



PROUD TO BE AN AMERICAN



Ye Olde Tri TOWNSDALE Valley

"The Best Journal Published by a Dam Sitz!"

VOL. 20 NO. 4 GRAHAMSVILLE, NY 12740 JANUARY 25, 2024

Mysterious Book Report John D. McKenna Pg 6 • *The Olive Jar* Carol La Monda Pg 7 • *The Scene Too* Jane Harrison Pg 11
Knarf's Classic Movie & Trivia Pg 69

Tri-valley Students Received Regional Awards in the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards



Seventeen year old Samantha Mentnech is pictured with her photograph, *Nick!* and her painting, *Minnewaska*. Her photograph received a Gold Key award and her painting received an Honorable Mention.



Also seventeen years old, Devyn Callahan is pictured with her painting, *Jelly Spread Toast*, which received a Gold Key award and an American Visions award.

(Contd. Pg. 4)

Grahamsville Rod and Gun Club Initiates 3 New Members at January 18, 2024 Meeting



The Grahamsville Rod & Gun Club celebrated their January 2024 Meeting by initiating 3 new members at an active dinner meeting at the Grahamsville First Aid Building on January 18, 2024. Twenty-five members attended.

The three new members sworn in were Rose Allison of Grahamsville and Jayden and William Siegler, sister and brother from Neversink.

They were sworn in by President Todd Brown.

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YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN

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

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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: Before the Lord; for he cometh to judge the earth; with righteousness shall he judge the world, and the people with equity.
Psalm 98:9

DAYS OF YORE...

Today's History

January 27, 1954

Mr. and Mrs. Justus Asthalter of Aden have a new baby girl at their home which they plan to adopt as soon as all legal matters are arranged. They named the baby JoAnne. They received her when she was four days old and is now four months old. It will be their second child by adoption. Their first, Mary Lou, is now past her third birthday.

Come on horseback,
come on foot

Ride in a Rolls Royce
or jalopy.

Bargains at Krum's Store are waiting

For Momma, children and for
Poppy!!

KUM TO KRUM'S

January 27, 1964

Miss Linda Rose of Grahamsville was a guest of honor on the evening of January 11th at a bridal shower held at the Sundown Methodist Church Hall. About fifty relatives and friends were present. Miss Rose, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Rose and Mr. Harold Buley are to be married on March 26th.

Airman/1C and Mrs. John T. Shaut of Glendale, Arizona are the parents of a baby girl, Selena Marie, born on Sunday, January 19th and weighing 7 1/2 lbs. Mr. and Mrs. Ted Shaut of the Woodbourne Road are the paternal grandparents.

Mr. and Mrs. Mike Allison of Woodbourne are the parents of a son born on January 17th. Mrs. Allison is the former Joan Roosa.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lavelle of Willowemoc are the parents of a daughter born at home on Monday, January 20th and weighing 9 1/2 lbs.

January 30, 1974

The Southeastern Sub-District FFA Public Speaking Contest was held at Orange County BOCES in Goshen on Wednesday, January 23rd. Miss Judy O'Brien, a Tri-Valley senior, was named the winner over speakers from Orange County BOCES, Minisink, and Warwick.

Mrs. Helena Erts, 73, of State Road, Grahamsville, died Saturday in Community General Hospital, Liberty after a short illness. Mrs. Erts was a lifetime resident and was born October 25, 1900 in Curry to Ralph and Nellie Everett Slater. She married the late Harrington Erts on May 11, 1922. She is survived by six brothers and several nieces and nephews.

Anniversary celebrations will be enjoyed by: the Milton Kortrights, 19 years on January 31st, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Gotsch, 43 years on February 1st, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wood, 11 years on the 3rd of February.

January 26, 1984

Ora George, 81, of Greenville Road, Sundown died Sunday, January 22, 1984 in the Community Hospital, Ellenville. Born in Sundown May 14, 1902, she was the daughter of Herman and Lorey Green TerBush. She was a member of the Lows Corners Baptist Church, the Willing Workers of that church and past treasurer of the church for over 40 years. Survivors include her husband, Raymond George, at home, two daughters, Mrs. Louise Dean, Neversink, N.Y. and Mrs. Hazel Akers of Greentown, Pa; and five grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.

**(From the pen of Tom Higgins) -
Catskill Accurate Weather
Forecaster:**

For best results, hang this item on a nail to an outside window. If it's white, it's snowing; if it's stiff, it's freezing; if it's moving, it's windy; if it's wet, it's raining; if it's gone, it's been ripped off.

LOOKING BACK

by Beatrice Akerley

Published January 30, 1997

The year was around 1912 and school opened as usual, in Grooville, the day after Labor Day. My best girlfriend, Erlene, arrived wearing a new pair of button up shoes and they were just coming in style. As we admired them, Erlene told me that Koon's Store had a whole shelf full of them in all sizes. My shoes were lace ups and that afternoon I ran home from school and told mother about Erlene's beautiful new button up shoes and how much I wanted a pair. She told me my shoes still looked neat and us kids weren't due for new shoes for a couple of months.

Every day I ran to dad showing him a new scuff on a shoe or complaining that my shoes hurt my feet. Then one day I received a bad mark in arithmetic and I told dad that it was caused by my shoes pinching my feet. He turned and gave me a reproachable look and told me to sit down and think over what I had just said. I sat down and looking at dad I felt so ashamed of myself and I didn't know what words to use to tell him. I guess I did OK for the next day he gave me a slip of paper with my shoe size on it and money for a new pair of button up shoes.

I quickly ran to Koons Store and was soon the proud owner of a new pair of button up shoes. After paying for them, I quickly grabbed the package and started up the dusty road. It was a hot day for September and my excitement was just to much for me and I stopped at the school outhouse to try on my new shoes again. I found them a perfect fit and that's when I realized that I didn't have a button hook. What to do! I thought about that for a few minutes and then an idea came to me. A button had fallen off my drawer waist and I had replaced it with a safety pin. Would that work? It sure did, I buttoned them up and then started on home, careful not to get any dust on my new button up shoes. As I walked in the living room, mother looked up from the paper she was reading. I was afraid either daddy or I would be in trouble but she smiled and said, "you won kid, I hope they don't pinch your feet".

The following morning she walked Kathryn and Edith down to Koon Bros.store and bought Kathryn the new peach color hair ribbon she had been asking for. She also bought Edith red button ups and a button hook.

Household Hint:

Don't throw out used butter wrappers

Don't throw out used butter wrappers, fold them in half (the buttery side in of course) put them in a plastic sandwich bag, and then put them in your fridge.

Next time you need to grease a pan, just grab your pre-buttered wrapper and coat the pan.

Nature Column - L. Comando

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

The Rowdy Ingenious Blue Jay

With the intense cold there hasn't been much activity in the back yard this past week. An occasional squirrel will scamp across the picnic table and enjoy a few of the peanuts that we scatter there. There are a few unrestrained Blue Jays who swoop down, make a raucous noise, chase the squirrels away then feast on the peanuts.

The Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*), a large songbird, is a species from the *Cyanocitta* genus. A Blue Jay is a passerine bird in the family Corvidae, native to the Catskills where they live year round.

They are a very attractive bird; predominately blue with a white chest and underparts, and a blue crest. They have a black U-shaped collar around their necks, with a black border behind the crest. Both male and female Blue Jays are similar in size (the males are slightly larger than the females) and plumage, and their plumage does not vary throughout the year. An adult Blue Jay measures 10-12 inches and has a wingspan of 13-17 inches. The average adult Blue Jay weighs 2.5-3.5 oz

Blue Jays mainly feeds on nuts and seeds. Acorns that fall from the oak trees each autumn are a special treat. Blue Jays have strong black bills which they use for cracking nuts and acorns, usually while holding them with their feet. They eat corn, grains, seeds, soft fruits, arthropods, and occasionally small vertebrates.

Blue Jays begin breeding in late spring or early summer. Breeding pairs make their nests on a thick branch that is relatively flat, or nestled in the corner of a branch. Their nests are typically formed into a cup shape and are a little bulky. The nests are made from grass, moss, twigs, leaves, roots and bark, and are often held together with mud - an example of Blue Jay ingenuity.

The female will lay a clutch of two to seven eggs, which are blueish or light brown with brown spots. After the eggs hatch, the little birds remain in an altricial (undeveloped) state and are brooded by the female for 8 to 12 days. The male Blue Jay takes care of the mother bird, feeding her and eventually their baby birds.

About three weeks after they are born, the baby birds are ready to fly. Even after they leave the nest, the family stays together for weeks, with parents helping the young birds as they become more independent. The family may even help raise a second brood later in the season.

The bird's name arises from its noisy, garrulous nature, and it sometimes also called a "jaybird". Blue Jays will often sound an alarm call when hawks or other dangers are near. Occasionally they will impersonate the calls of raptors, especially those of the Red-tailed Hawks. Should you get too close to their nest, a Blue Jay will get quite aggressive.

Records indicate that Blue Jays in the Catskills live on the average to around 7 years. The oldest Blue Jay studied by researchers lived for 17 1/2 years. Blue Jays are quite popular with birdwatchers. Their striking appearance and high activity level has also led Blue Jays to be a popular sports team mascot.



Tri-valley Students Received Regional Awards in the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards

(From Pg. 1)



Information about the awards:

Two Tri-valley students received regional awards in the Scholastic Art and writing Awards, the most prestigious arts competition in the country. Devyn Callahan received a Gold Key and American Vision Award - a "best in show" award that represents the highest level of achievement. Samantha Mentnech received a Gold Key and an Honorable Mention award. Their Gold Key and American Visions awarded work will go on to be adjudicated at the National Level. They will be awarded at the Hudson Valley Region's Scholastic Awards Ceremony, which will be held on February 2nd from 7:00 -9:30 pm at the Studley Theater at SUNY New Paltz.

Grahamsville Rod and Gun Club Initiates 3 New Members at January 18, 2024 Meeting

(From Pg. 1)



Several members sat at a private table measuring the numerous deer racks submitted by succesful hunters for the largest rack award. The winners to be announced.

Among the business discussed was the purchase and stocking of trout streams in the Spring.

Sullivan County's Financial Reporting Continues to Win Awards



Sullivan County Treasurer Nancy Buck

Monticello, NY - For the 33rd consecutive time, the Sullivan County Treasurer's Office has been accorded the Financial Reporting Achievement Award from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). The County also received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the GFOA.

The award was given after an impartial panel of judges determined the County's 2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) met GFOA's high standards, including demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" in communicating financial details and motivating people to read it. The report can be found at <https://sullivanny.us/Departments/Managementandbudget/Audits>.

"News of this award brings much excitement to my office every year. We very much appreciate the recognition for the significant amount of daily work that County staff - particularly Senior Fiscal Administrator Shannan Armbrust - are required to perform," said County Treasurer Nancy Buck. "I am deeply grateful for my entire team, not only for the diligence in which they carry out their duties, but for the way they conduct themselves every day with the public they serve."

The GFOA is a national nonprofit association serving approximately 17,500 government finance professionals, with offices in Chicago and Washington, DC.

The 3rd Annual MLK Day of Service Youth Summit

[HURLEYVILLE, NY] The 3rd Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service Youth Summit was held on Friday, January 12, 2024, at the Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre. This free event was open to Sullivan County youth (grades 11 and 12) to experience the importance of their voice and their ability to act for change.

The day began with a viewing of Dr. Martin Luther King's Blueprint for Life Speech; and was followed by a return engagement of the popular and dynamic keynote speaker, Duncan Kirkwood, Director of the Center for Resiliency at Villa Maria College, Army National Guard Master Resilience Trainer and Author of "Rerouting: Resilience Tools and Tactics".

The morning program then featured Sullivan County Poet Laureate Sharon Kennedy-Nolle, and Mykenzi Williams, Youth Poet Ambassador

Participants were guided to create their personal blueprint for life through interactive activities designed to open their minds and hearts to greater service for themselves, their schools, and their communities. They also had the opportunity to interact with several "blueprint facilitators," volunteers with various backgrounds who shared their own stories and personal journeys. The day culminated with connections to "doors of opportunity" through a variety of community partners.

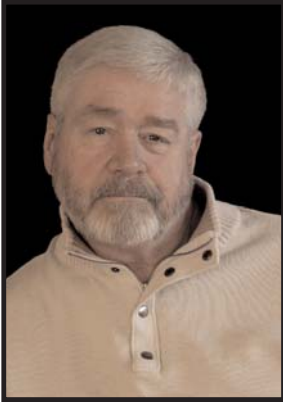
The MLK Day of Service Youth Summit is presented by Sullivan 180, Action Toward Independence Inc., Bethel Woods Center for the Arts, Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan County, the Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre, MISN CAPP (Maternal Infant Services Network Comprehensive Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention), Rural Migrant Ministries - YEG (Youth Economic Group), SALT (Sullivan Allies Leading Together), the Sullivan County Youth Bureau and the Center for Workforce Development.

SCDW is happy to announce its 2024 February Cabaret

The Sullivan County Dramatic Workshop is happy to announce its 2024 February Cabaret. Three performances, Feb. 16, 17 & 18, will keep you tapping your feet, clapping your hands, and singing along as a very talented cast leads you down a magical, musical path of melodic tributes to classic Broadway, movies and more.

Directed by Richie Chiger with Leon Hilfstein on keyboard, Richie and Teri Paris hold the event together as emcees. The multi-talented performers include Heather Strauss, Maria Nardi, Dylan Jones, Alberto Santiago, Amber Schmidt, Teri Paris, Lynne Porter, Annabelle Segal, Lori Shneider, Isabel Lopez-Diaz, Sally Gladden, Makenzie Rainey, Lordesa Hunt and Lilyanna Mitchell.

Performances are live, on-stage, at The Center Stage, 269 Main Street, Hurleyville. 7:00 PM on Friday, Feb. 16 and Saturday, Feb. 17. 2:00 PM on Sunday, Feb. 18. General admission is \$12 and includes coffee and desserts. For more information, call Producer Dawn Perneszi at 7845-796-8399 or nyx6117@yahoo.com.



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

Cheater's Game

Legacy Mysterious Book Report No. 72

by John Dwaine McKenna

Mysterious Book Report No. 402

Published April 16, 2020

"In a society without shame, where faking it is making it and deceit trumps virtue, integrity is for losers and cheaters win. Fairness? Forget about it! A meritocracy? In your dreams! Earn your diploma? Why bother, when you can buy it."

So says aging linebacker and CTE sufferer turned lawyer, Jake Lassiter, as he takes on the college admissions cheating scandal in Paul Levine's newest, propulsive courtroom thriller entitled: *Cheater's Game*, (Herald Square Publishing, PB, \$15.99, 426 pages, ISBN 978-17342551005).

Mr. Levine is at the top of his form in *Cheater's Game* – his fourteenth Lassiter novel-which covers the timeliest of subjects in this period of such income disparity the ability of the haves to purchase what the have-nots can only dream about. In this case, it's admission into the country's most prestigious and elite universities.

As the novel begins the brain-damaged ex-pro football player, Jake Lassiter, has quit trial lawyering and taken a job with the Florida Bar Association, going after attorney's who break the law. But when his beloved nephew Kip is indicted by a grand jury and hauled into Federal Court on 37 felony counts after being set-up by his scheming boss and so-called 'partner,' Jake comes back to defend the young man he's raised as a son.

He puts his life on the line

in the process, while Kip is facing what amounts to a life sentence if convicted.

