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Tri

Ye Olde TOWNSMAN Valley

"The Best Journal Published by a Dam Site!"

VOL. 21 NO. 4 GRAHAMSVILLE, NY 12740 JANUARY 23, 2025

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Knarf's Classic Movie & Trivia Pg 64

A Settlement Divided

Virtual Program by Sullivan County Historian John Conway

Sunday, February 2nd at 2 p.m.

[Grahamsville, N.Y.] The Virtual Program, A Settlement Divided, by Sullivan County Historian John Conway will be held on Sunday, February 2 at 2 p.m..

Sullivan County Historian John Conway's program, "A Settlement Divided" tells the engrossing story of the Cushetunk settlement in the 1770s, as residents chose up sides in the American Revolution, and neighbors-even, in at least one case, brothers-who had for years depended upon each other for their very survival, took up arms against one another. From Bezaleel Tyler and Moses Thomas-Patriots killed at the Battle of Minisink-to Joseph Ross and Robert Land-notorious Loyalists who befriended Joseph Brant-some of the settlement's most prominent men ended up on opposite sides during the conflict, which also severely impacted the women and children.



John Conway in colonial dress at Fort Delaware in Narrowsburg. Photo supplied by John Conway

Fallsburg Students Presented with the Student-On-A-Roll Award



FALLSBURG - On January 16, 2025, nearly sixty students at the Fallsburg Junior-Senior High School were recognized with the Student-On-A-Roll Award, also known as the SOAR Award. This award is presented to students who have demonstrated significant progress regarding attendance, behavior, and academics. (Contd. Pg. 11)

YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN

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

Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman (ISSN 1558-9013) will be published weekly for \$40.00 per year by
Gnome Home Inc.

EDITOR: Linda Comando - 845-985-3215

THE SCENE TOO - Jane Harrison

OLIVE JAR - Carol La Monda

MYSTERIOUS BOOK REPORT - John McKenna

MOVIE TRIVIA - Frank Comando a/k/a Knarf

COMMUNITY NEWS - Sheila Lashinsky

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Subscription for *The Townsman* will be available in pdf format and will be delivered to you each week in your email that will be provided by you. *The Townsman* can easily be read on a computer, tablet or cell phone. The pages have been formatted so they can be printed out as a whole paper or a single page. We continue to encourage those who have home printers, to print out a hard copy and perhaps pass it on to a family member or friend who does not have a computer.

**POLICY ON SUBMISSIONS AND
LETTERS TO THE EDITORS:**

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

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.

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

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

More than ever, thank you for your continued support.

On the Front Burner: For he hath said, it profiteth a man nothing that he should delight himself with God. Job 34:9

OBITUARY

Robert J. McKeon, Jr., 57, of Woodridge, NY, passed away on January 10, 2025. He was born on April 6, 1967, in Brooklyn, NY, to the late Robert J. McKeon, Sr. and Ann Marie Senator.

Bobby, as he was known to all, was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and friend. He spent 41 wonderful years with his beloved wife, Hope McKeon, whom he married 31 years ago. Together, they raised two children, Corey (Brynn) and Ryan (Mandasia), and were the proud grandparents of their beloved grandchildren, Keegan, Reign, Maeve and O'Ryan and "granddogs" Bodie and French. Bobby was especially fond of spending time with his grandchildren and enjoyed creating memories with them.

Bobby was the supervisor of the Town of Fallsburg Water Department, where he was highly respected by his colleagues. He also dedicated many years of service as a past assistant fire chief with the Fallsburg Fire Department. Bobby was an active member of the Dart League at Dutch's and the Neversink Horseshoe League, and his love for sports was evident in his passion for the Mets, Jets, and Syracuse basketball. He was also an avid hunter, a coach for Little League and Pop Warner football, and had a well-earned reputation as a jokester, always bringing laughter to those around him.

Bobby cherished the time he spent with his family and friends and was deeply loved by all who knew him.

In addition to his wife, children, and grandchildren, Bobby is survived by his sister, Donna McGee, as well as aunts Dorothy Jackson (Jim), Linda Smith, and Roberta Molter (Terry).

A visitation was held at Colonial Memorial Funeral Home, on Sunday, January 19th. A firematic service followed.

Bobby will be remembered for his humor, dedication, and love for

his family, and he will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

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

DAYS OF YORE...

Today's History

January 26, 1955

Mrs. Andrew George has sold her farm on the Sundown Road to Dorothy and Russell Grey of Olcott, N.Y. Mrs. Grey is Mrs. George's youngest daughter. It is expected that they will build a modern home near the site of the present farm house.

Miss Virginia DuBois, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fernald DuBois of Grahamsville, is on the Dean's List at Delhi.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd DePuy of Ulster Heights have a new baby son, Kevin Corey, born on January 14th at the Ellenville Hospital. Kevin is their eighth child.

January 20, 1965

As part of a continuing program of bridge improvement in the Town of Neversink, Joseph Raffa, Town Supervisor, announced today that the Sullivan County Highway Dept. will construct a new bridge across the Sundown stream leading to the East Mountain Road. Test borings are now being made, and the new bridge is scheduled for completion in 1965 at an estimated cost of \$90,000.

The engagement of Miss Sally Augusta Lyons to James M. Bonnell Jr. has been announced by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. James G. Lyons Sr. of Monticello. Her fiance is the son of Mrs. James M. Bonnell of Bradley. Miss Lyons attended Monticello High School and Mohawk Valley Institute. and is employed by the National Union Bank of Monticello. Her fiance is employed by the New York State Dept. of Corrections. (Contd. Pg. 4)

LOOKING BACK

by Beatrice Akerley
Published January 11, 1996

I just took a spin down Memory Lane and I realize one of the many things I miss in this modern world is the things that money can not buy. For example: window panes magically etched by Jack Frost.

Today's modern double panel windows have sent poor Jack Frost packing. In the good old days on cold winter mornings we woke to kaleidoscope patterns of ice on our windows. Each pane was a unique work of art. Looking at those panes, it was easy to imagine trees, flowers, and even birds on wing. I would lay snug under patchwork quilts until I mustered up enough courage to sprint out in the cold to our wood-burning chunk stove in the living room to dress.

Another thing I miss in these modern times is horse blankets. We used those as lap robes because cars didn't have heaters many years ago. And I miss the flat irons of long ago –the ones we heated on the stove, wrapped in a cloth and took to bed to warm our feet on a cold chilly night. And most of all I miss my old friends that used to drop in to chat over a hot cup of tea... but I am sure I will see them again in the sweet by and by.

Household Hint:

Homemade Humidifier

If you use a wood-burning stove, you can make your own humidifier. Fill an old coffee can two-thirds full of water. Add cinnamon sticks, cloves and orange peel and place it on the stove. When the water gets hot, it gives off a pleasant scent and gives the home extra moisture.

Nature Column - L. Comando

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

Fable of the Phoebe's Call

-a poem by Pauline Rose

A phoebe bird, a gullible thing
Believed an early thaw was spring.
To the North he flew, and sent his call...
And noticed not the clouds at all.
Nor yet, the wind that came so fast.
Screeching, screaming it hurtled past.
Snuffed out the sun - and in the air
Left snow-flakes falling everywhere.
And soon each tree, each field was snow..
Poor phoebe knew not where to go
And later when spring came in truth
His comrades search each nook, each roof...
Then sadly changed their melody
To call, and call, PHOEBE, PHOEBE
They call him still, but vainly for
He perished in that early thaw

Because of its familiar bond with humans and their development, there is a long history of tales, such as Pauline Rose's *Fable of the Phoebe's Call*. Pauline lived on Greenville Road in Sundown and her poem is based on her own observations and notes of the Eastern Phoebe.

The phoebe is one of the earliest to migrate back to the Catskills, sometimes in late winter. The phoebe was the first bird to be banded in North America. In 1804, John James Audubon tied a small circle of silver thread to the legs of nesting phoebes. He discovered and documented that a pair of phoebes returned to the same nesting site each year. The unique character and scarcity of the phoebe's nest sites at that time, promoted strong site-attachment.

The Eastern Phoebe is a plump medium sized songbird with a medium-length tail. The length of the adult is between 4 and 5 inches. The head appears large for a bird of its size and often appears flat on top. Phoebes sometimes raise the feathers up into a peak. Like most small flycatchers, they have short, thin bills used for catching insects.

The Eastern Phoebe is brownish-gray above and off-white below, with a dusky wash to the sides of the breast. The head is typically the darkest part of the upperparts. During the fall new plumage shows faint yellow on the belly and whitish edging on the folded wing feathers.

Despite its plain appearance, this flycatcher is often a favorite among eastern birdwatchers. Seemingly quite tame, when perched, Eastern Phoebes wag their tails down and up. That habit, along with its soft fee-bee song make the Phoebe easy to identify. To hear the song of the Phoebe and read a poem written by John Burroughs, who frequented the Sundown area, go to: <https://nystateparks.blog/2018/04/03/the-coming-of-the-phoebe/>

Phoebes like open woods such as yards, parks, woodlands, and woodland edges. Phoebes usually breed around buildings or bridges on which they construct their nests under the protection of an eave or ledge. Their population increased as buildings and bridges provided many more potential nesting sites.

Phoebes feed on worms, insects and other invertebrates. They consume vast quantities of flying insects. When insects are scarce, phoebes will eat small fruits and berries.

The male Phoebe defends the nesting territory by singing, especially at dawn. Occasionally one male may have two mates, and may help to feed the young in two nests at once. Phoebes are social monogamists.(Contd. Pg. 4)



DAYS OF YORE...

Today's History

January 22, 1975

Sergeant John H. Wolfe, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Wolfe of Neversink, is a member of a unit that recently received the United States Air Force Outstanding Unit Award. Sergeant Wolfe is a radio maintenance technician at Griffiss AFB, N.Y. John is a 1967 graduate of Tri-Valley Central School and received his B.S. degree from SUNY Potsdam.

January 24, 1985

John J. McGuire of Neversink, a retired custodian for the Tri-Valley Central School in Grahamsville and a life-long Neversink resident, died Friday, Jan. 18, 1985 in the Ellenville Community Hospital. He was 69. The son of the late Charles and Ellen McGaughrian McGuire, he was born May 5, 1915 in Neversink. Survivors include his wife, Virginia Folks McGuire at home; two sons: John E. McGuire of Neversink and Robert McGuire of Middletown; two daughters: Mary Inghrim and Dorothy Conklin both of Neversink; two brothers and two sisters; and six grandchildren.

Fable of the Phoebe's Call

(From Pg. 3) After the male establishes a territory, courts a female, the pair will then build or find a nest, copulate, then the female will incubate their 2-6 eggs for about 16 days. Occasionally one male may have two mates, and may help to feed the young in two nests at once. The young fledglings will be ready to fly in about 16 days and leave the nest. The departure of the young completes a breeding cycle, at which point the paired birds may stay together and produce another brood, or they might seek other mates and start the cycle anew. Adults typically raise 2 broods per year.

This is known as breeding cycle monogamy - one male, one female together for as long as it takes for a nest of baby birds to make it to independence.

To that end, both the male and female of a socially monogamous couple may copulate with multiple other partners. It is not unusual for the female to add eggs fertilized by another male to the eggs she tends to with her steady partner.

As for a long-term pair with bonds and faithfulness, that kind of fidelity just isn't part of the phoebe's world, but rather it is the outcome of site fidelity - meaning the birds will return to the same site where they successfully nested the year before.

In recent times, researchers have discovered that, because of this commitment to place, sometimes the same male and the same female that jointly raised a brood or two the year before will find each other again.

It may be possible that the phoebe who was supposedly destined to return to the nest in Pauline's yard to reconnect with his comrades, may have found a new modern nesting site along the way! Were all the nestlings of his comrades, whose fleshy heads popped up at feeding time, the product of the pair tending them? We will never know.

When all is said and done, nothing about the change of the phoebes' mating habits will stop the fact, as the snow melts and

the air warms, we will see the phoebes return, some with deep devotion to their old homes and others, fickle or not, to a new nesting site. Recently it has been noted that some Phoebes winter over. Many birdwatchers still consider the return of the phoebe -not the Robin or the Red-winged Blackbird -to be the most reliable sign that 'spring is just around the corner'.

Meet the Sullivan County Chamber Staff & Board!

Geri Ellen Neumann
Membership & Operations
Coordinator

Geri Ellen Neumann is the Membership & Operations Coordinator at the Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce. In



Geri Ellen Neumann Membership & Operations Coordinator at the Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce

her role, Geri plays a vital part in ensuring the smooth operations of the organization, assisting both Chamber members and the wider business community in achieving their goals.

Geri holds an Associate of Applied Science degree from Russell Sage Junior College of Albany and a Bachelor of Arts degree from the School of Visual Arts, specializing in Graphic Design. Her academic background laid the foundation for a successful career in the creative field. She has gained extensive experience working as a Graphic Designer with prominent companies, including First Brands Corp. and Fisher Mears Associates, where she honed her skills in marketing, branding, and customer service.

In addition to her professional career, Geri is deeply involved in her community. She volunteers with the Sullivan County Federation for the Homeless, where she takes responsibility for keeping the free library bookshelf filled with books, ensuring access to reading materials for those in need.

Outside of her professional and volunteer work, Geri enjoys delving into genealogy and family history, exploring her ancestors and uncovering the stories of her lineage. She also has a passion for collecting and selling unique and whimsical antique and vintage treasures, sharing her love for history through the items she curates.

Geri's vision for the Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce is to provide top-tier customer service to both its members and the business community while actively promoting the mission of the organization. She aims to foster a supportive environment where local businesses can thrive and grow.

A Settlement Divided



Drawing of New York militia. Photo supplied by John Conway

Thank you for helping spread the word about our first program of the year! Please email me if you have any questions or would like more information.

(From Pg. 1) **Admission to this VIRTUAL ONLY program is FREE for Museum Members and \$5 for non-members.** To join the program, please register by email at info@timeandthevalleymuseum.org and put *A Settlement Divided Talk* in the subject line, or call 845 985-7700. A link will be sent to you. Non-members will be asked to please first make a donation on the Museum's website: www.timeandthevalleymuseum.org.

About the speaker: John Conway is an internationally recognized historian and historiographer who has served as the official Sullivan County Historian since 1993. He is a founding member and President of the non-profit history education group, *The Delaware Company*, which operates Fort Delaware Museum of Colonial History in Narrowsburg and provides historical programming at the Minisink Battleground Park in Barryville. He is the co-chair, along with his wife Debra, of the official Sullivan County committee to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the Revolutionary War and the Declaration of Independence.

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

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

- *Water and the Valleys*, an exhibit on the history of the Rondout and Neversink watershed area from early geological times to the 20th century. This exhibition includes interactives such as a Native American artifact guessing game, grinding corn with a mortar and pestle, videos and more.
- *Tunnels, Toil and Trouble: New York City's Quest for Water and the Rondout-Neversink Story*, an interactive exhibit on NYC water supply system and the towns that were removed to build the system, which includes computer interactives, games, puzzles, videos and building a dam and tunnel.
- *1930s Lost Catskill Farm*, a farmhouse, outhouse, barn, electric plant, milk house and working waterwheel help visitors experience life in the 1930s through displays, videos, games and hands on activities.

The Time and the Valleys Museum is proud to be a Blue Star Museum, providing free admission to active duty military members (with ID) and up to five family members. This free admission for members of the military and their families runs from Memorial Day to Labor Day. For more information call 845 985-7700, e-mail info@timeandthevalleymuseum.org or visit

www.timeandthevalleymuseum.org.

To schedule a field trip for schools, or group tour for children or adults, please call 845-985-7700.

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



Anthem

Legacy Mysterious Book Report No. 116

by John Dwaine McKenna

Mysterious Book Report No. 471

Published January 26 2022

Anthem, (Grand Central Publishing, \$29.00, 448 pages, ISBN978-1 5387-1151-4), by award-winning writer and TV producer Noah Hawley, is going to be one of the most talked about books of the new year. The novel is thought-provoking, controversial, compelling and dystopian, beginning with its opening sentence:

“The summer our children began to kill themselves was the hottest on record.”

And that's just the first of many thoughts that will make you sit up and take notice. You'll find yourself thinking, “What's this guy about? Where's he going with this?” It's only one of many times you'll say that while you read. Believe me . . . you will.

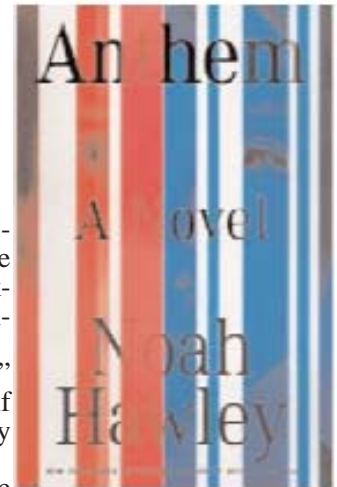
Young people in their teens begin killing themselves in greater and greater numbers all across the world, while adults and parents are beside themselves trying to figure out why. Is it the pandemic? Isolation? Why are they writing A11 on or next to their bodies?

As the mystery of the suicides grows, we're introduced to Simon Oliver, a privileged fifteen year-old who found his older sister's body after she killed herself by overdosing on the pharmaceuticals that their epically rich father manufactures. It's the first of a boatload of ironies and social commentaries to come. Depressed, Simon is sent to a rehab facility outside Chicago called The Float Anxiety Abatement Center where he meets another inmate who calls himself The Prophet. He tells Oliver that they're going to start a new utopia, one run exclusively by teenagers, because adults have made a disaster of planet earth; they've abused, lied to and taken advantage of the younger generations . . . as well as making a complete mess of society in general and civilization as a whole with their endless wars. Without much of a plan, Oliver and The Prophet escape from the Float facility, promptly hooking up with a motley bunch of outcasts, renegades, and outlaws, followed by much fleeing, fighting, and setbacks that lead to peril and a few disasters, all mixed in with observations like this: “How do you make people behave in ways they know are immoral?” Answer: “You undermine the idea of morality itself.”

If you're ready to be intellectually challenged, provoked and made to think, read this book. You'll learn a lot, squirm a little and disagree with some of the author's premises, but enjoy it throughout. One thing is for certain . . . you won't be able to put this one down!!

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

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



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

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<http://Mysteriousbookreport.com>

Thank You!



The Olive Jar

by Carol Olsen LaMonda

Winter Drab

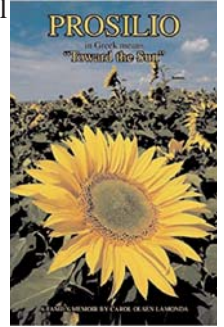
When I look out the window, I see shades of gray-brown, naked trees against a cloudy, milky sky. It is so easy to just hunker in and wish away these dull months.

Winters are long in the northeast, so one needs to look for color and joy wherever they may be found. If you look for them, you will find a palette of color and the joy comes in the moment you notice them.



The FamilyMemoir, PROSILIO...

... in Greek means "Toward the Sun," was written by Carol Olsen LaMonda. Carol writes the column "The Olive Jar" for *Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman*. This local author has been busy guesting at book clubs who have chosen this local memoir as their book choice. **Feel the warmth of "Prosilio" as you read Carol's memoirs cuddled up in your favorite chair. It also makes a great gift!** *Prosilio* is available at Amazon or Barnes and Noble on-line as a soft or hard cover or as a downloadable e-book for Nook or Kindle. Go to: <http://amazon.com> or <http://barnesandnoble.com> and type in *Prosilio* in the search to order your copy of *Prosilio*



This morning the sunrise came with a burst of pink and orange. Knowing we are expecting snow, I thought of the short adage, "Red sky in the morning; sailor take warning."

On my birdhouse camera, I was treated to a blue jay and a male cardinal. Eastern blue birds came to feast on Winter berries that was once part of my outdoor Christmas arrangement with the greens of holly and boxwood. Now only the green remains.

