 or 4pm and hope to get a good number of the public to come out and interact with them as they honor the Father of our Country.



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FOR SALE: Prime Commercial Property in Grahamsville



NEW! - Just listed - Private, out-of-the-way, 3 bedroom, on 3 acres along the banks of the East Branch of the Neversink River.

If privacy is your game, this property is situated in one of the most private parts in Ulster County on a dead end street.

CountryHouse REALTY 7991 State Rte 55
 Grahamsville, NY 845.985.5116

- Grahamsville/Claryville/Sundown/Napanoch:**
- NEW Farmhse on 108 acs with stunning views, barns. \$659k
 - NEW 2BR seasonal cabin on 3 acs, fpl, screened porch. \$115k
 - NEW 2BR former schoolhouse on 3 acs along creek. \$59k
 - NEW Former church approved as 1 BR home. \$69k
 - Bright 3 bed/1 ba cottage on 4.5 acres adj State. \$99k
 - Working farm featuring 163 bucolic acres, farmhouse with exceptional views, barns, sugar house, etc.. \$1.378m
 - REDUCED 3BR/1BA authentic log cabin on 20+ acs with fpl, skylights, woods that end at the Neversink River. \$299k
 - REDUCED Spacious 4-5 BR/2BA turnkey colonial on 5+ level acres w/lg sep garage, in quiet Grahamsville n'hood. \$287,000
 - Beautifully-updated 3 BR G'vl Victorian in town with outbuildings, ample parking, creek and lawn. A gem. \$219,000
 - REDUCED 3BR/2BA contemp farmhouse on 100+ acres with spectacular views, 2 ponds, adj to State land, +cottage. \$649k
 - 3BR/2BA Wonderful home privately set on ~8 acres with screened gazebo, fireplace, 1 mi to Rondout. \$299,000
 - UNDER CONTRACT Basic hunting cabin on 3.6 acs. \$49,500

For our full roster of real estate listings, visit our site:
www.CountryHouseRealty.net
 Jennifer C. Grimes • Licensed Broker • GREEN® • CBR

RENTALS

BUILDING FOR RENT: In **Grahamsville** (Old Post Office) Rent - 985-7411.

FOR RENT: 1 - 2 bedroom apartment 1 - 3 bedroom apartment. Call 845-985-0107.

Charming 3 bedroom house for rent on Denman Mt. Road. This two-story Cape Cod includes a kitchen, living room, dining room, den with fireplace and a large yard adjacent to NYC DEP land. Beautiful red oak floors throughout the house and lots of windows. \$1,000/month. (845) 985-0370

Classic Alpine Chalet-Fantastic Panoramic View 2/3 bedrooms, 2 baths, LR/DR Comb., Fieldstone Fireplace, Country Kitchen, Den, English Pub, Laundry, Detached Garage. \$1350 per month, Utilities extra. Security and references required. For Appointment call 985-2433. tfnb

2nd Floor in town. Quiet single preferred. \$650 includes heat. No pets. Available soon:

2 Bedroom trailer on creek. Newly renovated. No pets. \$750 + utilities.

2 Bedroom trailer: No pets- \$700 + utilities

2 Bedroom duplex Huge bedroom up, large bedroom 1st floor. \$700 + utilities. No Pets, Security & References 985-2941.

1+ bedroom house in woods, private; long driveway, 30+ acres. Available after November 1. Wood stove & oil heat. \$800 + utilities. Security, references. 693-4464 b2/23ct

FORSALE

Get ready for SRING! 1995 Suzuki GSX 600 Katana Red/Black \$2000 (845) 985-0201.

Electric Guitar Jackson Kelly 6-string Black & Blue Striped Coffin Case - for more information call 845-866-0699. tfn

Black Leather Couch - 91" - 2 years old. Excellent condition. 985-7189

YOGA/REIKI CLASSES/HEALTH

YOGA • REIKI

Close to Neversink Dam on Lindholm Rd

Yoga Class schedule:

Mon, Wed & Sat a.m. - Tues & Thurs p.m
 Includes gentle stretches to ease and prevent back & joint pain.

Reiki energy sessions by appointment

Please call for details
 JOY 845 292 7870

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



For more information call:
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 DONA Trained Doula Services
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beautyofbirthdoula@yahoo.com

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Knarf's Classic Movie Trivia - My Fair Lady (1964)

A film with some of the best belly laughs ever, a phonetics instructor bets that he can pass a street urchin off as a lady. Directed by George Cukor Starring Audrey Hepburn, Rex Harrison, Stanley Holloway. On TCM this Saturday February 4, 2012 at 8:00 PM, C-172 min Rated, TV-G

Quiz:

- A.** Name the actor who played Colonel Pickering?
- B.** Name the actor who played Alfred Doolittle?

What's going on in the Gnome Gneighborhood™ this week?

LIBERTY - Charlie's Restaurant and Pizzeria is getting a face-lift to bring you more room to party, and party you will with great Italian food, music and open mike on Saturday nights. Come around to our back entrance through our Catering Hall and enjoy! **Charlie's Restaurant and Pizzeria**, 77 North Main Street Liberty NY Tel. 845.292.1112

SUNDOWN - This Saturday, February 4, 2012 Sundown Methodist Church **Covered Dish Supper** - 5:30 pm at the Sundown Church Hall

CLARYVILLE -Claryville Fire Department Pancake Breakfast on Feb 19, from 7am to Noon Adults \$7, children under 12 yrs - \$3, and Under 5 free. \$50 from this breakfast will be donated to the local food pantry.

WOODBOURNE - Woodboure Fire Department Annual Pancake Breakfast - Saturday, February 5th, 2012 - from 7 am to 12 - Only \$7 for adults, children 12, and under \$4, and children under 5- FREE. Call 434-6763. Take outs are available this is their.

PHOENICIA - Phoenicia Deli on Main Street ask Margaret and Wilfred for their suggestions of the finest in old world German cold cuts, and many other hard to find treats.

Have a good week!

Stay safe,

Knarf Odnaroc Gnome

ANSWER TO KNARF'S MOVIE TRIVIA

A. Wilfred Hyde-White
B. Stanley Holloway