The courtroom drama is fast-paced, intricate and ever-changing as the strategies, schemes and betrayals play out, while at home the heartaches mount as Jake's condition worsens as he comes to grips with the fact that the case is unwinnable and he may not be able to save his sister's son Kip, "the smartest kid in the room . . . and the dumbest one on the street . . ."

Read it for yourself, and see why legions of die-hard fans around the world can't wait for Jake Lassiter's next adventure . . . and you, like me, will be a fan too!

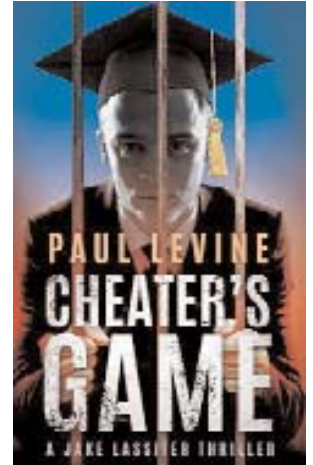
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Check out our combined website that's simple to use and easy as pie to leave your comments! We're looking forward to hearing from all of you.

<http://Johndwainemckenna.com>

or

<http://Mysteriousbookreport.com>



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



The Olive Jar

by Carol Olsen LaMonda

Staying Warm



It is cold! It is January, of course, and January is cold, except when it isn't. One day we are shivering and the next day the rain melts the snow. At least there is some variety and not just cold, cold, cold. I am waiting for the January thaw to unplug my Christmas lights and take down my wreath which is frozen to the deck gate.



5. Put away all decorations from the holidays. If you are a bit lazy, only put away the green, silver, and gold ones. Declare the leftover red ones as Valentine's day Decorations.

6. Layer up. Use those fleece zip-ups or cozy sweaters.

7. Make sure a cuddly throw is in handy reach on the back of each easy chair.

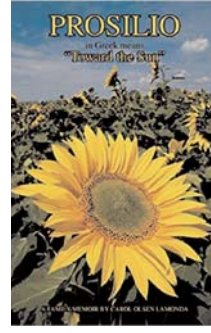
8. Be like my husband who wears a wool hat in the house.

9. Read a good book. If its setting is the frigid north, you will feel warm by comparison. If it is tropical, it will take you there in your imagination.

10. Throw another log in the fire. We have seven zones of heating with individual thermostats. We use one. We have one warm bedroom and one warm bathroom which are connected. Believe me, you don't want to tarry in the one bathroom furthest from the woodstove.

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*



I am a homebody these days trying to grow new bone where metal once was in my leg and hip, so the weather doesn't play a big part in my life, but I feel for all those school children awaiting the school bus in this frigid weather.

Here are some things to do to keep warm:

1. Look at tropical vacations online and think how much money you are saving by hunkering up to the woodstove.

2. Crumble up those stale cookies, pop some popcorn, and fill those bird feeders with seeds. Imagine how cold those little birdies feet must be hopping around picking up seeds and crumbs. You can put on fuzzy socks and slippers.

3. Take all those leftover candy canes and give them a good whack in a plastic bag. Use the minty pieces to top off a nice cup of hot cocoa.

4. Turn on that crockpot with some meat, vegetables, and a can of sauce and enjoy an easy, warming meal that has enticed you all day with its simmering aroma.





Daniel Pierce Library

Between the Bookends

Half-way Point for Children's Reading Challenge!

By Lisa Carroll

GRAHAMSVILLE-We are just about half way through our Children's Winter Reading Challenge! If your child is already filling in their logs and/or bingo sheets-keep at it. We can't wait to see them! But, if you haven't picked up a copy from the children's circulation desk or printed a version from our website, you still have time.

Participation in our reading challenge is fun and a practical way of ensuring consistent reading practices-especially with younger children, where the "life-long love of reading" foundation is established. Children can choose to complete the reading log, where they color in a circle for every 20 minutes they read or listen to a book. There are 15 circles to be filled in so that equates to 300 minutes of reading time between January 1 and February 29. On the reverse side is an area where they can record which books they read. If any particular book stood out, we'd love to hear about it. Alternatively, your child may choose to complete the reading bingo. Like traditional bingo game sheets, your child would need to fill in five circles-up, down or diagonally-to win. This option is more challenging as you have to complete specific tasks, such as: "read a book with an animal on the cover," but if your child enjoys scavenger hunts this may set a more "thrilling" tone to the competition. And, by all means if your children are really excited about it, they can do both! Specifically, the challenge is set for children months in age to 18 years of age; the deadline is February 29 (when they need to have their logs/bingo sheets turned in) and the prize-besides our happiness, is a wonderful book of their choice to keep for their personal libraries.

I have so many favorite picture books that a recommendation would be impossible. So, I strongly suggest you and your child(ren) pick a time to visit us. With it being "Arctic" cold, visiting a nice, warm, cozy library should be on the top of your list anyways! Peruse the shelves, check out or special winter book collection, our WonderBooks or dive into a chapter book. We have plenty on the shelves! I'd like to add, we have an amazing assortment of non-fiction books as well. Everything from animals, to space, to "how-to-draw" books are waiting for you!

As I've mentioned, this challenge includes older children as well and I would be remiss if I didn't mention our wonderful YA room on the first floor. Generally, YA-young adult-books are geared towards those 12 years to 18 years old. It's parental discretion whether your child chooses to read books from this area as the content does become more mature than what may be found in juvenile chapter books, but there are fabulous books there. And, as a side note, while I am most definitely not a teenager I have found so many amazing reads in the YA room.

In fact, this week's book recommendation is a YA book.



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

While I was re-shelving last years' Battle of the Books' books, I came across *With the Fire on High* by Elizabeth Acevedo. The cover art is so pretty, I just couldn't resist reading the summary, which turned into reading the first page, which turned into reading the first chapter-it's a job site hazard, for sure.

With the Fire on High is a beautifully crafted story about a high school senior, Emoni Santiago, who maneuvers through the hurdles of being a young teenage mom, while helping to financially support her small family (her grandmother, herself and her daughter), with the responsibilities of completing high school and still staying true to her own dreams. While she's faced with tough decisions on a daily basis, she's free to fly in the kitchen where she weaves magic into the meals she creates. Her talent shines throughout the story, which Acevedo moves along with such a beautiful grace and uplifting spirit despite the problems the characters face. I highly recommend this book to anyone who needs a little reminder to believe in their own special talents!

As a reminder-check our website and social media platforms for upcoming events or weather related changes to our schedule.

The first of our two planetary programs will be held Thursday, January 25 from 6 to 7PM. Local experts, John Kocijanski and Irene Pease, will be at the library here to discuss Saturn. A showing of the PBS Nova documentary on Saturn will be shown followed by a Q & A session. Weather permitting; attendees will head outside to view this beautiful planet. The same format will be followed on Thursday, February 22 for a program on Jupiter. Both programs require pre-registration and is open to adults and children ten years old and up.

(Contd. Pg. 13)



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The Scene Too

— By Jane Harrison

And just like that *poof* I was transported back to Midwest winters as a kid. I hope you are doing well as this instantaneous winter set in. I had forgotten (thankfully) what thirteen degrees in full sun felt like. I had also forgotten how bone chilling a wind dropping the air to below zero at that same temperature can be. Yes, I did go out in it for three necessary stops.



A week ago Wednesday, I went out to CABERNET FRANK'S to see my friends CASWYN MOON and FAITH KELLY. These two have made the phrase '35 gigs in 40 days' a reality in their tours. They are back until March when they are off again. That phrase should be expanded to include '8 states, 35 cities', and yes, they are doing things like this. I have known there are musicians who do this, I've met a few at this venue, but this is the first time I actually KNOW them. And the others I have met, limit their tours to maybe three states at a time. Not these two and I have the utmost respect for this. Can you imagine?



Is it worth it? Absolutely. Playing one's original music live, mingling with the patrons on a one to one basis in say, Nashville, is far more effective.

Plus, that same brutal schedule vastly affects the performance as I have witnessed after they return. Their duets are stronger, their solos



are more dynamic. And FAITH debuted some of her new material that will be released soon. Her unique style combined with her unbounding energy in her stage performance is unperilled. CASWYN, with his more low key originals, is a great balance. Low key but just as powerful. I strongly suggest getting out to see them before they are off again in March. They too, are ones to see now in a small venue before you can't.

On that note, remember I said that about THE ELECTRIC CHORDS. New York City has discovered them with their second booking at the iconic THE BITTER END.



On the frigid last Friday, I ventured out to see SHANE RENNISON at the TANGO CAFÉ in Hurleyville. I heard him for the first time this summer at the HURLEYVILLE MUSIC FESTIVAL and I was impressed enough to stop and listen. Since then, he has released his first EP entitled NICE TO MEET YOU,

which has, well, exploded in the buzz on the internet. And what does that mean? That means it has been reviewed by established podcasts etc. put out by respected music critics and it is all good. I don't think I have



ever seen so much good press on a new performer.

And it's all valid. In person, SHANE delights with a laid back style with music with poignant lyrics whether it is a cover or an original. But don't be swayed by 'laid back'. There is a lot of power behind that music. And I can attest that all of the great reviews are justified. Bottom line is whatever the song, it resonates with the listener. Here's another performer that you had better see now in the small venues.

Please join me in prayers for my friends STEVE and ANGEL, who are facing some health problems right now.

And in wishing my dear friend JOHNNY JULES a very Happy Birthday this week.



Stay safe, stay well, and stay WARM!

Until next time.....

DEC Forest Rangers Week in Review Recent Statewide Forest Ranger Actions New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Forest

Village of Wurtsboro Sullivan County



Training: On Jan. 19, Forest Rangers participated in flat ice rescue training at Bashakill Wildlife Management Area. Rangers practiced rescue techniques and discussed various scenarios they may encounter at local bodies of water. The training is essential as the weather to date has not been consistently cold enough for local bodies of water to completely freeze over. More information about ice safety is available on DEC's website.

Hamlet of White Lake Sullivan County



Public Safety: On Jan. 20, Forest Rangers O'Connell and Schweider attended the Sullivan County Polar Freeze for a Cure. Rangers ensured all participants enjoyed their plunge safely. All proceeds from the fundraiser support the Alzheimer's Association.

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

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

<https://dec.ny.gov/news/press-releases>



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Half-way Point for Children's Reading Challenge!

(From Pg. 8) On Thursday, February 1, our annual Valentine's Day Card event steps off. Patrons of all ages are welcome to pick up supplies to make homemade cards for the residents of Achieve Rehab and Nursing Facility. Cards will be available (while supplies last) for pickup at the library starting the first and will have to be returned by 1PM Monday, February 12 for our special delivery.

On Saturday, February 10 we will be celebrating 'Take Your Child to the Library' Day! Open house will be from 9AM to 12PM and we will be presenting a very special program. Mr. Mystic, of The Amazing Mr. Mystic Show, will be performing a wonderful magic show for our young patrons. We are very excited! After this most amazing magic show, families will have an opportunity to tour our beautiful children's floor and check out books! (Keep in mind our reading challenge-that would be a great opportunity to return completed forms or start a new one.) While here, we are opening registration for our Spring Children's Programs: Mother Goose, Toddler Time and Story Hour! These programs are open to caregivers and their children ages 12 months to five years who are residents of the Tri-Valley CSD. The spring eight week long program begins the week of April 8, 2024. For more information on these very special Spring Children's Programs please attend the 'Take Your Child to the Library' Day, stop in the library during normal business hours to speak with Miss. Deirdre, DPL's Children's Program Coordinator, or watch our website and social media platforms for more information.

Fallsburg CSD Celebrates Students-On-A-Roll Recipients

FALLSBURG - On January 18, 2024, the Fallsburg Central School District presented sixty-one students with the PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) Student-On-A-Roll Award. This award recognizes students who have made significant strides academically and behaviorally. Students are nominated by teachers who have observed their growth in the past marking period.

The following Student-On-A-Roll recipients are: Celeste Aguilar Calderon, Holman Bacca Bonilla, Diego Balcazar Lavin, Saladin Basic, Andrew Bensimon, Xzander Berrios, Sarah Blume, Monica Brown, Mario, Cadena Romero, Ayden Carpenito, Nehemiah Damon, Surey Delgado, Maddelynn DeMondo-Gernant, Deysi Diaz Hernandez, Niylah J Emptage, Luis Fajardo Molina, Emmabella Ferreira, Brayon Pavon Flores, Daniel Fontane, Demetrius Fontane, Natalie Fuentes Blandon, Fatoumata Gai, Isabella Gonzalez, Jancarlos Guardado, Daniella Gutierrez Aleman, Amanda Gutierrez Rodriguez, Leeland J Hadden, William Hamilton, Mikayla Harrington, Mykala Hines, Jefferson Jami Cocha, Senaida Jeronimo Sanchez,

Jozyr McNeil, Katherine I Juarez Cadena, Zoey Ketcham, Emmett Kleingardner, Dalila Koljenovic, Azon Laurel, Cessy Lezama Rodriguez, Tiffany Maccagli, Stefan Mapes, Douglas Medina Carcamo, Emy Sierra Mejia, Heysel Mejia Corcio, Dayana Murillo Madrid, Danielle Olsen, Brayon Pavon Flores, Justin Peralta Rosa, Easton D. Pugh, Selina Rodriguez, Jeybi L Rodriguez Canales, Keily Rosales Charuc, Swarly Salguero Palacios, Axel Salinas Mejia, Marilyn Santos, Tracy Severino Paredes, Conner Torres, Naroline Umazor Reyes, Marisol Vasquez Nunez, Sierra Velazquez, and Mabelin Videz Zacarias.

NY Governor's Budget Proposal Retains Key Funding for Catskill Park and Visitor Center

The Catskill Center for Conservation and Development applauds Governor Kathy Hochul for including funding for the Catskill Forest Preserve Park and the Congressman Maurice D. Hinchey Catskills Visitor Center in her Executive Budget proposal unveiled January 16. We're thrilled to see support of \$8 million dedicated to the Catskill and Adirondack Forest Preserve Parks and \$200,000 for the Catskills Visitor Center.

"We appreciate the Governor recognizing the Catskill Park as a valuable resource here to serve all New Yorkers," said Jeff Senterman, Executive Director of the Catskill Center. "Over the past two years, we have worked closely with our Senate and Assembly representatives to secure necessary funding in their budget proposals and, ultimately, the final budget. This year, with a dedicated funding line already included in the Executive Budget proposal, we are able to redirect our advocacy efforts toward broader issues concerning the Forest Preserve and the Catskills."

The Catskill Park Coalition, which the Catskill Center co-chairs, first wrote a letter to Governor Hochul in September, requesting support for the Catskill Park in her Executive Budget proposal.

In November, the Forest Preserve Coalition, which the Catskill Center also co-chairs, wrote to Governor Hochul advocating for Catskill Park priorities, outlining key actions for the year ahead including requests for the 2024/25 state budgeting process to address sustainability and stewardship in the Catskill and Adirondack Forest Preserve Parks.

The Catskill Center, as co-chair of both the Catskill Park Coalition and Forest Preserve Coalition, will continue to work with our partners to ensure funding for the Catskills and Forest Preserve identified in the Executive Budget remains in the final budget. We also expect to work with the Assembly and Senate to restore funding for the High Peaks Information Center, which was included in last year's final budget, but not included in the Executive Budget proposal.

The Catskill Park Coalition will also be holding a day of advocacy for the Catskill Park on February 29, 2024.