The Christmas lights on my outdoor tree (artificial and stuck in my umbrella stand) come on at dusk and go off at dawn. White lights, indoors, are also on a timer and come on at dark for the few hours before bedtime. I know it is only psychological, but the glow of light and the flames flickering through the glass door of the Jotul woodstove, warm my soul.

A Christmas cactus blooms in luscious pink, and my indoor plants are a spectrum from pea-green to forest green.

The lush red of the lasagna I just made will echo through the menu planned for the frigid cold predicted for the following week. Hunters' stew, chili, and spaghetti sauce bolognese will be hues of orange and red and simmer in the crockpot in case we lose power.

Look for the primary colors
and the joy of winter can follow.

Join the 2025 Reading Challenge: We double 'dog-ear' dare you!

By Lisa Carroll

GRAHAMSVILLE-Are you an avid reader? Have you set a reading goal for the year? Are you ready to explore new genres, authors or topics? If the answer is yes to any of these questions, you are ready to accept the **DPL 2025 Reading Challenge**.

It's so easy.

First off, this year-long challenge is open to all ages. It's going to run from January to December 31, 2025. While there isn't a required goal-and the point of the challenge overall is to experience new-to-you authors, genres or topics-if you do read 15 books and fill out the front of the log, you'll be entered in a raffle to receive a prize. What's the prize, you ask? You guessed it; a book! But, you get to keep it and for avid readers, collecting books is just as much fun as reading them so it's really a win-win. And, once the front is complete, you get to turn the log over and finish up the backside, thereby reading 30 books in a year! (And you're entered again to win another book.)

As you're recording your completed books, you'll be asked to shade in the star rating for each one. When you come across some really good 5-star books, please share your findings with us. We love to hear-and pass along-good recommendations. On that note, if you're interested in accepting the challenge but don't know where to start, look to our Staff Picks display for ideas. Most of the DPL staff are voracious readers. We know a thing or two about a good book! So if you don't know where to kick start your log, check out one of our picks. The displayed books come with a handy bookmark that explains who on staff is recommending the book and why, but of course, if you want more reasons to read that book-hopefully without spoilers-talk to the individual who recommended it. We really like to talk about books and sometimes our families have heard enough. There really is only so much my husband wants to hear about Lucy Score's books so if there's someone out there that would like to talk about her stellar writing abilities, her hilarious plot points or her zany character antics, I'm up for it.

Take the challenge as a little "me time" gift. We're suggesting you push aside the laundry pile or turn off Discovery's *The Last Woodsmen* (though it's a good show, so maybe record it) and read a book, any book. You never know. That one book might spark an interest or refer to another book or author or time period in history that you're just jonesing to read, follow or learn about.

In other news:

Pages & Percs officially opened last week and we've had quite a few customers. So, a big thank you to those who have ventured into the 1902 Room, took a chance on the coffee and purchased a few books. We appreciate it! If you haven't yet had the opportunity to check it out, I implore you to do so. The 1902 room is so beautiful. It's the original building that Daniel Pierce donated and had built as the town's first library. Just the history alone would be worth the trip, but there's the coffee and book sale and that makes it an even better reason to battle the cold temperatures.

Also, just a quick reminder, that **Take Your Child to the Library Day** will be celebrated on Wednesday, January 29 from 10AM to 4PM. There's no school for Tri-Valley CSD students, so we're excited that so many of you will be able to attend our festivities. It's also a great opportunity for you or your little ones to pick up the Valentine's Day card making supplies as we launch that program that day.



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Ellenville, NY

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Fallsburg Students Presented with the Student-On-A-Roll Award

(From Pg. 1) The students who were recognized are the following: Elenora Ahmetaj, Henry Aleman Diaz, Erli Alessandro Maldonado Garcia, Ruth Bonilla Osorto, Yolady Brizuela-Alvarado, Jocelyn Brown, Jameel Cabrero, Dencer Camacho Riano, Alexander Campos Cero, Ever Canales Gutierrez, Nicolas Ciorciari, Juan Cruz Vasquez, Moises Cubias, Ely Cutzal Tubac, Kimberly Diaz, Michael Doolittle, Addison Eckerson, Valery Falcones Moreira, Jaiden Figueroa, Mariama Gai, Jefferson Gallo, Ana Godinez, Isabella Gonzales, Derec Gutierrez Perez, Sonja Henry, Cruz Hernandez Orantes, Erika Jonary Garcia-Ponce, Juan Larrahondo Montano, Emely Latacunga Guaman, Vivian Lizeth Ordonez Cabrera, Madison Lucas, Joaquin Lundy, Alexandra Margoth Reyes Lopez, Angelique Marquez-Zacapexpan, Kenneth Martinez Aguilera, Riot McCoy, Jarvin Mejia, Glenda Mendoza Dominguez, Rachel Montenegro Sandoval, Rozana Narkaj, Jordy Orellana Sanchez, Kaitlyn Pedersen, Juan Pelaez Vasquez, Jose Perez Castillo, Yulenh Phillip, Jennifer Pineda, Ervin Ponce Hernandez, Tyjuan Price, Journey Priest-Fields, Joshua Rosales, Walter Santos Bonilla, Marco Sarmiento-Joya, Emy Sierra Mejia, Zayd Snead, NAROLINE Umanzor Reyes, Elise Vargas, Ambar Vasquez, Yordin Velasquez Sosa, and Kimberly Yautentzi-Reyes.

Nominate Your Favorite Older New Yorker! Nominations of Locals 55 and Older Are Due by February 28

Monticello, NY - The NYS Office for the Aging will celebrate Older New Yorkers' Day on Tuesday, May 27, 2025, and Sullivan County has an opportunity to include up to two local honorees!

At the ceremony in Albany, all honorees will receive a package that includes:

- A commemorative pin
- A hard copy of the book of biographies
- A certificate

Additionally, they will be featured on social media and rightfully celebrated in local media.

The deadline for submitting nominees is February 28. Thus the Sullivan County Office for the Aging is seeking nominations of older adults from the local community to be

represented at this event. These nominations can come from civic leaders, elected officials, and community organizations.

The nominee should be a volunteer aged 55 or older that has made a difference in the community through civic engagement.

Nomination forms are available at

<https://sullivanny.gov/departments/aging>

(click on "Nominate a 2025 Older New Yorker!") or can be obtained by contacting the Office for the Aging at 845-807-0243 or emailing sullivanofa@sullivanny.gov.

Elizabeth Wunner (pictured) and Maureen Hopper were the 2024 Older New Yorkers from Sullivan County, honored last year at a gala in Albany.

CCE, ATI, and the Joseph P. Dwyer Vet 2 Vet Program, have partnered to offer a caregiver support group for families of Veterans

LIBERTY, NY - Research estimates that 80% of Veterans will have some need for long-term services and supports in their lifetime. Often this support falls to the Veterans' families and close friends, whether or not they are prepared to offer it. Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan County and Action Toward Independence are partnering to offer a support group for Veterans, families of Veterans, and interested caregivers on the first Wednesday of the month from February through December, 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm.

Support group sessions will take place at the Action Toward Independence office in Monticello located at 309 E. Broadway. This group will offer a place for interested participants to connect with others and learn about resources available through the Caregiver Resource Center, the Joseph P. Dwyer Vet 2 Vet Program, and the Alzheimer's Association. Attendees will have the opportunity to share their concerns and tips on managing stress, be provided with community resources, and look forward to future speakers brought in to discuss related caregiver topics.

Interested participants are encouraged to register before their first time attending. The support group registration can be accessed at CCE's website at <https://sullivancce.org/events>. Participants can also register by contacting Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan County's Caregiver Resource Center at (845) 292-6180 ext. 122 or by email at sullivancrc@cornell.edu. Further questions about the support group and the program can be accessed via the contact information above.

This program is supported by a grant from the NYS Department of Health, OFA, CCE/Caregiver Resource Center Program and the Alzheimer's Association.

Lisa and Randy Light at the Arts Nest Saturday Jan 25, 2025 from 6-8pm

Doors open 5pm | Admission \$20

Lucky Penny is Lisa Light aka El Elle's second full-length album.

The album artwork features a much-memed photograph by David Henry Williams, entitled "Tiny Dancer" taken in 1984 in New Orleans of Lisa and Randy busking on the street. This photograph is featured in several museums in the Southeast. Having been raised by two musicians, this album is truly a full circle homage to the importance of music to the Light family.

This collection is a diary of Lisa's journey of uprooting from Oakland, CA in 2020 to the east coast to care for her mother for the last years of her life battling cancer. Along the way, she invited her father, Randy to join in the songwriting, and eventual recording of this highly emotional material. This album is entirely organic with simple, classic instrumentation and deeply thoughtful and subtle grace.



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Arts Nest

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delaware
valley
opera

Saturday
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\$20 cover 6 - 8pm

Council on the Arts 6692 Rte 52, Lake Huntington, NY 12752

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Written and Illustrated by Linda G. Comando

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<https://www.amazon.com/Spirit-Sumi-Linda-G-Comando-ebook/dp/B077H87987>

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"DEC Does What?!" Podcast Episode 19 Now Available: Spills, Spills, Spills

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) today released the latest episode of "DEC Does What?!", the bi-weekly podcast that features conversations with DEC experts about the agency's wide-ranging efforts to protect New Yorkers and the environment. Episode 19-"Spills, Spills, Spills"-looks at how DEC's expert spill response program works around the clock to prevent and clean up releases of chemicals, petroleum, and other materials into the environment.

DEC's Spills staff respond to more than 10,000 spills each year, part of the agency's real-time emergency management of petroleum and hazardous and non-haz-

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ardous material releases that can have direct impacts to local streams, water supplies, and public health. In this episode, hosts Interim Commissioner Sean Mahar and Chief of Staff Erica Ringewald are joined by staff from DEC's Division of Environmental Remediation-Mike Zamiarski, Regional Spills Engineer in DEC's Region 8, and Kevin Hale, Chief of Spill Response Coordination-to discuss how DEC's Spill Response program protects and restores New York's natural environment and how DEC's spills experts are engaging the next generation of scientists, engineers, and technicians.

Episode 18 also spotlights the latest environmental news and DEC initiatives, including the start date of online registration for DEC's 2025 Summer Camps program, upcoming dates of examinations for Special Licenses, the annual tree and shrub seedling sale underway through May 14, 2025, and the adoption of new freshwater wetlands regulations to protect an estimated one million additional acres of wetland habitat in New York State.

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

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

Arts Nest

A Fun Space for Serious Music

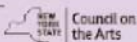


Tshombe Selby

Lyric Tenor

Black History Month

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valley
opera



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Feb 22, 2025
\$20 cover 7 - 9pm**

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Studio Artists Group

at the Daniel Pierce Library
Wednesdays from 9:30 - 12:30
Come paint with us!

Join this collaborative group as we create and inspire each other. Please bring any art supplies that you plan to work with to create your piece. Adults only.

Daniel Pierce Library

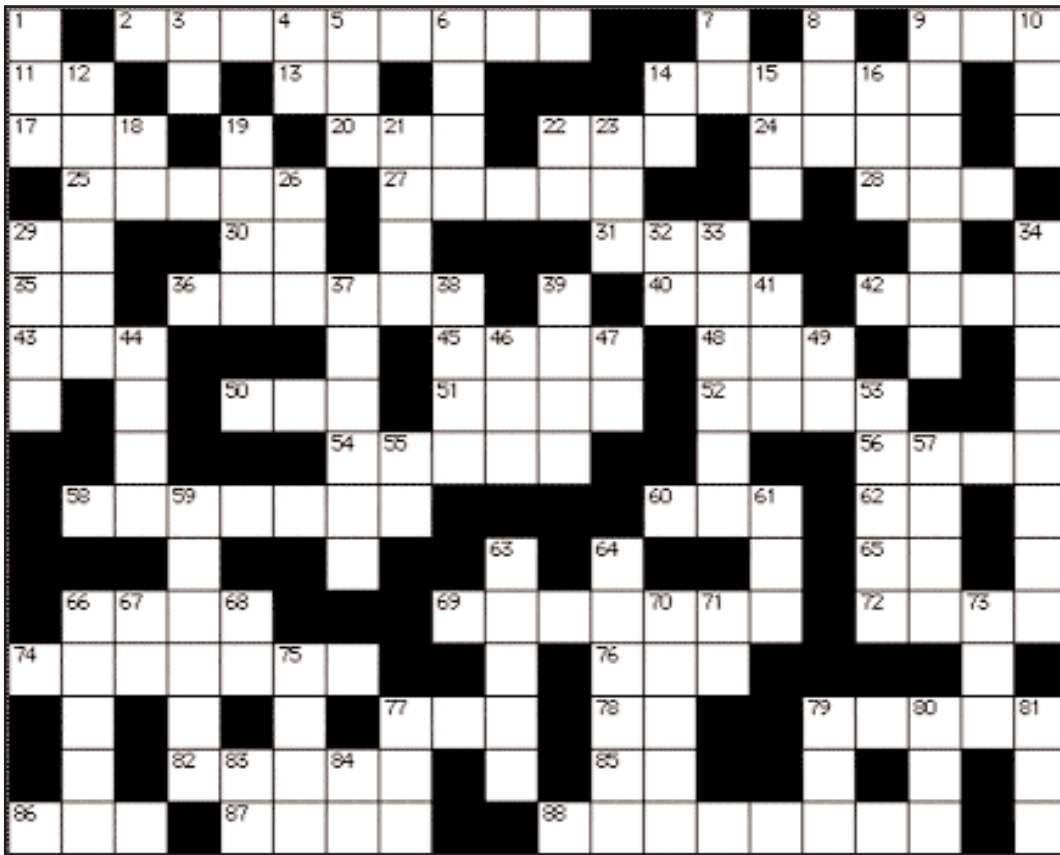
1st Friday BOOK CLUB

The first Friday of every month.

All adults welcome!



Winter in the Catskills - L. Comando



- 70 Group who makes decisions
- 71 Learning Disabled
- 73 Speak in a disrespectful way
- 75 Faculty of consciousness and thought
- 77 Wager
- 79 Past tense of sit
- 80 One who secretly collects information
- 81 Affirmative
- 83 Indo-European
- 84 Private soldier of the US Army

Slow Cooker Bread Pudding with Bourbon Sauce

- 3 large eggs
- 1-1/4 cups milk
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 3 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 4-1/2 cups day-old cubed brioche or egg bread
- 1-1/4 cups raisins

Bourbon Sauce:

- 1/4 cup butter, cubed
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup light corn syrup
- 3 tablespoons bourbon

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>ACROSS</p> <p>2 Appalachian system NY mountain range</p> <p>9 Used to color something</p> <p>11 Regarding</p> <p>13 Used to attract one's attention</p> <p>14 This week's Nature Column star</p> <p>17 Trench</p> <p>20 Rocky hill</p> <p>22 Auto</p> <p>24 Deep place in a river</p> <p>25 Magnificent</p> <p>27 Cut off</p> <p>28 Machine for separating seeds from cotton</p> <p>29 An exclamation</p> <p>30 Long Island</p> | <p>31 It is</p> <p>35 Denoting a high performance car</p> <p>36 Material object representing something abstract</p> <p>40 Pat</p> <p>42 Spiced East Indian tea</p> <p>43 Visual organ</p> <p>45 Fiery gemstone</p> <p>48 Substance used for road-making</p> <p>50 A variety of Lignite</p> <p>51 Blood vessel</p> <p>52 Color part of the eye</p> <p>54 Try to heal</p> <p>56 Corona</p> <p>58 Popular trend</p> <p>60 Moist</p> <p>62 Chem. element</p> | <p>Argon</p> <p>65 Sixteenth letter of the Greek alphabet</p> <p>66 Manage without something that one was accustomed to</p> <p>69 Important person</p> <p>72 13th century Icelandic book</p> <p>74 An actor's clothes</p> <p>76 Grassy soil</p> <p>77 Biography</p> <p>78 A Brit's way of saying 'thank you'</p> <p>79 Cheeky</p> <p>82 Scorch</p> <p>85 Expressing hesitation</p> <p>86 Question</p> <p>87 Emend</p> <p>88 Form of</p> |
| <p>commercial activity</p> <p>DOWN</p> <p>1 French painter-sculptor and co-founder of the Dada movement</p> <p>3 Indefinite article used before words beginning with a vowel sound</p> <p>4 To such a great extent</p> <p>5 Tools of the trade</p> <p>6 Coax</p> <p>7 Antigen occurring in red blood cells</p> <p>8 Chief Executive Officer</p> <p>9 Please greatly</p> <p>10 Night before an event</p> <p>12 Age one becomes an octogenarian</p> <p>14 Public</p> | <p>Relations</p> <p>15 German grandfather</p> <p>16 Marsh</p> <p>18 Treasure (abbrev)</p> <p>19 Exclusively</p> <p>21 Capital of Norway</p> <p>22 Common Era</p> <p>23 Expression of human creative skill</p> <p>26 Muted</p> <p>29 <i>The African Queen</i> screenplay writer</p> <p>32 Part of the human mind</p> <p>33 Sarcasm</p> <p>34 Queen married to Prince Albert</p> <p>37 Substructure</p> <p>38 Intense feeling of affection</p> <p>39 Trap</p> <p>41 Long metal rod</p> <p>44 Island where</p> | <p>Napolean lived in exile</p> <p>46 Edible legume</p> <p>47 Natural logarithm</p> <p>49 Rhode Island</p> <p>53 Specific form of something</p> <p>55 Registered Nurse</p> <p>57 Dry</p> <p>59 Social standing of someone</p> <p>61 Adjective denoting something already mentioned</p> <p>63 Used to separate hours from minutes</p> <p>64 Join securely</p> <p>66 A small forest</p> <p>67 Einsteinium (chem)</p> <p>68 Thirteenth letter of the Greek alphabet</p> |

In a large bowl, whisk together first seven ingredients; stir in bread and raisins. Transfer to a greased 4-qt. slow cooker. Cook, covered, on low 3 hours. (To avoid scorching, rotate slow cooker insert one-half turn midway through cooking, lifting carefully with oven mitts.)

For sauce, place butter, sugar and corn syrup in a small saucepan; bring to a boil, stirring occasionally. Cook and stir until sugar is dissolved. Remove from heat; stir in bourbon. Serve warm with bread pudding.

数字は単数に限る

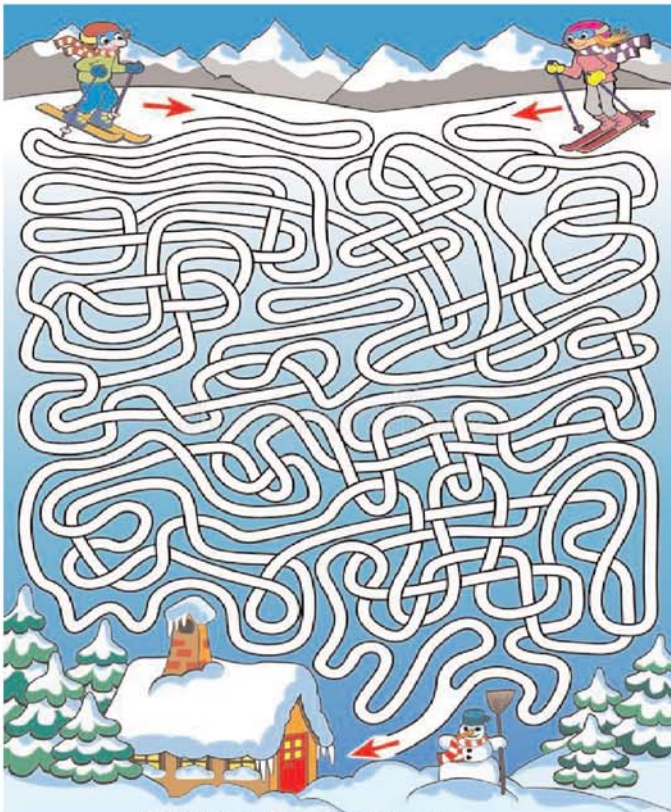
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CRYPTOGRAM

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

8 10 8 24 21 8 24 23 8 11 3 10 8 24 6 2 11 10 25 14 18 24 2 11 3
 1 18 2 17 25 11 14 24 2 8 23 8 11 3 18 7 25 17 25 1 25 22 11 24 14
 2 5 1 3 8 10 25 14 5 10 25 1 5 19 6 25 3 14 25 - John Burroughs

Help the 2 skiers through the maze to the lodge.

