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Tri

Ye Olde GOAMSOWAN

Valley

"The Best Journal Published by a Dam Site!"

VOL. 8 NO. 3

GRAHAMSVILLE, NY 12740

JANUARY 19, 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

Newly Elected Town of Olive Officials Sworn In



Don Van Buren, Peter Friedel, Ron Wright and Bert Leifeld at Swearing In January 3, 2012

Don Van Buren, who won Henry Rank's seat, and incumbent Peter Friedel were sworn in as Town Councilman. Town Justice, Tim Cox, administered the oath of office to the newly elected town board members who join Bruce La Monda and Linda Burkhardt. Ron Wright, veteran Town Justice, and Bert Leifeld, Town Supervisor, vowed to

continue their service to the Town of Olive. Supervisor Leifeld assigned duties to the Town Board Members and read the positions and salaries of all town employees. The first regular Town of Olive Board Meeting this year was held on Tuesday, January 10, 2012.

An Effort to Save The Halls Mills Bridge is in the Bag!



The Halls Mills Covered Bridge, completed in 1912, sits beside County Route 19 and spans the main stem of the Neversink River in Claryville, New York. As one of the state's twenty-one remaining covered bridges, it has stood for 100 years. Though retired from use in the late 1950s, it stands in quiet beauty, a stunning part of the region's history.

When Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee passed through in August 2011, high waters and large trees passed downriver severely damaging one of the original stone abutments. What remains must hold the weight of the 90 ton bridge through the winter. The New York State Covered Bridge Society has begun a tax deductible 501 c (3) account to fund restoration work on Halls Mills Covered Bridge. (Contd. Pg. 3)

Searching For Our Roots --Historian Carol Smythe

I'm looking for Indian rock caves and petroglyph rock drawings. Recent conversations with Bob and Andrea Eddings and Bob's mother, Diane, took me in the direction of petroglyph rock drawings. Rich Rulli called me about a week ago and started talking Indian rock caves. Several years ago, I had the pleasure of being taken to one and being able to enter and take photos. However, the owner of the property felt she could not give me permission to do anything more than that due to potential liability on her part. (Contd. Pg. 3)

Mike Hein to Host Public Forum With Concerns with NYC DEP

Ulster County Executive Mike Hein will host a public forum on area concerns with the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYC DEP) on Monday, January 23, 2012 at 6:00 pm at the John Quimby Theatre, Ulster County Community College, Vanderlyn Hall, 491 Cottekill Road Stone Ridge, NY 12484-5103 The County Executive will be joined by other upstate leaders, NYC DEP representatives and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation senior staff. The event will afford attendees the opportunity to have their voices heard and to ask important questions.

Catskill Artists Gallery Becomes a Gallery Without Walls

The Catskill Artists Gallery is closing its Liberty exhibition space this month. Final day for the public is January 29. Closing the gallery means emptying the space, so most artists and craftspeople have heavily discounted their work. Help them have a light moving load and visit 38 South Main Street in Liberty to take advantage of this sale. The up-coming weekend of January 20-23 is an excellent shopping time. Don't forget Valentine's Day gift selection!

CAG will continue as a gallery-without-walls offering exhibitions in appropriate local venues. Stay tuned for announcements about our 2012 exhibitions.

On the left, "Cool Relief" is a piece of Robert Friedman's work. It is a great time to purchase some of Robert's work magnificent artwork, as it is now 30% off the original price.



"Cool Relief" part of Robert Friedman's collection of work that can be seen at CAG in Liberty.

Act of Honesty Results in SC Sheriff Dept. Recognition



LIBERTY - Back in September, Joseph Bailey, an eleventh grade Monticello student, was walking through the parking lot at the Rubin Pollack Education Center when he noticed a thick bank envelope. Inside the envelope was \$500 cash.

Instead of putting the money in his pocket, he turned it in to his teacher. When Joe speaks about what happened, he speaks as if it wasn't a big deal - he was just walking and noticed how thick the envelope was and immediately, without giving it a second thought, turned it into his teacher. "I feel ten times better than if I would have if I had kept it," said Bailey. (Contd. Pg. 3)

Order of the Eastern Star Presents a Check to Alex's Lemonade Stand



The Order of the Eastern Star is a fraternal organization affiliated with the Free & Accepted Masons Organization. It has three Principles of Charity, Truth and Loving Kindness to its members and those in their communities.

Shown in the picture are Janet R. Siano and John J. Whitner, 2011 Grand Matron and Grand patron, presenting a check in the amount of \$500 to Joan Archer, a representative of Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation.

This organization was founded by Alexandra Scott with the hope of finding a cure for childhood cancer. Prior to her death, she held Lemonade Stands and was instrumental in raising one-million dollars.

Through the efforts of the members of the Order of the Eastern Star, a total of \$35,000 was raised for Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation.

YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN
OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER FOR

THE TOWN OF DENNING AND THE TOWN OF NEVERSINK
Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman (USPS #009 398 - ISSN 1558-9013) is published weekly except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's week for \$25.00 per year by Gnome Home, Inc.. Periodical postage paid at Grahamsville, NY. POSTMASTER: Send change of address to:

The Townsman • P.O. Box 232 • Grahamsville, NY 12740
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DAYS OF 'YORE' - Barbara Slater
GETTING IN TOUCH WITH NATURE - Peggy DeWire
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LEGALS - Gloria Beavers
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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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ADDRESS _____

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SUBSCRIPTIONS: **\$25.00 PER YEAR**

NEW _____ RENEWAL/DATE EXP. _____ Check # _____

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: Praise ye the Lord, Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord, that delighteth greatly his commandments.
Psalm 112:1

OBITUARY

Neal E. Small of Claryville and Brooklyn, NY died on Saturday, January 7th in Long Island College Hospital in Brooklyn of heart failure. He was 89 years of age. Neal is descended through the Hall family on his mother's side. His ancestor, John Hall, was part of the early Denman group of Homestead Settlers from England in the 1790's. The Hall family has continuously owned property and lived in the general area of Claryville since that time. He is the son of Capt. Elmer B. Small and Victoria E. Hall.

Neal is survived by his former wife, Joan C. Small and their two children, Thomas K. Small, Lucy J. Small and her husband, Samuel K. Polach and one granddaughter, Cordelia M. Polach all of Claryville and Brooklyn, NY.

A Memorial Service will be held in Brooklyn in February.

A donation in Memory can be made to:
Friends of Cape Cod Highland Light
P.O. Box 1123
Truro, MA 02666

**DAYS OF YORE...
Today's History**

January 16, 1952 - The first broadcast of news of Grahamsville and the Tri Valley area went on the air Saturday from 1:20 to 1:30 p.m. over WVOS. If you have news, call your regular Townsman correspondent or Mrs. Charles Rose, Grahamsville 2385.

William Green, age seventy-eight, died at his home east of Liberty on Wednesday, Jan. 9th following a long illness. He was born in the Town of Denning on November 5, 1873, the son of Seth Green and Maria DeWitt Green. He was united in marriage to Alice Deveney at Liberty forty-one years ago. Surviving besides his widow are four sons: Kenneth and Peter of Woodbourne; Joseph and William of Liberty and one daughter, Ruth wife of Charles Cross of Grahamsville.

Carl Carlsen of South Hill was elected vice president of Clayton's Military Band of Ellenville recently. Carl has played the clarinet for several years.

The Rev. John Carter was moved up to the office of President of the Sullivan County Pastors Association to fill the unexpired term of the current president.

January 17, 1962 - Several works of art by Manville B. Wakefield will be exhibited in the Assembly Hall of the State Capitol Building in Albany. Mr. Wakefield learned of his selection recently from State Assemblyman Hyman Mintz.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard H. Yarned of Rock Royal have announced the engagement of their daughter, Dawn Irene to Peter Robert Pezzella, son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter G. Pezzella of Sundown Road, Grahamsville. Miss Yarnes is a graduate of Walton Central School and is employed by the National Bank of Liberty. Mr. Pezzella attended Tri Valley Central School and is employed by the N.Y.C. Dept. of Water Supply. No date has been set for the wedding.

Mr. and Mrs. Al Kowalik of Woodbourne announce the engagement of their daughter, Barbara to Peter Anderson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Holger Anderson Sr. of Oak Ridge. The prospective bride was graduated from Tri Valley Central School and attended Evangel College, Springfield, Missouri. Mr. Anderson is a graduate of Ellenville High School and Northrup Institute of Technology, Hawthorne, California.

January 19, 1972 - The annual Tri-Valley F.F.A. speaking contest held on Thursday was won by Pat Gorman. Pat was one of ten contestants. The title of her speech was "The Fight Against Hunger."

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel J. Messinger of Grahamsville wish to announce the engagement of their daughter, Karen to Mr. Joseph V. Provenzon, son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel J. Provenzon of Sidney, N.Y. Karen, a 1968 graduate of Tri-Valley Central School, is

now a senior at the State University College at Oneonta and will graduate in June. Her fiancé is a 1967 graduate of Sidney High School and a 1970 graduate in computer programming from Cybernetics Institute in Albany, N.Y. A fall wedding is planned.

Happy Anniversary to Mr. and Mrs. Tom Henderson, 7 years on January 23rd; Mr. and Mrs. Edward DuBois, 24 years on the 25th; and to Mr. and Mrs. Harold Buley, 8 years on the 26th.

January 21, 1982 - Grace W. Newman of Grahamsville, a 30-year area resident, died unexpectedly Wednesday in Hammond, La. She was 77. The daughter of the late Sam and Winifred Gallagher Britton, she was born Nov. 22, 1904 in N.Y.C. She was the widow of George Newman. Survivors include 3 sons: George Jr. of Ellenville, Ronald and Barry Newman both Grahamsville; 4 daughters: Sherri Joines of Georgia, Grace Marshall of Calif., Delores Smith of Texas and Rosalind Klinger of Walton, N.Y.; 22 grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

Grace Hamilton of Liberty, a lifelong area resident, died Tuesday at the Walnut Mt. Care Center, Liberty. She was 84. The daughter of the late Albie and Cora Hall, she was born Feb. 28, 1897 in Grahamsville. Mrs. Hamilton was the widow of Francis Hamilton. Survivors include 3 sons: Charles and Frank both of New Paltz and Clinton of Raleigh, N.C.; two daughters, Cora Greene and Alice Many both of Liberty; a brother, Archie Hall of Ellenville.

Francine and Carl Hornbeck of Myers Rd., Neversink, announce the birth of their daughter, Kristie Lynn Hornbeck on Dec. 25, 1981 at Harris Hospital. She weighed 6 lbs. 14 oz and was 19 1/2 inches long. The proud paternal grandparents are Burr and Florence Hornbeck of Myers Rd. and equally proud maternal grandparents are Leo and Virginia Rexford, Jr. of Hasbrouck Rd., Woodbourne.

**Tri-Valley Teachers' Association
CARES Committee Says "Thanks!"
for the Holiday Generosity**

Though we are well into the new year, it is still not too late to say a big THANKS to the entire Tri-Valley school community for its generosity during the holiday season.

On December 21st, 52 families picked up either a lasagna or turkey dinner plus holiday gifts for their children at the Grahamsville United Methodist Church hall.

About fifty school employees, several community organizations including four departments from the Frost Valley YMCA, a business in Grahamsville called N.A.E.S., the Reformed Church, the Neversink Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary, the Maxxon Corporation, and many community members adopted 115 Tri-Valley children providing clothing, toys, winter wear, and other holiday gifts.

Funds donated to TVTA Cares were also used to purchase additional gift items. The FBLA helped out by wrapping many of the gifts, especially the "last minute" additions. One staff member and her mom made 10 polar fleece blankets. A local grandma knitted nearly 100 sets of mittens.

The dinners of turkey & trimmings or lasagna were made possible by donations from employees, clubs and community groups such as the Grahamsville Reformed Church, The Neversink Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary, The Claryville Quilters, The Sullivan County Long Beards, and the Grahamsville United Methodist Church (they not only donated food but also worked with us to put the food baskets together), the FFA (fruit baskets), and the FCCLA (pies and cookie platters).

Thanks to the Eastern Correctional employees who, along with our staff members, donated used coats which were available to families on distribution day.

Thanks to those who delivered the gifts and meals to the families without transportation or who helped distribute from the church hall.

Truly, it was a community-wide effort reflective of the type of "family" Tri-Valley is.

NEVERSINK NEWS - Hulda Vernooy

No news this week.
(Call Hulda at 985-2268 with your Neversink news.)