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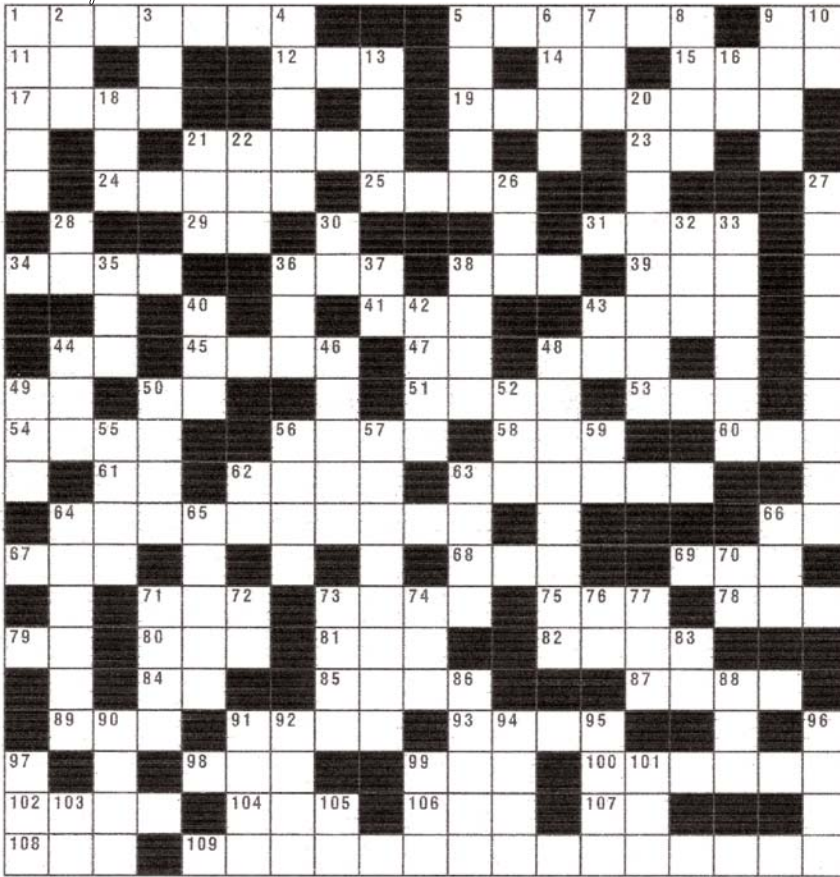
at the Daniel Pierce Library
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Come paint with us!

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.

Fairy Tales Can Come True-

L. Comando



ACROSS

1 What the little wishing star does
 5 Hansel's sister
 9 'Hi- __, it's off to work we go
 11 Informal hello
 12 Mr. Thumb's first name
 14 Negative response
 15 First man
 17 Archaic term for to
 19 Author of "The Snow Queen"
 21 Discards
 23 Expressing location
 24 Tourist town in the White Mts. of Arizona
 25 Hindu goddess an wife of Rama
 29 Indefinite article
 31 Incredible superhero who made first appearance in the '60's

34 Young lad popular in fairy-tales and nursery rhymes
 36 Amusement
 38 Frozen water
 39 Originally called
 41 Earlier
 43 Russian ruler
 44 Father
 45 Winter precipitation
 47 Supported by
 48 Four and twenty blackbirds were baked in one
 49 Southeast
 50 Exclamation of surprise
 51 Mountain range in Saudi Arabia
 53 Fabrication
 54 Remunerated
 56 Room over a stable
 58 Outer edge
 60 Fall behind
 61 Combining form of two
 62 Alone
 63 Gretel's brother

64 Her foot fit in the glass slipper
 66 Either
 67 Cushion
 68 Mass of fish eggs
 69 Large constrictor snake
 71 Democrat
 73 Fruit of the blackthorn bush
 75 Noisy cry
 78 Future Farmers of America
 79 Advertisement
 80 Hearing organ
 81 Exaggerated long period of time
 82 Cinderella lost this
 84 Exist
 85 What Little Jenny was
 87 Sweet potatoes
 89 Small woodland supernatural creature
 91 Tribulation
 93 Informal 'obituary'

98 Friend
 99 Lyric poem
 100 Largest state in the U.S.A.
 102 American humorist/columnist noted for her portrayal of suburban life
 104 Lazy man
 106 Small injury
 107 Los Angeles
 108 Combination of knitted stitches
 109 A dwarf character in a fairy tale of the same name

DOWN
 1 Dwarf and entertainer in P T Barnum circus Tom ___
 2 Victorious
 3 Combining form of new
 4 Upper region of air beyond the clouds
 5 Titan
 6 No longer exists

7 Foot digit
 8 Final
 9 First name of Danish author of 'The Match Girl'
 10 A mystic syllable
 13 Living green carpet where fairies and elves hang out
 16 Delaware
 18 Label
 20 She let down her long hair
 21 Ocean
 22 Female chicken
 26 Part of a circle
 27 Courier
 28 Mother
 30 An English bathroom
 32 Meadow
 33 Edible part of a seed
 35 Central Intelligence Agency
 36 To & __; back and forth

37 North America
 38 Electrically charged atoms
 40 First Old English runic letter so named from the word of which it was the first letter
 42 Zodiacal sign of Capricorn
 43 Cirrus (abbrev)
 44 Edible legume
 46 Complete
 48 Daughter of the king
 49 Intelligence agent
 50 Scandinavian god of

myth who Wednesday is named after
 52 Irish Republican Army
 55 In the same place
 56 Mythos
 57 Legend
 59 Title before a woman's surname regardless of marital state
 62 Southeast
 63 Rabbit
 64 What Jack jumped over
 65 Fantasy

66 Lame-brain
 70 A preposition
 71 Unable to hear
 72 Mister
 73 Fastened with stitches
 74 Single unit
 76 Used to express surprise
 77 Lad
 83 Each
 86 Places where lines intersect
 88 Title of a married

woman
 90 Bough
 91 An office worker; clerk
 92 Aluminum and potassium compound
 94 Crooked
 95 More than the average height
 96 Spun wool
 97 Evergreen
 99 Nocturnal bird
 101 Monetary unit of Latavia
 103 Rhode Island
 105 Mounted Police

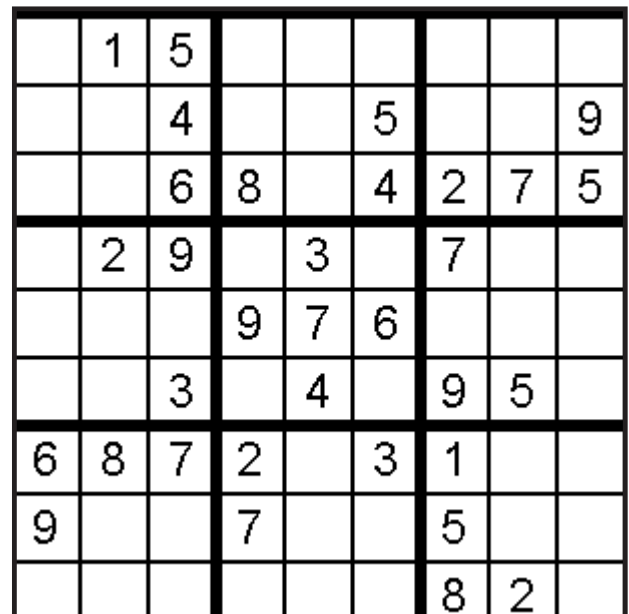
Impossible Quesadilla Pie

The perfect snack for Sunday afternoon football!

- 2 (4 ounce) cans chopped green chiles, drained
- 4 cups shredded Cheddar cheese
- 2 cups milk
- 1 cup Bisquick
- 4 eggs

Preheat oven to 425 degrees F. Grease a 10-inch pie plate. Sprinkle chiles and cheese into plate. Beat remaining ingredients until smooth, 15 seconds in blender on high or 1 minute with hand beater. Pour over chiles and cheese into the pie plate. Bake until knife inserted between center and edge comes out clean, 25 to 30 minutes. Cool 10 minutes. Serve with sour cream and guacamole if desired.

数字は単数に限る



Answer on page 23 To play SUDOKO online: <https://sudoku.com>

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

Kids' Fun Page

- L.Comando

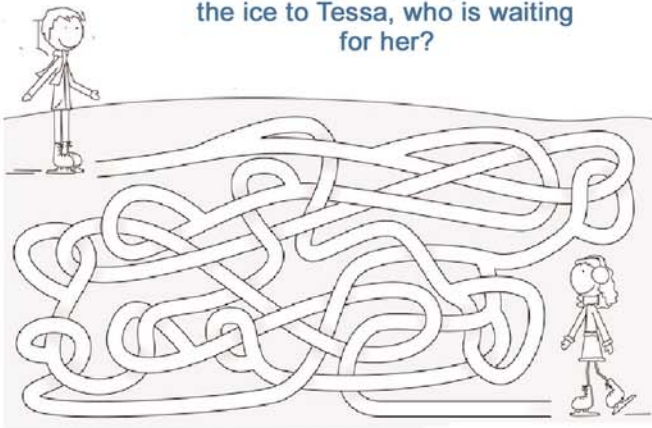
18 21 11 8 26 2 12 18 23 25 18 8 23 18 21 11 8 26 2 12 18 23 25 20 15 12

14 11 3 11 8 8 5 7 11 2 24 17 18 21 11 2 20 5 15 12 18 21 11 8 26 2 12 18 23 25 23 11 17 11 3

8 26 2 12 11 6 14 11 3 11 12 14 11 18 21 11 18 8 12 14 18 23 12 14 18 23 18 21 11 21 2 23

21 3 2 21 26 2 23 24 4 5 15 13 13 10 2 13 13 3 18 25 14 12 18 23

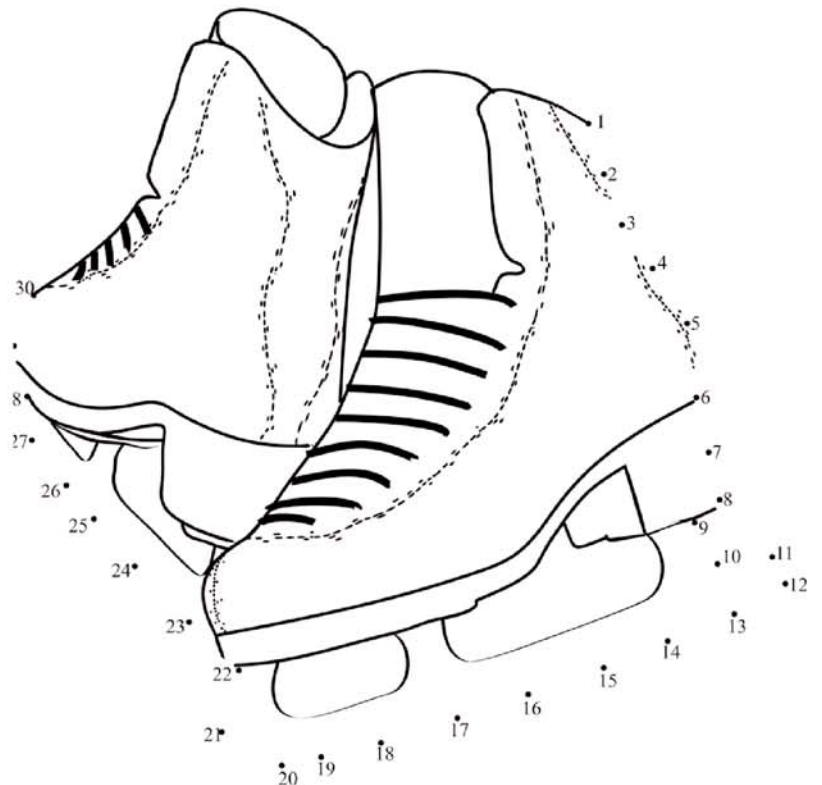
Can you help Aurora get across the ice to Tessa, who is waiting for her?



Can you find 5 differences between the 2 pictures?



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

- | | |
|-------------|--------|
| BLADE | JUMP |
| COMPETITION | MUSIC |
| EDGE | RACING |
| FLIP | RINK |
| SLIDE | SKATES |
| ICE | SPIN |
| AXEL | TWIRLS |



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Thursday

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Sunday

1pm-4pm

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Daniel Pierce Library

PBS Nova Documentary Saturn



**Thursday, January 25, 2024
6:00-7:00 p.m.**

(For adults and students ten and up)

Join local experts John Kocijanski & Irene Pease for an evening of exploration! It's been over 300 years since Galileo turned his telescope on Saturn and first saw its spectacular rings. We will be watching the PBS Nova documentary on Saturn, showing us its beauty and newly discovered mysteries. Our experts will give additional insight and take questions as we explore. Weather permitting we will head outside to view this beautiful planet. If you are curious about the galaxies, this program is for you.

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

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



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LEGALIS/PUBLIC NOTICES

Tri-Valley CSD Board Meeting

The Tri-Valley CSD
Board of Education
will have their next meeting:

February 1, 2024

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

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkl224vKQ8nAWhR6NVao24w/live>

Pattern for Progress releases new report on 5G wireless infrastructure in the Hudson Valley

*Report focuses on the equip-
ment, regulations, and benefits
of 5G coverage, along with the
role of local governments to
site and permit next-gen wire-
less in their communities*

NEWBURGH - Hudson Valley Pattern for Progress today released a new research brief that outlines the equipment, regulations, and benefits of next-generation wireless connectivity in the Hudson Valley, with a special focus on the role of local governments to permit the new infrastructure.

The report - Making it Mesh: How the Hudson Valley Can Prepare for Next-Gen Wireless -will educate the Hudson Valley about the complex infrastructure that must be deployed for our region to have fifth-generation (5G) wireless broadband connectivity. The demand on our existing wireless network is growing as more people and businesses utilize “smart” devices that require additional bandwidth to relay larger quantities of data. Although 5G has not arrived in much of the Hudson Valley, telecom companies are steadily looking to expand their infrastructure into our communities. Making it Mesh underscores that local policies, outdated zoning, and cumbersome permitting processes could hamper the deployment of 5G infrastructure unless communities prepare now.

“The deployment of 5G infrastructure throughout the Hudson

Valley requires our civic leaders to strike a balance between improving connectivity and protecting the visual aesthetics of our communities,” Pattern CEO Adam Bosch. “The next generation of wireless broadband relies on a greater quantity of small relay points that will be installed in many places. It is important for our local government leaders to prepare now by establishing easy-to-understand permitting processes, thinking about preferred sites for 5G infrastructure, and establishing design criteria for special places such as historic districts.”

The role of local governments is especially important because 5G infrastructure is different and more ubiquitous than previous iterations of mobile connectivity. The new generation of wireless coverage relies on a greater quantity of small-cell nodes. These nodes are roughly the size of a backpack, and they are typically mounted on utility poles or buildings. Nodes are arranged as close as 500 feet apart, although the exact spacing varies based on local conditions and equipment specifications. This setup, known as a mesh network, allows the small-cell nodes to relay greater quantities of data much faster than traditional cell towers.

In Making it Mesh, Pattern outlines information about the new infrastructure, the latest federal regulations that set rules for local fees and review procedures, and strategies that our local governments should consider in the Hudson Valley. In particular, local governments should take the following steps to prepare for 5G infrastructure and applications:

- o Review and update local regulations to ensure they are ready to address 5G applications, especially in urban and suburban communities where small-cell nodes are most feasible.
- o Define small-cell 5G infrastructure in zoning regulations and administrative policies.
- o Consider whether it's helpful to identify preferred sites for small-cell nodes, and establish an application process and fee structure.
- o Consider design standards that limit the visual impact of 5G nodes. Common approaches include hiding the equipment in flag poles or lamp posts, or decorative facades to disguise the equipment.
- o Educate local decision makers now. Given the technical nature of wireless infrastructure, municipalities often hire consultants to help guide decisions about its permitting, location, and design. While this might be helpful, it is still important for local decision makers to be informed so they are not at the whim of consultants.