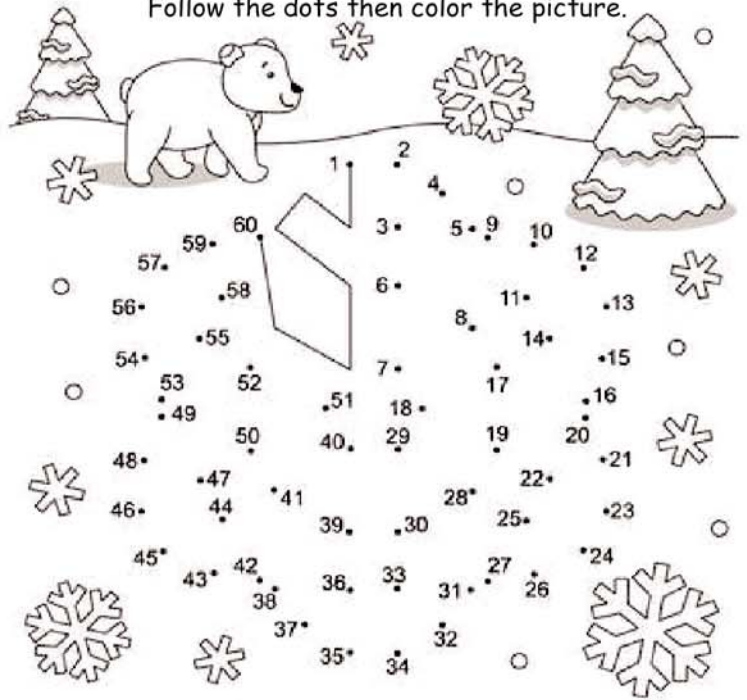


WINTER WORDSEARCH

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

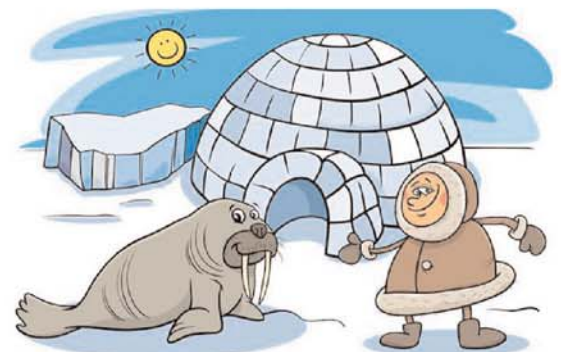


Follow the dots then color the picture.



Kids' Winter Fun Page

- L.Comando



CRYPTOGRAM KEY

8	1	21	19	25	23	22	17	11	12	20	3	10	24	5	15	26	7	14	2	18	4	9	13	6	16
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

LEGALS/PUBLIC NOTICES

Neversink Fire District Sale of 2000 Volvo FireTab Tanker

Neversink Fire District will be accepting bids for purchase of the used 2000 Volvo FireTab Tanker. The specs of the vehicle are as follows;

2000 Volvo FireTab tanker 2,000 gallon tank
500 GPM pump darley
Cummins 350 HD
16,720. Miles
Allison HD 4060P 5 speed
Rear axle Meritor RS30-18, Ratio 5.380
Front axle 16,500 LB.

For any inquiries or questions please contact Commissioner Timothy Dexheimer at (845)701-0946

Bids must be received in writing to
Neversink Fire District
Attn: Tanker Sale Bids at PO
Box 394 Neversink, NY 12765

until Thursday, February 13th, 2025 for consideration. Bids will be opened at our February Commissioner meeting on Thursday, February 20th, 2025 at 7:00pm

Dana Vogler
Neversink Fire District Secretary
1/9; 1/16; 1/23; 1/30; 2/6; 2/13

The **Town of Neversink Republican Committee** is seeking qualified candidates for the position of Town Councilperson and Town Justice. Interested parties should submit a letter of intent to the Chairwoman at hopecosta001@gmail.com by January 27 in order to be considered for endorsement.

Catskill Center – Fungi in Focus!

Discover the Medicinal and Culinary Uses of Mushrooms with Yael Bernard on Jan. 25 from 1:00pm - 2:00pm at the Catskills Visitor Center.

Learn how to identify edible mushrooms, explore their medicinal and culinary benefits, and understand their role in the environment and human health. Suggested donation: \$10. This presentation and slide show will prepare you for upcoming spring mushroom walks.

Find full event details and register here.

https://givebutter.com/Wj2FpD?mc_cid=660c6f7340&mc_id=741885eb1c

Tri-Valley CSD Board Meeting Board Workshop Committee Meetings Thursday, January 23, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. Secondary School Lower Level Library

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

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

TOWN OF NEVERSINK EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY - PART-TIME Assistant Building Inspector

This part-time position involving the performance of a variety of skilled tasks involved the performance of clerical and bookkeeping duties including making visual inspections of properties to detect violations of municipal codes relating to property conditions including snow and ice removal, accumulation of rubbish, and parking of unregistered automotive vehicles; Assesses and documents violations and issues order to remedy and/or appearance tickets as deemed necessary; appears in court to present testimony on behalf of the municipality; as well as other related activities not described.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Either:

- A. Possession of an associate's degree; or
- B. Two years of clerical experience including the performance of typing duties; or
- C. An equivalent combination of training and experience and described in A and B above.

The salary will be a minimum \$25.51 per hour based on experience not to exceed 17.5 hours per week, paid bi-weekly. Applications must be received by February 14, 2025.

Applications are available at Town Hall or on the Town of Neversink website. Please send applications to Chris Mathews, Supervisor, Town of Neversink, PO Box 307, Grahamsville, NY 12740, drop it off at the Town Hall or via email at supervisor@townofneversink.org. Please address any questions to Chris Mathews, Supervisor at (845)985-2262, ext. 301.



A Settlement Divided

Virtual Program by Sullivan County Historian John Conway

Sunday, February 2, 2 p.m.

Virtual Only

Members: FREE, Non-Members: \$5

Telling the engrossing story of the Cushetunk settlement in the 1770s, as residents chose up sides in the American Revolution, and neighbors—even, in at least one case, brothers—who had for years depended upon each other for their very survival, took up arms against one another.

From Bezaleel Tyler and Moses Thomas—Patriots killed at the Battle of Minisink—to Joseph Ross and Robert Land—notorious Loyalists who befriended Joseph Brant—some of the settlement's most prominent men ended up on opposite sides during the conflict, which also severely impacted the women and children.

John Conway is an internationally recognized historian and historiographer who has served as the official Sullivan County Historian since 1993. He is a founding member and President of The Delaware Company, which operates Fort Delaware Museum of Colonial History in Narrowsburg and provides historical programming at the Minisink Battleground Park in Barryville.

Time and the Valleys Museum

845 985-7700

Email: info@timeandthevalleymuseum.org to request link



ICE SKATING

Schedule

THURSDAY: 6:30-8:30 PM

FRIDAY: 6:30-8:30 PM

SATURDAY: 1-3PM & 6:30-8:30 PM

SUNDAY: 1:00-4:00 PM

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Daniel Pierce Library

PBS Nova Documentary Inner Worlds



Thursday, February 20, 2025
6:00-7:30 p.m.

Snow Date March 6th

Recommended for adults and students ten and up

Join local experts John Kocijanski & Irene Pease for an evening of exploration! We will watch the PBS Nova documentary,

Inner Worlds focusing on Venus & Mercury.

Lets discover these planets together with additional insight from our experts.

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

Advanced registration is required at www.danielpiercelibrary.org.

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



Daniel Pierce Library

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www.danielpiercelibrary.org

DEC Forest Rangers and Econ Police Rescue Moose Trapped in Ice in Hamilton County Animal Rescued from Icy Waters of Lake Abanakee All New Yorkers Encouraged to Practice Ice Safety

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Forest Rangers and Environmental Conservation Police Officers (ECOs) this week rescued a moose that had broken through the ice and into the icy waters of Lake Abanakee in frigid waters in Hamilton County.



On Jan. 16, Division of Law Enforcement Lieutenant Higgins and ECO Brassard responded to Lake Abanakee in the town of Indian Lake after receiving a report of a moose that had broken through the ice. The Officers arrived and observed the moose in the lake, surrounded by ice, and unable to get out of the water. The Officers spoke to DEC Operations employees who advised a bystander had watched the moose walk out onto the lake and fall through approximately 200 feet from the town beach.



Forest Rangers Nahor, Savarie, and Baldwin arrived a short time later to assist with rescuing the moose. Dressed in cold-water rescue gear, the Officers ventured out onto the ice. Ranger Nahor began cutting a channel with his chainsaw while Lieutenant Higgins cleared the ice blocks, creating a pathway for the moose to free itself. Rangers Savarie and Nahor then guided the moose to shallow water near the shore. Once free from the water, the moose made several attempts to get up before regaining its strength, standing up on the stable ice, and walking off into the woods.



Director of DEC's Division of Law Enforcement Karen Przyklek said, "With little time to spare, our ECOs and Forest Rangers jumped into action without hesitation, braved the elements, and risked their own safety to rescue an animal in need. I'm proud of the work they've done to bring about such a positive outcome."

Acting Director of DEC's Division of Forest Protection Drew Cavanagh said, "I applaud our Forest Rangers and ECOs on their coordinated and heroic efforts to rescue an animal that was clearly in distress. It's a testament to the professionalism, resilience, and dedication of these two Police forces to New York's natural resources and wildlife."

The moose, later identified as a bull moose that had dropped its antlers, was reportedly in the frigid waters for approximately two hours.

VIDEO of the dramatic rescue and interviews with the Officers involved here. <https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/fs/programs/press/ForestRangers/MooseIceRescue/>

DEC reminds ice anglers to be safe when venturing onto the ice this season, especially given recent variations in weather conditions. Outdoor enthusiasts considering ice fishing should always be aware of essential safety guidelines and make sure ice is thick enough before heading out. Before leaving shore, ice anglers are advised to check the thickness of ice. Four inches of solid, clear ice is usually safe for anglers accessing ice on foot. However, ice thickness can vary between waterbodies and even within the same waterbody, increasing the need to ensure thickness. Anglers should be particularly cautious of areas of moving water and around boat docks and houses where bubblers may be installed to reduce ice from forming. Checking the ice can easily be done with an auger or "spud bar" (a long, metal tool with a chisel on one end) at various spots. Local bait and tackle shops are a great resource for finding out where there is safe ice and what anglers are catching. In addition, fishing with family and friends is also encouraged for safety.

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**Sundown United Methodist Church
Covered Dish Supper
5:30 pm
Feb 1, 2025**

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

Sundown United Methodist Church Hall

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Grahamsville United Methodist Church

**Wishing you all
A Very Blessed
and Joyous
Christmas!**

Grahamsville & Sundown United Methodist Churches

Come and Join us for
in person Worship on Sundays.

Sundown UMC 8:30 am
Peekamoose Rd., Sundown

Grahamsville UMC 10:30 am
350 Main Street, Grahamsville

Pastor Harriet Wilkin
845-985-2283

Grahamsville Reformed Church

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

Claryville Reformed Church

Claryville Road
Claryville, NY 12725
845-985-2041

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



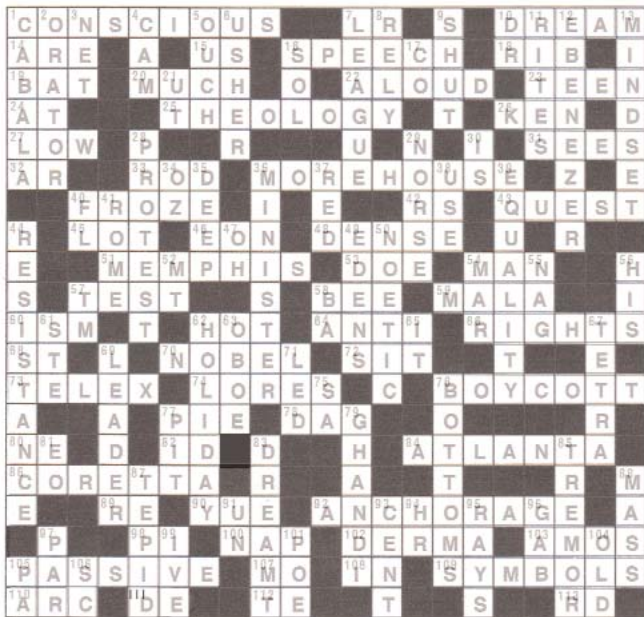
Loucks Funeral Home
Geoff and Heather Hazzard
"Celebrating Life, One Family at a Time"

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

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

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

Ans to last week's Crossword



Sundown United Methodist Church Covered Dish Supper

Saturday,
February 1 2025 5:30 pm
at the Church Hall
Check out the tables with Yard Sale items available for sale
(Covered Dish Suppers are held the First Saturday of each month at 5:30 pm at the Church Hall)

Call for SCDW's "The Odd Couple" (Female Version)

Neil Simon's hilarious comedy is coming to the Sullivan County Dramatic Workshop's Rivoli stage! We're looking for talented actors to fill the roles of Olive Madison and Florence Unger, along with their four quirky friends, and a couple of Latin gentlemen neighbors. Show dates are July 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20.

We are looking for 6 females and 2 males.

Auditions will be held on Monday, January 27th from 6-8 pm. Callbacks for Florence, Olive, and the two men will be held on Tuesday, January 28th from 6-8 pm. Callbacks for all will be held on Wednesday, January 30th at 6 pm. All auditions and callbacks will be held on Zoom.

Please send resume and headshot (if you have one) to Director Charlie Redler at CharlieR51@gmail.com to schedule your audition. No later than Sat. 1/25 please.

Auditioners should prepare a one-minute comedic monologue or relate a funny, interesting situation that happened between you and a friend or friends

Charlie will email times, character descriptions, and sides to all who audition. Individual auditions will be private and then there will be group readings.

We can't wait to see your talent!

SUUJI WA TANSU NI KAGIRU
answer

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

Order Your 4 Free At-home COVID-19 Tests

• Every U.S. household is eligible to order 4 free at-home tests

Do you want 4 free Covid Tests Kits?

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

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

Your order of COVID tests is completely free - you won't even pay for shipping. Want to know when your tests are coming? Sign up to receive email alerts when you order!

Check the air quality where you are at:

<https://www.airnow.gov/>

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

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

LOCAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2/1/25	Sundown UMC Covered Dish Supper 5:30 Church
2/4/25	Claryville Fire District Monthly Meeting 6:30 pm
2/11/25	Denning Town Board & Business Meeting 6:00 pm Denning Town Hall
2/12/25	Town of Neversink Organizational - Board Meeting
2/12/25	Neversink Fire District Commissioner Meeting 7:00pm
2/17/25	Town of Neversink Holiday - PESIDENTS' DAY
2/29/25	Town of Denning Planning Board Meeting 6:00 pm Denning Town of Town Hall

TOWN OF OLIVE MEETINGS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

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

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

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

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

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

Ulster County Legislature**Weekly Update For The Week Of**

January 20 - January 24, 2025

Monday, January 20

- **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - County Offices Closed**

Tuesday, January 21

- **No Meetings**

Wednesday, January 22

- **9:00 AM - Ulster County Soil & Water Conservation District**, in the Ulster County Soil & Water Conservation District Offices, 5 Park Lane, Highland, 12528
- **3:00 PM - Ulster County Electrical Licensing Board**, in the Rondout Municipal Center, 1915 Lucas Avenue, Cottekill, 12419
- **7:30 PM - Ulster County Fire Advisory Board**, in Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston, 12401

Thursday, January 23

- **4:30 PM - Ulster & Delaware Corridor Advisory Committee**, in Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston, 12401
- **6:00 PM - Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency Annual Organizational Meeting**, in the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency Offices, 999 Flatbush Road, Kingston, 12401
- **6:05 PM (Or Immediately Following UCRRA Annual Organizational Meeting) - Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency Regular Board Meeting**, in the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency Offices, 999 Flatbush Road, Kingston, 12401

Friday, January 24

- **No Meetings**



Music Institute of Sullivan and Ulster Counties, Inc.
www.misucatskills.org

SONG CLUB at MISU

Every last Saturday of the month
All ages and voices welcome

Song Club is a drop-in singing experience that builds community through singing original arrangements of familiar songs in a safe and welcoming environment.

The audience is the choir!
For more information visit our website

40 Market St. Ellenville
www.misucatskills.org
845.377.3727



@Music Institute of Sullivan and Ulster Counties

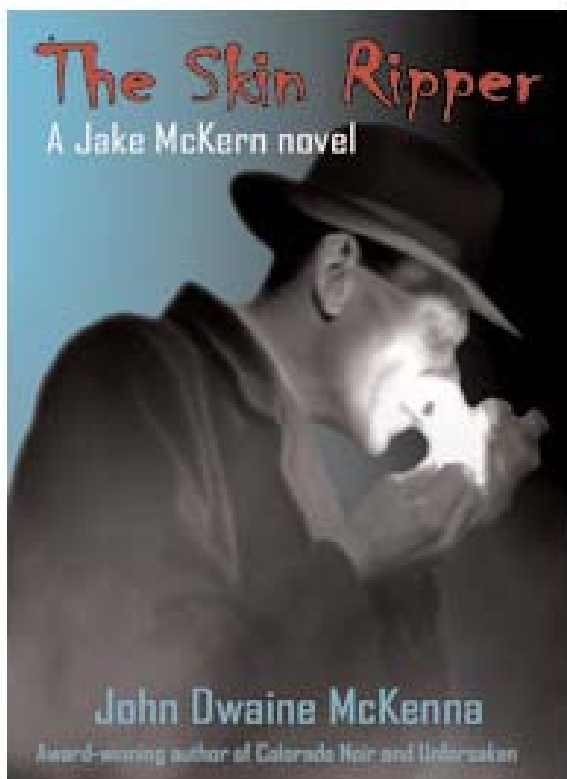
@misucatskills

The Skin Ripper

A novel

John Dwaine McKenna

From the award-winning pen of John Dwaine McKenna comes a searing new novel five years in the making . . .



Recently promoted and just out of the hospital after a long recuperation from injuries he received while battling Lee Roy Morgan gang as they were trying to rob Colorado Commercial Bank, Colorado Springs homicide detective Jake McKern is on his first case . . . the double murder of an elderly couple who ran a small grocery on the 'Springs near west side . . . while at the same time, his personal life is crashing down around him.

With the only clue being a handwritten journal in an unknown and indecipherable language, the victims turn out to be Jews who survived Auschwitz and the horrors of the Shoah, the case suddenly takes on an international flavor with world-wide consequences.

The suspense ratchets up with each chapter as the beleaguered detective is drawn ever deeper into a morass of treachery, danger, and personal tragedy. It's Jake's darkest

hour and his greatest adventure to date!

ISBN 978-0-9896763-7-3

325 pages

Price \$19.95

Available Now at:

Neversink General Store

Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Apple
And bookstores everywhere.

Town of Neversink Parks & Recreation Presents:

Vendors Wanted!



Winterfest

2025

Feb. 8th
11a-4p

Ice Skating - Food Vendors
Snowman Build - Craft Vendors &
Much much more!