Searching For Our Roots (From Pg. 1)

In the meantime, if you would like to see what I am talking about, issue 92 of "Ancient American" has some photos of New England's Ancient Stone Builders caves. I will leave that at Neversink Town Hall so you can take a look. (The Indian rock cave that I visited has a different type of interior ceiling than the one described in "Ancient American".) As for petroglyph rock drawings, a book titled "Weird New York" includes a photo of a petroglyph rock at Claryville.

Am looking for a little clarity on Aden. Who out there can tell me more about Aden? Would appreciate your comments on this.

The "Save the Bridge" cloth bag is now available for sale at Neversink Town Hall as a fundraiser for the Halls Mills Covered Bridge. This is a handsome roomy bag that sells for \$20. Rondout-Neversink Stream Management took responsibility for having the bag made. \$10 of every sale goes directly to the Halls Mills Covered Bridge Fund. It is a nice opportunity to help the bridge.

I want to pay tribute to Keith Carlsen, who passed away recently. Keith worked very hard to put the early *Townsmen* issues in a user-friendly form so that research could be done more easily. He often would go through the old *Townsmen* issues and pick out interesting items, which he then shared with his contemporaries from Tri Valley Central School. It was so nice to have a younger person like Keith become interested in an aspect of history. His work will help researchers for years and years.

Some questions in my last column have now been answered. Jeff Constant tells me that he remembers hearing the phrase "Jesus H Christ" being used as "Jesus Holy Christ". Truly a mild epithet by today's standards. Keith Stryker came up with the answer to the remnants of a lid found up in the Sugar Loaf by Bernard Hettrick. Keith found a butter churn lid photo that proves beyond a doubt that Dave Forshay's quick guess was correct. I'll leave a copy of the photo at town hall in case you want to see it.

Roger Edwards caught up with me at town hall one day. He had a rolled-up traced copy of a large map under his arm. The copy was of a 1794 map of the East Division of Great Lot No 4 of the Hardenbergh Patent. Roger was kind enough to allow me to photocopy this treasure. It even includes the lot that went to Christopher Darrow, teacher in the first school in Neversink. Roger felt that he also has the answer to my search for Chamber Pot Hill, if you remember that story. He showed me how it could have been the road going down the hill to Hasbrouck. Supposedly, there was an early tavern in Hasbrouck when there really didn't seem to be a tavern in early Neversink. History can be fun!

Last but not least, the museum is moving forward very quickly on the lower level or watershed floor. You, dear readers, can help out. If you have any information or artifacts pertaining to the building of the Rondout and the Neversink, please let us know. We have already received some wonderful information, but we would like much more. If you are waiting to donate or loan an item or items from either valley or have photos, maps, journals or other written material, time is short on this. Your help is crucial.

Save The Halls Mills Bridge (From Pg. 1)

To aid in the efforts to Save The Halls Mills Bridge, the River Bag was recently produced by Sullivan County Soil & Water Conservation District. It's big enough to carry everything you need for your next outing to river or reservoir, toting your fishing gear, towels and good-sized picnic while helping a worthy community cause. The cost of the bag is \$20, with \$10 of that going directly to The New York State Covered Bridge Society.

The Rondout Neversink Stream Program, based in Grahamsville, is a project of Sullivan County Soil & Water Conservation District funded by New York Cit DEP. to provide the community with technical assistance and education for long-term stewardship and water quality protection on the Chestnut, Rondou and Neversink Rivers. For more information on how you can help save this historic treasure, email savehallsmills@gmail.com. Photos of the bridge can be viewed at www.hallsmillsbridge.com.

River Bags are currently available at Neversink Town Hall, with plans to expand offerings to other locations upon request by calling Karen Rauter at 985-2581 or emailing krauter@rondoutneversink.org.

Act of Honesty (From Pg. 1)

The news of Joe's act spread quickly. When the School Resource Officer, Deputy Peter Ramos, heard of Joe's act of honesty he immediately took action by telling his fellow officers. A special presentation was held to present Joseph Bailey with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Sullivan County Sheriff's Department and \$50 from the Police Benevolent Association (PBA) for his actions. Among those present to see Joe receive his award were his mother, Lauren Bailey, his Aunt Carol Sadowski and his Uncle Bill Wieninger.

Even though Joe admits that he typically looks down at the ground when he walks in hopes of finding money, he never intended to keep the money. "You are better off making the right choices. You sometimes get rewarded but if not you are able to feel good about your choice an sometimes that is so much better than the reward," stated Joe Bailey.

According to Joe's mom, Lauren Bailey, "Joe is the type of person who is always looking out for others. He is always there to help in any way he can."

The money was returned to the individual who accidentally dropped the envelope.

ERH Partners with the Center for Donation & Transplant to Honor Those Who Donate Life.

In 2012, Ellenville Regional Hospital is partnering with the Center for Donation & Transplant (CDT) to honor patients and their families that choose to give the gift of life through organ or tissue donation. Ellenville Regional Hospital will recognize its organ and tissue donors by flying a Donate Life Flag in their honor each time a donation is facilitated at the hospital in 2012. After the flag has been flown it will be given to the donor's family in memory of their loved one, as part of an aftercare packet designed to help families cope with their grief. Ellenville Regional Hospital will also fly the flag during National Donate Life Month in April to help raise awareness of the life-saving benefits of organ and tissue donation. "I am thrilled that Ellenville Regional Hospital is recognizing the life-saving benefits of organ and tissue donation by flying the Donate Life Flag in honor of their donors," said Jeffrey Orlowski, Chief Executive Officer of CDT. "The flags provide awareness of the importance of donation and also serve as a symbol of respect for those who have given the gift of life. The families of our donors find it very meaningful to receive the flag in recognition of their loved one."

To thank Ellenville Regional Hospital's for its support of CDT's mission, CDT has dedicated a rose in honor of Ellenville Regional Hospital's donors that will be placed on the Donate Life Float in the 2012 Rose Parade. 2012 marks the ninth year that the donation and transplant community has participated in the Rose Parade through the Donate Life Float, which is designed to inspire more than 30 million U.S. television viewers to give the gift of life. Ellenville Regional Hospital's dedicated rose will join hundreds of others from across the nation to create a living memorial called the "Family Circle Garden" that is incorporated into the float. For more information about the Donate Life Float, or to read Ellenville Regional Hospital's rose dedication, visit the Donate Life Float website at www.donatelifefloat.org.

"Long Dinner Table"

Thursday, January 19, Eureka will host its first "Long Table Dinner", which seats guests communally at long tables as a way for people in this sometimes isolated area to catch up with neighbors and to meet new people. This will be a fun event for people new to the area, singles, and anyone else who values getting out and about during these long January evenings and interacting with new people.

Reservations are encouraged to guarantee seating. For more information call 845.985.515 Email: eureka-market@me.com; www.eureka-market.com and follow us on Facebook

SLAC Meeting January 27th

SLAC, The Senior Legislative Action Committee of Sullivan County, invites you to our first meeting of 2012 on Friday, January 27th at 10 am at the Legislative Hearing Room of the Government Center in Monticello.

Our speaker will be our Assemblywoman, Aileen Guthrie, bringing us up-to-date on current issues in Albany.

We will also review the status of federal issues, including Social Security, Medicaid and Medicare.

Please join us so we together can be an informed voice for seniors and our families. Our meetings are free and open to all.

Our winter meetings will be cancelled if there is inclement weather. Please check with the Office for the Aging, 807-0241.

SLAC, P O box 1065, South Fallsburg, NY 12779 is affiliated with StateWide Senior Action Council.

A POND IN WINTER

By Peggy DeWire



As I drove past a familiar roadside pond that cold day, I saw it was covered with ice and nothing moved. Quite a contrast to the lively place I remembered last summer with frogs and toads, turtles and dragonflies.

What was going on under the ice? How had the water changed? Was there enough food and warmth for pond life to survive in the winter?



A permanent pond has water 6-10 feet deep year round. It maintains fairly even temperatures with gradual seasonal changes. Light penetrates the shallow depths to the bottom so that plants grow from bank to bank.

The temperature of the water determines what level it occupies in the pond. A cold water layer at 39 degrees is the heaviest and drops to the bottom taking a myriad of tiny organisms down to winter safely in the mud.

A warm water layer at 32 degrees floats at surface level and freezes over, covering the pond with a blanket that keeps warmth from radiating out into the colder air above.

Enough winter sunlight filters through the ice for plants to make their own green food (photosynthesis). This ensures great plant crops of one-cell algae and diatoms harvested by small organisms which in turn feed bigger ones like frogs, turtles and fishes.

There are thousands of transparent diatoms in one glass of water. These micro-plants reproduce by the millions to form half the staple food crop in pond water.

Completing the other half are millions of one-cell animals called protozoan. They convert into protein pond water gases like oxygen and dissolved chemicals like calcium.

So pond life, eat or be eaten, still goes on in winter but at a much slower pace. Food is plentiful. Temperature stabilizes at 32 degrees. Oxygen level is maintained by the wonderful respiration exchanged between plants and animals. Plants breathe in carbon dioxide and expel oxygen while animals inhale oxygen and exhale carbon dioxide.

The animals I saw last summer around the pond are all hibernating now, their body metabolism slowed.

Frogs bury themselves in the bottom mud and breathe through their skin. Turtles cover themselves too and extract oxygen through the extra blood vessels lining their neck and from body tissues. In fact, by the end of winter, a turtle has so shrunken that it hardly fits in its shell.

Pond insects in the larva stage crawl in the detritus on the bottom or cling to plant stems where they suck sap.

I drove on thinking that life in the pond under the ice is truly as lively in winter as summer.

Helpful Hints - Sock it Two You!

Use that spare sock over your hand, like a glove for dusting. You can now get into those little nooks and crannies and this is a great way to dust the rungs on chairs, or even venetian blinds

Use a sock to make a wrist rest. Cut the cuff off an adult size sock. Tie a tight knot in one end. Fill with rice. Tie a tight knot as tight as you can to the other side. Keep this by your computer and use it as a wrist rest when you use your mouse.

Use a sock over an ice pack. Make a rice sock. Fill a sock with rice and then tie a tight knot in the opened end. You can either put it in the microwave and heat it for two to three minutes or you can freeze it.

Before throwing that broken glass in the garbage, put it in an old sock; that way the person who is taking out the garbage is a lot less likely to get cut.

When moving heavy furniture over a wood floor, put old socks over the legs to prevent scratching the floor.

If you are going to lay a ladder against a wall, place a sock over the ends of the ladder and secure them with rubber bands.

MYSTERIOUS BOOK REPORT NO. 32

by John Dwaine McKenna



Every fiction writer who's ever lived strives to create an alternate universe so compelling that the reader gets lost in it on the first page, and doesn't emerge until the very last word is read. Then, you know you've had a good, and enjoyable, reading experience. But, when the writing is so well done, and the alternate universe is so intense, so real, that the characters seem like old friends; when you become so invested in the story you don't want it to end . . . then you're reading a great book . . . written by a master of the craft at the top of their game. This week's MBR No. 32 will review such a novel, by just such an author. He's a man *The Denver Post* named "America's Best Novelist." A man who's been called a genius, named a grandmaster by the Mystery Writers of America, received a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship, as well as numerous other awards, grants and accolades. He's the author I personally admire the most; one whose books I've not only read, I've read many of them twice . . . the highest praise I can think of. His name is James Lee Burke, and his newest novel is *Feast Day of Fools*, (Simon & Schuster, \$26.00, 463 pages, ISBN 978-1-4516-4311-4). It's arguably his best one to date. In it, small town sheriff Hackberry Holland patrols a large area along the Texas-Mexico border. He's an anachronism, a throwback to an earlier time, and an honorable older man who's scourging himself in the present for his actions as a dishonorable younger man; a man haunted in the present by the ghosts of his past. His adversaries include a Russian crime oligarch, drug smuggling Mexican cartels, a crazed mestizo assassin who's carrying around a wooden box containing the remains of his dead children, killed in a nameless Central-American war by US helicopter gunships, and a messianic serial killer: Preacher Jack Collins, a sociopathic murderer toting a Thompson submachine gun. The novel is allegorical in nature, addressing some of the most controversial and divisive issues of our time; illegal immigration, governmental authority, drugs and religious differences to mention but a few. Burke's style is lyrical, and his characters are some of the most complex, tragic and flawed you'll ever encounter. He'll keep you reading far into the night and examining your moral values long after you've finished the book. *Feast Day of Fools* may be his best ever. A gem from my favorite author and one of my selections for Best Book of the Year, 2011.

You can find other books by James Lee Burke as well as thousands of other authors at your local library. Books are where you can associate with genius, learn to think for yourself, get smarter . . . and it won't cost you one penny . . . all at the library.