Making it Mesh is an independent research brief that was compiled by research and planning experts at Pattern for Progress. Independent research has long been a hallmark of Pattern's work in the Hudson Valley. Its independent research is funded by members who support the nonprofit through charitable donations each year.

About Hudson Valley Pattern for Progress

Hudson Valley Pattern for Progress is a nonprofit organization that provides objective research, planning, and educational training throughout the region. Its work identifies civic challenges and promotes regional, equitable, and sustainable solutions to constantly improve the quality of life in Hudson Valley communities. Pattern develops its work upon a considerable foundation of facts and experience, without political aims or affiliations.

Pattern was founded in 1965 by the region's academic, business, and nonprofit leaders. It serves a nine-county region that includes Columbia, Dutchess, Greene, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster and Westchester counties. Visit Pattern-For-Progress.org. Follow on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn @PatternForProgress, and on Twitter @HVPattern.

Dept. of Motor Vehicles dates for the Neversink Town Hall. Jan. 11, Feb. 8 & Mar. 7, 2024.



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

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

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

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

Mobile Unit on Location 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Forms can be accessed through the NYS DMV website - dmv.ny.gov

For further information please call: 845-794-3872

New Date for MISU Drum Circle

Due to unforeseen conflict we will be postponing the beginning of the drum circle to Thursday, January 25 from 6-7:30 pm. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Drum circle will be every Thursday at MISU from 6-7:30 pm.

All ages and abilities are welcome!

Drums will be provided, first come first serve. If you have a drum, bring it!

Paul is an avid percussionist and educator from Kingston, New York. He is an instructor of percussion, world music, and music theory at SUNY Ulster and SUNY New Paltz. He is an avid performer, researcher, and clinician of traditional African music. He studied in Ghana on three separate occasions and, in 2016, was awarded a Fulbright grant to document traditional music in South Africa. The resulting research is published in the academic journal African Music.

No registration is necessary, you can just drop in and join that session! \$10 Suggested Donation, per session.

For more information visit our website

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www.misucatskills.org 845.377.3727

Second Cycle the Hudson Valley Bicycle Tour

Join us for our second Cycle the Hudson Valley bicycle tour, highlighting the communities, culture, history and scenic landscape of the iconic Hudson Valley.

Cycle the Hudson Valley is a fully-supported eight-day, 200-mile tour from the Albany area, following the Hudson River section of the Empire State Trail, now the longest multi-use trail in the nation, to the Rockland County area. New this year is a three-day weekend option including a route into NYC and a beach party in Harriman State Park.

Daily routes range from 30-50 miles, with additional mileage options for riders wanting to explore more of the Hudson Valley. The Empire State Trail through the Hudson Valley is 63% paved trail, 13% crushed stone dust trail and 24% on road. The tour includes miles of flat or rolling stretches on paved trail, stone dust sections, some steep climbs on rural roads, and short sections of either high-speed roads or urban streets that connect the gaps of the off-road trail which call for experienced cycling skills.

Every day, you will be provided with route support, rest stops with abundant, nutritious snacks, lunch options (lunch is on your own), interesting sites to visit and, at the end of the day, you will roll into an overnight site with camping, hot showers, dinner (or shuttles to area restaurants). Most nights will have music, speakers and bike workshops on-site.

The tour begins in Troy, with its revitalized downtown full of restaurants, coffee bars and shops, and finishes in/around Rockland County. Riders have an opportunity to ride into NYC on day seven. A shuttle option is available at the end of the tour, at an additional fee, to bring riders and their luggage and bicycles from downstate back to the long-term parking site in Troy. Long-term parking is available in Troy, the tour's starting location; and 3 day tour parking is available in Rockland County. However, there is not a shuttle at the beginning of the tour.

Cycle the Hudson Valley includes:

- Long-term parking at the start location.
- Route support each day.
- One to two rest stops each day.
- Eight overnight camping sites with hot showers and restrooms (Indoor or portable outdoor or a combination).
- Eight breakfasts, four provided dinners, four dinners "on your own" with shuttles to area restaurants.
- Evening activities of music, speakers and shuttles to area attractions.

Additional Fee Services:

- Tent set-up service by Comfy Campers.
- Shuttle from the finish line back to long-term parking in Troy.

You're invited to a premiere! ... and what's best, you don't have to leave your home.

At PTNY we're super proud of the outstanding inaugural year for our fully-supported Cycle the Hudson Valley bike tour in 2023. We thought it was pretty special, but check out the world premiere of our CTHV video below and be the judge!

World premiere of Cycle the Hudson Valley video. Just click https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F_ox0K26vxY

Registration is open now, so if the above got you interested in taking an adventure this August, click to join us! https://www.ptny.org/events/hudson-valley-tour/register?mc_cid=69c98bd550&mc_eid=f14a13ac76

Some highlights from our August 2024 itinerary include:

- Saturday 8/3 pre-tour rides like our popular visit to the farmer's market and overnight camping
- Sunday 8/4 cycling from the Capital Region to Hudson featuring Olana Historic Site and some ah-mazing views
- Monday 8/5 reprisal of our popular overnight at Hutton Brickyards in Kingston with beautiful camping spots right on the Hudson
- Tuesday 8/6 ride from Kingston to Poughkeepsie featuring the iconic Rosendale Trestle Bridge and Walkway Over the Hudson (it's seriously a great bridge day)
- Wednesday 8/7 Poughkeepsie to Carmel crossing the Appalachian Trail and visiting the Hopewell Depot Museum
- Thursday 8/8 travel to Rockland County where we'll camp and explore the surrounding beauty
- Friday 8/9 beach party at Lake Welch in Harriman State Park
- Saturday 8/10 NYC loops with a special guest to be announced soon!
- Sunday 8/11 Finish Line Party!!!

Interested in trying it out but can't commit for the full duration? We've got you covered!!

Get your 3-day (LIMITED NUMBERS) tickets now and have a great, shorter adventure with us! https://www.ptny.org/events/hudson-valley-tour/register?mc_cid=69c98bd550&mc_eid=f14a13ac76

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68 Clinton St
Napanoch NY

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Will be opened every Friday from 10 - 3

Something for Everyone!



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MONUMENTS INSTALLED IN ALL CEMETERIES
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**Sundown United Methodist Church
Covered Dish Supper
5:30 pm
Feb 3, 2024**

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.

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 Happy and Healthy New Year!

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

Join Zoom Meeting - Worship Service & Tuesday Evening Bible Study Zoom Link
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2029912673?pwd=R2lJYUhyTVdsQWdMUXZvTEtCeGdLZz09>
Meeting ID: 202 991 2673 Passcode: 012740
Dial by your location
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

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

Grahamsville Reformed Church

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

Claryville Reformed Church

Claryville Road
Claryville, NY 12725
845-985-2041



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

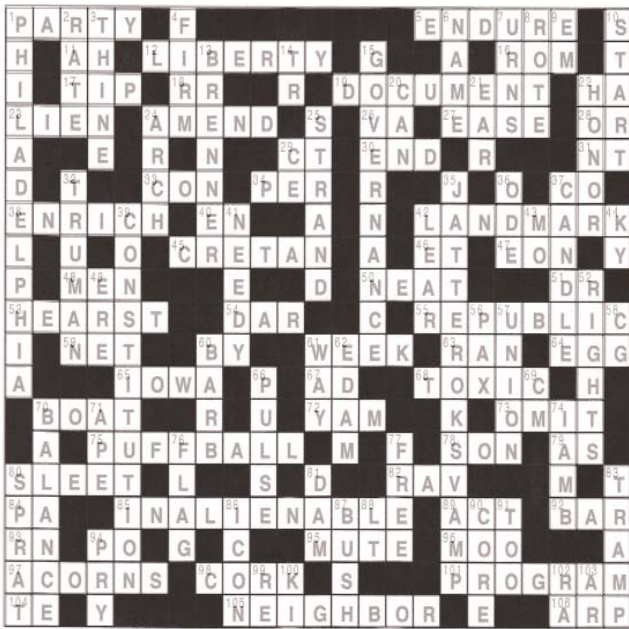
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St. Augustine's Chapel
Watson Hollow Rd. • West Shokan, NY

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



All Aboard!
 Join the Fun!
Play Mexican Train
 FREE FUN
 every FRIDAY 1- 4 pm
 in the upstairs meeting room
 at the Neversink Town Hall

Also
WANTED
 People to play cards

SUUJI WA TANSU NI KAGIRU
 answer

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



**GRAHAMSVILLE
 UMC THRIFT MINISTRY**

We are no longer accepting donations for the Thrift Ministry. Thanks to all for your generosity which has helped to make a successful season. We look forward to returning in the Spring of 2023.
The Grahamsville UMC Mission Team

<https://grahamsvilleUMC.org>
 GrahamsvilleUMC@gmail.com—Seung Jin Hong, Pastor

**Sundown
 United Methodist Church
 Covered Dish Supper
 Saturday,
 February 3, 2024 5:30 pm
 at the Church Hall**

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

SCDW Casting Call

The Sullivan County Dramatic Workshop is thrilled to have “She Kills Monsters” by Qui Nguyen, as its June live stage performance. “She Kills Monsters” explores themes of guilt, acceptance and identity - with wit and humor. Performances at the Rivoli Theatre in South Fallsburg on June 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23.

Looking to cast 9 actors - males and/or females, ages 16-30. Auditions will take place at the Senior Center, Laurel Avenue, South Fallsburg on **Friday, January 26, from 6-8pm**, and on **Saturday and Sunday, January 27 & 28 from noon to 3pm**.

Please note that each actor should come prepared with a 1 minute monologue of their choice that strongly demonstrates their acting ability. Sides will be read along with other auditioning actors.

Contact Director Josh Rosengrant - 845-866-3878 - rosen-gra@yahoo.com - for information or to schedule an alternate audition date.

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 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.

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

TOWN OF OLIVE MEETINGS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Unless otherwise noted, all **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>

Ulster County Legislature Weekly Calendar Update for the Week Of January 22 - January 26, 2024

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

Monday, January 22

- o 5:00 PM - Recycling Oversight Committee, in the KL Binder Library, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston
- o 6:00 PM - Ulster County Trails Advisory Committee, in the Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston
- o 7:00 PM - Climate Smart Committee, in the KL Binder Library, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston; & Via Zoom, Meeting ID: 878 9035 1180

Tuesday, January 23

- o No Meetings

Wednesday, January 24

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

Thursday, January 25

- o 6:00 PM - Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency Organizational & Regular Board Meeting, in the UCRA Offices, 999 Flatbush Road, Kingston

Friday, January 26

- o No Meetings

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

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

1" Boxed ad (1"x3")-
\$6.00 per week

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

(3" x 4") - \$24.00 per week

(3" x 6") - \$36.00 per week

1/4 pg (4" x 5") - \$40.00 per week

1/2 pg (4"x8") - \$64.00 per week

(6" x 8") - \$96.00 per week

Full Page - 8" x 10" -

\$100.00 per week

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

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

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

Low Rates High Visibility!

DVAA Launches Winter Exhibitions Sumi-e Artist Jaya Duvvuri and #LoveWhereYouLive Group Show

Delaware Valley Arts Alliance (DVAA) is excited to present the first two shows of the 2024 gallery season. In the Alliance Gallery, experience a solo exhibit by artist Jaya Duvvuri titled 'Rough Translation.' This exhibition showcases monochromatic Sumi-e paintings, creating abstractions that offer a meditative and intentional composition. Upstairs in the Loft Gallery, DVAA presents #LoveWhereYouLive, a group show curated by Signe Ballew, featuring nearly 50 local and regional artists with work representing the distinct spirit of the Upper Delaware River and Sullivan County Catskills.

Join us for the opening reception on Saturday, February 10th, from 4-6 PM. The exhibitions will run through Sunday, March 17th. DVAA galleries are open to the public free of charge.

Jaya Duvvuri | Rough Translation
February 10th - March 17th
Opening Reception: February 10th, 4-6 PM

Jaya Duvvuri delves into the intersection of nature and the material world, exploring their impact on psychological space. Trained in traditional Sumi-e painting, Jaya employs Sumi ink on rice paper, using the Japanese Notan technique to compose monochromatic abstractions. The meditative practice of Sumi-e allows her to investigate emotional clarity through deliberate strokes and overall composition, revealing the interiority of the artist.

Duvvuri, a Jersey City resident with roots in Southern India, finds her artistic voice in the memories, history, mythology, and literature of her homeland. Traditionally trained in Sumi-e painting, her abstract works reflect a fusion of cultural influences. Beyond Sumi ink on rice paper, Duvvuri explores acrylics and woodcut prints, expanding the boundaries of her artistic expression. With a decade-long apprenticeship under Sumi-e master artist Koho Yamamoto in New York City, Duvvuri's art embodies a harmonious blend of tradition and contemporary vision.

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Nicole.M.Gorr@gmail.com

b1/18-2/8

SPECIAL EVENT:

Jaya Duvvuri will host a Sumi-E Painting Workshop on Saturday, March 2nd. Duvvuri will demonstrate her technique and run a workshop for others to try this painting style. Workshop registration will be available on www.delawarevalleyartsalliance.org in late February.

#LoveWhereYouLive | Group Show Curated by Signe Ballew
February 10th - March 17th
Opening Reception: February 10th, 4-6 PM

Showcasing the work of nearly 50 DVAA Members, #LoveWhereYouLive highlights the connection between art and community, emphasizing the importance of cherishing and preserving our surroundings. The featured diverse artworks, including paintings, sculptures, photography, and mixed media, express the artists' gratitude for the place they call home.

SPECIAL EVENT:

On Saturday, March 16th, join curator Signe Ballew for a gallery talk followed by a #LoveWhereYouLive Winter Walk led by Laura Silverman of The Outside Institute. Registration for the Winter Walk will be available on www.delawarevalleyartsalliance.org in late February.

ABOUT DVAA

The Delaware Valley Arts Alliance is located at 37 Main Street, Narrowsburg, NY. Walk-ins are welcome. DVAA's galleries are ADA-accessible. Gallery & Shop hours are Thursdays - Sundays, 11 AM - 4 PM & by appointment.

For more information, visit
DelawareValleyArtsAlliance.org or call (845) 252-7576

DVAA serves as a home in the Upper Delaware Valley and Sullivan Catskills Region, giving artists platforms to share their voices in our galleries, on our stages, and at our festivals, including Riverfest in July and the Big Eddy Film Festival held every September. DVAA funds Sullivan County creatives and cultural organizations through our role as the county's Arts Council.

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 Nancy Stevenson Memorial Fund; the Heartland Embers Fund, our Business Sponsors; DVAA members; and individuals like you.

Expand Mental Health Workforce in Underserved Communities

- *Bill Would Provide Student Loan Forgiveness To Mental Health Professionals Who Choose To Practice In Underserved Areas;*
- *55 Out Of New York's 62 Counties, Including Most of Upstate NY, Don't Have Enough Psychiatrists, Psychologists, or Social Workers*

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Today, U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand held a video press conference to announce her support for bipartisan legislation to help expand the mental health workforce in underserved communities. The Mental Health Professionals Workforce Shortage Loan Repayment Act would incentivize mental health professionals, including psychiatrists, social workers, clinical and school psychologists, and school counselors, to practice in underserved areas by offering them student loan forgiveness in return.