Now Accepting Vendor Applications!!
email: parksandrec@townofneversink.org

Alternate date: Feb 22nd

SHADOWLAND
STAGES
ACADEMY

WINTER 2025

Saturday Acting Classes

February 1st - March 15th (7 weeks)

Invited Showings March 15th! Same Time as Class!

Ages 6 - 8 'Finding Your Voice' 9 AM - 10:30 AM

A fun and interactive class where students will explore self-expression through storytelling, improv, and character work. Through games and activities, kids will build confidence, discover their unique voices, and develop communication skills in a supportive, creative environment.

Ages 9 - 11 'Monologues + Character Development' 10:35 AM - 12:05 PM

A dynamic class where students learn to bring characters to life. Through exploring monologues, building emotional depth, and refining performance skills, kids will enhance their storytelling abilities and gain confidence in expressing different perspectives and personalities.

Ages 12 - 14 'Monologues + Scene Work' 12:20 PM - 1:50 PM

A focused theater class that delves into the art of performing monologues and collaborating on scripted scene work. Students will develop strong character choices, refine their acting techniques, and gain a deeper understanding of dramatic text, all while building confidence and enhancing their stage presence.

Ages 15 - 18 'Monologues + Scene Work' 1:55 PM - 3:25 PM

An advanced class designed to refine acting techniques through in-depth work on monologues and scenes. Students will explore complex characters, enhance their emotional range, and strengthen their performance skills, preparing them for both solo and ensemble work on stage.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE **FEBRUARY 1ST**
OR UNTIL CLASSES FILLED

Cost of each class is \$125

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE!

to register or for more information

email ben@shadowlandstages.org
call (845) 647-5511
visit shadowlandstages.org



All Classes in Studio at
SHADOWLAND STAGES

14 Market St. on the corner of Center St.

SC Non-Profits Welcome to Apply for Discretionary Contracts

Monticello, NY - The Sullivan County Legislature is now accepting applications for the 2025 Legislative Discretionary Contract Program, intended for not-for-profit agencies to apply for consideration of legislative funding.

The County Legislature wishes to assist Sullivan County entities with achieving goals such as a public safety, public health, youth services, community development, economic development, environmental hazard mitigations and county beautification. Funds are limited and an applicant must demonstrate justification for any monies provided to achieve one of the above goals. The applicant must be a not-for-profit agency or civic organization operating within Sullivan County that is not part of County government.

There is a NEW application form this year, intended to keep the process simple for applicants. The form is available as a fillable PDF to enable online submissions.

The application must be completed and submitted in one of the following ways:

- o Complete the NEW application online via fillable pdf form on the Sullivan County website, www.sullivanny.gov, and submit it with supporting documentation as email attachments to Deputy Sullivan County Manager Michelle Huck at michelle.huck@sullivanny.gov.

- o Mail or hand-deliver the printed application and supporting documentation to the Office of the Sullivan County Manager, c/o Michelle Huck, County Government Center, 100 North Street, Monticello, NY 12701.

Applications will be reviewed by the County Legislature.

Gillibrand Statement on Release of New Yorker Ryan Corbett from Detention in Afghanistan

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Today, U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand released the following statement on the release of New Yorker Ryan Corbett from Taliban detention in Afghanistan:

"I am incredibly grateful that Ryan Corbett has been freed and is set to be reunited with his family and friends. For years, I have been working with the Biden administration, Leader Schumer, and Ryan's wife, Anna, to help secure Ryan's safe passage back home. I want to thank everyone involved with this effort for their unwavering and tireless work. I wish Ryan and his family all the best as they move forward. I will continue to work to secure the release of George Glezzmann, Mahmood Habibi, and all other Americans wrongfully detained across the world."

Sun Trail Storage 

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

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



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

Please call for availability first

Help your local business grow
Advertise locally in
The Townsman!

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

Display Ads

1" Boxed ad (1"x3")-
\$7.50 per week
Business card ad (2" x 3")
- \$15.00 per week
(3" x 4") - \$30.00 per week
(3" x 6") - \$45.00 per week
1/4 pg (4" x 5") - \$50.00 per week
1/2 pg (4"x8") - \$80.00 per week
Full Page - 8" x 10" - \$100.00 per week
Digital Flyer Insert - 8"x10 - \$100.00/week

Sign up for quarterly billing and get a 20% discount

.. Full Page Flyer for Local Municipalities and Organizations - one time fee- \$20.00 (once the flyer is inserted we will publish it each week through the week of the event)

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

Low Rates
High Visibility!



2025 SULLIVAN COUNTY DMV winter schedule

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



<p>JEFFERSONVILLE</p> <p>Tues January 7</p> <p>Tues February 4</p> <p>Tues March 4</p> <p>License & Registration Appts</p> <p>19 Legion Street, Jeffersonville, NY</p>	<p>WURTSBORO</p> <p>Thurs January 23</p> <p>Thurs February 20</p> <p>Thurs March 20</p> <p>Registration Appts Only</p> <p>2948 US 209, Wurtsboro, NY</p>	<p>NARROWSBURG</p> <p>Tues January 21</p> <p>Tues February 18</p> <p>Tues March 18</p> <p>Registration Appts Only</p> <p>210 Bridge Street, Narrowsburg, NY</p>	<p>HORTONVILLE</p> <p>Thurs January 16</p> <p>Thurs February 13</p> <p>Thurs March 13</p> <p>Registration Appts Only</p> <p>104 Lower Main Street, Hortonville, NY</p>
<p>LIVINGSTON MANOR</p> <p>Tues January 14</p> <p>Tues February 11</p> <p>Tues March 11</p> <p>Registration Appts Only</p> <p>95 Main Street, Livingston Manor, NY</p>	<p>GRAHAMSVILLE</p> <p>Thurs January 9</p> <p>Thurs February 6</p> <p>Thurs March 6</p> <p>License & Registration Appts</p> <p>273 Main Street, Grahamsville, NY</p>	<p>LIBERTY</p> <p>Tues January 28</p> <p>Tues February 25</p> <p>Tues March 25</p> <p>License & Registration Appts</p> <p>15 Sullivan Ave Liberty, NY</p>	<p>BLOOMINGBURG</p> <p>Thurs January 30</p> <p>Thurs February 27</p> <p>Thurs March 27</p> <p>License & Registration Appts</p> <p>73 North Rd. Bloomingburg, NY</p>

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

Saturday, January 25

1pm: Friends Mixer

3pm: Friends Mixer

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



"A beautiful, bighearted treasure of a novel."
—LILY KING

HOW TO READ A BOOK

A NOVEL

Olive Free Library

AUTHOR OF THE ONE-IN-A-MILLION BOY

MONICA WOOD

VIRTUAL BOOK CLUB
Saturday, January 18 • 4 pm

Multiplicity: Together and Apart

featuring 11 regional artists whose works are presented as multiple pieces that are intended to work together or work individually

Curated by Jan Sosnowitz

featuring 11 regional artists whose works are presented as multiple pieces that are intended to work together or work individually

Curated by Jan Sosnowitz

January 18 – March 1, 2025

Opening Reception: Sat., January 18, 3 – 5 pm

Artists' Meet & Greet: Saturday, March 1, 2:30 – 4 pm

Artists in the show:

Nova Darkstar	Lowell Miller
Ted Dixon	Robert Ohnigian
Robin Factor	Vincent Pidone
Pat Hough	Alan Samalin
Sarah Mecklem	MJ Shepard
	Frank Tagariello

OLIVE FREE LIBRARY

4033 Route 28A
West Shaker, NY
olivefreeibrary.org
845.677.2482

Community Mixer!

Saturday, January 25, 3-5 p.m.

Hosted by the Friends Group – Olive Free Library

Clear the winter blues and come in from the cold. Join old friends, meet new friends, enjoy the good vibes of Olive over warm bowls of soup and stew, bread and other warm refreshments! We look forward to seeing you there!

Olive Free Library

Birds of Prey

WITH Robinson's Wildlife

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST at 11 a.m.

Join us for our annual Bird's of Prey show. Robinson's Wildlife will be here to talk with us about birds of prey and maybe even have a few flying friends for you to see!



INTRO TO Beekeeping

with Rob Overton

Saturday, January 18
10am - 4pm

Olive Free Library

Full-day FREE intensive seminar

Designed for beginners, great refresher for all beekeepers!

No prior experience necessary

Local Talent Invited to Audition for the 2025 Forestburgh Playhouse Season!

Forestburgh, NY - The Forestburgh Playhouse is thrilled to announce its annual LOCAL AUDITIONS, inviting the exceptional talent from the Sullivan Catskills and surrounding counties to join its celebrated 2025 season. This is an incredible opportunity for local artists to share the stage with professional performers and be part of the region's premier theatrical productions.

Audition Details

- o Date: Sunday, February 9, 2025
- o Time: 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
- o Location: Auditorium at Sullivan West High School

How to Sign Up

To secure an audition spot, email production@fbplayhouse.org with the subject line "Local Casting Signup." In your email, specify if you are auditioning for Shrek the Musical, The Full Monty, Newsies, or the 2025 Junior ResCo program. A detailed response with audition requirements and time slots will follow.

Audition Opportunities by Age Group

Ages 5-15: Shrek the Musical

Young artists can audition for a variety of fun and dynamic roles, including:

- o Young Shrek (Ages 5-10)
- o Young Fiona (Ages 6-10)
- o Teen Fiona (Ages 10-15)
- o Shrek Ensemble (Ages 5-15): Ogres, monsters, fairy tale characters, villagers, and more!

Audition Requirements: Prepare a 16-bar selection (30-45 seconds) of a favorite song. Bringing piano sheet music is encouraged but not mandatory. Enthusiasm and a love of singing and dancing are key!

Rehearsal & Performance Schedule:

- o Rehearsals: Select weekends starting in late June, with additional morning and evening rehearsals closer to the July opening.
- o Performances: Thursdays and Saturdays at 11:00 AM from July 10 - August 16, 2025. Cast members must commit to at least six performances.

Ages 10-14: The Full Monty

o Audition for the role of Nathan Lukowski in The Full Monty! Seeking: NATHAN LUKOWSKI principal role in the show!

- o Ages 10-14: Jerry's young son who is 12 years old and going on 40. Nathan has a great sense of humor and needs to sing and act well.

Audition Requirements: Auditioners should bring a 16-bar selection (30-45 seconds) of their favorite song. Piano sheet music is required.

If You Are Cast: If you are cast and accept the offer to join The Full Monty, you will be required to attend all called rehearsals and performances. You will not be called every day of rehearsals but must be ready to commit to a fast, exciting, and intense process.

Rehearsal & Performance Schedule:

- o Rehearsals: Typically from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM (lunch provided) Tuesdays through Saturdays. There is a Monday tech rehearsal (7:00 PM - Midnight) and a final dress rehearsal (12:30 PM - 5:00 PM, dinner provided).

- o Performances: July 1-13, Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8:00 PM, Wednesdays at 2:00 PM, and Sundays at 3:00 PM.

What to Bring: Your talent! Auditioners need to bring a 16-bar selection of a song that showcases your talent. Please have your sheet music marked and ready for the accompanist. If you do not have sheet music, you may sing a short selection a cappella.

Ages 10-14: Disney's Newsies

- o Audition for the role of Les!

Seeking: A talented young artist for the role of Les, a cheeky and precocious young newsie. Les is:

- o Ages 10-14: Davey's younger brother who is inspired by the freedom of the newsies and loves their independent lifestyle. A natural salesboy and pint-sized charmer.

- o Vocal Range: Db3-Bb3. Movement skills are a plus!

Audition Requirements: Prepare a 16-bar selection (30-45 seconds) of a favorite song with sheet music for the accompanist.

Rehearsal & Performance Schedule:

- o Newsies Rehearsals: Tuesday-Saturday, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM (lunch provided), with additional tech and dress rehearsals.
- o Performances: July 29 - August 10, 2025, with shows Tuesday-Saturday at 8:00 PM, Wednesday at 2:00 PM, and Sunday at 3:00 PM. Attendance at all performances is required.

Ages 12-18: 2025 Junior Resident Company (Jr. ResCo)

This elite program offers young performers the chance to work closely with industry professionals and develop their skills. Participants will:

- o Perform in Playhouse Cabarets.
- o Take master classes on professional acting, understudying, dance captaincy, and more.
- o Understudy roles in Shrek the Musical and other mainstage productions.
- o Attend all seven mainstage producer runs.

Audition Requirements: Email production@fbplayhouse.org with the subject line "Jr ResCo Audition" to schedule an audition. Prepare two contrasting 16-bar song selections with sheet music. A movement call may also be included.

Why Audition?

Joining the Forestburgh Playhouse is more than just a performance opportunity; it's a chance to:

- o Work with top-tier professionals.
- o Hone your craft in a supportive and exciting environment.
- o Be part of a world-class entertainment experience that has launched countless careers on Broadway and beyond.

The Forestburgh Playhouse is committed to fostering local talent and celebrating the vibrant arts community of our region. We cannot wait to see the incredible talent our community has to offer!

About the Forestburgh Playhouse

Founded in 1947, the Forestburgh Playhouse has served as a beacon of the arts in the Sullivan Catskills for over 75 years. Under the leadership of Producing Artistic Director Franklin Trapp, the Playhouse continues to deliver high-quality theatre productions and foster the development of new works. With a mission that encompasses professional theatre, arts education, and youth programming, the Playhouse attracts over 30,000 patrons each summer and is a proud pioneer in the resurgence of live performances. The Forestburgh Playhouse is a non-for-profit corporation dedicated to the promotion of the arts in Sullivan County, NY. (Federal ID #46-4432375, NYS Charities #44-50-97, NYS Tax Exempt #259887)

Join Us on February 9th and Let Your Talent Shine!



Sundown
United
Methodist
Church



February 1, 2025
5:30 pm

Bring a covered dish to share
Enjoy good food and fellowship

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

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



Please Help Save Our School!

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

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

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

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

Thank You!

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

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

Please mail your check to:

Time and the Valleys Museum

P.O. Box 254, Grahamsville, NY 12740

or go online:

[www.timeandthevalleymuseum.org/
support/donate](http://www.timeandthevalleymuseum.org/support/donate)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Thank you so much for your donation.

Your donation is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Got History?

Get Museum Membership & FREE Admission to over 30 Museums for only \$25 a year!

- ◆ Free admission to all in-person and virtual programs
- ◆ Free admission to the Museum and Catskill Farm
- ◆ Invitations to exhibit openings and special events
- ◆ *Around the Reservoirs* Newsletter
- ◆ Monthly historical and informative emails
- ◆ 10% discount in the Museum Shop
- ◆ FREE admission to over 30 other museums in New York State



Join NOW and get a free art catalogue!

Join at the \$100 (Patron) level for FREE admission to thousands of museums all across North America!

Time and the Valleys Museum, P.O. Box 254, Grahamsville, New York 12740
 845 985-7700 or join online: www.timeandthevalleymuseum.org

- Individual \$25
- Double \$40
- Family \$50
- Patron \$100
- Patron Silver \$200
- Patron Gold \$500

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State & Zip: _____

Phone: _____ e-mail: _____

Thank you for supporting local history and the Museum

Time and the Valleys Museum

P.O. Box 254, 332 Main Street, Grahamsville NY 12740

THE ACADEMY AT
SHADOWLAND
STAGES

WINTER 2025

ADULT ACTING CLASS

Tuesday Evenings

Audition Techniques + Monologues

5:30 PM - 8:00 PM

February 4th - March 25 (8 weeks)

This session will equip actors with essential audition skills and deepen their monologue performance. Actors will refine their ability to prepare, perform, and present strong, authentic readings in audition settings. Actors will also learn 1-2 monologues, explore script analysis, emotional connectivity, and character development. By the end of the session, actors will gain increased confidence, sharpened techniques, and monologues ready for any audition.

Cost of the class is \$125.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE **FEBRUARY 4TH**
OR UNTIL CLASS REACHES CAPACITY

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

https://shadowlandstages.easy-ware-ticketing.com/classes?N=1197&mc_cid=71fdf21bcc&mc_eid=138a9b9d06

to register or for more information

email ben@shadowlandstages.org
call (845) 647-5511
visit shadowlandstages.org

All Classes in Studio at
SHADOWLAND STAGES

14 Market St. on the corner of Center St.

Governor Hochul Launches “Trailblazers in Business” Certification Initiative And Business Growth Accelerator to Strengthen New York MWBRS During Black History Month

**Certification Initiative Offers Free Support
Through Statewide Business Advisory Network**

**Builds on State's Success in Streamlining
MWBE Certification to 90 Days**

**Business Growth Accelerator 3.0 Opens
Applications for Construction and
Semiconductor Industries**

**\$105 Million in State Contracts Already
Awarded Through Business Growth
Accelerator Programs**

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced two initiatives to strengthen New York State's Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprise (MWBE) community during Black History Month, building on her recently announced State of the State proposals to reform MWBE procurement. The “Trailblazers in Business” Certification Initiative and the New York State MWBE Business Growth Accelerator 3.0 Program will expand opportunities for MWBEs across the state. Running from January 20 through February 28, 2025, the Certification Initiative leverages a statewide network of business advisory centers to provide free, comprehensive support to help qualified MWBEs complete their applications for state certification. In tandem, Empire State Development (ESD) is launching its Business Growth Accelerator Program, designed to deliver intensive technical assistance and business development training to certified MWBEs in the construction industry and semiconductor fabrication construction trades to help them compete for high-value public and private contract opportunities.

“During Black History Month, we're taking bold action to expand economic opportunity and create a more inclusive business environment across New York State, including historic reforms to streamline MWBE procurement,” Governor Hochul said. “Our Trailblazers in Business Initiative streamlines the path to MWBE certification, while our Business Growth Accelerator equips firms with specialized training in construction and semiconductor manufacturing. Together, these programs open new chapters of opportunity in New York's economic future, ensuring every qualified business can contribute to our state's growth.”

Chief Diversity Officer Julissa Gutierrez said, “The Trailblazers in Business Initiative builds on our proven commitment to MWBE success. By streamlining certification processing and providing hands-on support through our business advisory network, we're creating meaningful opportunities for qualified businesses across the state. These efforts strengthen our communities and drive inclusive economic growth that benefits all New Yorkers.”

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Empire State Development President, CEO and Commissioner Hope Knight said, “As we streamline the certification process through our Trailblazers in Business Initiative, we're also preparing MWBEs for unprecedented opportunities in construction and semiconductor manufacturing. Our Business Growth Accelerator provides the industry-specific training these sectors demand, ensuring newly certified businesses are ready to compete and succeed in New York's fastest-growing industries.”

ESD Division of Minority-and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Development Executive Director Jason Clark said, “Our nation-leading 32 percent MWBE utilization rate demonstrates the impact of smart, targeted support. By accelerating the certification process and providing specialized business development through our Accelerator program, which has already generated over \$105 million in contracts, we're creating a comprehensive pathway to success for New York's MWBE community.”

State of the State Proposals To Expand MWBE Opportunities

In her 2025 State of the State address, Governor Hochul announced proposals to further expand MWBE opportunities across New York State. The Governor's plan includes increasing the MWBE discretionary purchase threshold to \$1.5 million, aligning New York State with MTA and New York City standards to streamline procurement processes and create new contracting opportunities for New York's MWBE community.

The proposals also expand alternative project delivery methods, such as progressive design build and construction manager build, creating a more level playing field for small and emerging firms. (Contd. Pg. 37)

Governor Hochul Launches “Trailblazers in Business” Certification Initiative And Business Growth Accelerator to Strengthen New York MWBEs During Black History Month

(From Pf. 36) Additionally, the Governor is extending pre-qualified list authority to state agencies and authorities, ensuring bids are reviewed from suitable vendors while supporting emerging MWBE firms in the procurement process.

These comprehensive reforms reinforce New York's position as a national leader in supporting MWBE growth and success, providing new pathways for certified businesses to compete and grow in state contracting.