You can find all the Mysterious Book Reports on my website: johndwainemckenna.com you can ask a question, comment on a book, gripe, whine, gossip or whatever. You'll find reading lists, best books of the year and copies of *The Neversink Chronicles*. You can do all of it the traditional way at P.O. Box 2406, Colorado Springs, CO 80901. However you choose to do it, we'd love to hear from you. You'll hear from me next week, with a brand-new Mysterious Book Report. Stay warm, and snuggle up with a good book. --JDM

SUNY Sullivan Onboard with SUNY Chancellor.

Loch Sheldrake (January 10, 2012) - Nancy L. Zimpher, SUNY Chancellor, delivered her State of the University Address, Monday (January 9), and what she had to say resonated with SUNY Sullivan's interim president, Dr. William Murabito.

"If Governor Cuomo was right on target with what he had to say in his State of the State Address, Chancellor Zimpher hit the bull's-eye in her State of the University Address," Murabito said. "Both her short- and long-term goals will, without a doubt, not only make the SUNY system stronger, they will benefit both the public and private sectors across the Empire State."

Zimpher's speech covered the gamut, from reducing costs and increasing retention and graduate rates to investigating new avenues for shared services and making a college education accessible to all New Yorkers. In her remarks,

The chancellor coined a new term for 2012 that she called "systemness." Zimpher went on to explain that "for a university like SUNY, systemness means bringing together and orchestrating our system's stakeholders -that means students, faculty, staff, boards, councils, campuses, institutes, centers, the list goes on-in such a way as to deliver on our goals and realize our mission beyond what we've ever been able to achieve before." And although Dr. Murabito agreed with everything Zimpher had to say in her address, he was particularly impressed with what she had to say about community colleges.

"An open gateway for opportunity," Zimpher said, "SUNY community colleges offers New Yorkers the chance to learn more, to get a head start in their careers, or to reinvent themselves for the next chapter of their lives."

"And we're proud of our students who graduate with AA or AS degrees in fields that often put them to work ahead of the curve."

"Unfortunately, it is not always seamless if these graduates encounter transfer problems at our 4-year campuses."

Dr. Murabito heartily agrees with chancellor on this point. "One of our goals at SUNY Sullivan is to make sure we do all we can do to help our students complete an associate's degree with us, and if they want to further their education, make the transition from Sullivan to a four-year college as seamless as possible."

Chancellor Zimpher summarized SUNY's goals and objectives:

- o Control costs through shared services...performance-based allocations and ...systems integration.

- o Increase productivity by tracking and measuring our progress with Report Cards...eliminating academic remediation...and implementing strategic enrollment management.

- o And we will ensure greater access and degree completion by perfecting transfer mobility...expanding and enhancing distance learning...and setting targets to improve completion rates.

"I should add that it falls to me," Zimpher concluded, "to push the envelope and stretch our thinking and our ambitions. But clearly this is the work of our key stakeholders, our campuses, and, ultimately, with the input and encouragement of our Board of Trustees." "SUNY Sullivan is prepared to push the envelope and stretch our thinking," Murabito said. "We have the talent right here to do it."

SC Visitors Association Announces Sector Marketing Meetings

The Sullivan County Visitors Association is in the process of coordinating marketing meetings in your area in 2012. The county has been divided into seven sectors to make it easy for SCVA members to attend.

The objective of these Sector Marketing meetings is to create "cluster" packages for visitors coming to Sullivan County. Members will be given the opportunity to work together with other members in their area and in the county to learn more about each other's business and create packages that can be used to draw more visitors to the county.

Other items to be discussed during these meetings will be programs offered to the SCVA's members such as matching funds advertising, web exposure, e-blast opportunities, digital advertising and direct mail campaigns to targeted geographic areas. It is the goal of the SCVA to build these packages so that they can be woven into connected tours throughout the county.

Below are the first three meetings that have been scheduled along with times and locations. There will be four more meetings scheduled in the near future.

Bethel Area: January 25th, 5:00PM Dancing Cat Distillery, Rte 17B, Bethel; Jeffersonville Area: February 6th, 9:30-11:00AM Town of Callicoon Town Hall, 19 Legion Street, Jeffersonville; Roscoe/Livingston Manor Area: February 7th, 6:00PM Roscoe Diner, Monticello Area: TBA; Liberty Area: TBA; Wurtsboro Area: TBA; Delaware Corridor, Narrowsburg Area: TBA

Although this is a member benefit program, members are encouraged to encourage non-member tourism related business to attend so they can learn the benefits of SCVA membership.

Businesses interested in attending any of the three scheduled meetings are asked to RSVP to the Sullivan County Visitors Association at 747-4449.

UC Executive Mike Hein and City of Kingston Mayor Shayne Gallo Announce Plans to Consolidate Tourism Efforts- Shared services plan will save taxpayers money and create enhanced tourism promotion

Kingston, NY- County Executive Mike Hein, Kingston Mayor Shayne Gallo, tourism and economic development professionals, as well as Kingston business owners gathered at the Heritage Area Visitors' Center on the Kingston waterfront this afternoon to unveil the details of a plan to share resources with the City of Kingston in order to better promote the City to potential visitors.

"In order for Ulster County to thrive, the City of Kingston must also thrive," said County Executive Hein. "Tourism is a \$430 million part of the Ulster County economy. There is no question that promoting Kingston as a tourist destination will benefit all of Ulster County. In difficult economic times, the ability to leverage the strengths of the City and the County in order to best serve the collective taxpayer is essential. The bottom line is: shared services save taxpayers' money and this merger is smart government." (Contd. Pg. 12)

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The Olive Jar - Carol LaMonda Uncharted Journey

I daresay that everyone reading this column has known someone whose life has been changed by cancer. There, I almost had trouble writing the word CANCER; it is a word of dread and fear that tumbles cautiously off our tongues as if the word itself were toxic and taboo. A couple I have come to know through mutual friends, Patrick and Elizabeth Holland Kern, have changed my perception about the disease. The Kerns live in Phoenicia, and their son Ben, about to graduate from law school, was a former student of mine. Elizabeth was a teaching assistant at the Phoenicia School, and Patrick was a team-teaching mate of Ed Ostapczuk and was Sam Rozzelle's college roommate. With so many connections, we were destined to meet. We met for lunch to talk about their publishing a book entitled UNCHARTED JOURNEY: OUR DECADE LIVING WITH BREAST CANCER. Elizabeth has been dealing with the roller coaster ride of ten years of chemo, radiation, remission, clinical trials and personal trials of breast cancer. Throughout it all she kept a personal journal recording the process and the emotions surrounding her ongoing relationship with breast cancer. She doesn't use the common images of "fighting or battling" the disease, instead she refers to it as a "chronic condition." Patrick refers to himself and Elizabeth as a "cancer couple" because the journey was one shared. The caregiver and the patient endure and celebrate the set-backs and the victories of the process. It made sense that the book have both voices of the UNCHARTED JOURNEY. The dialogue of his and her memories and emotions entwine with a sensitive reality and a megadose of courage. The reader, whether he knows Patrick or Elizabeth, becomes part of the support system as we share the biographical and emotional decade of a life-changing disease. Elizabeth writes, "I can't change the fact that I got cancer, but I can control how cancer will change my life."

The reader can't help but admire the attitude of hope and love that this remarkable couple shares. I loved the picture of the peach tree that Elizabeth, a talented gardener, planted. In Patrick's voice, he wonders at the time of planting if she will be able to enjoy the fruit of that tree. He writes, "her attitude would be 'If I am not around to enjoy the peaches, somebody will.' That sort of determination to live life in the moment, despite cancer's ever present specter, has always made her my pillar of hope during our most difficult times." I hope to have peach pie with Elizabeth and Patrick someday!

At times, I would experience the worry that accompanies the constant monitoring of the spread and hindrance of cells. Between treatments and testing, the Kerns live life to the fullest. The term "Wait to Worry (WTW)" is a worthwhile lifestyle. Patrick and Elizabeth's travels and friendships illustrate the life one can lead even though cancer was a constant companion. There is a book signing event in the planning stage, but, in the meantime, this book can be ordered at Secret Garden Publishing, PO Box 278, Phoenicia, New York 12464. Proceeds go to the Oncology Support Program at Benedictine Hospital. For more information, contact can be made through uncharteded@gmail.com.

Olive Muse- Charlie Blumstein SOS Reported From SS Byway Scenario

Sketchy accounts are filtering in that the flagship SS Byway Scenario which flies the flag of the island nation of CCCD, has foundered on the rocky shoals near the Isles of Shan Deken. Various accounts have her billowing smoke from the wheelhouse and listing severely towards the starboard side. We are scanning the horizon for any signs of lifeboats. We have set a course towards her last reported sightings. She is reportedly limping towards the provincial docks on the north coast of the Shan Deken Isles. The Shan Deken Port and Webmaster is posting up to the minute updates on the yardarm located at the web site.

Rob Overton Offers Free Beekeeping Class at Olive Free Library on Feb. 11th

Ever thought about becoming a beekeeper? It makes no difference if you are a man, woman or child, you can become a beekeeper, whether you live in a city, the suburbs or in the country. Beekeeping is a fascinating hobby and is a great family activity. Bees are both simple and yet complicated. And because of their "society" mentality, they are unique from almost every other insect. By watching bees and keeping a hive you'll have hours of good clean entertainment and some honey to boot!

Over the past couple of months, I have been pleasantly surprised by the number of folks approaching me about becoming beekeepers. Just a few short years ago, the hobbyist beekeeper was a dying breed with the average age in the 60s. Although a portion of the influx of new beekeepers can probably be attributed to colony collapse disorder (CCD) and the media coverage of it, I believe a larger portion is due to our drive to get back to a healthier lifestyle and eating more local and fresh foods. Many folks are starting to grow a portion of their own food, whether it be a full blown vegetable garden or just some tomatoes on their deck. They are also making tremendous strides in supporting local farming and sourcing their food where they live. It is sort of reminiscent of the victory gardens during the world wars, except this time the drive is for a different reason - anti big industrial agriculture and more nutrient rich foods. The other big difference is back then, there was at least one beekeeper in every neighborhood which is not the case anymore. Since 80-90% of plants require animal pollination and honeybees account for the pollination of ~30% of the food you eat, it is evident the importance of having honeybees anywhere food is being grown. Every garden will benefit from local bees.

My "Intro to Beekeeping" seminar will be held at

the Olive Free Library in West Shokan, NY on Saturday, February 11th. This is a FREE seminar. No sales pitch and there will be nothing to buy. There are a lot of e-books, starter kits, mentoring services, and many other "offerings" out there that will gladly take your money in exchange for the promise of making you a beekeeper. My goal is to give you the information and knowledge you need to make a prudent decision on what will best work for you. You can spend \$100s of dollars or more getting into beekeeping, but you don't have to. Third world nations across the globe keep bees with little to no investment. With the right knowledge, you can draw that happy medium line that best meets your goals.

You can get all the details and sign up at <http://www.BushkillFarms.com>

If things go well, and there is enough interest, I will do a part 2: hands-on session in one of my bee yards in the spring.

Beekeep On!, Sincerely, Rob Overton

Pancake Breakfast at the Olivebridge United Methodist Church, Feb 11th, 7:30 am 'til 11am. Come early and then do the free bee keeping seminar up at the library. It either supports the food pantry or the scouts, either of which is worthy. Have a great week!



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 edition of Reservoir Music Notes. Could it be? Is Winter finally here? Most people I know were trying to trick themselves into believing Spring was already here, but Mother Nature said, "Not so fast!". I braved the cold last Friday night to go to The Bearsville Theater for the fifth installment of The Bearsville Sessions series, and I was very happy I did! Bearsville Sessions V focused on the British Invasion of the early 60's, the musical movement that brought us The Beatles, The Stones, The Dave Clark Five, The Searchers, The Kinks, The Animals, et al. Even though I was an Elvis fan at 5 and was exposed early on to the original great masters of Rock n Roll, this was the music I cut my teeth on as a teenager, and it still holds up! The Bearsville Sessions Band is a collection of great local musicians, and they always have some cool special guests on tap. This week was no exception, as one of the highlights of the night was luthier extraordinaire, Joe Veillette's version of the Unit 4+2 classic, "Concrete and Clay". Keyboardist and guitarist Ross Rice also outdid The Zombies on "Tell Her No"! In fact, quite a few of the performances this evening outdid the originals, and that's sayin' something! Most of it was due to the band's versions rockin' a bit more than some of the originals. A lot of this music was overproduced on record, (IMHO), due to many of the original groups being assigned staff producers who didn't really understand Rock n Roll, or were learning on the job. So now, with the passage of half a century, a good little rockin' band can actually match or exceed some of those great records we grew up with, just by rockin' it harder! Drummer Eric Parker was on fire, as was guitar player, Adam Widoff. Oh hell, the whole band was on fire, including the background singers! My thanks to Jodie Slead at The Bearsville Theater for making it all possible. A splendid time was had by all!