"Too many New Yorkers struggling with their mental health can't get a timely appointment with a psychiatrist or a psychologist," said Senator Gillibrand. "This legislation will help draw these professionals to our communities, develop a thriving mental health workforce across Upstate New York, and ensure that all New Yorkers in need of care can get it close to home."

The Mental Health Professionals Workforce Shortage Loan Repayment Act would repay up to \$250,000 in eligible student loans for mental health professionals who agree to work in designated professional shortage areas. Loans taken out for education in mental health or a related field leading to masters or doctoral degrees or post-doctoral study would be eligible for repayment. The legislation would repay one-sixth of the individual's eligible loans for each year of service.

New York counties that the Health Resources and Services Administration designates as being or containing Health Professional Shortage Areas for mental health professionals are listed [here](https://tableau.hrsa.gov/views/HPSADesignWithTabs/HPSAsbyType?%3Aembed=y&%3AisGuestRedirectFromVizportal=y).

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

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

Trivia at the Tango

TANGO TRIVIA is back!

(It never really went away).

Let's make 2024

the most trivial year EVER!!!!

UP NEXT:

Third Thursdays Trivia at the Tango

January 18th

7:00 pm at the Tango Cafe at Hurleyville

Performing Arts Center,

Hurleyville, NY

Second Wednesday Character Trivia at the

Sullivan House Bar and Grill

7:00 pm

at 544 Wurtsboro Mountain Rd.

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

Participants are encouraged to bring their own snowshoes or similar gear if they have them. The first 20 people to arrive needing equipment will receive their choice of either a free snowshoe or microspike rental, depending upon trail conditions. Snowshoe rentals will be available at a discounted rate of \$12 through Fortress Bikes, and Morgan Outdoors will be offering a "SnO&W Special" microspike rental for only \$5 (normally \$12).

"The Sullivan O&W Rail Trail is a trail for everyone, and winter is a great time to experience the trail!" said Heather Jacksy, from Sullivan County Planning and member of the Alliance. Visit the event Facebook page at bit.ly/2024SNOW or call (845) 807-0531 for more information.

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

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

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

“TRIVIA FOR A CAUSE”

hosted by the Kiwanis of Woodridge, NY Foundation, Inc.

Saturday, January 27, 2024, 1:00 – 4:00 P.M.

Doors Open at 12:30 P.M.

Casa Mia Restaurant

205 Main St., Hurleyville, NY 12747

Come enjoy an afternoon of trivia, great food, fun, laughter, fellowship, and fantastic raffle prizes.

Advance reservations required!

ENTRY FEE: \$25.00 Per Person includes delicious food, beverages, and entry for amazing door prize.

One to six players per team. Trivia winner(s) will receive cash prize.

Raffles and 50/50 tickets extra.

Proceeds will go toward our local projects, including donations to local food pantries, winter outerwear for young children, dictionaries for 4th graders, scholarships for graduating seniors, summer reading books for children graduating from Head Start as well as kindergarteners and those entering 1st grade, as well as other projects that benefit FCSD students and families.

Advance reservations must be made no later than 01/12/24.

For questions or further info, please contact:

Deb Jacobsen at 845-798-8795 or Diane Garritt at 845-866-3204.

=====

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHECK TO:
KIWANIS OF WOODRIDGE, PO BOX 722, WOODRIDGE, NY 12789

Names attending: _____

Attending: _____ @ \$25.00 Each TOTAL DUE: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

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

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

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

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

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

“Dream”, an Exhibition of Work Created by Young Artists

The Wayne County Arts Alliance Gallery at 959 Main Street in Honesdale will re-open for 2024 on February 2. Our first exhibition of the year is “Dream”, an exhibition of work created by young artists (kindergarten - 12th grade) from Wallenpaupack Area, Western Wayne, Wayne

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

Highlands School Districts, and the Cooperage Project. The exhibit runs from Friday, February 2, 2024 through Saturday, February 24, 2024, with an opening reception on February 2, from 4:30pm - 6:30pm. Regular Gallery hours for February and March are Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays 11am-4pm.

“Dream” grows out of a WCAA/School District partnership that began three years ago, inviting art teachers and their classes into the gallery to view members' shows, and make art. For the “Dream” exhibition teachers were invited to make art at their schools with their students, inspired by three different ideas about dreams and dreaming: dreams you dream while you sleep, the dream poems of Langston Hughes, and their dreams for the world. The Wayne County Arts Alliance is excited to showcase art created by the students in Wayne County. Visit our website at www.waynecountyartsalliance.org for information about all our programs and events.



THE 2024 BAGEL FESTIVAL

VENDOR REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

AUGUST 11, 2024 - BROADWAY IN MONTICELLO, NY

CLICK FOR MORE INFO!

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

Governor Hochul Leads Nine-Governor Coalition to Call for Federal Action on Immigration

*In a Letter to White House and
Congressional Leaders, Nine Governors
Urge Congress to Pass President Biden's
Supplemental Funding Request and
Border Security Legislative Package*

*Governor Hochul Leads Coalition of
Governors from Arizona, California,
Colorado, Illinois, Maryland,
Massachusetts, New Jersey and
New Mexico*

*Copy of the Letter Available
[https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/default
/files/2024-
01/Immigration_Reform_FINAL.pdf](https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2024-01/Immigration_Reform_FINAL.pdf)*

Governor Kathy Hochul today led a nine-governor coalition calling for federal action on immigration. In a letter to the White House and Congressional leaders, Governor Hochul and eight colleagues from across the nation call for \$1.4 billion in aid to states and localities, as well as a comprehensive border security legislative package.

The nine-governor coalition was led by Governor Hochul of New York and includes Governor Katie Hobbs of Arizona, Governor Gavin Newsom of California, Governor Jared Polis of Colorado, Governor J.B. Pritzker of Illinois, Governor Wes Moore of Maryland, Governor Maura Healey of Massachusetts, Governor Phil Murphy of New Jersey and Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham of New Mexico.

The full text of the letter is available here:

Dear President Biden, Majority Leader Schumer, Minority Leader McConnell, Speaker Johnson and Minority Leader Jeffries:

As Governors representing over 100 million Americans, we write to call on Washington to work together to solve what has become a humanitarian crisis. The sustained arrival of individuals seeking asylum and requiring shelter and assistance, due to lack of Congressional action on infrastructure and policies, can only be addressed with federal organizational support and funding to meet the public safety and humanitarian needs of our local communities. With ongoing conflicts around the world, global migration is at a historic high. States and cities cannot indefinitely respond to the subsequent strain on state and local resources without Congressional action. Communities along the southern border - as well as interi-

or states and cities across the country - lack the vast coordinated infrastructure needed to respond to the humanitarian and public safety concerns of those seeking lawful entry into the United States. America needs a federal solution that supports our economy, immigrants and fixes our immigration system.

Last year, President Biden put forward a \$106 billion supplemental funding request to address immediate national security concerns, including \$4.4 billion in desperately needed funding for a robust, federal migration strategy with \$1.4 billion in aid to states and localities. Those funds would provide support to federal agencies for additional personnel to increase border security, add staff to accelerate processing times and eligibility determinations, and increase removal proceedings for those ineligible to stay in the United States.

While political motivations continue to delay the negotiations, our economy, states and localities are bearing the brunt of the shortcomings of the existing immigration system. Therefore, as you return to Washington to resume work on critical federal funding measures, we strongly urge Congress and the Administration to quickly negotiate an agreement on a border security legislative package that includes federal coordination and decompression at the southern and northern borders; federal funding for both border and interior states and cities receiving new arrivals; and a serious commitment to modernizing our immigration system in the United States. We believe the President's supplemental request provides a minimum level of funding and actions that will allow the United States to begin transformational reforms to its immigration system and uphold the principles of democracy that America was built upon.

While the Biden Administration has made important progress in managing immigration at the Southwest border, the number of migrants arriving in states and cities seeking emergency shelter continues to increase at record pace. States and cities have spent billions to address inaction by Congress and match these challenges with solutions for our state and local economies. However, it is clear our national immigration system is outdated and unprepared to respond to this unprecedented global migration. Without serious reform informed by evidence-based solutions, the challenges facing states and localities will only grow.

We remain committed to working with the Administration and Congress to advance common sense solutions to fix our immigration system. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Governor Kathy Hochul, New York
Governor Katie Hobbs, Arizona
Governor Gavin Newsom, California
Governor Jared Polis, Colorado
Governor J.B. Pritzker, Illinois
Governor Wes Moore, Maryland
Governor Maura Healey, Massachusetts
Governor Phil Murphy, New Jersey
Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham, New Mexico

TROUT UNLIMITED

Ashokan-Pepacton Watershed Chapter

BLUE MOUNTAINS TROUT NEWS



An early January Catskill brook, with brook trout hidden in the chilly waters envisioned. Photo by Ed Ostapczuk

January Chapter Meeting

The chapter will NOT be hosting a January meeting due to poor winter night-time mountain driving conditions. In the next newsletter watch for details on when and where our February meeting will be held. In the meantime, check out the upcoming fly-tying class, below.

Fly Tying Classes

The chapter is hosting its 2024 fly-tying class at the Olive Library - 4033 NY 28A, West Shokan - the last two Saturdays in February and first two Saturdays in March. Attendance is free and all are welcome, BUT please pre-register with Tony Cocozza at: Flyfish@hvc.rr.com. Bring your own tying items if you want; if you don't have any gear, the chapter will provide tools and materials for use at the library sessions.

2023 Chapter Holiday Party

The year-end holiday celebration at the Boiceville Inn on December 20th was a major success. It was well attended and the food was excellent. If you missed it, you missed a great time.



Chapter holiday party at the Boiceville Inn in December, 2023. Photo by George Holz.

Catskill Forest Radio

If you missed "From the Forest" with chapter member Peter Marx, and fishing the East Branch of the Delaware, catch his podcast here:

<https://www.podbean.com/media/share/pb-bmvhw-153f325>

Sad News

We just learned that longtime chapter member Joe Diadone recently passed away. He would have turned 94 on January 18. Condolences to his family and may he rest in peace.

Winter Watching

Given the lack of a January chapter meeting, if you get a severe case of the shack nasties, check out the YouTubes below:

Fly Fishing for Something Bigger Than Fish|A Full Film of Reflections:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=onLzwJ-e3ZU>

Big Land/Brook Trout Fishing in the Heart of Labrador:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2iFIDYWmj8E>

Shandaken Tunnel Update

On January 2, the New York City of Department of Environmental Protection (NYC DEP) brought their Shandaken Tunnel back online after a prolonged scheduled work shutdown. For the next newsletter, we will attempt to update membership on the status of that work including the tunnel's stationary intake gates and movable High Level Intake.

2024 Fly Fishing Show

For those so inclined the 2024 Fly Fishing Show at the Edison, NJ Convention & Exposition Center will be held January 26 through the 28. Info here: <https://flyfishingshow.com/>

Treasurer's Report

Jody reports we currently have \$8,989.81, with \$7,699.29 in the General Operating Fund and \$1,290.52 in the Conservation Fund, dedicated to conservation uses only.

Acid Rain Report

Jody Hoyt reported during December there were 5 measurable precipitation events totaling 9.07 equivalent liquid inches of precip, including 0.7 inches of snow, with a weighted 5.6 pH as measured in Boiceville. For all of 2023, Jody measured 83 events that included 42.4 inches of snow with a total of 69.66 liquid inches of precipitation. Historically the region has averaged 52 liquid inches of precipitation that included 80 inches of snow. Recent decreases in snowfall support climate change theories while a recent Cornell scientist report suggests an increasing number of Adirondack lakes will soon become unsuitable trout habitat, FYI: <https://news.cornell.edu/stories/2024/01/most-adirondack-lakes-will-likely-become-unsuitable-trout>.

Membership

If you have membership questions or concerns, or know someone who wants to join our chapter, please contact Russell Martin at: <mailto:rmartintu@gmail.com?subject=TU%20membership%20inquiry>.

Until next time,
Ed Ostapczuk
January 22, 2024

Daniel Pierce Library
Valentine's Day Card Event
for ALL ages

Want to make your heart smile too?

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

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

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



Thank You!



Daniel Pierce Library

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www.danielpiercelibrary.org

Governor Hochul Announces \$13 Million Federal Grant Awarded to Improve Reliability of Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Across New York State

Governor Kathy Hochul announced that the New York State Department of Transportation has been awarded \$13 million from the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration's Electric Vehicle Charger Reliability and Accessibility Accelerator Program to enhance the reliability of electric vehicle charging ports across the State. The award is to repair or replace broken or non-operational electric vehicle charging ports. The award is part of the approximately \$148.8 million in funding for 24 applicants in 20 states, including 14 State Departments of Transportation and 10 local entities under the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Award, made possible by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

"New York State is the national leader when it comes to investing in innovation to combat the plague of global climate change," Governor Hochul said. "This federal award will enable us to keep our existing electric vehicle charging infrastructure in a state of good repair, while we continue to make investments in the Empire State's electric vehicle future. The green revolution is upon us, and New York is once again leading the way."

Through this program, New York State will ensure that its publicly accessible direct current fast chargers (DCFC) and Level 2 chargers are in proper working order and available to motorists across the state. There are currently more than 10,000 publicly accessible Level 2 and DCFC ports in the State, which electric vehicle drivers rely on every day.

New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) will complete the repair and replacement of charging stations by entering into a sub-agreement to administer the funding with the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), which in turn will enter into agreements with charging providers or other entities that own charging stations. NYSEDA's sub-agreements will require that stations receiving funding under this grant program must be operational within 12 months of the award to NYSDOT, and that stations must remain operational for at least five years.

The National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Program was established as a part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law in 2021 and includes \$5 billion toward building standardized fast chargers along interstate highways. New York is expected to receive \$175 million over five years but must submit updated plans to the FHWA each year on how it intends to spend the money in order to receive its annual allotment. In October, Governor Hochul announced that the FHWA had approved New York State's updated plan. This \$13 million is additional to the \$175 million New York was already slated to receive.

The NEVI program contains a 10 percent set aside to allow grants to be made to states and localities requiring additional assistance to deploy EV charging infrastructure strategically. Reflecting the need to make the current EV charging network more reliable, the first round of funding made available in this set aside from the NEVI program will focus on repairing or replacing non-operational EV chargers.

"Repair" and "replace" projects can include hardware, permitting, service upgrade and labor costs up to repair or replace electric vehicle equipment, ensuring the equipment remains operational for at least five years.

Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer said, "The Bipartisan

Infrastructure & Jobs Law is already supercharging new electric vehicle charging stations across New York, and this new \$13 million in federal funding will help keep our existing EV charging stations in tip-top shape. Electric vehicles are booming in popularity, and for this industry to succeed we need to make charging your car as easy and convenient as possible, and this will help ensure charging stations can continue to operate reliably for all. By building out our state's charging capabilities, we are boosting our economy, combatting climate change, and increasing public health for all communities. I am proud to work with Governor Hochul to expand our nation's network of EV chargers to drive us towards a cleaner electric future."

Representative Pat Ryan said, "As more people buy electric vehicles, we need to make sure our charging infrastructure keeps up with demand. By investing in this technology today, we are positioning our community to be a leader, both environmentally and economically, for decades to come. I was proud to lead the electrification of the UCAT fleet as County Executive - this is a crucial next step to making New York a sustainable and thriving home for future generations."