Trailblazers in Business Certification Initiative

Building on New York State's streamlined certification process that already delivers decisions in as little as 90 days, participants in the Trailblazers in Business Certification Initiative may receive even faster determinations. While businesses must meet the requirements set forth in Executive Law Article 15-A and Title 5 to qualify, the initiative aims to further accelerate the process for eligible applicants who respond to information requests within five business days.

MWBEs can connect with the following organizations for free application assistance:

- o Entrepreneurial Assistance Centers - esd.ny.gov/entrepreneurial-assistance-program
- o Small Business Development Centers - nysbdc.org
- o Empire APEX Accelerator - empireapexMWBE@nys-tec.com
- o LaGuardia APEX Accelerator - laguardia.edu/ce/business-services/apex-accelerators
- o Bronx Chamber of Commerce - bronxchamber.org
- o La Fuerza Unida Community Development Corporation - lafuerzacdc.org/pages/services

New York State MWBE Business Growth Accelerator

The New York State MWBE Business Growth Accelerator 3.0 Program builds on the success of previous iterations, which have helped enhance the capacity of 125 MWBE firms and facilitated over \$105 million in contract awards. The program will provide certified and growth-oriented MWBEs in the construction industry and semiconductor fabrication construction trades with intensive technical assistance and business development training.

Participants will gain enhanced access to New York State agency construction and semiconductor fab construction-based contracts, industry subject matter experts, construction cost estimating and bidding expertise, capital resources for contract scope preparation, and a tailored, strategic five-year business growth plan with mentoring and technical assistance. Interested applicants can apply here.

The New York State MWBE Business Growth Accelerator Program will be delivered in four phases:

- Phase 1 (Months 1-3): Outreach, recruitment, and curriculum design
- Phase 2 (Months 4-11): Intensive, curriculum-based training tailored to participant needs
- Phase 3 (Months 12-15): One-on-one coaching and Business Growth Plan development
- Phase 4 (Months 16-18): Post-graduation support and ongoing assistance

To qualify for the New York State MWBE Business Growth Accelerator 3.0 Program, applicants must be a construction service, construction consulting, or semiconductor fabrication construction trade firm and have been in operation for at least two years. The program is free to participate in and will be delivered through both virtual and in-person business development assistance, including workshops, one-on-one mentoring, and networking opportunities.

Governor Hochul's Support for New York's MWBEs

Under Governor Hochul's leadership, New York State has transformed its MWBE program into a national model for inclusive economic growth. A strategic \$11 million investment in FY 2023 eliminated the certification backlog and reduced application response times to 90 days or less. Since August 2023, Empire State Development has successfully certified and recertified over 3,700 businesses, streamlining access to state contracting opportunities.

New York continues to set national benchmarks for MWBE participation, exceeding its 30 percent utilization goal for the fourth consecutive year with a nation-leading 32.21 percent rate. This achievement represents nearly \$3 billion in state contracts awarded to certified MWBEs in FY 2023-24, contributing to almost \$12 billion in awards since Governor Hochul took office. Further strengthening the program's impact, the Governor recently introduced the New York State MWBE Certified Decal, an official mark of certification that increases visibility for qualified businesses and opens new opportunities with both government and private sector partners.

State Senator James Sanders Jr. said, “Governor Hochul's 'Trailblazers in Business' Certification Initiative and Business Growth Accelerator are commendable steps toward empowering Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprises in New York. These programs underscore a commitment to breaking down barriers and creating lasting opportunities for MWBEs, particularly in key industries like construction and semiconductor fabrication. While it is fitting to launch such impactful initiatives during Black History Month, we must ensure these efforts extend beyond February, fostering sustained growth and equity for our MWBEs throughout the year and for generations to come.”

Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn said, “I applaud Governor Kathy Hochul's bold MWBE proposals, especially increasing the MWBE discretionary purchase threshold to \$1.5 million. For years I have been fighting to lift this threshold, and was able to break barriers in New York City by implementing increases to \$1.5 million with my colleagues. Now, we're unlocking even more opportunity by aligning New York State with MTA and New York City procurement standards to empower all MWBEs across our great state.”

Don't Miss DEAR JACK, DEAR LOUISE Off-Broadway!

After a critically acclaimed run at SHADOWLAND STAGES and Penguin Rep Theatre this summer, Ken Ludwig's *Dear Jack, Dear Louise* is moving Off-Broadway to 59E59 Theaters! Presented by Penguin Rep Theatre and SHADOWLAND STAGES, the production runs January 18-February 16 and features the original cast and director: Alexandra Fortin, Michael Liebhauser, and director Stephen Nachamie.

This heartfelt play tells the true story of Ludwig's parents, who fell in love through letters during World War II. With Ken Ludwig's signature warmth and humor, *Dear Jack, Dear Louise* captures the enduring power of hope and connection in trying times.

What the critics say:

"A letter-perfect love story" - BroadwayWorld

"A delightfully warm-hearted romantic comedy... brimming with infectious optimism." - Talkin' Broadway

If you loved it at SHADOWLAND or haven't had the chance to experience this beautiful production, now's your opportunity to see it at 59E59 Theaters!

Special event - Join a post-show talkback with Tony Award-winning playwright Ken Ludwig and Joe Brancato, Artistic Director of Penguin Rep Theatre, on Friday, January 31, following the 7:00 PM performance.

Details: January 18-February 16 Run Time: 1 hour, 45 minutes

59E59's Theatre A Tickets: \$66-\$86

Click here for tickets

https://59e59.org/shows/show-detail/ken-ludwigs-dear-jack-dear-louise/?mc_cid=71fdf21bcc&mc_eid=138a9b9d06#schedule-and-tickets



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

More about our warrior Nick....

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

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

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

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

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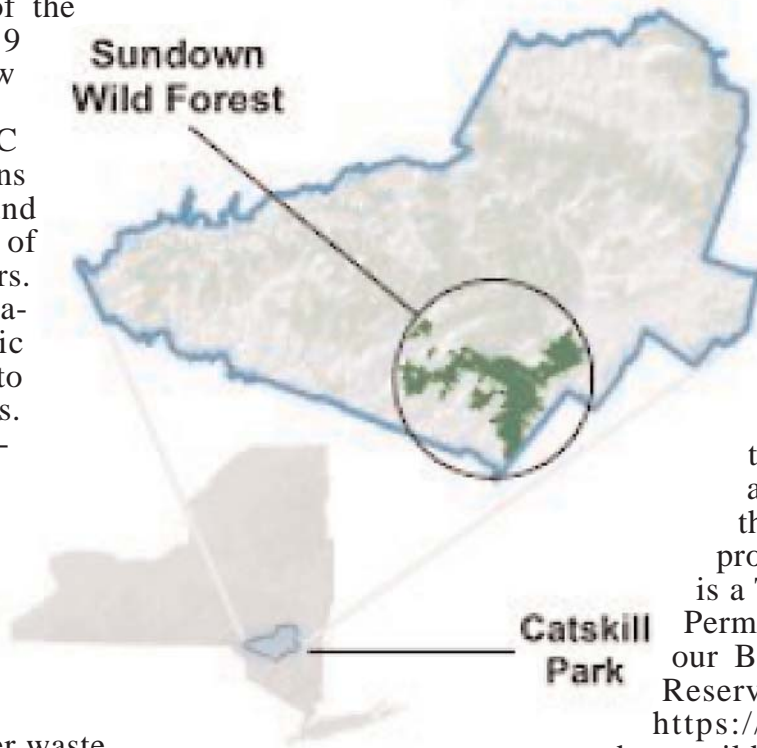
A \$10 permit is now required for use of the entire Peekamoose Valley Riparian Corridor including the Peekamoose Blue Hole

A permit will be required for all visitors to the Peekamoose Blue Hole and the entire nearby Peekamoose Valley Riparian Corridor along the Rondout Creek, including campers, picnickers, hikers, and anglers every-day between May15th and September 15th of each year. Hunters and anglers with a valid license are exempt from the permit requirement. Please keep in mind that there is no cell service in the Peekamoose Valley.

Permits are \$10, and must be acquired at least 24 hours in advance, but no more than a week in advance. Only advance registrations will be accepted. No walk-in registrations are available. Permits must list the names of all members of the visiting party when making the registration. Names can be changed up to one day in advance. Each permit will be linked to a vehicle, with a 5 person maximum capacity, and the permit must be displayed on/in the vehicle.

There is an approximate 0.6-mile walk from the parking area to the Blue Hole. The Blue Hole is a day-use area and is part of the Rondout Creek, which flows through the Peekamoose Valley to the Rondout Reservoir. The reservoir provides almost half of the drinking water for more than 9 million people in the New York City metropolitan area.

Special Regulations DEC has issued special regulations for the Blue Hole and Peekamoose Valley because of the huge increase in visitors. The purpose of these regulations is to increase public safety and reduce impacts to the environmental resources. Except for the nearby designated camping area, the Blue Hole is only open to the public from one half hour before sunrise to one half hour after sunset. Users are required to use portable restroom facilities for human waste disposal and the dumpster for all other waste.



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← Turn LEFT onto Monument Road	
Continue onto NY-28A West	1.8 Miles
← Turn LEFT onto NY-213	1.1 Miles
→ Turn RIGHT onto Krumville Road/CR-2A	0.8 Miles
Gun Shop on LEFT	

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

Bingo at the Monticello Elks Lodge

Every Tuesday at 7 PM
46 North Street in Monticello
For information
contact Past Exalted Ruler Ronni Scannell
at (845) 701-0695

The following are prohibited at the Blue Hole (limited use will be allowed at the nearby designated camping area only): Camping; All fires (including charcoal fires, wood fires, gas grills, propane stoves or other portable stoves); Use of portable generators; Glass containers; Alcoholic beverages; Radios and other audio devices.

Parking is limited to designated parking areas only. Parking along the shoulder of the road is prohibited by the Town and is a Tow Away Zone.

Permits can be acquired from our Blue Hole permit page on Reserve America of go to: <https://dec.ny.gov/places/sundown-wild-forest>

Governor Hochul Issues Proclamation Declaring January as Stalking Awareness Month and January 18th as Stalking Awareness Day of Action

Read Proclamation on The Governor's Website
<https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2025-01/Stalking-Awareness-Month-Day-of-Action.pdf>

Governor Kathy Hochul today recognized January as Stalking Awareness Month and January 18th as Stalking Awareness Day of Action in New York State, issuing a proclamation and directing that all State landmarks be illuminated yellow tomorrow, January 18, in honor of those impacted by stalking and all forms of gender-based violence.

Last month, Governor Hochul signed A09616/S09174 into law. The new law offers additional protections to domestic violence victims and survivors by providing for the termination of an abuser's access to vehicle tracking technology. Governor Hochul emphasizes her ongoing commitment to supporting domestic violence survivors and enhancing public safety.

"Back in the 1970s, conversations about domestic violence were rare. Inspired by my mother's advocacy, I am dedicated to enacting laws that protect those impacted by abuse," Governor Hochul said. "From new laws that protect victims of domestic violence to shining a light on the dangers of technology-facilitated stalking, we are taking action to make New York a safer place for everyone. As we light up our landmarks in yellow tomorrow, let's remember that each light represents a survivor's strength, and together, we are moving closer to a future where violence has no place in our communities."

In recognition of Stalking Awareness Month, the New York State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV) is holding a Stalking Awareness Month Social Media Campaign across the agency's social media platforms. This year's focus is on technology facilitated and cyber stalking. This can include, but is not limited to, the use of tracking devices, location sharing, social media monitoring and harassment. Visit OPDV's Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), Instagram, and LinkedIn pages for more information on stalking and where to find resources.

Today's announcement marks another important step in her broader public safety agenda, as last year Governor Hochul signed legislation to expand protections for victims of domestic violence in both criminal and family courts. The law extends the ability to obtain orders of protection and file family offense petitions to all family and household members, recognizing that domestic violence does not just impact the person who is or was in an intimate relationship with an abuser. This action, signed on International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, strengthens efforts to keep all New

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Yorkers safe from domestic violence. Named Melanie's Law in memory of Melanie Chianese, who was tragically killed by her mother's ex-boyfriend, the law aims to protect those close to victims, as abusers often target loved ones to maintain control.

Senator Michelle Hinchey said, "Stalking is a serious crime with lasting impacts on victims, often turning everyday life into a constant source of fear and uncertainty. Recognizing January as Stalking Awareness Month sends a strong message of solidarity with domestic violence survivors across New York while making clear this form of abuse will not be tolerated. I'm proud to sponsor Melanie's Law and support measures like Senator Gounardes' newly signed law, which expands protections against technology-facilitated stalking, a critical step in addressing this form of abuse. We will continue to advocate for the safety and dignity of DV survivors and their families, and I thank Governor Hochul for her partnership in that work."

The New York State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence is the country's only Cabinet-level executive state agency dedicated to the issue of gender-based violence. The state's Domestic and Sexual Violence Hotline is available 24/7: 800-942-6906 (call), 844-997-2121 (text) or @opdv.ny.gov (chat).

Catskill Mountainkeeper January Actions

We're just getting into the 2025 NYS Legislative Session and Catskill Mountainkeeper continues to advocate on behalf of the Catskill Park and our climate. This year we are focused on funding the energy transition, increasing transportation choices for our communities, and resourcing the Catskill Park.

The climate crisis requires your urgent action, and we have several upcoming actions for you to get involved! Check Out the Following Opportunities to Learn and Make a Difference

First, join organizations from across the state at the NYS Capitol on January 22nd to mobilize and lobby for the NY Renews Fund Climate spending agenda, which would put communities at the center of the energy transition.

By creating a Community Directed Grant program, our investment plan would create opportunities for local organizations, unions, and municipal governments to develop clean energy projects and initiatives for their communities.

RSVP at <https://actionnetwork.org/events/january-22nd-fund-climate-mass-mobilization/?source=CMK>

Later this week, on January 24th from 10-11 am, please join Mountainkeeper and other members of the Ashokan Release Working Group for a webinar featuring Dr. Arthur DeGaetano, of the Northeast Regional Climate Center and Cornell University, who will present "Predicting and Preparing for Extreme Precipitation: Lessons for the Ashokan Reservoir Basin from the Delaware River Basin."

Description: As heavy rain and flooding become more frequent and intense across New York State, communities are faced with the limitations of tools and datasets they have traditionally used to make planning decisions, such as FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps. This webinar will include a presentation from Dr. Arthur DeGaetano of the Northeast Regional Climate Center and Cornell University about extreme rain events and will feature a case study about a tool he helped develop for the Delaware River Basin Commission (DBRC) that allows managers to incorporate rainfall projections into decision making. We will also learn about other tools, networks, and flood studies planned for the region that will help with future planning. This webinar is for elected officials, floodplain managers, environmental groups, and community members in Ulster County and beyond hoping to learn more about flood risk and how to work towards solutions.

Then, learn from Catskill Mountainkeeper's Senior Research Director, Kathy Nolan, on January 26th, for Climate Action Now's Webinar, "Climate Action Party:

Don't Get Gaslit By Industry Disinformation!" While people are increasingly clear about the climate consequences of our dependence on so-called "natural gas," few people are aware of its inherent health dangers. Join Dr. Nolan and other experts for what promises to be a fun, engaging presentation. You can ask questions and TAKE ACTION using the Climate Action Now App to make a real difference by supporting the Healthy Homes Right To Know Act in New York. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/climate-action-party-dont-get-gaslit-by-industry-disinformation-tickets-1134142002259?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

Finally, we'll be back at the State Capitol in Albany on February 4th for Transit Equity Day with New Yorkers for Transportation Equity. Our communities deserve accessible, affordable, and equitable transportation options which is why we're advocating for the Get Around NY Act, a bill that will divest funding from unnecessary highway expansions towards multimodal transportation and overdue infrastructure and roadway maintenance. The bill aligns with the priorities of our ReThink Route 17 campaign and holds NYSDOT accountable to our communities' priorities.

https://actionnetwork.org/events/get-around-ny-albany-lobby-day?source=direct_link&

We hope you take the opportunity to make your voice heard, learn more, and stand up for our commu-


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Montigram President's Corner

Lori Orestano-James

A quick message this week from my sick bed. Sad, but true - COVID got me. I am doing my best to follow doctors orders to rest, but as you know, not something I do easily. Ironically,

as the Chair of the County COVID Task Force on behalf of our Rotary Club, I spend a great amount of time exposed while delivering supplies and helping those in need. Even with all precautions in place, my weakened immune system was unable to fight it off this time. As a long-hauler from the first time I had COVID, I can tell you that my symptoms are worse having been dealing with healing from an autoimmune flare-up. But, as I like to say - It ain't cancer...

That said, President-Elect Dr. Peter Chester will be leading our regular meeting this week. The Board of Directors meeting will be re-scheduled to next week so please mark your calendars accordingly.

For those who have been "in the know," thanks for the kind words and support. I appreciate my Rotary Family and promise to listen to the doctor, rest and have plenty of fluids! Hope to be out and about with you all soon.

Heart-a-thon/Joint Blood Drive/Health Fair

The event closest at hand is our participation in the WSUL 98.3 Heart-a-thon. A community event, but one with a strong Rotary presence. This year, Monticello Rotary will be hosting the Healthy Heart Health & Wellness Fair on February 21st from 10am - 4pm. Chaired under the very able Crystal Tweed, work is being done on scheduling of mini courses to be offered throughout the day along with agencies and organizations who will provide materials and resources on a myriad of health and wellness issues. During the Health Fair, we will hold our Joint Club Blood Drive as well. Anyone wishing to donate blood should register for a time at https://donate.nybc.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/321501

In addition, we will once again be assisting at Resorts World to sell the Heart Cards over weekends leading up to the Heart-a-thon on February 21, 2025. Thank you to those who already have signed up. Please take a look on this link and sign up for an available time(s) to help out.

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1406liV8Y4jTedMvQ1QPz-Lpn-](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1406liV8Y4jTedMvQ1QPz-Lpn-NvmRGVUMHjEWRBuxus/edit?gid=178320377#gid=178320377)

[NvmRGVUMHjEWRBuxus/edit?gid=178320377#gid=178320377](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1406liV8Y4jTedMvQ1QPz-Lpn-NvmRGVUMHjEWRBuxus/edit?gid=178320377#gid=178320377)
If you need assistance in doing this, please let me know and I am happy to help.

Coldest Night of the Year

The Coldest Night of the Year is a National Program supported by Rotary International held annually on what is, by the calendar, The Coldest Night of the Year. This year, we are pleased to create a team called Monti Rotary & Friends. Jodi Goodman and Lori Orestano-James will be co-chairing this event which is being run locally by The Sullivan County Federation for the Homeless. Members of Rotary or friends may join the team by clicking here:

<http://tps://secure.e2rm.com/registrator/ReturningRegistrantOption.aspx?eventid=389906&langpref=en-CA&TeamID=1026771&Referrer=https%3a%2f%2fsecure.e2rm.com%2fregistrator%2fTeamFundraisingPage.aspx%3fteamID%3d1026771%26langPref%3den-CA> To donate directly, click here: <https://secure.e2rm.com/registrator/TeamFundraisingPage.aspx?teamID=1026771&langPref=en-CA>

You may join the team virtually for the walk as well...1.2 miles. Just walk with us from where ever you might be on that night (Florida, North Carolina, your treadmill in the middle of your living

room), you can still participate. Just join the team, help us to raise funds, and we will create a live on our Rotary Facebook Page for you to join us.

Remember - for us, we will wrap ourselves in warmth in many ways. For many, the cold brutal nights exist regularly. Help us to help those keeping so many warm on those nights through their warming centers. By doing so, you are saving lives, and in some cases, of people you may know. Make a difference and join our Monti Rotary & Friends team today.