In Grateful Dead news, a feature length documentary of Jerry Garcia is in the works. Filmmakers Malcolm

Leo and John Hartmann have secured the rights to Garcia's music for the movie, so this could be the definitive doc of Garcia. No release date yet, but the film will have a huge audience, that's for sure!

In other Grateful Dead news, bassist Phil Lesh has announced plans to open Terrapin Crossroads in San Rafael, California, in the same neighborhood where The Dead had their rehearsal studio for years. TC will be a combination performance space/ restaurant with a strong commitment to community. There will be a house band and special guests and the whole thing is modeled on Woodstock's own Levon Helm's Midnight Rambles, where Lesh has been a guest several times. The venue will open in March with Phil and Friends, before closing for extensive remodeling, and then a grand reopening in March 2013. This comes hot on the heels of Grateful Dead guitarist, Bob Weir, reopening the legendary Mill Valley venue, The Sweetwater, so it looks like The Dead are starting their own Branson in Marin County!

In other news, singer and poet Patti Smith has recorded a tribute to Amy Winehouse for her next record. Patti is the perfect person for this job! She wrote the lyrics as a poem for Amy when she died, and then put it together with some music her bass player, Tony Shanahan, had. The music and poem matched perfectly, and the results can be heard on Smith's next record. No release date yet. In other Patti Smith news, the singer is reported to be working on a film adaption of her National Book Award winning "Just Kids", which focused on her relationship with the artist Robert Mapplethorpe. The book was great, and hopefully the movie will be too.

Here's the live music picks for this week. Friday, January 20 - Busy, busy weekend. Most of the music this week seems to be focused on the weekend. Tonight, we've got an acoustic show with guitarist STEVE KATZ, formerly of The Blues Project, Blood Sweat and Tears, and The Even Dozen Jug Band (which also featured David Grisman, Maria Muldaur, and a pre-Lovin' Spoonful John Sebastian). Sharing top

billing with Katz will be fingerpicking wizard, STEFAN GROSSMAN, and it all happens in our backyard, at The Rosendale Café. Then they do it all over again Saturday at an early show at The Turning Point in Piermont, at 6:00 PM.

At The Bardavon Opera House in Poughkeepsie, the great MAVIS STAPLES will put the area's finest sound system through its paces. If you didn't already know, Mavis is a member of the first family of Rock, Soul, and Gospel, The Staple Singers, who I saw at The Fillmore East many times. Now solo, her last CD was produced by Wilco's Jeff Tweedy. I've heard some of the tracks, and it's killer! Mavis is a member of The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and has a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award sitting on her mantelpiece, so you're in for a treat if you go!

Up at the beautiful Club Helsinki in Hudson, TEDDY THOMPSON (son of Richard Thompson) brings his unique musical stylings to our neck of the woods. Teddy's good. You won't be disappointed.

At The Towne Crier in Pauling, we have the great blue eyed soul singer and Springsteen cohort, SOUTHSIDE JOHNNY, who has a new band called The Poor Fools. No more Asbury Jukes, but Southside knows what he's doing, so I don't expect any major changes. Which is to say that they'll still kick ass!

Closer to home, we've got PROFESSOR LOUIE AND THE CHROMATICS at The Bearsville Theater. These guys never disappoint, and just keep getting better and better!

For those of you downstate, there are two good shows in Manhattan tonight. Americana great, ROBERT EARL KEEN, pulls into Irving Plaza, and roots rocker, ALEJANDRO ESCOVEDO, is at the City Winery.

Saturday, January 21 - Steve Katz and Stefan Grossman reprise their show from Friday night, but this time at The Turning Point in Piermont. Take notice, this show starts at 6PM! THE SMITHEREENS are at BB King's in Manhattan tonight. (Contd. Pg. 9)

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AARP Driver Safety Program

AARP Driver Safety Program at the following location: South Fallsburg Community Center; Laurel Avenue, South Fallsburg, New York on Saturday, **February 18, 2012 from 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM**
PLEASE ARRIVE AT 8:45 AM
To Register - Call Sonny Smith at 434-8922 (Leave Message).
Sonny Smith, an AARP is a Certified Instructor, and will give this course in one full day session, which will consist of a lecture, discussion and video presentations.
Participants will receive a certificate which entitles them to apply for a discount on their automobile insurance.
For information, phone Sonny Smith at 434-8922 (Leave Message).
The fee is \$17 for AARP members and \$19 for non-members; make checks payable to AARP, and mail to Sonny Smith.
Please enclose your phone number with payment.
Classes are limited to 35, so apply early.
This course is instructed by a Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (R&SVP) volunteer and is sponsored by the Sullivan County Office for the Aging.
Note: Fee has gone up to \$17 for AARP Members and \$19 for Non-members

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Botanical Artist Wendy Hollender Exhibits Artwork and Teaches Drawing at SUNY Ulster As Larry Berk Artist-in-Residence



Botanical artist, instructor and author Wendy Hollender promises to change the way people view plants and nature with a series of workshops and art exhibit at SUNY Ulster as the college's spring Larry Berk Artist-in-Residence.

Hollender - one of the world's leading experts in using colored and watercolor pencils for botanical drawing - will present three workshops teaching how to draw plants and also exhibit her botanical illustrations at the Muroff Kotler Visual Arts Gallery on the Stone Ridge campus.

A home furnishings

textile designer for more than 20 years, Hollender became intrigued with the complex beauty of plants through her work developing floral designs. She has focused her work in this area since 2002. A graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design, Hollender earned a certificate at the New York Botanical Garden and teaches around the country at the New York Botanical Garden, the National Tropical Botanical Garden in Hawaii, as well as locally at the Mohonk Preserve and Mountain House, and the Tri Arts Center in Troy.

Events in the Larry Berk Artist-in-Residence series include:

- "Botanical Edibles... Wild and Cultivated" exhibit opening Jan. 26, 7 p.m., at the gallery. The author of two books on botanical drawing, she will give a lecture and slide presentation. Her exhibit focusing on botanicals that are edible for humans - from weeds to wisteria - will run through Feb. 24. In addition to her plant illustrations, Hollender plans to display specimens from nature related to her works.

- Hollender will teach her techniques at workshops on Jan. 27 and March 30, from 1 to 4 p.m., at the SUNY Ulster Stone Ridge campus, Algonquin Building, room 102. The final workshop will move into nature at the artist's Hollengold Farm

on April 27, 1 to 4 p.m. The skills she will teach include creating realistic three-dimensional form and toning with a single light source that can be applied to all drawings.

Hollender combines art and the science of botany with her interests in organic farming to create realistic and scientifically accurate drawings of plants. Studying plants under a microscope, she captures and details the plant's components to present them in a new light.

"Once you study a plant this closely and really learn about it, you realize their differences. It's like getting to know a person. Each one is unique," she says. "But then you also discover their similarities and how patterns in nature are repeated. It's fascinating."

Hollender, who relocated to her Accord permaculture organic vegetable farm two years ago from Manhattan, said she is excited about sharing her expertise with the local community and expects the series will appeal to those with interests in drawing, gardening, environmental issues, local food and sustainability.

The gallery exhibit is free and open to the public. Hours are Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and closed on college holidays. For gallery information, call 687-5113. A \$40 fee covers art supplies for all three workshops.

For information on the workshops, call Ms. Hollender at 917-607-7366.

A Colorful Winter Note from Bob Drown and his best friend "Cooper"



I would like to thank you and the rest of the staff for the pleasant surprise this morning. Those color photos really add to the paper, good job.

With the weather being as it has been for the past week or so, Cooper and I awoke the "Wayback Machine" to go for a ride. This time of year she usually is tucked in for her long winter's nap. We stopped in Curry to get this photo, and naturally Cooper being the ham that he is, stood right up in the window so he could have his photo taken.

CAS ARTS CENTER New Exhibition: "Middle Ground" Featuring the work of Kathe Blackbird Frantz & Matthew Zappala

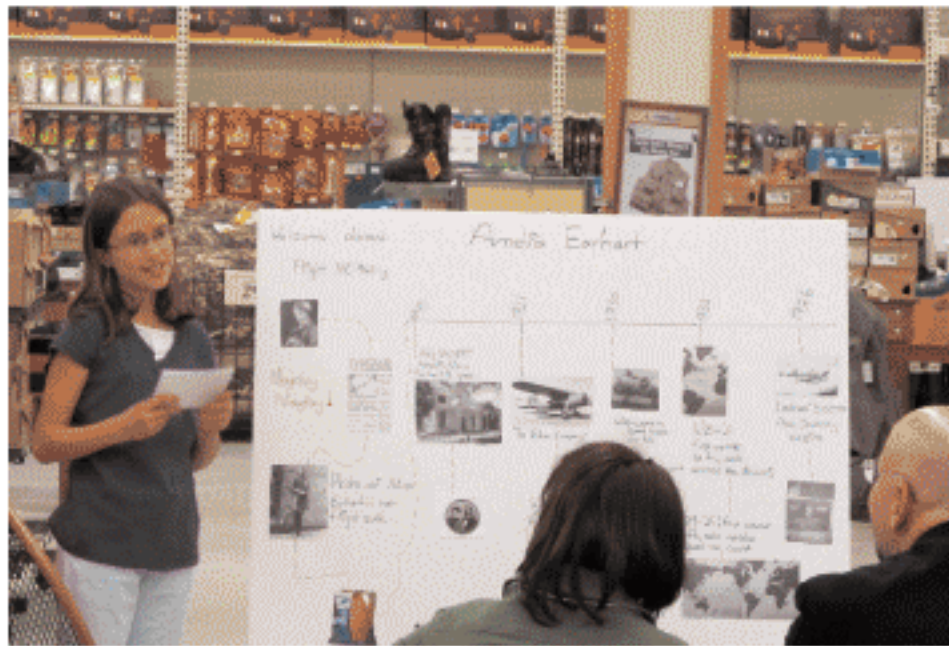


Announcing January 21 - February 26, 2012
 The Catskill Art Society is proud to present "Middle Ground," a two person exhibition featuring the work of local artists Kathe Blackbird Frantz and Matthew Zappala at the CAS Arts Center, 48 Main Street, Livingston Manor, NY. Frantz is a painter from Callicoon, NY whose work for this exhibition was inspired by the Delaware River Valley. Zappala, a graphic artist from Saugerties, NY, will present woodcuts created from winter landscapes and unique collages that have the visual look of a woodcut. 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.

January 21, 1pm - Artist Talk
 CAS will host an artist talk for "Middle Ground" from 1-2pm on

Saturday, January 21, 2012. The event is free and open to the public.
 January 21, 2pm - 4pm - Opening Reception
 CAS will host an opening reception for the exhibit, "Middle Ground" on Saturday, January 21 from 2pm - 4pm. All are welcome and light refreshments will be served.
 Catskill Art Society is a non-profit cultivating public interest, participation, and enjoyment of the arts. Through its multi-arts center, CAS explores contemporary art practices and facilitates creative and professional development for established and emerging artists.

4-H/Toastmaster Public Speaking & Leadership Program



4-H has once again teamed up with Mike LaFountain, active member of the Toastmasters Club, to offer a one-of-a-kind Youth Leadership and Public Speaking series. No young person between the ages of 11 to 19 years old should miss this opportunity. Participants will learn to run effective meetings utilizing Robert's Rules of Order, give dynamic speeches of varying lengths, improvise and talk knowledgeably on a variety of subjects and prepare for 4-H Public Presentations. This program will provide valuable life skills to youth and most importantly, be fun! Participants will

meet other youth from all across the county and solidify their places as emerging leaders in Sullivan County. The program is a 5 week series, offered for 5 Monday nights from 6:30 - 7:45pm with a projected start date of January 30th, 2011. Additional information will be available at the next 4-H Connects meeting on Friday, January 13 at 6:30pm which is always open to the public. Only 15 spaces available in this free program! Call 292-6180 to register.

Reservoir Music Notes (From Pg. 6)

Their last CD was all Beatle songs, so expect to hear some of that. It's BLUEGRASS NIGHT at Banjo Jim's on 3rd Street, and KIDTOPIA returns to Utopia Studios in Bearsville, with RATBOY JR. Sunday, January 22 - One of the best Grateful Dead tribute and jam bands, THE ZEN TRICKSTERS, rolls into The Brooklyn Bowl, the converted bowling alley that's been rockin' more than bowling pins lately!