The Repair and Replacement funding opportunity will also allow New York State to continue to build upon its extensive work to date to expand electric vehicle ownership. New York State's more than \$2.7 billion investment in electrifying its transportation sector is vital to meet the State's sweeping climate and clean energy plan. Reducing carbon emissions and pollution from vehicles creates cleaner air and healthier communities, particularly in underserved areas. A range of initiatives grow access to electric vehicles and improve clean transit for all New Yorkers, including EV Make Ready, EVolve NY, the Drive Clean Rebate, the New York Truck Voucher Incentive Program (NYTVIP) and federal funding under the NEVI Program.

Last month, Governor Hochul announced that New York's first high-speed chargers for electric vehicles funded through President Biden's historic NEVI program are now operating in the city of Kingston, in Ulster County in the Hudson Valley. This station is one of the first in the nation to be installed through the NEVI program.

New York State's Nation-Leading Climate Plan

New York State's nation-leading climate agenda calls for an orderly and just transition that creates family-sustaining jobs, continues to foster a green economy across all sectors and ensures that at least 35 percent, with a goal of 40 percent, of the benefits of clean energy investments are directed to disadvantaged communities. Guided by some of the nation's most aggressive climate and clean energy initiatives, New York is on a path to achieving a zero-emission electricity sector by 2040, including 70 percent renewable energy generation by 2030, and economy-wide carbon neutrality by mid-century. A cornerstone of this transition is New York's unprecedented clean energy investments, including more than \$46 billion in 65 large-scale renewable and transmission projects across the State, \$6.8 billion to reduce building emissions, \$3.3 billion to scale up solar, nearly \$3 billion for clean transportation initiatives, and over \$2 billion in NY Green Bank commitments. These and other investments are supporting more than 170,000 jobs in New York's clean energy sector as of 2022 and over 3,000 percent growth in the distributed solar sector since 2011. To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality, New York also adopted zero-emission vehicle regulations, including requiring all new passenger cars and light-duty trucks sold in the State be zero emission by 2035. Partnerships are continuing to advance New York's climate action with 400 registered and more than 100 certified Climate Smart Communities, nearly 500 Clean Energy Communities, and the State's largest community air monitoring initiative in 10 disadvantaged communities across the State to help target air pollution and combat climate change.

Governor Hochul Announces \$100 Million in Environmental Bond Act Funding Now Available for Clean Green Schools

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced \$100 million is now available through the Clean Green Schools Initiative under the historic \$4.2 billion Clean Water, Clean Air, and Green Jobs Environmental Bond Act. The initiative will allow for the advancement of construction projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and help public schools improve environmental sustainability and decarbonize school buildings. Today's announcement supports the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act requirements to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 85 percent by 2050 and ensure at least 35 percent, with a goal of 40 percent, of the benefits from clean energy investments be directed to disadvantaged communities.

"Creating a safe and healthy learning environment is critical to providing our children the best education possible," Governor Hochul said. "These investments will make our school facilities cleaner and more sustainable - and will have a tremendous positive effect on future generations of students."

As climate change increases the number of high-heat days, schools are struggling to keep cool due to outdated infrastructure in dire need of repairs or upgrades to clean energy technologies. To help address this, Governor Hochul announced in this year's State of the State that New York will expand funding for cooling capacity for schools while they decarbonize through the Clean Green Schools program.

Currently, this program serves under-resourced public schools and helps them become sustainable, resilient and healthy learning environments in their community by upgrading to clean energy technologies to mitigate indoor air quality from pollution and wildfires. This investment will also protect against extreme heat by prioritizing funding for efficient cooling systems in schools serving vulnerable populations. The state will encourage communities that receive this funding to install cooling systems that can be opened to the community during extreme heat events to help prevent heat-related illness or death.

Administered by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), today the competitive application process launched for the Clean Green Schools Initiative and all public school districts across New York State are eligible to apply if they are designated as high-needs by the New York State Education Department or located in a disadvantaged community as defined by the New York State Climate Justice Working Group. Incentive amounts start at \$500,000 for qualifying projects leading to improved air quality, increased resiliency, and a pathway toward electrification. Proposals are due on June 6, 2024, by 3:00 p.m., ET.

NYSERDA President and CEO Doreen M. Harris said, "The time to address the significant impacts of climate change on our schools is now, especially in communities that have traditionally been underserved. The Clean Green Schools Initiative will provide students and educators in these districts with access to healthier learning and teaching environments while helping them to realize the benefits of more sustainable, climate-friendly school buildings."

NYSERDA will host a webinar on February 7, 2024, at 12:00 p.m. ET (for schools to learn more about the types of eligible projects, including how they will be evaluated. For continued Clean Green Schools

The \$100 million in funding for public schools through the Clean Green Schools Initiative is part of \$400 million set aside for green building projects under the Environmental Bond Act and expands NYSERDA's Clean Green Schools Initiative originally announced by Governor Hochul in April 2022. The draft Clean Green Schools Initiative eligibility criteria was open for public comment from November 8, 2023 to December 8, 2023. This announcement follows robust Bond Act public engagement processes which included a project idea survey and a statewide listening tour which

served to identify funding needs and develop program guidelines for Bond Act implementation. Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner Basil Seggos said, "I applaud Governor Hochul's sustained investment in Clean Green Schools and look forward to working with DEC's partners to support this and other green initiatives backed by the Environmental Bond Act. The availability of this funding will support the historic energy transformation in our schools as we strive to meet New York's climate mandates and promote health and wellbeing, particularly in areas most susceptible to the effects of harmful greenhouse gas pollution."

Public Service Commission Chair Rory M. Christian said, "By upgrading to clean energy technologies, these schools will become sustainable, resilient, and healthy learning environments in their community. This initiative, led by Governor Hochul, will also help reduce air pollution, which is especially important for our students and communities across New York State."

New York State Education Department Commissioner Betty A. Rosa said, "The Clean Green Schools Initiative will have far-reaching sustainable impacts on today's students and future generations. This initiative allows schools to become environmentally sustainable by reducing energy loads, decarbonizing their buildings, improving indoor air quality, and implementing clean energy alternatives. We applaud Governor Hochul for spearheading this crucial initiative and look forward to working with our partners to create clean, sustainable, and healthy school environments for all New York State students." (Coatd. Pg. 34)

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Governor Hochul Announces \$100 Million in Environmental Bond Act Funding Now Available for Clean Green Schools

(From Pg. 33) This announcement builds on the \$14 million in awards by Governor Hochul in October through the Clean Green Schools initiative to 11 under-resourced public school districts to modernize their buildings, lower greenhouse gas emissions, reduce the school's reliance on fossil fuels and improve the indoor air quality by installing ground source heat pumps, air source heat pumps and electric kitchen equipment. To date, 1,500 under-resourced schools across 85 districts in the 35 counties in New York State are receiving technical assistance to assess indoor air quality, energy reduction, electrification and decarbonization projects.

Additionally, NYSERDA provides technical assistance to schools through the Flexible Technical Assistance Program. The Flexible Technical Assistance Program can help schools identify and evaluate opportunities to reduce energy costs and incorporate clean energy into their capital planning.

NYCDOE Director of Energy & Sustainability Meredith McDermott said, "As New York works towards ambitious climate goals to support the long-term health and resilience of our communities, resources like NYSERDA's Clean Green Schools Initiative are imperative to achieve emissions targets and other critical sustainability milestones. With nearly 1,900 public schools in NYC, funding opportunities are integral to our ability to operate and maintain safe, healthy, efficient teaching and learning spaces for our students and staff in the way they deserve. On behalf of NYC Public Schools, we thank the Governor and NYSERDA for providing this essential program- it shows a deep understanding of the greatest challenges we face on our road to carbon neutrality, school climate action, and climate resilience. We look forward to leveraging this program to not only improve our physical infrastructure, but to also further support our students to enter the growing green economy with the skills and knowledge to be climate leaders."

Association of School Business Officials NY Executive Director Brian Cechnicki said, "The Clean Green School Initiative is an important effort to help modernize our school buildings in high need districts throughout the state to meet the latest environmental standards and improve the learning environment of our students. We thank NYSERDA and Governor Hochul for this funding and look forward to the building upgrades that will occur throughout the state as a result."

New York State Association of Small City School Districts Executive Director Robert J. Breidenstein said, "Affording Small City school districts access to critical infrastructure funding is an essential first step to modernize the physical plants in our neediest schools. The Environmental Bond Act will enable fiscally stressed systems to responsibly upgrade facilities while promoting energy efficiencies for a generation of learners."

Buildings are one of the most significant sources of greenhouse gas emissions in New York State. Through NYSERDA and utility programs, over \$6.8 billion is being invested to decarbonize buildings. By improving energy efficiency in buildings and advancing statewide installations of onsite storage, renewables, and electric vehicle charging equipment, the State will reduce its carbon pollution and achieve the State's ambitious target of reducing on-site energy consumption by 185 TBtu by 2025, the equivalent of powering 1.8 million

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In addition to Bond Act funding, the Clean Green Schools Initiative is funded through the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative and the State's 10-year, \$5.3 billion Clean Energy Fund, which is authorized by the New York State Public Service Commission. More information about this funding is available on NYSERDA's website.

New York State's Nation-Leading Climate Plan

New York State's nation-leading climate agenda calls for an orderly and just transition that creates family-sustaining jobs, continues to foster a green economy across all sectors and ensures that at least 35 percent, with a goal of 40 percent, of the benefits of clean energy investments are directed to disadvantaged communities. Guided by some of the nation's most aggressive climate and clean energy initiatives, New York is on a path to achieving a zero-emission electricity sector by 2040, including 70 percent renewable energy generation by 2030, and economywide carbon neutrality by mid-century. A cornerstone of this transition is New York's unprecedented clean energy investments, including more than \$46 billion in 65 large-scale renewable and transmission projects across the state, \$6.8 billion to reduce building emissions, \$3.3 billion to scale up solar, nearly \$3 billion for clean transportation initiatives, and over \$2 billion in NY Green Bank commitments. These and other investments are supporting more than 170,000 jobs in New York's clean energy sector as of 2022 and over 3,000 percent growth in the distributed solar sector since 2011. To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality, New York also adopted zero-emission vehicle regulations, including requiring all new passenger cars and light-duty trucks sold in the State be zero emission by 2035. Partnerships are continuing to advance New York's climate action with 400 registered and more than 100 certified Climate Smart Communities, nearly 500 Clean Energy Communities, and the State's largest community air monitoring initiative in 10 disadvantaged communities across the State to help target air pollution and combat climate change.



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

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| Read a book from the year you were born | Recommend the library to a friend | Read a book with pictures | Read a book with "winter" in the title | A book less than 150 pages |
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Governor Hochul Leads Nine-governor Coalition to Call for Federal Action on Immigration

Governor Hochul Leads Coalition of Governors from Arizona, California, Colorado, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey and New Mexico

Governor Kathy Hochul today led a nine-governor coalition calling for federal action on immigration. In a letter to the White House and Congressional leaders, Governor Hochul and eight colleagues from across the nation call for \$1.4 billion in aid to states and localities, as well as a comprehensive border security legislative package.

The nine-governor coalition was led by Governor Hochul of New York and includes Governor Katie Hobbs of Arizona, Governor Gavin Newsom of California, Governor Jared Polis of Colorado, Governor J.B. Pritzker of Illinois, Governor Wes Moore of Maryland, Governor Maura Healey of Massachusetts, Governor Phil Murphy of New Jersey and Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham of New Mexico.

The full text of the letter is available here:

Dear President Biden, Majority Leader Schumer, Minority Leader McConnell, Speaker Johnson and Minority Leader Jeffries:

As Governors representing over 100 million Americans, we write to call on Washington to work together to solve what has become a humanitarian crisis. The sustained arrival of individuals seeking asylum and requiring shelter and assistance, due to lack of Congressional action on infrastructure and policies, can only be addressed with federal organizational support and funding to meet the public safety and humanitarian needs of our local communities. With ongoing conflicts around the world, global migration is at a historic high. States and cities cannot indefinitely respond to the subsequent strain on state and local resources without Congressional action. Communities along the southern border - as well as interior states and cities across the country -lack the vast coordinated infrastructure needed to respond to the humanitarian and public safety concerns of those seeking lawful entry into the United States. America needs a federal solution that supports our economy, immigrants and fixes our immigration system.

Last year, President Biden put forward a \$106 billion supplemental funding request to address immediate national security concerns, including \$4.4 billion in desperately needed funding for a robust, federal migration strategy with \$1.4 billion in aid to states and localities. Those funds would provide support to federal agencies for additional personnel to increase border security, add staff to accelerate processing times and eligibility determinations, and increase removal proceedings for those ineligible to stay in the United States.

While political motivations continue to delay the negotiations, our economy, states and localities are bearing the brunt of the shortcomings of the existing immigration system. Therefore, as you return to Washington to resume work on critical federal funding measures, we strongly urge Congress and the Administration to quickly negotiate an agreement on a border security legislative package that includes federal coordination and decompression at the southern and northern borders; federal funding for both border and interior states and cities receiving new arrivals; and a serious commitment to modernizing our immigration system in the United States. We believe the President's supplemental request provides a minimum level of funding and actions that will allow the United

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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

States to begin transformational reforms to its immigration system and uphold the principles of democracy that America was built upon.

While the Biden Administration has made important progress in managing immigration at the Southwest border, the number of migrants arriving in states and cities seeking emergency shelter continues to increase at record pace. States and cities have spent billions to address inaction by Congress and match these challenges with solutions for our state and local economies. However, it is clear our national immigration system is outdated and unprepared to respond to this unprecedented global migration. Without serious reform informed by evidence-based solutions, the challenges facing states and localities will only grow.

We remain committed to working with the Administration and Congress to advance common sense solutions to fix our immigration system. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
 Governor Kathy Hochul, New York
 Governor Katie Hobbs, Arizona
 Governor Gavin Newsom, California
 Governor Jared Polis, Colorado
 Governor J.B. Pritzker, Illinois
 Governor Wes Moore, Maryland
 Governor Maura Healey, Massachusetts
 Governor Phil Murphy, New Jersey
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Daniel Pierce Library Presents...

Take Your Child to the Library Day

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



Magic Show 10:00 a.m.

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

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New 185-Room Hotel Will Include Full-Service Restaurant, Flexible Event Space, and Waterfront Gathering Area - Creating At Least 50 New Jobs

Project Builds on Governor's Commitment to Supporting New York's Tourism Industry Following Record Visitation and Spending in 2022

Governor Kathy Hochul announced the grand opening for the \$35 million Cambria Hotel in Lake Placid - the first new hotel to open in Lake Placid since 2013. The modern, 105,645-square-foot hotel features 185 guest rooms, a restaurant, event space and a waterfront gathering area, and will employ more than 50 full time employees. The grand opening of the Cambria Hotel builds on Governor Hochul's commitment to supporting and growing New York State's vibrant tourism industry, which generated a historic \$123 billion in statewide economic impact in 2022.

"For the first time in more than a decade, Lake Placid is opening the doors to a brand-new hotel that will welcome visitors from around the world to enjoy its breathtaking scenery, world-class sporting events, and all that the North Country has to offer," Governor Hochul said. "Tourism is the engine that drives our state, and thanks to a state investment and our partnership with the Regional Economic Development Council, the Cambria Hotel will help to create jobs, draw countless visitors to New York, and build a strong, prosperous economy in Lake Placid."

The North Country Regional Economic Development Council has specifically targeted lodging development and investments in tourism infrastructure in the Thousand Islands and Adirondack regions to expand and support the area's thriving hospitality economy. The Adirondacks are known for their natural beauty, first-class outdoor recreation, history and family-friendly activities. By supporting projects that address lodging capacity, New York State's investments complement regional tourism efforts. To support this project, the North Country Regional Economic Development Council has recommended a \$3 million ESD capital grant in exchange for 51 new jobs.