District Team Learning Seminar

District Team Learning Seminar will take place on February 22, 2025, at New Paltz High School from 9am-2:15pm. This is a fantastic opportunity for us as a group to deepen our knowledge, build on our understanding of our roles, and connect with fellow District Leaders from across the district. Please sign up today at

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeRa7bikPH-HpFjY7PNBLI-KOBwVtqcNWL3r1D5ByLCi9jTw/viewform?usp=sharing>

Thank you to Jaime Schmeiser - SUNY Sullivan Director of Workforce Development for an informative program at last weeks



meeting. We learned about the amazing new initiatives being made in the course availability leading to the job ready skills ready positions in our community. In addition, the new Testing Center will bring about additional opportunities for those in our community.

Program for January 21, 2025 - Rotarian Spotlight Agenda for January 21, 2025

1. Meeting Called to Order - President-Elect Dr. Peter Chester
2. Pledge Of Allegiance - Past President - Brad Rutledge
3. Introduction of Guests of Members - Full Membership
4. Guest Speaker - Rotarian Spotlight
5. Committee Reports:
 - Taste of Sullivan - Helen Diehl
 - Heart-a-thon/Blood Drive/Health Fair - Lori Orestano-James, Crystal Tweed/Les Kristt
 - SCFH Coldest Night of the Year Event - Jodi Goodman & Lori James
 - Help with California Wild Fires
 - Rotary Radio - Rick Stein
 - Interact/Ryla - Cris Spinner
6. Regional Updates/District Updates -
7. Old Business
8. New Business
9. Happy Dollars
10. 50/50 Raffle
11. Adjourn

Link for Zoom Meeting Sign-on:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88506100931?pwd=MUNmWnhZanR6M2lCSy9McjNQTSTBudz09>

(Contd. Pg. 44)

Montigram President's Corner

(From Pg. 43)

Looking forward to seeing you all for our meeting at Albella on Tuesday night at 6:30. For those needing the Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88506100931?pwd=MUNmWnhZanR6M21CSy9McjNQSTBudz09>

Our Motto: Service Above Self - How have you meet that goal lately?

Dates to Remember can be found below.

Some upcoming important dates to mark on your calendar:

Taste of Sullivan Committee Meeting Tuesday, January 14, 2025 - 5:30pm Albella

Monticello Rotary Monthly Board Meeting Tuesday, January 21, 2025 5:30 Albella (postponed to January 28, 2025)

(See additional dates in information narrative above).

With Rotary Pride,

Lori Orestano-James

President Monticello Rotary 2024-2025

Stories

A MILESTONE FOR LES KRISTT



This January we celebrate a milestone for one of our esteemed members, Les Kristt. Les is celebrating his 50th year as a Monticello Rotarian. His service to our club continues to be monumental! Here's a little background on Les's history with our club!

Les Kristt joined Monticello Rotary in January of 1975 after being invited by Vic Gordon. At that time Bob Ernst was the President. Les was the chair of the 1976 Monticello Rotary Art show at the brand new Sullivan County Government Center at 100 North Street. Les served as President of Monticello Rotary 1979-80 under Edson Whitney District Governor from Port Jervis and also served as Edson's conference registration chair. Les notably served as Assistant Governor under District Governor Gene Erikson 1981-82. He served on the district nominating committee for two years and served as chair of that committee for one year. Les was district conference co-chair along with PDG Dick Perkins for Governor Alistair Barrett 1989-90. Les also served on the district finance committee for two years. Les was named Rotarian of the year six times in his 50 years and has brought countless members into Monticello Rotary, and he must be a great judge of character as 8 of those members went on to serve as President! Les has continuously been active over the entire 50 year membership stretch. At present he serves as Treasurer of the Monticello Rotary giving account and most recently served as co-chair of the Monster Run with member Orshii Boldis. We congratulate Les on his 50 years of true "Service Above Self". He is a Rotarian to emulate!

Fun Fact: BOTH Les and his first president Bob Ernst are still active Monticello Rotarians and the author of this article can report on the joy of having them at our weekly meetings for their

great company, long history and sage advice!

COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR

On February 22nd from 4:00-7:00 Sullivan County Federation for the Homeless is hosting the Coldest Night of the Year. The event begins at Dos Gatos, located in the Alder-Resorts World Catskills. From there we will embark on a 2k (1.2 mile) walk with the intention of feeling solidarity with those who experience this harshness of weather so very often through lack of shelter. This particular event is hosted in more than 40 cities across America on this night. We will be supporting the work done right here in Sullivan County for people who experience hurt, hunger and homelessness. Jodi Goodman and Lori Orestano-James have create a team for the Monticello Rotary. To join the Monti Rotary & Friends Team please click here:

<https://secure.e2rm.com/registant/TeamFundraisingPage.aspx?teamID=1026771&langPref=en-CA> To donate directly to the team, click here: <https://secure.e2rm.com/registant/TeamFundraisingPage.aspx?teamID=1026771&langPref=en-CA>

Any questions or if you need assistance with the links, contact Lori Orestano-James at LoriJames.Rotary@gmail.com

So, circle the date and get ready for a brisk walk on the Coldest Night of the Year!

ROTARIANS SING FROM THE HEART

Get ready for a Sunday Funday like no other! "From The Heart" a wonderful event produced by Joanna M. Gass Music and brought to you by Gary Siegel, the STEAM Fund and Rotary Club of Liberty NY will take place from 2:00-5:00 at Bridge and Tunnel Brewery in Liberty New York to benefit the 47th Annual 98.3 WSUL HEART-A-THON. It's an afternoon packed with incredible music from a stellar lineup of amazing local musicians featuring Joanna M. Gass with special guests Cris Spinner, Brad Rutledge, Beth & Scott Bierko and Gary Siegel all backed by the fabulous Search and Rescue Orchestra which boasts the talents of Steve Schwartz, Ken Windheim, Eric Nies, Billy Paschal & Gregory Fiske! And there's more! Healthy Heart light fare will be provided by A Single Bite and there's exciting raffles, great prizes and a cash bar! All proceeds from this event will benefit the 47th Annual 98.3 WSUL Heart-A-Thon, with every dollar raised staying right here in Sullivan County to support the prevention, education, and treatment of heart disease in our community. Your "suggested donation" of \$25 will go directly toward saving lives and improving heart health in Sullivan County.

You can purchase tickets to this great community event at <https://www.givegab.com/campaigns/from-the-heart>

You're not going to want to miss "From The Heart"! Everyone involved can't wait to see YOU there!

So what's the extra Rotary connection? Performers Joanna M. Gass & Gary Siegel are Liberty NY Rotarians and Cris Spinner & Brad Rutledge are proud Monticello NY Rotarians! Service With Music above Self!



Take Your Child to the Library Day

Wednesday, January 29, 2025

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Join the Celebration of "Take Your Child to the Library Day"!

It's the perfect opportunity to spark your child's imagination and encourage a love for reading.

Why Visit?

- ♥ Explore New Books: discover exciting stories that fuel curiosity and learning.
- ♥ Interactive Activities: fun events and programs designed for children of all ages.
- ♥ Stimulate Imagination: libraries are a place where creativity thrives.
- ♥ Register your child for our Spring Children's Programs:
Mother Goose, Toddler Time and Story Hour!

Bring your little ones and join the fun—let's ignite their imagination together! Visit us, be part of this global celebration and if you take your child to the library, expect to return frequently as it is a treasure trove for ALL ages.

In case of inclement weather, please check social media for program cancellations.



Daniel Pierce Library

328 Main Street | P.O. Box 268

Grahamsville, New York 12740-0268 | 845-985-7233

www.danielpiercelibrary.org



Appointed to the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence

I am honored to have been named to serve on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence for the 119th Congress, and I thank Speaker Johnson for this prestigious appointment. At this pivotal moment in our nation's history, I am committed to ensuring that our intelligence community has the resources and support necessary to strengthen our national security capabilities. Facilities such as Fort Drum, Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, and Rome Lab in upstate New York are critical to our national security. I am dedicated to advocating on behalf of these premiere defense sites as a part of our critical national security asset base. I look forward to working with President Trump, Speaker Johnson, HPSCI Chairman Crawford, and my colleagues to strengthen our defense capabilities and uphold essential oversight of our nation's intelligence operations.

Reintroducing the DIRECT Act to Defund the IRS and Support our CBP Agents

The Biden-Harris administration has overseen the entry of over 10 million illegal immigrants into our country. Yet, instead of prioritizing border security and supporting CBP agents, they prioritized exorbitant spending for the IRS and put middle-class families and small business owners in the crosshairs. I introduced the DIRECT Act to stop Biden's IRS army from launching audits of middle-class families and reinvest those funds to hire additional Customs and Border Protection agents to secure the Southern Border. As we transition to the new administration, it is vital to provide CBP agents with the additional resources needed to secure our borders and deport illegal immigrants, ensuring they can effectively support President Trump's and Border Czar Homan's agenda. READ MORE: House Republican introduces bill to redirect funds employing IRS auditors to instead hire more border agents <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/house-republican-introduces-bill-redirect-funds-employing-irs-auditors-instead-hire-more-border-agents>

Introducing the SAGA Act to Protect Gun Rights in New York and Nationwide

The Constitution clearly established our Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms. New York's SAFE Act, signed into law under disgraced former Governor Andrew Cuomo, prohibits law-abiding New

Yorkers from purchasing, transferring, and owning certain firearms. This week, I introduced the Second Amendment Guarantee Act or SAGA Act to nullify New York's unconstitutional SAFE Act and prevent other states from enacting laws that violate the Second Amendment. If signed into law, this SAGA Act would nullify the SAFE Act and prevent New York and other states from passing unconstitutional gun bans. This legislation upholds our country's founding principle of protecting the rights of law-abiding Americans, even from liberal states

Update on Ryan Corbett

It has been over 880 days since the Taliban unlawfully detained Ryan Corbett in Afghanistan, and it wasn't until this past weekend, when Anna stood at President Trump's doorstep, that President Biden finally made the time to speak with the Corbett family. The Corbett family and I met with incoming Trump National Security Advisor Mike Waltz for over an hour last weekend to discuss the urgent need to bring Ryan home to his family. The Trump administration has not yet taken office but are already working diligently to secure Ryan's release.

READ MORE: Wife of detained American in Afghanistan meets with Trump's national security adviser

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/wife-detained-american-afghanistan-meets-trumps-national-security-adviser>

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/wife-detained-american-afghanistan-meets-trumps-national-security-adviser>

As your representative in Congress, my top priority is championing legislative initiatives that benefit you and your families. Each week, I review numerous bills and letters, engaging in thorough discussions with members of our community to determine which actions to support and address your needs. Below are a few bills I recently cosponsored.

H.R. 425 - To Repeal the Corporate Transparency Act - this bill repeals the Corporate Transparency Act of 2021 (CTA). Repealing this overreaching, draconian rule will provide much needed regulatory relief to small business owners, many of whom are most likely unaware that they are potentially liable for punishments from this act. The Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FINCEN) has violated Americans' right to privacy through this act, and I hope that Congress swiftly passes this bill to overturn it.

H.R. 361 - the Make Greenland Great Again Act - The Make Greenland Great Again will authorize President Trump to negotiate with Denmark to purchase Greenland. In addition to Greenland's strategic importance, and vast natural resources, the New York Air National Guard's 109th Airlift Wing does extensive training in Greenland for its unique polar mission. Procuring Greenland would protect the New York Air National Guard's access to this vital training space.

H.R. 276 - the Gulf of America Act - The Gulf of America Act will officially rename the "Gulf of Mexico" to the "Gulf of America." Under President Trump, American leadership will be restored to the international stage, and we will no longer allow Mexico to traffic weapons, drugs, and people across our borders. By renaming the Gulf of Mexico to the Gulf of America, we will send a clear message to Mexico that we will no longer tolerate this behavior. (Contd. Pg. 47)

This Week with Claudia

(From Pg. 46)

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

To read more about my votes and see the full list with explanations of all the legislation considered this week by the House, please click here.

<https://tenney.house.gov/about/my-votes-explained>

Monday, January 13

I voted “Yes” on H.R. 192, the Amtrak Executive Bonus Disclosure Act. This bill would require Amtrak to include information on the base pay and bonus compensation of its executives in its annual report to congress. One of the most inefficient spenders of federal tax dollars, Amtrak has never once turned a profit since its inception. Despite its significant financial losses, Amtrak continues to award its executives with millions in compensation. Taxpayers deserve transparency and accountability when it comes to every dollar of government spending. This bill passed the House unanimously by a vote of 407-0.

I voted “Yes” on H.R. 152, the Federal Disaster Assistance Coordination Act. This bill extends the deadline under federal law for the FEMA Administrator to develop plans to streamline and consolidate data collection from disaster assistance applicants and grantees, and to regularly report information on federal disaster assistance that is awarded. FEMA must then organize a working group to examine ways to classify duplication and fragmentation in preliminary damage assessments, determine the feasibility of having one agency complete preliminary damage assessments, and identify the potential use of emerging technologies such as unmanned aircraft systems for preliminary damage assessments. The bill would require the Administrator to report all findings to Congress and passed the House by a vote of 405-5.

Tuesday, January 14

I voted “Yes” on H.R. 28, Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act of 2023. This bill would protect our Nation's women and girls by banning biological men from competing in women's sports and depriving women of athletic opportunities guaranteed by Title IX. Biological men have distinct advantages over women in many athletic events and are fundamentally different from biological women. Allowing biological men to compete against women strips women of scholarship opportunities and the Title IX protections that generations of women fought for. I was original cosponsor of this important bill and have been a strong advocate for getting men out of women's sports. This bill passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 218-206.

I voted “Yes” on H.R. 153, the Post-Disaster Assistance Online Accountability Act. This bill would require the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to post information regarding federal disaster spending at www.usaspending.gov. Specifically, they must publish online information

regarding the total amount of disaster assistance provided, amount of disaster assistance that was expended or obligated, and a list of projects and activities funded by disaster assistance. This bill passed the House unanimously by a vote of 426-0.

Wednesday, January 15

I voted “Yes” on H.R. 33, To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide special rules for the taxation of certain residents of Taiwan with income from sources within the United States. Taiwan is our nation's eighth largest trading partner, and unlike many of our other top trading partners, have never received relief from double-taxation in trade and commerce with the United States. As the CCP continues to threaten Taiwan's sovereignty and territorial waters, the United States must do more to strengthen our relationship with Taiwan. This bill passed by a vote of 423-1.

I voted “Yes” on H.R. 144, the Tennessee Valley Authority Salary Transparency Act. This bill requires the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) to submit an annual report to Congress and the President on the names, salaries, and duties of high-level TVA employees. This bill, which passed the House unanimously last Congress, would provide much needed transparency into the use of taxpayer dollars by the TVA. This is of particular interest to the taxpayer after multiple reports of high-ranking TVA officials earning well over \$123,041, the maximum basic pay rate of a General Schedule Grade 15 federal employee. This bill passed the House unanimously by a vote of 423-0.

I voted “Yes” on H.R. 164, the Promoting Opportunities to Widen Electrical Resilience (POWER) Act. This bill would allow public electric utilities that receive FEMA disaster assistance for emergency power restoration to include mitigation activities as part of that restoration. It would also clarify that receiving FEMA assistance for power restoration does not disqualify these utilities from obtaining additional hazard mitigation assistance through FEMA's Public Assistance Program. This bill passed the House by a vote of 419-2.

Thursday, January 16

I voted “Yes” on H.R. 30, the Violence Against Women by Illegal Aliens Act. This bill would require that illegal aliens that commit sex offenses or domestic violence are deported and are inadmissible for entry into the United States. Under the Biden administration, millions of illegal aliens have poured across our borders each year, threatening American citizens in every community. This bill ensures that illegal aliens that commit heinous crimes are immediately deported and can no longer threaten our communities. I am disappointed that so many of my Democratic colleagues refused to support this common-sense bill and are willing to let these dangerous individuals, that have already broken the law by entering our country illegally and commit heinous crimes, remain in our country. This bill passed by a vote of 274-145.

Congressman Pat Ryan, Congressman Andrew Garbarino and BiPartisan SALT Deductibility Act to Fully Remove SALT Cap Once and For All

- *Congressman Pat Ryan, Congressman Andrew Garbarino and Bipartisan SALT Caucus Reintroduce SALT Deductibility Act to Fully Remove SALT Cap Once and For All*
- *Last November, Congressman Ryan wrote directly to President Trump, pledging to work across party lines to get SALT Deductibility Act signed into law Ryan: "I'll go anywhere and work with anyone to end double taxation and bring down costs for Hudson Valley families"*

WASHINGTON, DC - Today, Congressman Pat Ryan, Congressman Andrew Garbarino and the bipartisan SALT Caucus reintroduced the SALT Deductibility Act to fully remove the SALT cap once and for all. Last November, Ryan wrote directly to President Trump, pledging to work across party lines to get the SALT Deductibility Act signed into law, and calling on President Trump to immediately begin bipartisan negotiations. Last week, Ryan urged President Trump to include Democrats in any SALT discussions at Mar-A-Lago, arguing that bipartisan action is the only path forward. While Trump's 2017 tax bill put the SALT cap in place, the former and future President promised on the campaign trail to "get SALT back."

"My number one goal is to lower costs for Hudson Valley families. Today, I'm proud to join my colleagues in putting partisanship aside and coming together to do just that," said Congressman Pat Ryan. "Our constituents are feeling the pressure of making ends meet, and counting on us to deliver relief - we're not letting double taxation go on any longer. I'll go anywhere and work with anyone to fully remove the SALT cap."

The legislation is co-sponsored by Reps. Sean Casten (IL-6), Holmes Norton (DC), Danny Davis (IL-7), Thomas Kean (NJ-7), Judy Chu (CA-28), Julia Brownley (CA-26), Jerrold Nadler (NY-12), Mikie Sherrill (NJ-11), Laura Gillen (NY-4), Jimmy Panetta (CA-19), and Josh Gottheimer (NJ-5).

President Trump's 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act limited the SALT deduction to \$10,000 per household. Not a single Democrat in the House voted for the bill. On the campaign trail, President-elect Trump pledged to "get SALT back."

Since his time serving as Ulster County Executive, Ryan has fought to eliminate the SALT cap and restore the SALT deduction. In February 2023, Congressman Ryan joined with colleagues to establish the bipartisan Congressional SALT Caucus for the 118th Congress. The Caucus is on the forefront of efforts to restore the SALT Tax deduction to provide significant relief for Hudson Valley families from unfair double taxation. Ryan cosponsors the SALT Deductibility Act and has repeatedly made it clear that he is a staunch champion for eliminating the SALT cap.

Congressman Ryan has fought to deliver tax relief for Hudson Valley families, including voting for the Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act that included an Expanded

Child Tax Credit that will uplift 40,000 kids in NY-18 alone and an Enhanced Low-Income Housing Tax Credit will develop more than 200,000 affordable housing units.

Ryan also introduced the Working Families Housing Tax Credit Act as part of his four-bill Housing Agenda to lower housing costs for Hudson Valley families.

Congressman Pat Ryan Kicks Off Third Annual "Valentines for Vets"

*Ryan invites community to drop off
cards at his Newburgh office to deliver
to veterans in advance of
Valentine's Day*

WASHINGTON, DC - Today, Congressman Pat Ryan kicked off his third annual "Valentines for Vets" initiative, inviting Hudson Valley community members to send or drop off cards to his Newburgh office to deliver to local veterans and veteran caregivers for Valentine's Day.

"Veterans put their lives on the line to keep us safe and protect our democracy - it's the ultimate expression of love for their fellow Americans and for our country," said Congressman Pat Ryan. "Each year, it's been remarkable to see the community's outpouring of gratitude to our local veterans. I'm looking forward to rallying together again this year to show them how much the Hudson Valley values their heroism and service."