Tuesday, January 24 - The always amazing JOHNNY WINTER rocks BB King's in Manhattan. He's old now and sits in a chair to perform, but still rips out those notes at blinding speed! There's a new upscale supper club in Manhattan called Feinstein's at The Regency, and that's right, it's in The Regency Hotel. It's a throwback to the days of glamorous ballrooms in hotels and PETULA CLARK starts a two week run tonight. It's actually Tuesday through Saturday, this week and next. No Sundays or Mondays. Expect to dress up and spend some money, and it's not gonna be rockin', but she will have to do everything from her string of hits back in the 60's, and those are mostly great records, so this should be a fun trip down memory lane.

Wednesday, January 25 - If it's Wednesday, it must be ROSS RICE AND THE VERY SEXY TRIO at The Catamount in Mount Tremper.

That's it for this week, but a quick heads up. Next Friday, January 27, The Jonny Monster Band returns to The Bearsville Theater for the Artist in Residence series. This will likely be my Pick of the Week next week. I already wrote about Jonny Monster blowing my mind on New Year's Eve, but in honor of this show, I will be doing a full profile of The Jonny Monster Band next week. This is one you won't want to miss, unless you hate lightning fast, inventive blues licks played on the electric guitar with a solid backing band. If so, stay home and watch tv, but if you love the blues, specifically electric blues, and great guitar playing, you're gonna wanna be there for this.

Have a great week and stay warm!

Be Mine Always

"Be Mine Always," the fourth annual exhibition of photographs and poetry celebrating love, opens on Saturday, January 28, 2012 with a reception from 2 - 4 p.m. at Alliance Gallery, 37 Main Street, Narrowsburg, NY.

This year, "Be Mine Always" has a mostly romantic focus, showcase poetry and photography expressing the various stages of romance, marriage, and lasting love. As in other years, the poetry will be transformed and displayed as a "poem object," a physical rendition of the poem's central image or images. These "poem objects," along with the written poem, will be displayed in the gallery, mingled with photographs on the romantic theme of love. This year exhibition includes new features including a magnetic poetry wall and a "Kissing Glass" window installation. (Contd. Pg. 13)



Upcoming Specials & Events

Weekend Dinner Specials:

Friday: Fish Pie Saturday: Meatloaf, mashed potatoes & gravy Sunday: Lasagna

Events:

Thurs, Jan 19: Our first "Long Table Dinner", where diners enjoy our regular menu and are seated at, you guessed it, one long table. It's an informal way to meet other locals and catch up with neighbors.
 Sun, Jan 22: Watch the Patriots game & Giants game on our 42" TV (until 8pm).

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What's Happening at ASK?

On Sunday, February 12, at 6:00 p.m. (snow date: February 19), the Arts Society of Kingston, 97 Broadway, Kingston, will present ASK Hosts the Hosts, a reading by hosts of poetry series throughout the Hudson Valley.

The challenging work of hosting poetry readings has been the long-time endeavor of those who will come together with their peers to read their own work. The readers will include: Teresa Costa, Second Thursdays, Bohemian Book Bin, Lake Katrine; Mike Jurkovic, Calling All Poets, Howland Cultural Center, Beacon; Judith Lechner, Writers' Night at Cafe Mezzaluna, Saugerties; Phillip Levine, Chronogram Open Word, Beahive, Kingston; Robert Milby, Mudd Puddle, New Paltz; Michael Platsky, Monday Night Readings, Harmony Cafe, Woodstock; Cheryl Rice, Kingston; Dan Wilcox, Third Thursday Poetry Night, Social Justice Center, Albany; and Chris Wood, Heyday Poetry Series, Half-Moon Books, Kingston.

The public is invited. A suggested donatio

"My Week with Marilyn" at Callicoon Theater

Delaware Valley Arts Alliance and the Callicoon Theater present Michelle Williams in *My Week with Marilyn* opening Friday, January 20.



Based on a memoir by Colin Clark, the story takes place during the 1956 filming of *The Prince and the Showgirl*, the movie that famously united Sir Laurence Olivier (Kenneth Branagh) and Marilyn Monroe (Michelle Williams). A young film student

looking to break into the business (Eddie Redmayne) realizes his dreams when he talks his way into a job on set as an assistant to Olivier.

For one week, while her husband Arthur Miller (Dougray Scott) was away and production was on hiatus, Marilyn asked the innocent 23-year-old to join her for a country getaway. Grateful for his company-and in need of a sympathetic ear-she in exchange gave him access to the vulnerable soul beneath her outer beauty.

Michelle Williams, who is nominated for a Golden Globe for the role-and is predicted to be nominated for an Oscar-has received unanimous praise for her performance.

Rolling Stone film critic Peter Travers says "What Williams does, with fierce artistry and feeling, is illuminate Monroe's insights and insecurities about herself at the height of her fame. It's a great, soulful performance. Sit back and behold."

My Week with Marilyn, directed by Simon Curtis, is rated R and will screen nightly at 7:30 p.m. Friday, January 20-Tuesday, January 24 with matinees at 2 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays at the Callicoon Theater, 30 Upper Main St, Callicoon, NY. Admission is \$9 (\$7 admission on Mondays and matinees. \$6 for children under 12).

CineArt is a partnership between Delaware Valley Arts Alliance and the Callicoon Theater that promotes and screens independent, foreign, and art films. A percentage of the profits and \$1 per person from ticket sales benefit the programs and services of the Delaware Valley Arts Alliance, the Arts Council for Sullivan County. For more information, call (845) 887-4460 or visit www.ArtsAllianceSite.org.

Thorn Winter's SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY FLASH

The Hierophant (Part 2 of 3)
By Thorn Winter

Continued from last week's part one...

Normal people can go through life with certainty. They know that if they apply said functional formula that has worked for their elders they will arrive at some modicum of success based upon their efforts and resources and how well those attributes fit into their time and place. But, as a Hierophant you never know when the Outer Gods are going to tear you from the world and leave you in some dark, cold place beyond the borders of the universe, or, as I've been finding is more dangerous, but still preferable to the unfeeling void, the Overlords of the Cosmos thrust you head first through a wormhole and into one of the infinite, chaos filled layers of the Abyss where you are surrounded by unimaginable horrors.

I assure you I do not speak figuratively about these things. The seriousness of my reality and the world's ignorance to it is the pane of glass that separates us. It is TS Elliot's handful of dust.

I had shattered the glass before and released my madness upon the world, woken in strange rooms with a vague guilty sense of what I'd done, surrounded by fallen, unworthy derelicts who hadn't the will to face their own self-hatred.

Becoming the Hierophant was not a breaking of my force field or tearing down of my wall. It was an admission of its presence -- which granted me the ability to dispel it from time to time, though not for too long.

When traveling in the void and the Abyss, you must maintain your barrier. In the void there is no thing-no light, no warmth, no oxygen. You must create this for yourself within your invulnerable globe. Contrarily, the Abyss is all things-infernos hotter than suns, light that can disintegrate you, demons waiting to tear you apart, and noxious vapors that choke life. My first experience with being thrust into such a place almost ended me and conditioning alone caused me to manifest my globe shield and produce my own atmosphere within it. I no longer dare to mention things such as this among my trusted friends and loves. I hide the monster that I've become and I ride along in the vehicle of my body, content with my secrets, my defenses ready -- as I wait for the next call of the Outer Gods.

Whenever I told Ivy that I was a monster she laughed. She didn't know what the world is capable of -- not for lack of experience but lack of understanding of that experience. But she was as broken as I will always be. Her parents never fully abandoned her. Instead, they selfishly clung to her just to maintain their own thread of sanity, but with no real caring, no real trust, and no education in the ways of our human society.

She had been beaten by the men in her life, and had become one of those people whose world was built upon their own submission. I see so much of myself in that. My interest in Ivy, though occasionally flirtatious, was hardly of the carnal sort. To me she was kindred, younger, and less experienced, but not at all like a little sister, and the fact that she appeared in my life right around the time that I chose to become the Hierophant came as one of those little wonders that proved destiny. She was my student, with similar malfunctions, entangling herself around her victims and draining the comfort she required from them so that she could assimilate her world.

The Outer Gods tasked me with showing her what it is to truly feed on life; to use the powers given to us to make contact with and to control the primal light and heat from which all things came.

Salvatore Erlon's book, *The Outer Within*, says that every Hierophant who has ever succeeded to the position has done so with their successor already at their side.

My thoughtful trance finally broke. I was still standing in my kitchen, in front of the sink and between Catherine and Ivy, Tim's message had ended and I hadn't heard most of it. The faucet was running and my finger ached as though it had been in the ice cold stream for too long.

"So what are you going to do?" Catherine asked. Her face was like stone and her gaze was fierce. I admired her every time I looked at her and I truly believed she was my perfect match in this world -- the compliment of all that I am -- were I suitable to compliments and matching. Ivy was me. There was nothing for me to grow off of. I was her guide.

I was lost for words. I turned off the faucet and rubbed my throbbing fingers idly against the seven foot, twisted vekka wood staff -- the Staff of the Hierophant -- polished smooth by the hands of millions of Hierophants, of all races who came before me and after me. I didn't lean on the staff. We leaned against each other, its tapered tip pressed to the same floor upon which I stood, but in all times.

I should note that the vekka tree is a native of a world whose name is long forgotten and whose positioning is irrelevant in the infinite, but that nonetheless has five seasons as opposed to Earth's four. The vekka tree blooms during the fifth season, named Vekka (Void), which follows Hostfun (winter) and precedes Relief (spring). Due to an abnormal wobble in its orbit and the positioning of another inner planet, Vekka is colder than winter and there is no daytime throughout the whole of the season. Vekka was like a second, more terrible, hope killing monster.

The vekka seed sits in the freeze-dried, yellow soil of this name-forgotten world, and when Vekka (the season is named for the tree it calls to life) arrives the seed sprouts into a single, indestructible, branchless, twisted and mangled trunk the thickness of which varies with each individual tree. The vekka tree cannot be trained in any way and grows of its own accord, returning to the soil after the season ends. Cutting them is a secret known only to the

Outer Gods and the Hierophants. I will tell you that it involves cutting the world away from the tree as opposed to the expected reverse. Only one such cut has ever been made, back in a time when even the current oldest stars were not to be born for eons. The cutting away of the planet cast it to the void to become the forgotten legend that it is.

The trunk of vekka that I now held -- the only Staff of the Hierophant -- was perfectly straight but had grown with an equally perfect spiral down its length. It was so perfect that its creation might only be attributed to the unnatural. The wood requires no treatment and its wet shale sheen and green-black color resembles a leech or rotted spinach. It has gold and silver flakes chaotically spattered about it and embedded in it. The staff was my one truest love - without it I would be cut from the world and left to float to the forgotten planet.

The third and final part next week...

Greetings True Believers!

Going to man the helm solo from here on out, fantasy fans! I'll be squeezing my brain week to week to bring you weird tales from stranger places...

Program Forum on NYS Grant Funding - Learn about the New Procedures and Opportunities for State Funding

LIBERTY - The Sullivan County Economic Development Corporation (EDC) will partner with Hudson Valley Pattern for Progress to host an informational forum on New York State grant funding opportunities and procedures. The forum will take place Monday, February 6 at 7:00 p.m. at the CVI Center in Ferndale.

Last year, Gov. Andrew Cuomo created 10 Regional Economic Development Councils that competed for a pool of \$1 billion in grant money. The competition involved a consolidated funding application that aimed to streamline the grant-application process. Sullivan County was included in the Mid Hudson region along with Orange, Ulster, Dutchess, Westchester, Putnam and Rockland counties.

During his recent State of the State Address, Cuomo said there will be another competition for \$200 million this year, along with a consolidated funding application process. The criteria for neither have been announced yet.

"While the timing of the next round of New York State funding has not yet been announced, it is not too early to start thinking about our approach," said Darlene Fedun, Chair of the Sullivan County EDC Board.

The February 6 forum will focus on understanding the new regional approach and the consolidated funding application. Municipal officials, local development corporations, grant writers and those who have traditionally sought state grants are encouraged to attend. The forum will also explain federal and private grant procedures for those who might have projects that are better suited to those grant sources. Please register by calling 845-295-2443.

"The Governor issued the call for collaboration in his State of the State address. He indicated that the answer to creating jobs in a down economy is to forge public-private partnerships that leverage state and private resources to generate economic growth and create jobs," said Jonathan Drapkin, CEO of Pattern for Progress. "The message is clear: we need to be smart, be proactive and be prepared."

The Sullivan County Economic Development Corporation was established in 2010. Its mission is to improve the quality of life of Sullivan County residents through economic development.

Hudson Valley Pattern for Progress promotes regional, balanced and sustainable solutions that enhance the growth and vitality of the Hudson Valley.