Lead Developer and Managing Member of Dual Development LLC Bhavik Jariwala said, "I would like to express our sincere gratitude to Governor Hochul and Empire State Development for awarding our Cambria Hotel Lake Placid project with a Regional Economic Development capital grant. This support is instrumental in bringing our vision to reality, and we are truly thankful for ESD's commitment to fostering economic development and growth in the North Country region. We look forward to making a positive impact with this project and contributing to the continued success of the region."

Empire State Development President, CEO and Commissioner Hope Knight said, "Lake Placid is one of our most beautiful areas in New York State and relies on our tourism economy to thrive. The new Cambria Hotel is a welcome new addition to the regional economy and will bring travelers from around New York State and the world. Tourism is an important economic engine for New York State, and the Cambria Hotel will support this critical industry by adding jobs and business and fueling excitement about all the North Country region has to offer."

Empire State Development Vice President and Executive Director of Tourism Ross D. Levi said, "The Adirondacks are a crown jewel for New York State tourism, and having a top notch new venue like the Cambria for lodging and special events will only help increase the region's appeal. I LOVE NY looks forward to promoting the property to visitors as part of a getaway to the Lake Placid area any time of

year, from skiing Whiteface, to extreme sledding and the mountain coaster at Mt. Van Hoevenberg, experiencing the Wild Walk at the Wild Center, paddling on Mirror Lake, exploring the Olympic Museum and zip lining at the Olympic ski jumping complex. Lake Placid is a perfect example of how easy it is to love New York."

North Country REDC Co-chairs James McKenna and Dr. Kathryn Morris said, "We are thrilled to welcome the new Cambria Hotel to the North Country. As co-chairs of the North Country REDC we are proud to support new investments that will encourage job creation and economic growth in our communities. As we continue to grow our tourism industry, projects like this one will welcome visitors and provide opportunities to the people who live and work in the region."

State Senator Dan Stec said, "The grand opening of the Cambria Hotel is great news for Lake Placid residents and visitors. Having a new, modern hotel such as this is a major boost for our thriving tourism industry and creates additional jobs and opportunities here in the North Country."

Assemblyman Billy Jones Said, "Tourism is one of the biggest industries in the North Country and New York State, and the grand opening of the Cambria Hotel in Lake Placid is an example of the state's efforts to support this industry. This new hotel will not only bring more visitors to Lake Placid and the Adirondacks, but will also provide new job opportunities for residents. Last year, the world got to see how beautiful Lake Placid is during the FISU World University Games and I'm pleased that visitors have another place to stay when they come to town."

Lake Placid Mayor Art Devlin and North Elba Town Supervisor Derek Doty said, "The Butler family had nearly six decades of service to the community in the hospitality business, as well as their work with local charity groups. It is great to see the revitalization of the property that will ensure that it is a vital part of our community for decades to come. It is also nice to see that the new hotel is going to be carrying on as a family run business. We look forward to working with the Jariwala family and wish them all the best of luck."

Governor Hochul's Support for Tourism Industry

Governor Hochul has maintained a strong commitment to supporting New York's tourism industry - one of the state's key economic drivers. The Governor launched the "Bring Back Tourism, Bring Back Jobs" recovery package to initiate an unprecedented \$450 million investment to support travel industry workers, small business support programs and initiatives to bring new and unique events to New York State. In 2022, the Governor announced the completion of a \$104 million renovation of the Lake Placid Olympic Center, capping off a six-year, \$550 million investment in New York's winter sports infrastructure ahead of the 2023 FISU Winter World University Games. The Governor has also announced robust I LOVE NY marketing efforts to encourage travel throughout New York State, including specialized campaigns like the I LOVE NY Black travel initiative to boost Black traveler visitation and new I LOVE NY partnerships to support travel by highlighting the state's rich history and heritage in baseball and hip hop.

Last year, Governor Hochul announced that New York State welcomed 291.5 million visitors in 2022, the largest number of visitors in New York State's history, generating more than \$78.6 billion in direct spending and \$123 billion in total economic impact following the Governor's historic investments in tourism, economic development, public safety, transportation, and other key sectors. Additionally, New York State awarded \$15 million of Market New York grants to support tourism marketing and capital projects, as well as more than \$14 million in grants for 30 local and regional destination marketing organizations through the EDA Tourism Partner Sub-Awards Grant Program.

Cornell Cooperative Extension | Sullivan County

2024 Caregiver Resource Center Virtual Support Groups



Wednesdays | 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

January 17th

January 31st

February 14th

February 28th

March 13th

March 27th

Via Zoom or Phone

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

Register: email sullivancrc@cornell.edu or at <http://tinyurl.com/ezt9kzn>.

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

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

This program is supported by a grant from the NYS Department of Health and is a partnership between Cornell Cooperative Extension, Sullivan County Office for the Aging, and the Alzheimer's Association.



ELEMENTARY SOCIAL SKILLS

Registration is open for Grades K-5.

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

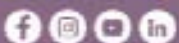
- Manners
- Listening
- Hygiene
- Emotions

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

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

Visit our website at

atitoday.org



SCAN ME!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

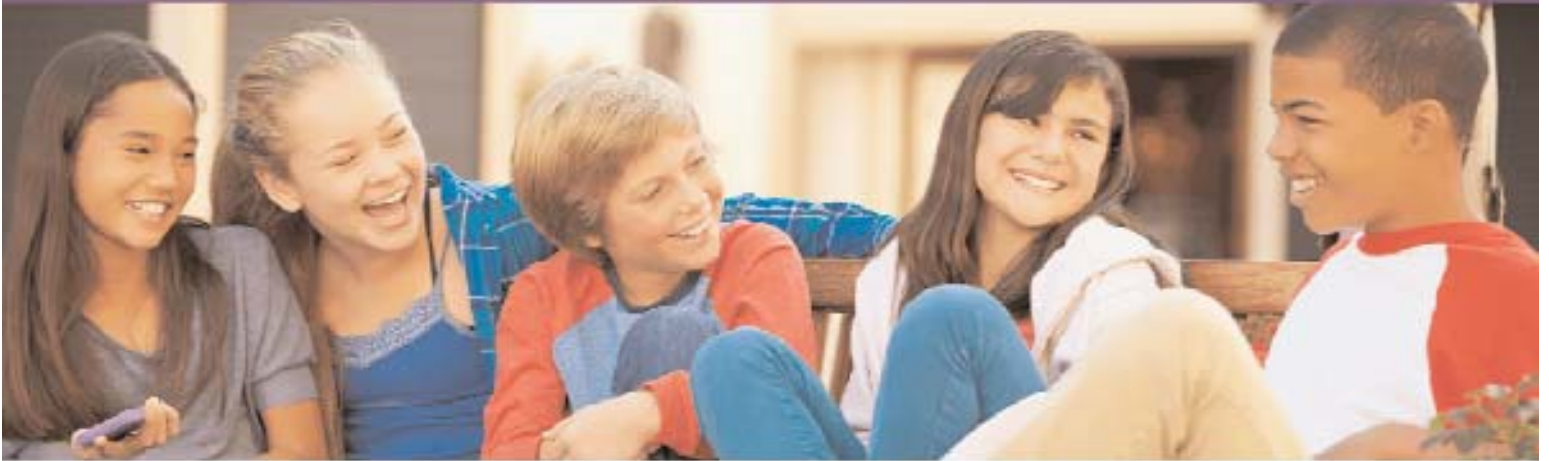
Family Peer Advocate

(845) 794-4228

info@atitoday.org



Middle School Social Skills



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

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

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

For more information:
Family Peer Advocate
(845) 794 - 4228
info@atitoday.org

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

Visit our website at

atitoday.org



SCAN ME!



SAVE A LIFE! DONATE! SHARE OUR STORY!



NICK NEEDS KIDNEY -TYPE O (IN SOME CASES TYPE A BLOOD COULD WORK)

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

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

More about our warrior Nick....

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

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

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

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

 Follow Nick
[@nickneedsokidney](https://www.facebook.com/nickneedsokidney)



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

WEEKLY WARRIOR WALK

**NO DOG REQUIRED TO WALK
WALNUT MOUNTAIN
LIBERTY, N.Y.**

THURSDAYS @ 1500 (3 PM)

**VETERANS AND THEIR
FAMILIES ARE WELCOMED**

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

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

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





**STARTS JANUARY
2024!**

Are You Ready?



Life Skills Group

WORK READINESS EDITION

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

Every Friday from 5:00pm to 6:15pm

309 East Broadway

Monticello, NY 12701

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

(845) 794-4228

info@atitoday.org



SCAN ME!

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

Visit our website at

atitoday.org





After celebrating the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. here at home in the Hudson Valley and a busy remainder of the week in Washington, D.C., I wanted to give you an update on how I've been fighting for Hudson Valley priorities.

CELEBRATING THROUGH SERVICE

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said "Everybody can be great, because everybody can serve." It is one of my favorite quotes and one that I cannot stress enough, especially now. It is in service to others that we find true guidance and meaning. It is by waking up every single morning and committing ourselves to uplifting others that we ensure Dr. King's legacy lives on.

We live in a divisive time, with hate on the rise, and those who embrace hate growing emboldened. You cannot hate someone when you are serving them or serving alongside them. We hear about a lot of fixes for the problems that our country faces today. Those fixes often seem beyond our control or out of our reach.

In reality, we each hold a tremendous power to impact other lives through service, to cause a ripple of good in our society and be a piece of the solution. When we all come together, when we dedicate ourselves to service, we get closer to the world Dr. King envisioned.

Thank you to Habitat for Humanity of Newburgh for the opportunity to celebrate Dr. King's legacy through service on Monday.

HONORING DR. KING WITH HUDSON VALLEY FAITH LEADERS

Thank you to the Dutchess County African American Clergy Association, the Greater Middletown Interfaith Group, and the Middletown YMCA for organizing truly wonderful celebrations of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy.

CRACKING DOWN ON TOXIC LEAD

There is no safe or acceptable level of lead for our kids, whether it comes from pipes or cables. Last summer, the Wall Street Journal dropped a bombshell report that telecommunications companies were allowing a network of lead sheathed cables to shed toxic lead into the environment, including over a playground in Wappingers Falls.

I immediately called on Verizon and AT&T to clean up their mess. Yet they are continuing to knowingly expose your children and mine to toxic lead cables and refuse to disclose the locations of the cables to the public.

This week, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) further lowered its standard for the amount of lead that is acceptable in soil. Five of the sites at the Wappingers Falls playground at Temple Park are now above the recommended lead levels.

With this new EPA decision, it's more pressing than ever: we need immediate action now. I'm renewing my call for Verizon and AT&T to disclose the locations of these toxic lead cables and commit to robust testing so we can fix this problem once and for all.

CALLING FOR COMPREHENSIVE BORDER SECURITY AND IMMIGRATION REFORM

We must bolster our border security and address the ongoing humanitarian crisis unfolding across the country. That's why I'm pushing to pass bipartisan legislation that would hire 1,300 new border patrol agents, 1,000 law enforcement personnel, 1,600 asylum officers and 375 immigration judge teams.

These measures would strengthen border enforcement and combat fentanyl trafficking while making sure those with valid asylum claims are able to get to work. But rather than support this bipartisan plan to actually fix the problem, this week, the far-right introduced a meaningless, partisan, non-binding resolution that will do nothing to tangibly secure our border.

Enough with the political games - it's time to get to work.

CALLING FOR AN END TO THE PARTISAN CHAOS AND DIVISION

New year, new Speaker, same dysfunction. This week, we voted on yet another temporary funding bill to keep the government open until March instead of a real, full-year budget.

Over and over, Elise Stefanik and the far-right majority have failed to deliver for American families.

Rather than getting to work on a budget, on a bipartisan border deal, or aid to our allies, they kicked the can down the road again so they can carve out time to vote on stripping women of their reproductive rights and on meaningless resolutions instead of real solutions.

Enough with the partisan chaos and division - it's time to come together as Patriots, put country ahead of party, and deliver for the Hudson Valley. That's what I'm here to do.

CONTINUING TO PUSH FOR A LASTING PEACE

I strongly condemn the comments below from Prime Minister Netanyahu, as well as the recent statements from Ministers Ben-Gvir and Smotrich.

Now, more than ever, as we continue to witness gut-wrenching and heartbreaking violence in Israel and Gaza, we must redouble our commitment to achieving a lasting peace.

This peace is only possible through a two-state solution that provides dignity and security to both the Israeli and Palestinian people.

SENDING VALENTINES TO VETS

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.

Last year, it was remarkable to see the community's outpouring of gratitude to our local veterans during my inaugural Valentines for Vets program.

I'm excited to bring the program back this year and am looking forward to rallying together again to show our veterans how much the Hudson Valley values their heroism and service.

Please drop off or mail your valentines to my Newburgh office at 605 Broadway, Newburgh, New York 12550. Cards should be postmarked no later than February 7, 2024 to ensure timely delivery. If delivering multiple valentines, please include a count of the number of cards on a sheet of paper enclosed with the cards. Please contact Joe Paone at (845) 443-2930 with any questions or for more information.

BRINGING MY OFFICE TO YOU

This was a huge week of helping constituents with the C.A.R.E.S. Van at three stops in Orange County on Wednesday and a visit to the American Legion Post in Wingdale on Thursday. Thank you to everyone who joined my team at events!

This upcoming Friday will be the Van's last events in January. If you're in Fishkill and need assistance with a federal agency - hope you'll join! (Contd. Pg. 54)



Pat Ryan (From Pg. 53)

SUPPORTING WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN

Hudson Valley moms and kids can't afford cuts or funding shortfalls to the programs that they rely on. The Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program has always faced funding shortages, which are being exacerbated by the far-right's budget dysfunction and threats of cuts to critical social programs.

I recently joined colleagues on a letter calling for the full funding of WIC.

No child should ever go hungry. Period.

FIGHTING FOR THOSE WHO SERVED OUR COUNTRY

This week marked one year of the landmark COMPACT Act that ensures that any veteran experiencing a suicidal crisis can get emergency care from any VA or non-VA facility at zero cost to them. Losing even one veteran to suicide is too many.

This week, I met with colleagues on the bipartisan For Country Caucus and Veterans Affairs Secretary Denis McDonough to discuss updates on how VA is supporting those who made incalculable sacrifices for our country.

I will keep battling for my brothers and sisters who served our country.

CELEBRATING KOREAN AMERICANS

Last Saturday, we celebrated Korean American Day and the invaluable impact that Korean Americans have made across this country.

In 2023, Bard College was awarded a monumental grant from the Korea Foundation to make huge strides in building a Korean Studies Program and expand opportunities to learn about Korean culture and language in NY-18. Read more about it here !

GRANTS CORNER

APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR:

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

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

shop webinars for the 2023 AFG starting on Jan. 8, 2024.

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

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

New York was awarded \$13.5 million from the Inflation Reduction Act's Federal Urban and Community Forestry Program. This grant program is designed to increase equitable access to trees and green spaces in urban and community forests to support building a clean energy economy, advance environmental justice, and create economic opportunity. All projects must take place in disadvantaged communities as identified by any of three Federal and State tools listed in the Request for Applications (RFA). The deadline to submit applications is Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2024. Learn more here .

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

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

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

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

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

I look forward to hearing from you soon!