In the program's inaugural year in 2023, Congressman Ryan collected over 9,000 valentines made by Hudson Valley students and community members and hand-delivered them to veterans at Castle Point VA and Vassar Brothers Medical Center. Valentines were also delivered by his office to Hudson River Housing and Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs) across the Hudson Valley.

Participants are asked to drop off or mail valentines to Congressman Pat Ryan's Newburgh office at 605 Broadway, Newburgh, New York 12550. Cards should be postmarked no later than February 7, 2025 to ensure timely delivery. For in-person drop-off at the office, please deliver cards by February 11, 2025. If delivering multiple valentines, please include a count of the number of cards on a sheet of paper enclosed with the cards. Please contact Congressman Ryan's district office at 845-443-2930 with any questions or for more information.

Congressman Pat Ryan is a U.S. Army veteran, having served two combat tours in Iraq, and is the first West Point graduate to represent the Academy in the U.S. House of Representatives. He sits on the House Armed Services Committee and has prioritized sponsoring and cosponsoring extensive legislation to deliver relief for veterans, service members, and military families. Ryan has hosted events celebrating veterans and connecting them with resources, including organizing a "Veterans Week of Action" in November 2023, hosting dozens of community partners for his Veterans and Military Families Resource Fair, and utilizing his mobile office, the C.A.R.E.S. Van, for a series of events bringing direct assistance to veterans at Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs) across the Hudson Valley throughout the summer of 2024. Ryan recently hosted veterans from across the Hudson Valley for a breakfast in their honor where he recognized three veterans from Ulster, Orange, and Dutchess counties for their outstanding service to the nation and the Hudson Valley community.



AN ECONOMY THAT WORKS FOR ALL

My top priority is delivering economic relief for your family. Period. Whether it's working across party lines to introduce legislation like the Lower Grocery Prices Act or holding big corporations' feet to the fire, I'll work with anyone and speak truth to any power to deliver for Hudson Valley families. In addition to lowering the cost of living, I'm working to ensure the Hudson Valley economy is vibrant and growing, with wages that actually allow families to stay here and raise their kids here. That's why I cosponsor bills like the Paycheck Fairness Act to end gender-based wage discrimination, the Federal Firefighter Pay Equity Act, and the Better Care Better Jobs Act.

The Biden Administration has made historic investments in the American manufacturing sector through the CHIPS act and in construction and our infrastructure with the historic Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. I've called for these investments to go to quality union jobs and am committed to bringing these high-paying jobs back to NY-18. I'm proud to always stand with my friends in labor and cosponsor the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act, the Postal Supervisors and Managers Fairness Act, and the Strengthening Supply Chains Through Truck Driver Incentives Act.

I'm working to restore the Hudson Valley as a manufacturing hub in our nation, and part of that is bolstering our global competitiveness, which is why I support legislation like the China Financial Threat Mitigation Act and the No Tax Breaks for Outsourcing Act.

As a former small business owner, I know the hard work and dedication that it takes to sustain and grow a business. Our family-owned businesses are the drivers of our local economies and I'm fighting day in and day out to get them the resources they need to thrive. I'm working to secure federal funds to help grow our local economies, like the \$70,000 I delivered for the Hudson Valley Regional Council to grow emerging sectors like advanced manufacturing, clean energy, and technology. Contact my team to see how grant opportunities could help your business or community here.

Time and time again, the far-right has proposed devastating cuts that would gut programs like Medicare and Social Security - I will always fight to protect the benefits you've earned. My team's caseworkers are also here to help you access these benefits and other funds you may be due like your IRS return or VA benefits - do not hesitate to reach out at (845)443-2930. My team can also help you access tax credits, like the scores or tax credits created by the Inflation Reduction Act, that you can learn more about here or grants to help you make your home more energy efficient and save money on your cost of living.

HOLDING CENTRAL HUDSON ACCOUNTABLE

From day one, my top priority has been delivering much-needed economic relief for Hudson Valley families. I began my fight to hold Central Hudson accountable for its outrageous and unacceptable billing practices as Ulster County Executive, and I immediately brought it with me to Congress. In January of 2023, I took to the floor of the House of Representatives to call on Central Hudson's CEO to resign, which he did only days later. I didn't stop there - I organized one-on-one meetings for ratepayers to get direct assistance from company representatives in a workshop

series, repeatedly called for Central Hudson's rate increase to be rejected, and held press conferences to continue to hold the company's feet to the fire and demand that they make whole all of the Hudson Valley families who they wronged. I'm proud that this year, these efforts resulted in a \$60 million settlement that includes direct relief for ratepayers. I will keep fighting every day to hold big corporations accountable.

LOWERING THE COST OF HOUSING

The housing affordability crisis we're facing in the Hudson Valley requires an all-hands-on-deck approach and that's the tactic I took to develop my four-bill Housing Agenda that I introduced in the summer of 2024. This Agenda will lower mortgage rates, crack down on the Wall Street firms jacking up housing costs, and cut through red tape to let our towns and cities build in a way that makes sense for them. Read more about my Housing Agenda here.

I also fought tooth and nail for federal funding for initiatives that will create more housing in communities that have been hit hard by the housing crisis. I'm proud that I secured \$1 million for the Rumshock Veterans Foundation's Veterans Village Project to build a community of ten homes for veterans in Port Jervis and \$1 million for the Chester Agricultural Center to construct housing for its farmworkers. I'll keep fighting to make housing more affordable in the Hudson Valley because no family should have to pick between putting food on the table, having a roof over their heads, or paying medical bills.

MAKING HEALTHCARE MORE AFFORDABLE

Healthcare costs are out of control for Hudson Valley families and I'm spearheading efforts to lower them. I heard Hudson Valley teen and Type 1 diabetes advocate JT Crawford's story about how big pharmaceutical companies are gaming the U.S. patent system to inflate prescription drug prices and keep lifesaving drugs out of reach for patients. His story inspired me to introduce my Stopping Pharma's Ripoffs and Drug Savings for All Act that will make generic, lower-cost prescription drugs easier to produce so that the lifesaving medications that our neighbors rely on are more affordable.

"I've had Type 1 diabetes since I was 12 years old. I've had to rely on insulin and medical necessities on a daily basis to keep me healthy. I loathe the fact that kids like me, that already have so much on their plate, also have stress about affording insulin. Thank you to Congressman Ryan for listening to my story and fighting alongside kids like me across the Hudson Valley."

- JT Crawford, 15 year-old NY-18 resident and Type 1 Diabetes Advocate

I'm proud to also cosponsor legislation like the Pharmacists Fight Back Act, the Affordable Insulin Now Act, and the Drug Price Transparency in Medicaid Act to bring down pharmaceutical prices, including for our seniors on Medicare.

PROTECTING SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE

Our seniors worked hard to earn their Medicare and Social Security - I'm fighting every day to protect these vital programs. I introduced my Protecting Social Security Act to ensure that seniors today and future generations can rest assured that Social Security will always be there. Among other provisions to protect Social Security, the bill:

Permanently prohibits cuts to Social Security and condemns attempts to raise the Social Security age to 69, like those included in the Republican Study Committee's annual budget proposal

Protects Social Security from insolvency by requiring emergency funding from the Treasury Department be used to disperse benefits while Congress votes on a permanent funding source, namely billionaires and corporate monopolies, to fund the Social Security trust fund should it become insolvent

(Contd. Pg. 50)

Pat Ryan

(From Pg. 49) Restores a Social Security Administration field office to Ulster County by requiring the Administration to operate a field office in every county, ensuring that seniors have easy access to their benefits

I'm also proud to have cosponsored and helped the House pass the Social Security Fairness Act, which will stop the unfair reduction of Social Security benefits for retired public servants and ensure they receive the full benefits they earned.

FIGHTING FOR TAX FAIRNESS

That fairness is critical to building an economy that works for everyone. The SALT Tax cap is blatant double taxation on hard-working Hudson Valley families and it has to go. In the weeks after being sworn into the 118th Congress, I joined with colleagues from both political parties to form the bipartisan SALT Caucus and am fighting for the SALT Deductibility Act to end this unfair tax burden on our families.

I pushed for an Expanded Child Tax Credit and was proud to pass it as part of the Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act. The expanded child tax credit will provide relief for 16 million families, including 40,000 kids in NY-18 alone. The bill's Enhanced Low-Income Housing Tax Credit will develop more than 200,000 affordable housing units and the small business tax incentives will spur investment in Hudson Valley manufacturing.

SUPPORTING OUR SERVICEMEMBERS AND MILITARY FAMILIES

Our servicemembers and military families make huge sacrifices to protect our country - they should never have to worry about making ends meet or which bills to pay at the end of the month. Two of the first bills I introduced were the Health Care Fairness for Military Families Act and the Expanding Home Loans for Guard and Reservists Act which would expand healthcare coverage for children of servicemembers to be on par with their civilian counterparts and make critical VA home loans easier for servicemembers to access, respectively.

I fought tooth and nail for the long overdue and hard-earned pay raise that our servicemembers deserve and I'm proud that, in this year's defense spending bill, that fight secured a 4.5% pay raise for all of New York's nearly 47,000 servicemembers and a 14.5% pay raise for junior enlisted servicemembers.

"As a disabled veteran, and father of an active duty service member, Operations Specialist 2nd Class Petty Officer Nicholas G White Jr., currently serving in Rhode Island at the Naval War College, I am ecstatic that Congressman Ryan has worked diligently to pass the National Defense Authorization Act.

This powerful legislation will undoubtedly improve the lives of the dedicated servicemembers and their respective families! Particularly, the 14.5% pay increase for junior enlisted. This will help, aid, and assist those who are most in need. Once again, Congressman Ryan has advocated for the 18th district and returned from Washington D.C. with tangible results for those who serve!" - Middletown veteran Nicholas White

It's unacceptable that any of our servicemembers and military families face food insecurity, which is why I cosponsor the Military Food Security Act and the Military Family Nutrition Act.

Our military families also deserve longterm economic security. Legislation like my Veterans' Entry to Apprenticeship Act will help our servicemembers develop the skills and have access to the

opportunities to pursue fulfilling, quality careers after their military service. I'm proud that the Never Forgotten Korean War POW Act that I introduced and legislation like the Veteran Restitution and Justice Act and the Major Richard Starr Act that I cosponsor will ensure that our veterans receive the VA benefits they earned.

"Korean War POWs have been trying for years to rectify legislation passed in 1952 that only provided four months of combat pay for them regardless of how long they were held as POWs. Since 2018 I have been working with Ray Mellin who was a POW for 37 months to see if we could get legislation to address this injustice for our aging heroes. Upon hearing this, Congressman Ryan immediately had his staff research and draft the legislation that we are pleased to hear is being announced today."

- Korean War veteran Richard Randazzo

PUTTING POWER BACK IN THE HANDS OF OUR LOCAL FARMERS

Nine out of ten farms in NY-18 are family-owned and operated, but for too long, the Farm Bill has overlooked their needs and prioritized big, corporate farms. I'm fighting to change that and put the power back where it belongs: with our local farmers, through legislation like the Local Farms and Food Act.

I visited farms across the Hudson Valley to hear about their priorities and how I can best fight for them in Congress - it's why I'm pushing for legislation that supports specialty crops and our dairy farmers, including the Dairy Farm Resiliency Act, the Dairy Pricing Opportunity Act of 2023, and the DAIRY PRIDE Act. When our apple crops were devastated by a hard freeze, I immediately called on USDA to provide emergency assistance.

"Congressman Ryan and his staff genuinely cared about the hardships that farmers incur to provide nutritious and fresh produce to New Yorkers."

- Gary Glowaczewski of R & G Produce, LLC

"Congressman Ryan understands the importance of protecting our country's food supply and how crucial it is to keep US farms operating, especially after COVID. Federal support is needed to get through these challenges, and I know Pat Ryan has our back."

- Dylan Dembeck, Director of Operations at Minkus Family Farms

"Specialty crops like the onions we grow at Minkus Farms are the pride of Orange County, but often get overlooked when it comes to national legislation like the Farm Bill. I want to thank Congressman Ryan for taking the time to hear our concerns directly and advocating for us down in Washington."

- Rod Runnalls, General Manager at Minkus Family Farms.

Our Hudson Valley farmers don't just drive our local economy and provide nourishment and healthy meals for our families, they sustain our community's longstanding, deeply-rooted agricultural traditions. That's why I was proud to secure \$1 million for the expansion of the Otisville 4-H Park which will allow the park to operate year-round and increase the educational programming, community events, and youth opportunities that it offers to our community.



Welcome to Kirsten's New York Minute!

Here's what she's been up to this week:

1. Biden declares the ERA the law of the land!

On Friday, President Biden declared that the Equal Rights Amendment must now be considered ratified as the 28th Amendment to the Constitution.

Kirsten has been leading the effort to enshrine the ERA in the Constitution. Throughout 2024, she's met with top officials in the Biden administration to push the president to take action on the ERA. In November, she led a group of forty-six senators in a letter to President Biden, urging him to seize the initiative on the issue.

Read [more.](https://www.nytimes.com/live/2025/01/17/us/trump-confirmation-hearings-news?smid=url-share#gillibrand-never-got-an-audience-with-biden-but-she-got-her-wish-on-the-era)
<https://www.nytimes.com/live/2025/01/17/us/trump-confirmation-hearings-news?smid=url-share#gillibrand-never-got-an-audience-with-biden-but-she-got-her-wish-on-the-era>

2. Questioning Trump's Cabinet nominees

A well-qualified and thoroughly vetted Cabinet is necessary to protect our country's national security, health, and prosperity.

This week, Kirsten questioned two Cabinet nominees, secretary of defense nominee Pete Hegseth and CIA director nominee John Ratcliffe, in Senate confirmation hearings held by the Committee on Armed Services and the Select Committee on Intelligence.

Watch Kirsten's questioning of Hegseth here. <https://www.nbc-news.com/now/video/senator-gillibrand-grills-hegseth-over-comments-on-women-229244485929>

Watch Kirsten's questioning of Ratcliffe here. <https://thehill.com/video-clips/5086526-watch-live-john-ratcliffe-cia-nominee-senate-confirmation-hearing/>

3. Holding first Aging Committee hearing as ranking member

As the population of older Americans grows, it is vital that we create and support a society that gives people the tools they need to age well.

On Wednesday, Kirsten held a U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging hearing to discuss the overall health of older Americans, personal and community safety, and the benefits of socializing and working later in life.

Watch the hearing here. https://www.senate.gov/isvp/?auto_play=false&comm=aging&filename=aging011525&poster=https://www.aging.senate.gov/assets/images/video-poster.png

4. Supporting the Israel-Hamas ceasefire and hostage release deal

The ceasefire and hostage release deal reached by Israel and Hamas is a vital step toward securing peace in the Middle East. This deal affords Israel and our regional allies a chance at rebuilding Gaza in a way that promotes Israeli security, regional security, and the wellbeing of both Gazans and Israelis.

Kirsten is committed to working with the incoming Trump administration and her colleagues in Congress to ensure every hostage comes home and the promise of this ceasefire is fulfilled.

Read Kirsten's full statement here. <https://www.gillibrand.senate.gov/news/press/release/gillibrand-statement-on-ceasefire-and-hostage-release-deal-between-israel-and-hamas/>

5. Ensuring New York's resilience against climate threats

As climate disasters become more frequent and more severe, state-federal collaboration is necessary to ensure that New York is fully prepared to respond to these threats.

That's why this week, Kirsten called for robust state-federal cooperation to make sure that our state has the plans and resources necessary to train firefighters, manage forests, and educate the public about fire safety.

Read more. <https://wnyt.com/capital-region-news/gillibrand-wants-new-york-prepared-for-wildfires/>

6. Celebrating CHIPS Act wins for New York

Domestic semiconductor manufacturing is crucial to protect American supply chains, national security, and jobs.

Since the passage of the CHIPS and Science Act in 2022, which Kirsten championed, New York has received \$6.775 billion in federal funding to bolster semiconductor manufacturing in our state. These investments will create an estimated 28,400 good-paying jobs, putting Americans to work and benefiting our state's economy.

7. Helping NY veterans

When a veteran and Purple Heart recipient needed help securing his retirement benefits after 32 years of service, he reached out to Kirsten's office.

Kirsten's team contacted the Department of the Army and discovered agency errors that were promptly corrected. Within two weeks, the constituent's retirement and health care benefits were approved, and he received nearly \$60,000 in retroactive payments.

Individual casework is Kirsten's top priority. If you need help with a federal agency, contact her here. <https://www.gillibrand.senate.gov/help/help-for-new-yorkers/>

In Light of California Wildfires and Widespread Climate Disasters, Gillibrand Calling for Robust State- Federal Cooperation to Ensure NY's Resilience Against Climate Threats

WASHINGTON, D.C. - In light of California's devastating wildfires and the increasing frequency and severity of climate disasters across the country, U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand held a virtual press conference to call for robust state-federal cooperation to ensure that New York is fully prepared to respond to wildfires and other threats. Gillibrand is committed to delivering any necessary federal resources to the NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services and the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation to support their critical work training firefighters, managing New York's forests, and educating the public on fire safety.

"While New York has so far been spared severe destruction from wildfires, these types of disasters are nevertheless becoming increasingly common in our state and throughout the East Coast," said Senator Gillibrand. "As our climate crisis worsens, we must be prepared. Today, I am committing to delivering any necessary federal resources to help New York proactively prepare for wildfires and related threats. I look forward to cooperating closely with state government and our brave firefighters." (Contd. Pg. 52)

In Light of California Wildfires and Widespread Climate Disasters, Gillibrand Calling for Robust State-Federal Cooperation to Ensure NY's Resilience Against Climate Threats

(From Pg 51)

The full text of Senator Gillibrand's letter to the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services is available below:

The Honorable Jackie Bray
Commissioner
Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services
1220 Washington Avenue
State Office Campus
Building 7A, Suite 710
Albany, NY 12226

Dear Commissioner Bray,

I am writing today to inquire about the preparedness of New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) and its partners to combat potential wildfires in New York State. Climate change has exacerbated the unpredictability of weather conditions and natural disasters. New York has experienced several natural disasters in recent years, including wildfires, tornadoes, snowstorms, and flooding, and it is critical New York is prepared for the potential of unpredictable weather patterns that may lead to economic losses or loss of life.

With increased periods of drought in New York State, it is increasingly important that New York is prepared to handle naturally occurring or accidental wildfires. The Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, as well as the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), do an excellent job at training firefighters, providing technical assistance to communities, and managing New York's forests to prevent the spread of wildfires in our state.

In the wake of the devastation of the ongoing wildfires in California, I am profoundly saddened by the loss of life, homes, and communities. Also considering recent wildfires in New York, such as the Jennings Creek Fire, it is important that New York be proactive in its fire prevention programs through public education, forest management, and government preparedness. I am reaching out to request a briefing from your team on the following topics:

1. What are the preparedness plans for the DHSES and the Office of Fire Prevention and Control in the face of increasing fire threats?
2. How does DHSES coordinate with NYSDEC to consider climate change impacts on wildfire preparedness?
3. What support can the federal government provide to bolster the work of the Office of Fire Control and Prevention to ensure New York is prepared for potential fires?

Fixing a Problem Republicans Created: Gillibrand, Schumer, NY Democratic Delegation Call on President Trump to Permanently Restore Full SALT Deduction

NEW YORK, NY - Today, U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, and Democratic members of the New York congressional delegation urged President-elect Trump to permanently remove the cap on the state and local tax (SALT) deduction and put more money in the pockets of everyday New Yorkers. Removing the SALT deduction cap would allow New Yorkers who itemize when filing federal taxes to fully deduct certain taxes paid to state and local governments, including property, income, and sales taxes.