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UC Executive Mike Hein and City of Kingston Mayor Shayne Gallo Announce Plans to Consolidate Tourism Efforts (From Pg. 4)

"As Mayor of the City of Kingston, I am grateful to the County Executive for thinking outside of the box about ways to better promote Kingston and at the same time save us all money," said City of Kingston Mayor Shayne Gallo. "Kingston is an incredible year-round destination with a beautiful waterfront, world class festivals, amazing restaurants and places to stay, and fascinating museums, but unfortunately the City does not have the resources to adequately advertise. The County Executive's plan will help the City of Kingston tremendously."

"I am excited about the prospects of the County Executive's tourism consolidation plan for the City of Kingston," said Jeanette Provenzano, an Ulster County Legislator representing the City of Kingston. "The City has so much to offer tourists and this plan will help to promote it all. It is win/win for the City of Kingston and the County."

The County of Ulster and the City of Kingston will enter into an agreement for the County to help with the City's tourism promotion. In so doing, the City of Kingston will gain dedicated promotion of its businesses, tourist attractions and festivals; the County will gain use of a beautiful Visitor Center, and City and County taxpayers will save money.

Specifically, the City will pay the County \$30,000 annualized to professionally augment its tourism efforts. This will enable the County to:

Dedicate \$30,000 to City of Kingston tourism promotion; Expand promotion of the City's festivals; Enhance Visitors' Center experience/Improve Tourism Department visibility; Access newest technology, such as Google Analytics to boost professional planning to Kingston's tourism efforts; Better coordinate City and County tourism campaigns

The City will realize \$40,000 in savings annualized while the County will save almost \$15,000 in Tourism Department rent annually. In addition, the Mayor of Kingston will gain an appointment on the County Executive's Tourism Advisory Board.

This agreement is anticipated to be in place by the second quarter of 2012, subject to approval of the Ulster County Legislature and the City of Kingston Common Council.

"We're very excited about the shared services agreement with the city of Kingston and we're looking forward to working closely with Mayor Gallo and his team," Ulster County Tourism Director Richard Remsnyder said. "The Rondout Visitors Center gives us a highly visible location and should increase traffic into our office. The additional resources from this agreement will allow us to greatly enhance our efforts to promote New York State's first capital. As a result, as visibility and promotion increases through these efforts, it will bolster economic development in the City of Kingston by drawing more tourists to the City."

Sandy Henne, owner of Hudson River Cruises in downtown Kingston, supported the shared services agreement between Ulster County and the City of Kingston, which will enhance tourism efforts in the city. According to Ms. Henne, "Anything we can do to help promote tourism in Kingston is a great idea! By having a joint effort with the County and City with more resources behind it, I think it could make a big difference."

Frank Guido, a partner in Mariner's Harbor and Frank Guido's Little Italy restaurants, is thrilled with the agreement. "That's great news," Guido said. "This is our 12th year downtown and we've seen the growth there, but we need more businesses and shops that attract tourists to the area. I think this agreement will help promote the waterfront and other tourist destinations in the City. It'll be a great location for Ulster County Tourism and the whole concept is a win-win situation for the City and the County."

Assembly Holds First Hearing on Potential Closure of Indian Point Energy Center Committees Gather Evidence On Scenarios That Will Allow For Indian Point To Be Shut Down Without Impacting Electricity Reliability

(Albany) The Assembly Committee on Energy and the Committee on Corporations, Authorities and Commissions held their first hearing on plans for the potential closure of the Indian Point Energy Center. After more than six hours of testimony by expert witnesses the hearing was recessed for the purposes of gathering additional data and information on the facility and the planning process for the eventual retirement of the nuclear plant.

"Yesterday's hearing clearly demonstrated that with proper planning there are a number of scenarios that could allow Indian Point to be shut down without unduly burdening New York's ratepayers or electric system," said Assemblymember Kevin Cahill, Chair of the Assembly Committee on Energy. "We are going to continue to collect and analyze information on the many important issues raised during the hearing with the full intent of reconvening in the near future."

"Clearly there are economic, electric capacity and regulatory options available to the State within a reasonable time to provide for the replacement of Indian Point's capacity," said Assemblymember James Brennan, Chair of the Assembly Committee on Corporations, Authorities and Commissions.

Members of the Committees questioned representatives of the Department of Public Service, the New York Independent System Operator, Consolidated Edison, the City of New York and the Entergy Corporation. Two energy consulting firms that recently released competing studies examining the impact of Indian Point's closure also presented their findings.

The Committees will analyze the hearing transcript, review written comments and request additional information from Entergy and others before issuing a preliminary report on their findings next month. That document will be used as the basis for additional hearings on the matter.

Attorney General Schneiderman Announces \$1 Million in Funding for Foreclosure Prevention Legal Services - Issues Request for Applications From Legal Services Providers

Schneiderman: We Will Use Every Tool Available to Protect Homeowners Struggling Through the Foreclosure Crisis

Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman today announced his office will fund \$1 million in foreclosure prevention services to aid New Yorkers struggling through the foreclosure crisis. The Attorney General today issued a Request for Applications (RFA) seeking bids from non-profit legal services and legal aid organizations to provide direct legal services to homeowners in foreclosure or at imminent risk of foreclosure.

"As our state faces another tight budget year, we must be creative and aggressive in our efforts to support working families who are struggling to stay in their homes," said Attorney General Schneiderman. "This funding will provide thousands of New Yorkers with the legal expertise they desperately need to defend their rights and avoid falling prey to unscrupulous mortgage servicers or foreclosure mill law firms filing fabricated or robo-signed documents. My office will continue to use every tool available to us to protect homeowners and all vulnerable New Yorkers."

Statewide, an average of 1 in 10 mortgages is at risk of foreclosure. The approximate number of individuals living in homes that are either in foreclosure or at risk of foreclosure (based on typical household size for each distressed mortgage) exceeds the populations of Buffalo, Rochester, and Syracuse combined.

While foreclosures come at a high cost for families and communities, preventing foreclosures through legal assistance is a bargain for taxpayers. The Empire Justice Center projects that if foreclosures of currently distressed properties continue unabated, they will cost local governments in New York State more than \$5 billion. However, for every foreclosure averted, through legal assistance or other measures, counties would save an average of \$186,695 in direct and indirect costs.

Attorney General Schneiderman has made it a top priority of his administration to hold accountable those whose misconduct led to the collapse of the housing market- and to provide significant relief to homeowners.

The last round of federal stimulus funding for the New York State Homes and Community Renewal's Foreclosure Prevention Services Program ran out on December 31, 2011, and the state has not fully made up the shortfall. The Attorney General's funding will allow critical services that would otherwise be lost to continue across the state.

The \$1 million allocation will be funded by unspent dollars from a 2006 settlement between the Attorney General's Office and Ameriquest Mortgage, Co. The investigation found that Ameriquest engaged in predatory and illegal lending practices to sell and refinance mortgages, including misrepresenting and failing to disclose loan terms, charging excessive loan origination fees, and inflating appraisals to qualify borrowers for loans. The settlement required Ameriquest to pay the participating states \$295 million in restitution, roughly \$22 million of which went to New York and its homeowners.

Given the urgency of the foreclosure crisis, Attorney General Schneiderman has directed an expedited RFA process, which could result in awards for funding in as soon as eight weeks.

Good government groups, housing organizations, community leaders, and clergy members from across the state today praised Attorney General Schneiderman's decisive action.

"We are incredibly grateful to the Attorney General for supporting the Foreclosure Prevention Services Program," said Mark Ladov, Counsel for the Brennan Center's Democracy Program. "This program has a strong track record of improving outcomes for working families at risk of losing their homes, and is a critical investment in New York State's economic recovery. Attorney General Schneiderman's intervention helps ensure that this vital work will continue. We look for-

ward to working with the Attorney General to aid struggling families and address New York's foreclosure crisis."

"Homeowners across this state are struggling in these tough economic times. We owe a debt of gratitude for Attorney General Schneiderman's bold action that will give the working families in our community a fighting chance," said Darius G. Pridgen, Senior Pastor of the True Bethel Baptist Church and Member of the Buffalo Common Council. "By allocating resources for foreclosure prevention services, the Attorney General has once again stood up for those who need our help the most."

"We applaud the Attorney General for making funds available to the Foreclosure Prevention Services Program and providing legal assistance agencies an opportunity to continue providing direct assistance to homeowners in default and foreclosure," said Deborah Boatright, Northeast Regional Director, NeighborWorks America. "The Attorney General's smart, bold action will make a real difference in the lives of countless New Yorkers who are struggling to get by and hold on to their most precious possession."

"Attorney General Schneiderman must be applauded for funding legal services to help struggling homeowners facing foreclosure," said Rev. David K. Brawley, Senior Pastor, St. Paul Community Baptist Church. "Communities like East New York, Southeast Queens, Mount Vernon and other neighborhoods throughout the state have been hit hard by the mortgage crisis, and this bold action will protect hundreds of families who are at risk for teetering over the edge. The Attorney General understands the depth of this problem, and has come up with a creative way to help safeguard our state's future."

The guidelines for applying and the application will be posted in the New York State Contract Reporter, www.nyscr.org and will also be available on the Attorney General's website, www.ag.ny.gov/bureaus/budget_fiscal/procurement.html later this week.

POLITICAL SLANT- Frank Comando -

ON THE LOCAL SCENE - Monday, January 23, 2012, Time 6:00 pm until 9:00 pm, Place SUNY Ulster, Quimby Theater, 491 Cottekill Ave, Stone Ridge, NY. Please share this event notice, and JOIN COUNTY EXECUTIVE HEIN in presenting citizens' concerns to NYC's Dept. of Environmental Protection about the AQUEDUCT LEAK in Wawarsing, TURBIDITY IN THE LOWER ESOPUS and the tax impacts of NYC landholdings in Ulster County. Please share this event notice. Monday, January 23, 2012. Maxwell Hall, Senior Media Manager: Tel.: +41(0)79 329 3500, E-mail: maxwell.hall@weforum.org

GOP HOPEFULS STAY BUSY IN SOUTH CAROLINA; normally a predictor to nominee all eyes are on South Carolina this week as the candidates vying to be the Republican nominee for president criss-cross the state ahead of next week's primary. Since 1980, the winner of this primary has gone on to be the Republican's pick for president.

ROMNEY LAYS OUT ECONOMIC PLAN IN CAMPAIGN stop at USC Aiken During an appearance in Aiken, S.C., on Friday, Mitt Romney, the frontrunner for the Republican presidential nomination, laid out his plans to get the economy going and bring jobs back home. He talked about competitive tax rates, updating regulations and making America the best place for innovators.

SANTORUM, PERRY LOOK TO GAIN MOMENTUM AT CAMPAIGN STOPS ACROSS SC

With the primary election eight days away, Republican presidential hopeful Rick Santorum held a town hall meeting Friday in front of potential voters in York County, S.C. Meanwhile, Texas Gov. Rick Perry made a stop in Hilton Head.

OBAMA SEEKS POWER TO MERGE AGENCIES - A senior administration official says President Barack Obama will ask Congress for more power to streamline the government by merging agencies. And if Obama gets the fast-track power he wants, his first proposal would be to combine sprawling trade and commerce operations into one.

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

DENNING DEMS - This brief statement is to dispel some of the rumors that have been circulating in our community. It has come to my attention that there are questions about the three mailers for the 2011 November Election. Did, the Democratic Committee of the Town of Denning have anything to do with the three mailers for Council Seats?

No! They were mailed by another group of Democrats in Denning who have their own agenda and are responsible for the content of the mailer. The Denning Democratic Committee will not make derogatory statements against opponents, nor run someone just to fill a seat.

As always, if you wish to run for office, please send your resume prior to June 1, for that year's election. Send to denningdems@yahoo.com, or snail mail, Denning Dems 135 Peckamoose Rd Sundown NY 12740.

Have something to say send it; it must be less than 200 words, e-mail politicalslant@yahoo.com.

Be Mine Always (From Pg. 9)

Mary Greene of the River Reporter and the Upper Delaware Writers Collective curated the poetry sections and Alliance Gallery director Rocky Pinciotti curated the photographs. Over the past four years these two curators have perfected this unique mixed-media cross-platform exhibition.

"I believe the love of this exhibition warms the heart in the cold winter months, and the afterglow brings us right through to Valentines Day," says Pinciotti.

"All you need is love," says Greene, "especially when the wind is howling and the snow is blowing. The brightness and fun of 'Be Mine' is becoming a mid-winter tradition."

The "Be Mine" opening reception has become the place to be in January in Sullivan County. Come by to enjoy the exhibit, talk directly with the photographers, and listen to the poets reading their poems. At this year's opening reception, singer Sharon Paige will perform torch songs accompanied by pianist Bob Lohr.