"Republicans created this problem, and it is now their responsibility to fix it and restore the full SALT deduction," said Senator Gillibrand. "This would change the lives of hardworking New Yorkers who have been robbed. A full SALT deduction would ensure that families have more money in their pockets, get much-needed tax relief, and are once again treated fairly. President-elect Trump has an opportunity to reach across the aisle while also working within his own party to make an impact by eliminating an unfair and economically prohibitive policy."

"Eliminating the SALT cap is not just about fairness; it's an economic imperative to support middle-class families, bolster local municipalities, and safeguard vital services like public safety and emergency response," said Congressman Jerrold Nadler. "As Dean of the New York House Delegation, I am proud to join my New York Democrat colleagues in calling for the full elimination of the SALT deduction cap in any tax-related legislation brought to the House floor."

"Eight years ago, Donald Trump and the Republican party dramatically reduced the State and Local Tax deduction, exacerbating the affordability crisis and costing working New Yorkers billions of dollars a year," Congressman Dan Goldman said. "With Trump's Republican Party in full control of Washington, it is up to New York House Republicans to stand by their campaign promises and permanently reinstate the full SALT deduction. There are no excuses: you either deliver for your constituents or you don't."

"Restoring the SALT deduction before the next annual income tax filing date is an imperative goal due to the negative impact its repeal continues to have on middle-class tax-payers in New York," said Congressman George Latimer. "I stand with my colleagues urging the House and Senate to implement a tax policy that benefits the middle class homeowners, and immediately relieves New Yorkers of this disproportionate financial burden."

The 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) capped the SALT deduction at \$10,000 per year, negatively impacting New Yorkers' pockets.

(Contd. Pg. 53)

Fixing a Problem Republicans Created: Gillibrand, Schumer, NY Democratic Delegation Call on President Trump to Permanently Restore Full SALT Deduction

(From Pg. 52)

According to the State of New York the SALT deduction cap has cost New Yorkers as much as \$12 billion every year since it took effect in 2018.

Gillibrand pointed to the following additional reasons for why reinstating the full SALT deduction will have positive benefits for New Yorkers:

- o New Yorkers already subsidize other states by paying nearly \$20 billion more in taxes than we receive back from the federal government;
- o The SALT deduction cap resulted in double taxation by imposing federal taxes on the income used to pay state and local taxes above \$10,000;
- o The cap on the deduction encourages wealthier people to move to other states and leaves middle- and lower-income taxpayers holding the bag to pay for school, police and other essential state and local tax burdens.

Gillibrand Holds First Aging Committee Hearing as Ranking Member, Focuses on Improving Wellness Among Seniors and Setting a Standard for the American Dream

Washington, D.C. - Yesterday, U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging Ranking Member Kirsten Gillibrand and Chairman Rick Scott held a hearing entitled "Improving Wellness Among Seniors: Setting a Standard for the American Dream." During the hearing, the senators discussed overall health, personal and community safety, and the benefits of socializing and working later in life.

Watch here.

https://www.senate.gov/isvp/?auto_play=false&comm=aging&filename=aging011525&poster=https://www.aging.senate.gov/assets/images/video-poster.png

Senator Gillibrand's remarks as prepared for delivery below:

Thank you, Chairman Scott.

I am excited to serve as ranking member of the Senate Special Committee on Aging for the 119th Congress.---

First, I want to thank Senators Casey and Braun for their committee leadership during the 118th Congress. The committee examined many important issues and I'm ready to continue that work as ranking member.

Senator Scott, congratulations on your position as chair of this committee. I look forward to working closely with you during this Congress.

I'm also pleased to welcome both new and returning committee members. I am eager to hear your perspectives and work with you to solve issues that older adults, people with disabilities, and their families face.

The Aging Committee has a long history of bipartisanship. I hope we continue that tradition to advance an agenda that makes sure our loved ones can age with the support they need and with dignity and respect.

This Congress, I hope to continue working to lower prescription drug costs, guard against financial scams, and protect the programs that older adults and people with disabilities rely on, such as Social Security, Medicaid, and Medicare.

Today, we are discussing how to promote wellness among older adults. We'll address issues like accessible housing, financial security, and engagement with the community.

This conversation is about making sure that we are creating and supporting a society that gives people the tools to live and age well.

Those tools are different for everyone, but include resources like nutrition assistance programs, Area Agencies on Aging, Centers for Independent Living, supportive housing programs, Medicare and Medicaid, and Social Security.

I believe that it is our job to make sure these resources exist and are robust enough to support all who need them.

I look forward to hearing from our witnesses and discussing ways to improve wellness for older adults and people with disabilities.



WE'RE LOOKING FOR *Volunteers* TO HELP US OUT!

Maybe you're a student looking for some volunteer hours, a retiree looking to use your skills and passion to help others, or maybe you just LOVE your library and have an extra hour or two each week!

Whoever you are, we appreciate your interest! To apply for volunteer opportunities at the DPL, please complete a volunteer application.

Thank You!



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Join the DPL 2025 Reading Challenge!

Read ALL year and you could win a book or two!

Ready to dive into new adventures, explore fresh ideas and discover exciting worlds? The 2025 Book Challenge is here and it's open to readers of all ages! Whether you're a child just learning to read, a teen devouring every novel in sight or an adult looking for your next great read, this challenge is for you!

Make sure to stop by the library and grab your reading log!

- Set Your Goal – whether it's 5, 10 or 30 books, there's no limit!
- Read – explore new genres, authors and topics.
- Track Your Progress – add the titles as you go.
- Celebrate Your Success – complete the challenge by December 31, 2025 and be entered to win a book each time you fill out one side of your reading log!

Challenge yourself and your family.

Expand your horizons with new books.

For ALL ages!

Read adventurously!



Free Weekend Performances at DVAA 2025 Salon Series

Presented each year in the depth of winter, the Delaware Valley Arts Alliance's Salon Series offers audiences the opportunity to gather within the warmth of their community and experience intimate performances and creative events in Krause Recital Hall. The weekend afternoon events take place from February 1st to April 5th and are free and open to the public.

This year's Salon Series includes intimate musical performances, a documentary film screening, poetry, performance art, and an afternoon of storytelling.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1st, 2 PM – The C Word –DVAA proudly opens its 2025 Salon Series with an intimate afternoon of story sharing and conversation, as three local women on different cancer journeys share their stories and discuss how to talk to people with cancer - The C Word.

How can we become comfortable talking about what gets spoken of in hushed tones and become able to embrace the uncomfortable? Using humor, candor, and collected wisdom Ramona Jan, Marla Puccetti and Teresa Tulipano bring us into halls of a select “club” that no one wants to be a part of yet is one that we all enter - directly or indirectly - at some point in our lives.



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22nd, 2 PM –Join Or Die documentary screening with Q&A and pop-up local org fair –In this feature documentary, follow the half-century story of America's civic unraveling through the journey of legendary social scientist Robert Putnam, whose groundbreaking "Bowling Alone" research into America's decades-long decline in community connections could hold the answers to our democracy's present crisis.



Flanked by influential fans and scholars - from Hillary Clinton, Pete Buttigieg, and Surgeon General Vivek Murthy to Eddie Glaude Jr., Raj Chetty, and Priya Parker - as well as inspiring groups building community in neighborhoods across the country, join Bob as he explores three urgent civic questions: What makes democracy work? Why is American democracy in crisis? And, most importantly... What can we do about it?

Following the screening and a Q&A with the filmmakers Pete Davis & Rebecca Davis, DVAA and Tusten Social will host a special pop-up fair where attendees will get to discover local organizations to get involved with.

This event is made possible in part with generous support from the Wayne County Community Foundation.

SATURDAY, MARCH 8th, 2 PM –“The Guest” with Clown Daddy –Clown Daddy is expecting a very distinguished guest, and preparations must be made! Join her as she sings, dances, and cavorts about with her puppet friends in readiness for who's about to arrive. Enjoyable for all ages.

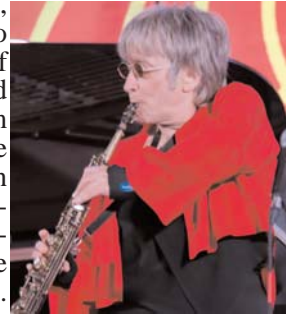
Clown Daddy, also known as Ellie J, is an actress-turned-clown blessed with a flair for physical comedy and a knack for



puppet antics. Having trained at Atlantic Theatre Company in New York City and L'École Internationale de Théâtre Jacques Lecoq in Paris, she delights in testing the power of embodiment and catharsis in the organism of the performer. Her performances lean towards vaudevillian slapstick, with a dose of rich emotions and just a smattering of metaphysical humor.

SATURDAY, MARCH 15th, 2 PM–“Conversations In Chi” with Jane Ira Bloom and Kazzrie Jaxen –Soprano

Saxophonist Jane Ira Bloom and Pianist Kazzrie Jaxen, who are also practitioners of Tai Chi and Qigong, perform together for the first time in an exciting, spontaneous exploration of the present moment. Embracing the energy of the March 15th Full Moon/Lunar Eclipse, they'll venture into the infinite beauty of the Chi Field, creating music which celebrates the joy and freedom of improvisation.



Saxophonist Jane Ira Bloom and Pianist Kazzrie Jaxen, who are also practitioners of Tai Chi and Qigong, perform together for the first time in an exciting, spontaneous exploration of the present moment. Embracing the energy of the March 15th Full Moon/Lunar Eclipse, they'll venture into the infinite beauty of the Chi Field, creating music which celebrates the joy and freedom of improvisation.

SATURDAY, MARCH 22nd, 2 PM

“Resounding Women: Music of Chaminade, Clarke, and Shaw” performed by the Sullivan County Chamber Orchestra Continuing DVAA's celebration of Women's History Month, the SCCO will perform two piano trios and a solo cello work by monumental maestras of composition. SCCO will perform a program of music by female composers, including Piano Trio No. 1 in G minor by Cécile Chaminade, In manus tuas by Caroline Shaw, and Piano Trio by Rebecca Clarke. Performers include Akiko Hosoi on violin, Kirsten Jermé on cello, and a pianist TBA.

SATURDAY, April 5th, 2 PM

“It's About Time” featuring Eric Baylin –DVAA marks the start of National Poetry Month with a multi-sensory poetry happening, presented by Eric Baylin. Expect readings, musical accompaniments, improvisational multi-media collaborations and more! Eric will be joined by Kazzrie Jaxen and Sullivan County's Poet Laureate,



Kevin Scot Graham.

ADMISSION & LOCATION:

The Salon Series events take place at 2 PM in DVAA's Krause Recital Hall, on the 2nd floor of 37 Main Street, Narrowsburg, NY.

All events are free and open to the public.

In case of inclement weather, please check the DVAA website or social media for schedule changes:

<https://delawarevalleyartsalliance.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/DelawareValleyArtsAlliance/>

<https://www.instagram.com/dvartsalliance/>

SUPPORT:

DVAA's programs are made possible thanks in part to the New York State Council on the Arts, a State Agency with support from the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature; the Sullivan County Legislature; the Nancy Stevenson Memorial Fund; the Fair Games Fund; the Heartland Embers Fund, our Business Sponsors; DVAA

New to the Daniel Pierce Library this year...

Introducing
Pages & Percs

Join us for a brand new experience at the DPL
Now you can sip, relax and read all in one place.

Get cozy and caffeinated while you enjoy a delicious cup of coffee and browse our book sale selection, located in our beautiful 1902 Room.

You can:

Enjoy a fresh cup of coffee from Happy Belly for \$2. Choose the perfect coffee pod for yourself at our front desk.

Pick out a book to buy and take home or dive into it right here.

Sit back, sip your coffee and enjoy a peaceful moment.

Whether you're looking for your next page-turner or just need a break, Pages and Percs is your perfect spot to relax and recharge.

Enjoy!

Homeschooling Group

4th Tuesday of each month

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

at the Daniel Pierce Library

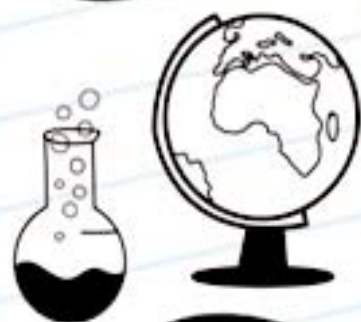
We invite all homeschooling families to join a self-guided group that meets monthly at the Daniel Pierce Library.

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

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

Please join in, the possibilities are endless!

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



**Beginning
September
24th**



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VOICESUNITED4CHANGE'S VIRTUAL

YOUTH SUPPORT GROUP

JOIN US!



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

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

EVERY 1ST & 3RD

WEDNESDAY

@ 6:30 PM






VOICESUNITED4CHANGE'S VIRTUAL

PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

JOIN US!






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

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

EVERY 2ND & 4TH

WEDNESDAY

@ 6:30 PM

Sullivan County Intervention Line for Parents and Teens

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

Help is available now!

We are here anytime you need to talk.

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



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

Calls and texts are answered 24/7

A program of the DRC

Sullivan County Text For Teens

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



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



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

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

Text "Start" to:
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Call 1-888-750-2266, option 2



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



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COVID-19 Vaccines Save Lives

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¿A quien protegerás?

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info, ask for Matt or Vinny**



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Join us on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of
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from 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Discuss topics impacting women today, in a safe and judgement free environment. Opportunities to exchange ideas and share life experiences. Attend educational workshops and learn from guest speakers.

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Middletown, NY 10940

For More Information Call

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*Please RSVP
Seats are limited*



Eligibility & Pre-Registration is required.



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Facebook



Veteran Peer Support



**Vet 2 Vet offers
Veteran Peer Support.
Call to speak with our Veteran
Peer Advocates.
We didn't fight alone while
we served, we don't need
to fight alone at home.**

Vet 2 Vet



**Sullivan County
NEW YORK**

NYC Joseph P. Dwyer Peer Support Program

Call or email us to register!

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vet2vet@atitoday.org

309 E Broadway Suite A

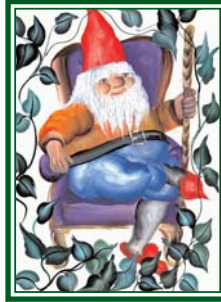
Monticello, NY 12701

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Part time Bookkeeper
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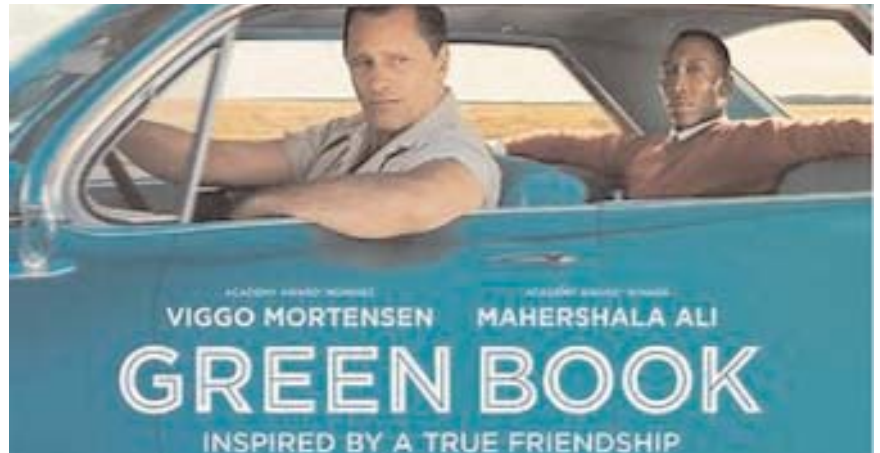
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Part time/Full time work.
Salary based on experience.
Call: 845-665-3348
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“KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE & TRIVIA”
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NETFLIX & AMAZON PRIME

GREEN BOOK
(PG-13 2018 Comedy Drama 2HR 15 min)



Most agree the world is in turmoil and we need peace. The *Green Book* is a true story of love, and understanding reflected in the lives of two very different people. *Green Book* is one of the best motion pictures for all. It teaches honesty, integrity, understanding of others and respect for others while standing up to the bullies of the world.

Green Book is based on the true story of a working-class New York Italian bouncer (Mortensen) who was hired to drive a classically trained black pianist (Ali) on a tour through the Jim Crow South. It's the best road trip movie in ages. It explores race and class through an unexpected friendship. Both men have assumptions of the other and slowly through the film, they each come to realize that they were wrong.

The film is based on part of the life of **Dr. Donald Walbridge Shirley (January 29, 1927 – April 6, 2013) an American classical jazz pianist and composer.** He recorded many albums for Cadence Records during the 1950s and 1960s applying jazz with a classical influence. He wrote organ symphonies, piano concerti, a cello concerto, three string quartets, a one-act opera, works for organ, piano and violin, a symphonic tone poem based on the 1939 novel *Finnegans Wake* by James Joyce, and a set of "Variations" on the 1858 opera *Orpheus in the Underworld*.

Take a lesson from the *Green Book* and Mahatma Gandhi peaceful protest by all who feel they have been wronged is totally in order. May God Bless.

(Contd. Pg. 33)

Answer to last week's Trivia Question: Dr. No

This weeks' Trivia question:
Whose first husband was Humphrey Bogart?



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items online from your
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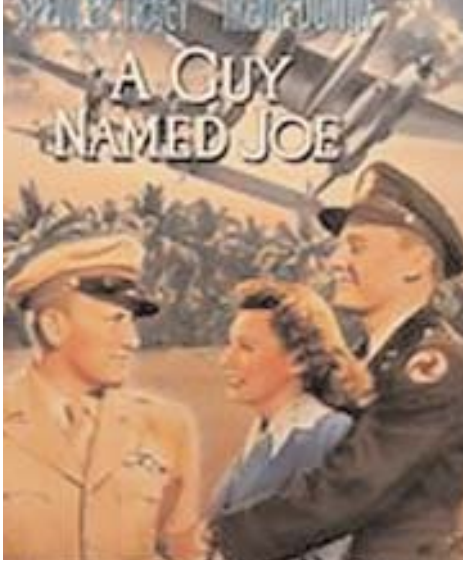
... or if you just want
to have some
'gnome made' fun..

Visit the gnome's
virtual on-line local shop
at:

<http://www.gnomehomeinc.com>

(From Pg. 31)

KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE #1
ON AMAZON. IMOB
A Guy Named Joe
(2h | Romance | TV-G1943)



When adventurous World War II bomber pilot Pete Sandidge dies in an aerial attack on an enemy ship. He becomes an angel, and learns new lessons of life death and love. Directed by Victor Fleming, Starring Spencer Tracy, Irene Dunne, Van Johnson, Ward Bond, and James Gleason

KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE #2
ON TCM ON AMAZON. IMOB, NETFLIX

Pal Joey
(1957,1h 51m | Comedy | TV-14)



After he is thrown out of town for romancing the mayor's daughter, nightclub emcee singer (Frank Sinatra) woos the ladies for a nightclub. Directed by George Sidney. Starring Rita Hayworth, Frank Sinatra and Kim Novak.

KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE #3
ON IMOB, AMAZON, NETFLIX
Mighty Joe Young
1h 34m | Drama | TV-G



Showmen try to exploit a giant ape raised by an orphan. Directed by Ernest B. Schoedsack. Starring Terry Moore, Ben Johnson, and Robert Armstrong.

KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE #4
ON NETFLIX & AMAZON PRIME

Seven Days in May



At the height of the cold war, a weakened President and a popular four-star general face off in a battle for control of the US government. President Jordan Lyman has successfully negotiated an arms deal. Military aide Martin Casey stumbles across a plot by his boss to overthrow the U.S. president, who has just negotiated a controversial peace treaty. Casey's dilemma: Follow orders and remain silent, or betray his boss. Directed by John Frankenheimer Starring, Burt Lancaster, Kirk Douglas, Fredric March, Ava Gardner, Edmond O'Brien, Martin Balsam and Andrew Duggan. Rent Seven Days in May (1964) starring Burt Lancaster and Kirk Douglas.

Stay safe, May God Bless
Knarf Odnamoc
Gnomø