Artists featured in this year's exhibit include Phyllis Bilick, Mike DeAngelis, Daria Dorosh, Elizabeth Ennis, Gino Garlanda, Richard Kreznar, Glenn Lieberman, Sandy Long, Brandi Merolla, Jane Rapp, Ginger Smith, Michael Staats, Bill Strouse, and Nancy Wells.

Poets include Tricia Adler, Ellen Bay/John Dzwonar, Norma Bernstock, Bruce Bidwell, Will Conway, Robert Goldmann, Dorothy Hartz, Patricia Kett, Sherry Lockwood, Karen Morris, Marcia Nehemiah, Leonid Poretsky, Sarah Tunkle, and Vera B. Williams.

"Be Mine" runs throughout the Valentine's Day season, closing on Saturday, February 18. This exhibit, free and open to the public, is sponsored by the Delaware Valley Arts Alliance, the Arts Council for Sullivan County, NY and is made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

Alliance Gallery is located at the Delaware Arts Center at 37 Main Street, Narrowsburg, NY. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call (845) 252-7576 or visit www.ArtsAllianceSite.org.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

292 Glade Hill Rd
Grahamsville NY 12740
January 10, 2012

NY State Department of Environmental Conservation
625 Broadway
Albany NY 12233-6510
attn: dSCEIS comments

We are residents of Grahamsville, Town of Neversink, Sullivan County living about 1900 feet on the eastern slope of Denman Mountain, the first mountain of the Southeastern Catskills. We overlook the NYC water supply Rondout Reservoir. Despite the fact that watershed areas like ours have been excluded from High Volume Hydraulic Fracturing (HVHF), we are deeply concerned about the regulations being presented by the DEC. Even given this exclusion, just how protected are we? The buffer of 4000 feet could permit a gas well to be drilled under the watershed from a well pad located outside the watershed - compulsory integration at work. Regardless, as citizens of our state and county, we object to a double standard even when we may be beneficiaries of it in our immediate area

Despite the effort in the modified dSCEIS to mitigate the recognized dangers of Marcellus shale gas drilling, we believe that attention has not been paid to the following issues:

- 1) the cumulative impact study emphasized by our Congressman Hinchey has not been done.
- 2) The banning of toxic chemicals in fracking liquids currently not required obviously demands disclosure of ALL chemicals used in the fracking process.
- 3) the lack of full disclosure of the issues concerning water consumption, air and noise pollution.
- 4) The safe disposal of toxic and radioactive wastewater, including investigation of potential earthquake activity resulting from disturbances due to volume from wastewater wells.
- 5) The lack of DEC and other governmental entities' ability to impose oversight and correction of violations. DEC

should not issue permits for wells it is not capable of adequately regulating if regulation is even achievable.

6) Lack of response to public health professionals' call for full assessment of the public health impacts of gas exploration and production.

As citizens particularly concerned with health issues (Emmett a retired professor of Microbiology at NJ University of Medicine and Dentistry and Priscilla a member of the Sullivan County Health Advisory Board) we have been especially concerned by results of a study for the Troy (Bradford County PA) Community Hospital of the impacts of HVHF in their area at www.scribd.com/doc/63147811/healthimpactof_fracking that gives a comprehensive view of changes in provision of home health care, hospital services, emergency services, deterioration of roads, population growth, the overall drain on county services. We must learn from their experience. Our state has the opportunity to exercise the wisdom - that the BEST MITIGATION IS AVOIDANCE! BAN Fracking NOW!

As residents of one of the poorest counties in the state, we take very seriously the challenges our fellow citizens face. The promise of much needed jobs offered by the HVHF industry are very attractive for the health of our economy. We have to weigh against this the threat to our environment, our health, our way of life. Better for us concentrate on the continued growth of the agricultural sector and eco-tourism rather than take the path of rampant industrialization of our countryside.

Thank you for your attention,

Emmett W. Bassett PhD.
Priscilla T. Bassett

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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 Hurlyeville,
10:30 am in Woodridge.
For more information, call Pastor Susan Woodworth 985-2283

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!

5277 State Rt. 42
South Fallsburg

For Information:
Mother Joan LaLiberte
845-887-4742


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

Jan 21, 2012
Thrift Sale Only
9 am-1 pm

RAMSAY'S FUNERAL HOMES, INC
Serving Sullivan County Since 1896

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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

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Loucks Funeral Home
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Ellenville, New York
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Assemblymember Cahill Comments on the State of SUNY Address

(Albany, NY) Today SUNY Chancellor, Nancy Zimpher, gave her State of SUNY Address, highlighting the accomplishments of 2011 and offering goals for 2012 that will improve upon the public university system. Many of the ideas presented align with Assemblymember Kevin Cahill's (D-Ulster, Dutchess) agenda, focusing on modernization, shared services and regional collaboration in order to achieve savings and reinvest in the students.

"Rethinking the way we deliver services throughout the SUNY system is long overdue," said Assemblymember Cahill. "By taking a modern more efficient approach we can dedicate more of our resources toward the students where they belong."

SUNY New Paltz has been a leader in the system in achieving savings while continuing to deliver a high quality education. According to Kiplingers Personal Finance Magazine SUNY New Paltz is ranked among the top 100 values in the nation, the only University in the Hudson Valley to make the cut. The high quality, affordable education offered at New Paltz is a key component to its rank and is reflective of the overall mission of the University.

"The modernization of the campus, as well as the creation of a responsible budget that supports the core values of the University, has enabled New Paltz to become a leader in the State University system," said Assemblymember Cahill. "Students are offered a first class educational experience year in and year out resulting in graduates well prepared to contribute to the future of New York State."

SUNY Ulster is also a prime example of how to stay ahead of the curve. They have led the way in creating innovative workforce training programs aimed at preparing students for emerging economic opportunities, especially in the area of clean energy.

"Ulster County Community College has always worked to stay one step ahead by offering programs to meet the needs of the economy and better prepare students for the transition to four year universities," said Assemblymember Cahill. "Their workforce training programs have proven to be a model for the entire system."

Exploring options for shared services is something that State University officials are taking very seriously in 2012. The creation of regional administrative centers have the potential to offer opportunities for neighboring universities to share responsibilities, ultimately giving students a better college experience. Funds previously allocated to specific administrative tasks at each university would be consolidated into one office, allowing for savings to be dedicated back to students.

"I have long advocated for regional collaboration and shared services throughout our system," said Assemblymember Cahill. "Applying these principals to our public universities is a prime example of how institutions can work together to cut costs and deliver a better product."

Hinchey Urges Withdrawal of dSAGEIS Congressman Lists 10 Problems with Regulations

Washington, DC - Congressman Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) urged Governor Andrew Cuomo to withdraw the revised draft Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement (dSAGEIS) on high-volume horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing in the Marcellus Shale and other areas of New York State. Hinchey says the current form of the dSAGEIS fails to address many of his concerns with the initial draft and also does not account for new information that has been discovered about the environmental, public health and economic risks associated with the natural gas drilling activity.

In a letter to Governor Cuomo, Hinchey wrote that "Despite the hard work and sincere efforts by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to update the dSAGEIS, I believe this document falls far short of what is needed to protect local communities from the risks posed by shale gas drilling and does not fully mitigate potential threats, including those to

public health, drinking water, air quality, and municipal infrastructure."

Hinchey highlighted 10 specific problems with the current dSAGEIS that he said must be addressed before the state permits any drilling:

1. The lack of a cumulative impact analysis of natural gas drilling in the Marcellus formation to understand the full impact drilling could have on our water resources, air quality, local roads and other public infrastructure.
2. The lack of a full assessment of the public health impacts of gas drilling through an independent Health Impact Analysis, as called for by more than 250 health care professionals in an October 2011 letter to Governor Cuomo.
3. The lack of a comprehensive wastewater treatment plan that details where and how large amounts of flowback and produced water will be treated or disposed, including how toxic or radioactive contaminants will be removed.
4. The failure to prohibit the use of toxic chemicals in all fracturing fluids in order to prevent groundwater and surface water contamination.
5. No requirement to publicly disclose all chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing fluid at each well site, including a proposed list of chemicals made public before drilling operations begin and the final list of chemicals and quantities used made public no later than 30 days after drilling operations are completed.
6. The absence of a plan to identify New York areas prone to higher seismic activity and measures to prevent earthquakes potentially associated with horizontal hydraulic fracturing.
7. The failure to require a dramatic increase in DEC resources and staffing devoted to the permitting and oversight activities related to high-volume hydraulic fracturing.
8. No complete ban on land spreading of shale gas drilling waste fluids or prohibition on the use of reserve pits or centralized impoundments for fracking fluids and flowback water.
9. No alignment of DEC's gas drilling permit rules with the requirements of secondary lending institutions covering oil and gas activity on mortgaged properties. These include pre-approval from banks and other lenders before signing gas leases, minimum setback requirements from residential structures, prohibition on certain drilling and process equipment, title insurance requirements, property assessments, and more.
10. A failure to provide for an enhanced role for local governments to prohibit gas development that is incompatible with local land-use and zoning regulations.

In December 2009, Hinchey provided comments on the initial draft of the SGEIS. The new draft partially addressed some of his initial concerns. Since that time, new information about the environmental and public health risks associated with hydraulic fracturing has come to light.

Hinchey is a leader in 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.

UC Commissioner of Finance Announces Positive Sales Tax Receipts

Kingston, NY - Ulster County Commissioner of Finance Paul J. Hewitt, announced today that with today's sales tax receipt, the County is 9.46% or \$1,975,091, ahead of the 2010 period of September, October and November. For the year, the County's sales tax is 4.37% or \$3,459,394 ahead of the 2010 numbers. Deputy Commissioner Burt Gulnick also stated that sales tax check to check comparisons are not as important as quarterly trends. Commissioner Hewitt remains cautious as December's receipts include the holiday shopping season and these could negatively impact the County's final sales tax numbers.

DiNapoli Auditors Help Municipalities Comply With Tax Cap

Last week, New York State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli said, "My auditors will be visiting the municipalities that exceeded their tax cap improperly to make sure they have taken corrective action and reduced their tax bills or put any excess property tax revenue into a reserve as required by the law," DiNapoli said. "Our review assisted local governments by providing insight into common issues and errors calculating the new tax cap, and I have directed my staff to develop additional training and expand our outreach to eliminate these errors."

More than 70 percent of local governments reviewed by auditors had adopted budgets with a property tax levy that was within the allowable limit, while 5 percent exceeded the cap inappropriately, according to an analysis by DiNapoli's office. In the last few weeks DiNapoli sent more than 200 auditors across the state to review the new budgets of 798 municipalities.

In an effort to increase transparency and accountability related to the tax cap, the Comptroller's Office will be making the property tax cap report submitted by every local government available on its Open Book New York site by the end of January.

Counties Provide Ways and Means for a State Takeover of Local Medicaid Costs

Citing this year's historic opportunity to phase out county property taxpayers from financing the State's Medicaid program, today county leaders announced their number one mandate relief priority.

In conjunction with the announcement, the New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) released a new report: "Reforming the way we finance Medicaid will lead to taxpayer accountability," which details property taxpayers' costly \$7.3 billion role in the Medicaid program and identifies the ways and means to fund a State takeover of county costs. (report attached)

"Reducing the Medicaid burden on county property taxpayers has long been our priority," said NYSAC President Mary Pat Hancock. "With the recent Medicaid reforms enacted by the State and billions of dollars in new federal resources provided by the Affordable Care Act, we have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to reform the way New York State finances its \$56 billion Medicaid program."

In his State of the State Address, Governor Andrew Cuomo said that the newly created joint Legislative and Executive Mandate Relief Council would begin meeting this month to conduct public hearings and develop a series of recommendations for consideration by the State Legislature. For counties, mandate relief is reforming the way Medicaid is financed in New York, and that can happen in the Governor's 2012-13 Executive State Budget proposal that will be released next week.

"County taxpayers should not have to wait for another mandate relief task force to develop a series of recommendations. We have advanced a workable plan that benefits State taxpayers, county taxpayers, providers and patients; and we ask the Governor for his favorable consideration in the Executive Budget," said Chautauqua County Executive Greg Edwards, president of the New York State County Executives' Association.

Three Medicaid reform recommendations currently being discussed provide for the gradual removal of the county share of Medicaid costs.

1. The Final Recommendations presented by the Governor's Medicaid Redesign team calls for development and implementation of a plan for the State takeover of Medicaid, www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/redesign/docs/program_streamlining

2. A bi-partisan piece of legislation introduced in both houses of the Legislature (S.5889-B/A.8644) includes a gradual eight year State takeover of the local share of Medicaid.

3. A recent Citizen's Budget Commission Report calls for the elimination of the local share of Medicaid, citing that "... it places an inequitable burden on taxpayers in less affluent communities," (www.cbcny.org/sites/default/files/REPORT_Medicaid_12122012.pdf).

County leaders are proposing a multi-pronged plan for the State to gradually takeover the full fiscal responsibility for its own Medicaid program. This will allow county property taxpayers to finally end the subsidy they provide to the State budget that supports a Medicaid program under the complete control of lawmakers in the State Capitol.

1. Apply a portion of the MRT savings to provide property tax relief-there is ample savings going forward that can be used to support the gradual State takeover.

2. Pursue a federal 1115 Medicaid waiver to leverage advanced funds from the federal government.

3. Allow federal health care reforms to cover more New Yorkers-In his State of the State Address, Governor Cuomo has stated that the Affordable Care Act will result in \$18 billion in new federal resources to New York State over the next several years.

"Governor Cuomo has already proven to the people of New York that he is a crusader for redesigning government. Advancing this property tax relief measure will be a logical and long lasting national example of his ability to reform the single largest public health program in the United States," said NYSAC Executive Director Stephen J. Acquario.

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

RSVP Opportunities
 You've gained a lifetime of experience. Now is the time to put your skills and talents to good use by volunteering through RSVP.

RSVP is America's largest volunteer network for people age 55 and over. Join RSVP and you join 400,000+ volunteers across the country 350 RSVP volunteers in Sullivan County alone, who are tackling tough issues in their communities.

RSVP offers a full range of volunteer opportunities with 60+ local organizations. With RSVP, you choose how and

SUUJI WA TANSU NI KAGIRU
 answer

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

- 1/19/12 Town of Neversink Zoning Board of Appeals
- 1/20/12 Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser Grahamsville UMC -4:00- 6:30pm - (Snow date -Jan 21) (See ad below)
- 1/21/12 Grahamsville UMC Thrift Sale only - 9 am - 1 pm
- 1/31/12 Town of Neversink Parks & Rec Meeting - 7 pm Neversink Town Hall
- 2/1/12 Town of Neversink Planning Board
- 2/4/12 **Sundown Methodist Church Covered Dish Supper** - 5:30 pm Sundown Church Hall
- 2/8/12 Town of Neversink Board Meeting
- 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
- 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 | ARATI GIFT SHOP (Brickman Rd.) | JAMES NAPANOCH GROCERY |
| GRAHAMSVILLE DELI | VALERO MINI MALL (Loch Sheldrake) | MATTHEW'S PHARMACY |
| GRAHAMSVILLE AUTOMOTIVE | WOODBORNE CITGO STATION | NAPANOCH APPLIANCE |
| CANNIE D'S | MO'S GAS STATION (Woodbourne) | PLEASANT STONE FARM |
| BLUE HILL LODGE | P.D. SMITH ENTERPRISE (Woodbourne) | PETER'S MARKET |
| | AGWAY • J.B. MAK (Liberty) | |

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.

where you want to serve. You choose the amount of time you want to give. And you choose whether you want to draw on your skills or develop new ones. In short, you find the opportunity that's right for you.

With RSVP, you'll receive free training from the organization where you serve, and supplemental auto insurance while on duty and mileage reimbursement. Volunteers do not receive monetary incentives but, sponsoring organizations may reimburse them for some costs incurred during service, including meals and transportation.

Eligibility: RSVP is open to all people age 55 and over, who are Sullivan County residents.

And remember: When you volunteer, you're not just helping others-you're helping yourself. Volunteering leads to new discoveries and new friends. Plus, studies show that volunteering helps you live longer and promotes a positive outlook on life.

So, get involved, and join RSVP today! Call : Caryn Mathews, RSVP Project Director at 807-0251 Or Elaine Finkle, Aging Specialist at 807-0255

RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program) of Sullivan County is looking for donations of new or usable yarn. We have a group of dedicated "Silver Stitches" who knit and crochet beautiful handmade items that are donated by RSVP throughout our community to children, elderly and anyone in need of warm hats scarf's and blankets ECT. If you have any yarn you would like to donate it is much appreciated.

Please call : Caryn Mathews, RSVP Project Director at 807-0251 Or Elaine Finkle, Aging Specialist at 807-0255

4-H Crochet Classes Begin January 20th

Learn how to crochet a stadium blanket in two colors of worsted weight yarn. The pattern design allows for easy folding into a handy seat and includes carrying handles. This free class is open to youth and any adult who has an interest in working with youth. All levels of experience are welcome. Instructor will be 4-H leader, Beverly Hesse and the first class meets January 20th from 6-8pm at Cornell Cooperative Extension in Liberty. The crochet stadium blanket project makes a handy accessory for the car as well the sports arena. To register and obtain a list of materials needed for the first class, please contact the 4-H Youth Development Program by calling 292-6180. Questions about this free course may be directed to Marilyn Jones, 4-H Community Educator.

"Reggae Riot" Dinner and Dancing Event

Each winter, Catskill Art Society hosts a dinner event featuring food and beverages from a different location around the world. This year, we're heading to Jamaica! This year Reggae Riot Dinner and Dancing will be on Saturday, February 18 - 6:30-9:30 pm. Tickets are on sale now and include: Authentic Jamaican fare provided by Reggae Boy & Girl of Beacon, NY; Jamaican beer, wine and other beverages; "The Real Ting" Raffle featuring prizes donated by local businesses. Once chance included with each admission. Additional tickets will be available for purchase; DJ Music and Dancing with Sharon Molloy Tickets are \$50 per person. Please call 845-436-4227 or email kathryn@catskillartsociety.org for reservations and more information.

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://timeandthevalleymuseum.org>
 Tri-Valley CSD: <http://tvcs.k12.ny.us>
 Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman On-Line Edition:
<http://thetownsman.com>

You are invited to a
SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER
 for Mission work in Ecuador. Pastors Bob and Sue are part of a Mission team traveling to Ecuador Feb. 9-21. We are raising funds in support of their trip and the construction and Vacation Bible School work they will be doing there. The Grahamsville UMC Mission Team is sponsoring this dinner, with assistance from the Sundown, Hurleyville & Woodridge United Methodist Churches, & Bread for the Journey Outreach Ministry.
Friday, January 20,
4:00 -6:30 p.m.
 (snow date Sat. Jan. 21)
 Grahamsville UMC Fellowship Hall
 DONATIONS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED.
 Come enjoy a delicious meal of Spaghetti (w/vegetarian sauce or meat sauce), Salad, 'Bread Alone' bread, Brownie sundaes, beverages.
 TAKE-OUTS ARE AVAILABLE
 For more information, call 985-2283

Showtime on the Showboat Auditions At SC Museum in Hurleyville

"Showtime on the Showboat", a short, very funny 1-Act Melodrama that will be performed as part of the much anticipated Vaudeville in the Catskills! Performance dates: March 31 and April 1, at the Sullivan County Museum , Hurleyville , NY

Seeking: 4-7 Women, ages 20-55; 4-5 Men, ages 20-55; Also looking for: Showgirls, Dancers, Jugglers, "3-card Monty" or other "Novelty" acts. Plus Stage Manager and Stage Crew

Auditions: February 4, 2:30 PM at the Sullivan County Museum in Hurleyville, NY. If unable to attend, please contact Victoria V. Leighton - 917-531-6689, atreperson@verizon.net

February 12 Frost Valley Snow Shoe Hike, For all Ages!

Come to Frost Valley and learn how and why we sometimes need snowshoes! Learn a little history on how snowshoes have changed over the centuries and then put a pair on for a hike in the snow! Bring your own or use ours, adults and kids! This is a Free Event! The Snow Shoe Hike will be held from 1 pm to 3:30 pm. Please reserve a spot by calling (845) 985-2291 ext. 217.



GRAHAMSVILLE REALTY

New York State Licensed Real Estate Broker
135 Peekamoose Road
Sundown, NY 12740
grahamsvillerealty@yahoo.com

<http://www.grahamsvillerealty.com>

LISTINGS WANTED



845-985-0501

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
- 3BR/1BA authentic log cabin on 20+ acs with stone fireplace, skylights, woods that end at the Neversink River. \$319k
- 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
- 3BR/2BA contemp farmhouse on 100+ acres with spectacular views, 2 ponds, adj to Fire Twr, +cottage. \$669,000
- 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

Knarf's "Classic Movie Trivia -



Of Mice and Men (1939)

A drifter and his slow-witted pal try to make their way in the West. Directed by Lewis Milestone, starring Lon Chaney Jr., Burgess Meredith, Betty Field, Charles Bickford, Bob Steele, Noah Beery Jr. Lon Chaney, Jr. gives best performance of his career as feeble-brained Lennie who, with migrant-worker Meredith, tries to live peacefully on ranch. John Steinbeck's morality tale remains intact in sensitive screen version. The film's action begins before the main title credits--an arty innovation for 1939. This is John Steinbeck novel at it's best. Don't forget this is a 'Gnome do not miss film'. See it on TCM Saturday, January 21, 2012 at 6:00 PM 106 min, Rated TV-14.

Quiz:

- A. What does the character George daydream about?
- B. Name the actor, who in this film, played the best role of his career?

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

TRI VALLEY - LITTLE LEAGUE BASE BALL here are some Kappa words from our own Jessica Marchuck **Hello TVLL family**. It's officially that time of year where we not only prepare for snow, but also start thinking about baseball & softball. **As most of you already know, our 2012 season will be held at the Grahamsville Fairgrounds. Registration has begun. There will be three more opportunities to register your children for the 2012 season! Sign-ups are held Saturday, 1/21, and 1/28 from 10:00am-4:00pm at the Town Hall in Grahamsville.** Please note that Saturday, January 28, is the FINAL registration date. Your child does not need to be present to register, however, new players must supply L.L. commissioners with a copy of their birth certificate in order to register. If you have any questions about registering your child, please don't hesitate to contact Tom Mitchell at 985-7449 (Baseball Commissioner), Cathy Russo at 647-1342 (Softball Commissioner), and Jill Knox 985-7554 (T-Ball Commissioner).

HURLEYVILLE - Don't forget -Come celebrate a Happy Birthday at NADIA'S BUFFET on January 19, 2012 join Nadia & Janos. Nadia, will be twenty-one I am told, 20% off if you were born in January, check it out all you can eat \$15.00, plus live Jazz, Thursday - Sunday 5pm on, for reservations call (845) 693-5104.

ELLENVILLE - Ellenville Central School District Home Page Ellenville Central School District Home of the Blue Devils, at 28 Maple Ave, Ellenville, NY 12428. You can sign-up, for e-mail alerts, about school closings, delayed openings, and other important School information. <http://www.ecs.k12.ny.us/>

SHANDAKEN - EMERSON HOTEL, Open Mike Nite at the Catamount Restaurant every Tuesday night from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. Join host **Ben Rounds** and take your shot at becoming the next Catskills Singing Sensation! Tuesday is also Mega Sliders night at the Cat - only \$12.95. For more information, contact Josh at (845) 688-2444. www.emersonresort.com

Have a good week!
Knarf's
Gnome

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 b2/23dt

Mobile Home for rent in Grahamsville: 2 Bdr, walking distance to Town Park, \$550 per month + utilities and security-No pets. 985-7242. pd1/19

Mobile Home for rent in Grahamsville: 3 Bdr, walking distance to Town Park, \$675 per month + utilities and security-No pets. 985-7242. pd1/19

FORSALE

Get read 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. \$500.00 -985-7189

FOR SALE: office/computer/exercise equipment; washer and dryer must go. Great prices on Total Gym, bike and treadmill. Just in time for Christmas. Call Linda at 985-2921

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

Beauty of Birth • Doula Services

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



For more information call:
JANNA COMANDO
DONA Trained Doula Services
(845) 417-6165
beautyofbirthdoula@yahoo.com

HELP WANTED

Summer Camp Registrar: Frost Valley YMCA in Claryville, NY is seeking a customer service professional to join our Summer Camp and Day Camp registration team. AS or BA preferred or equivalent work experience. Ideal candidate will be highly organized and have the ability to multi-task. Excellent verbal and written communications skills required. Database & reservations software experience in a camp setting highly desired. \$9.00-\$11.00/Hour, non-exempt + great benefits. This is a year round position, averaging 32 hours per week. Please submit your resume to Lianne McElhone, HR Assistant hr@frostvalley.org. EOE

SERVICES

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845-985-7783
bigsky1952@aol.com

ANSWER TO KNARF'S MOVIE TRIVIA

A. Buying a little farm.
B. Lon Chaney, Jr.