Sincerely,
Patrick K. Ryan
Member of Congress

Fundraiser for St. Judes

Sponsored by:

United Methodist Church of Shady

Penny Social

Sat. Feb. 10

For your convenience:

12:00 Kitchen Opens

1:00 Tables Open


2:00 Calling

Lake Hill Firehouse

Rte. 212 8 miles West of Woodstock

Information: 679-2982

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!

845-794-4228

[vet2vet@atitoday.org](mailto:veter2vet@atitoday.org)

309 E Broadway Suite A

Monticello, NY 12701



Standing for Election Integrity and Fighting to Keep Donald Trump on Colorado's Ballot

Colorado Supreme Court's recent attempt to remove former President Donald Trump from the ballot is a weaponization of our government and a direct attack on our self-governing Constitutional Republic. This week, I joined House Speaker Mike Johnson, House Majority Leader Steve Scalise, Senator Ted Cruz, 134 House Republicans, and 41 Senate Republicans in filing a Supreme Court Amicus Brief in the case Donald J. Trump v. Norma Anderson, et al. Not only does Colorado lack this authority to remove the frontrunner from the ballot, but also tells millions of Coloradans that their vote does not matter. This is an unprecedented attempt to undermine our elections, and I am confident the Supreme Court will overrule this unconstitutional decision. As chair of the Election Integrity Caucus, I will continue to work to ensure every legal voter in every state has access to free, fair, accurate, and transparent elections.

READ MORE: The Full Amicus Brief

<https://tenney.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/tenney.house.gov/files/evo-media-document/amicus-brief-of-u.s.-senator-ted-cruz-majority-leader-steve-scalise-and-177-other-members-of-congress.pdf>

Standing for Pro-Life Values in Congress

House Republicans proved this week that we are dedicated to defending the inalienable right to life by passing multiple pieces of legislation to protect the unborn and support mothers. One of my bills, the Supporting Pregnant and Parenting Women and Families Act, passed by a vote of 214-208. This bill stops the Biden administration's efforts to divert TANF funds away from specific crisis pregnancy centers and pro-life institutions, which would jeopardize countless women's access to invaluable resources. One of our community's own, Reverend Harden from CompassCare, came to the Capitol to voice support for this legislation. I am grateful for his support and his tireless advocacy for expecting women and their babies.

I also introduced the Unborn Child Support Act this week to enable expecting mothers to receive child support payments during pregnancy. Specifically, this bill allows the courts, in consultation with the mother, to grant child support payments during the prenatal period, extending retroactively to the physician-determined point of conception. I will continue working to provide mothers with the opportunity to access child support payments during pregnancy, while giving them the flexibility to deny these payments, should they choose.

READ MORE: Tenney's legislation seeks child support for expecting mothers during pregnancy

<https://orleanshub.com/tenneys-legislation-seeks-child-support-payment-for-expecting-mothers-during-pregnancy/>

Introducing the Parity for Child Exploitation Offenders Act

Sexual predators who repeatedly abuse and exploit children

must face heightened penalties for their heinous and unspeakable crimes. Currently, loopholes in our justice system fail to apply these enhanced penalties to all sexual crimes involving children. I introduced the bipartisan and bicameral Parity for Child Exploitation Offenders Act, which closes these loopholes to ensure repeat offenders of these horrific crimes face the same mandatory federal penalties. We must do all that we can to hold sexual predators accountable for their evil crimes and protect our children!

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.

I voted "Yes" on S. 3250, A bill to provide remote access to court proceedings for victims of the 1988 Bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland. In 1988, 190 Americans, including 35 Syracuse University students and two University of Rochester students, were tragically killed on Pan Am Flight 103. In 2020, the Department of Justice charged Abu Agila Mohammad Mas'ud Kheir Al-Marimi with this heinous crime, however, many of the relatives of the victims of this bombing are elderly or physically unable to travel to DC to attend court proceedings. S. 3250 ensures that all the victims' relatives can have remote access to the court proceedings regardless of their location. This bill passed the House by a vote of 413-7.

I voted "Yes" on Senate Amendment to H.R. 2872, the Further Additional Continuing Appropriations and Other Extensions Act, 2024. Just a few weeks ago, Speaker Johnson came to a historic funding agreement that cuts baseline spending levels by billions of dollars and works to rein in agencies such as the IRS. However, now that the topline details have been agreed to, it will take weeks to work out the finer details of this funding package. To provide the time needed, this bill would extend currently enacted government funding levels through March 1st and March 8th, and temporarily extend many expiring Medicaid, Medicare, HHS, and DHS programs. This will give House Republicans time to secure provisions to roll back the Biden administration's unconstitutional overreaches and to enact needed reforms to manage the growing catastrophe crisis at our southern border. It is my hope that by early March, we can pass a full-year budget that will deliver for the American people and provide the course correction we most desperately need. Ideally, I would like to see all of our priorities, including the appropriations process, under regular order. However, we simply do not have the nearly unanimous votes necessary in the House to achieve those goals with now a two-seat majority. Unfortunately, the Democrats control the Executive Branch and the Senate, where the priorities and the urgent needs of the American people, especially on the catastrophe at the border, are being ignored. In terms of strategy, a "No" vote on this bill is just another signal to Senate Democrats that we remain divided in the House and the Democrats can continue to ignore the priorities of the American people. Unity among Republicans, not a dangerous partial government shutdown, is crucial to our success. This bill passed the House by a vote of 314-108.

I voted "Yes" on H.R. 6918, the Supporting Pregnant and Parenting Women and Families Act. H.R. 6918 would prohibit the Biden administration, through the rulemaking process, from limiting the ability of states to spend Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds on pregnancy centers, clarifying that pregnancy centers do in fact meet the statutory purpose of organizations that qualify for TANF. Currently, the Biden administration proposed rule on pregnancy centers circumvents congressional authority and far exceeds the statutory limits granted to HHS. These centers provide emotional support and tangible benefits for women with unplanned pregnancies, including relationship counseling, prenatal and pregnancy education, pregnancy testing, diapers, baby clothes, and other material support. (Contd. Pg. 58)

This Week With Claudia

(From Pg. 57) It is unconscionable that the Biden administration would try to exclude pregnancy centers from TANF. We must do everything we can to promote access to the services that pregnancy centers offer so women can utilize the resources and support they need to choose life. This bill passed the House by a vote of 214-208.

I voted "Yes" on H.R. 6914, the Pregnant Students' Rights Act. H.R. 6914 ensures that colleges and universities provide students with information regarding resources and accommodations available to pregnant students. Furthermore, this bill requires schools to inform students of the process to file a complaint if their Title IX rights for pregnant students are violated and ensures this information is included in the student handbook, taught at orientation, is available publicly on their website, and provided at student health or counseling centers. Pregnant students should never have to choose between carrying their child to term or completing their degree. I wholeheartedly support this commonsense legislation and was honored to support it on the House floor when it passed the House by a vote of 212-207.

I voted "Yes" on H.R. 5862, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 relating to authority of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to consolidate, modify, or reorganize Customs revenue functions. The Homeland Security Act of 2002, which created CBP, provides little flexibility to update customs staffing levels or position descriptions to adapt to the current trade environment. Currently, CBP has positions which are designed to enforce U.S. trade laws, facilitate legitimate trade, and protect the American economy. However, these positions are narrowly defined and don't grant CBP enough flexibility to counter all of today's existing trade challenges. To address this issue this legislation will help to refocus CBP's existing resources so that they are able to better respond to a diverse array of trade enforcement issues. This bill passed the House by a vote of 403-9.

I voted "Yes" on H. Res. 957, Denouncing the Biden administration's open-borders policies, condemning the national security and public safety crisis along the southwest border, and urging President Biden to end his administration's open-borders policies. Under the Biden administration's open-border policies, we have lost operational control of our own borders, creating a major national security and humanitarian crisis. This crisis has not only exacerbated the opioid and fentanyl epidemic facing our country, but is also directly harming our local communities where unvetted illegal immigrants are being settled, forcing the closure of important community areas and straining public services. I have repeatedly called for the impeachment of both President Biden and Department of Homeland Security Secretary Mayorkas over their clear dereliction of duty in enforcing our nation's laws and securing the border. It is shameful that this administration continues to stick its head in the sand and ignore the ongoing crisis facing our nation. I urge the Senate to pass H.R. 2, which passed the House last year and is the strongest border security package to ever pass in Congress. We must continue fighting to secure our borders and enforce our nation's laws. This resolution passed the House by a vote of 225-187.

FREE RYAN CORBETT

Ryan Corbett, a husband, father, and Western New Yorker has been held without charge by the Taliban in Afghanistan since August 10, 2022. Ryan is being held in a basement cell without regular access to a bathroom, sunlight, or medical care. Other Westerners who have been released from the prison where Ryan is being held report that he is in deteriorating health. His family has been fighting for his release in silence but decided to go public because of fears for his life.

Since meeting with the Corbett family and hearing their story, I have been fighting for Ryan's release and well-being. This includes

working to get Ryan officially designated as a wrongful detainee by the U.S. Department of State on October 10, 2023. I introduced a bipartisan resolution this week, reiterating that Congress will not stand idly by while an innocent American is wrongfully detained and suffers under harsh captivity at the hands of the Taliban. The strong bipartisan support for this resolution calling for Ryan Corbett's release shows that Congress stands united in calling for Ryan's release and condemning the Taliban's wrongful detention of Americans. We will work tirelessly to bring attention to Ryan Corbett's case and advocate for his immediate release to bring him home to his family.

WATCH: My interview with Anna Corbett on FOX & Friends First

<https://www.foxnews.com/video/6345175206112>

Meeting with Fort Drum's Commanding General, MajGen Gregory Anderson

Fort Drum's 10th Mountain Division is at the forefront of protecting our nation from threats around the world. I met with Fort Drum's Commanding General, MajGen Gregory Anderson, this week to discuss Fort Drum's plans for the upcoming year. This includes efforts to enhance military housing and childcare services, aiming to improve the well-being and support of our military families. I will continue to work tirelessly with community leaders to strengthen our nation's investments in Fort Drum and to support our service members and their families.



Rep. Molinaro Announces Mobile Office Hours In Ulster County

U.S. Rep. Marc Molinaro (NY-19) today announced his constituent service team will hold mobile office hours from noon to 2:00pm on Friday, January 26 at the Shandaken Town Hall.

During the event, constituents will be able to connect with representatives from Rep. Molinaro's office to share comments and resolve issues they are having with federal agencies like the VA, IRS, and Social Security Administration.

If constituents aren't able to make the event, Rep. Molinaro also maintains offices in Broome County and Greene County. These offices are open from 9am to 5pm, Monday through Friday. Rep. Molinaro also has satellite offices in Sullivan County, Delaware County, and Otsego County. These offices are accessible by appointment and can be made by calling (518) 625-2100 or contacting the office online.

Details for the mobile office hours are as follows:

Ulster County
Date: Friday, January 26
Time: 12:00pm - 2:00pm
Location:
Shandaken Town Hall
7209 NY-28
Shandaken, NY 12480



NYS Senator Oberacker Announces The New York State Senate Youth Leadership Recognition Awards

The New York State Senate's Youth Leadership Recognition Award program honors outstanding students who will become our future leaders. Eligible students include current sophomores, juniors, and seniors who excel not only academically, but through leadership in extracurricular and volunteer activities. Students selected to receive the New York State Senate Youth Leadership Recognition Award will receive a congratulatory personalized certificate from your Senator.

All nominations must be submitted by March 22, 2024, and the nomination website will be taken down after that date.

If you have any questions about the Youth Leadership Recognition Award program, please email: NYSenateServices@nysenate.gov or call 518-455-2558.

****Please note the nominator must be a school administrator or educator**

NYS Senate Advances Maternal Health Package in Support of Reproductive Equity

Senate Democratic Majority Marks 51st Anniversary of Roe v. Wade Decision with Comprehensive Reproductive Rights, Services Legislation

The New York State Senate passed a series of bills to improve birthing outcomes in New York State. The legislation includes measures to create a Reproductive Freedom and Equity Grant Program, a Maternal Health Care and Birthing Standards workgroup, authorizes the New York State Department of Health to create a pregnancy app and launch a uterine fibroid education awareness campaign, and enact the Hospital Transparency Act to ensure statewide access to abortion. The package features bills to strengthen privacy rights by requiring that companies collecting and selling healthcare information must have user consent to sell such information to third parties. It includes stronger protections for pregnant individuals during healthcare insurance special enrollment periods. Also included is legislation granting doulas access to operating rooms and granting birthing individuals access to their doulas in healthcare facilities. The proposal calls on healthcare providers to offer a maternal depression screening to new mothers, and bans carcinogenic substances from menstrual products.

"As the country reels from the Dobbs decision on what would have been the 51st anniversary of Roe v. Wade, we are making it clear that we will continue to champion policies that safeguard a person's right to choose and expand access to reproductive health care," said Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins. "While reproductive rights are under attack and the U.S. maternal mortality crisis continues to worsen, we are leading the way by passing legislation to address this crisis, and by taking steps to combat the unacceptable racial disparities in maternal mortality. I want to thank our Chair of the Women's Issues Committee, Senator Lea Webb and the Majority Conference for their critical work on these issues as well as the advocates who have worked day in and out to advance reproductive equity."

Bill sponsor and Chair of the Women's Issues Committee, Senator Lea Webb, said "I am extremely proud of the work we are doing to increase access to quality maternal and reproductive health care in New York. We know that these issues disproportionately impact people of color and rural communities, which often experience poor health outcomes. This package of legislation will make sure that everyone gets equitable access to comprehensive healthcare including but not limited to timely prenatal care, safe birthing experiences, comprehensive postpartum care, and reproductive health services. This is another win in New York's fight for reproductive rights and access, and an important step towards more equitable maternal health care throughout our state."

NYS Senator Oberacker Joins Call for 'A New Hope for the Empire State'

Comprehensive Plan Would Increase Affordability, Improve Public Safety, and Build a Greater New York

Senator Peter Oberacker (R/C-Schenevus) today joined with members of the Senate Republican Conference to unveil key priorities for the upcoming legislative session. "A New Hope for the Empire State" legislative agenda prioritizes the issues that affect everyday New Yorkers, but have been neglected by the radical left politicians who control Albany.

"Every day I hear from constituents who tell me they are packing their bags and leaving New York, it is a trend that we must halt," said Senator Peter Oberacker. "The time is now to reverse the damage done over the last several years thanks to one-party rule in Albany and deliver crucial changes that people deserve. Government needs to be accountable to real concerns and our 2024 agenda meets that fundamental demand."

The Senate Republican plan would restore balance and common sense to government while vigorously rejecting the extreme policies of the past three years.

Increasing Affordability

- o Reigning in out of control spending: enact a spending cap, rejecting tax increases and unfunded mandates, and providing tax relief for all New Yorkers;
- o Taking action to help all New Yorkers struggling to make ends meet by rejecting extreme climate proposals, incentivizing new housing construction to deal with the housing shortage, and making child care more accessible and affordable; and
- o Improving the state's business climate by protecting small businesses and farms by reducing regulations and unfair costs.

Improving Public Safety

- o Protecting New Yorkers from antisemitism and other hateful violence by making any antisemitic behavior a hate crime, making all hate crimes bail eligible, protecting hate crime victims and houses of worship, and implementing financial penalties on both college universities and students who condone or engage in antisemitic behavior while receiving state aid;
- o Rejecting efforts to continue New York a sanctuary state status;
- o Reversing failed criminal justice policies that have made our communities less safe, including bail reform, discovery reform, and others;
- o Rejecting policies that put criminals above victims and law-abiding New Yorkers; and
- o Providing more services and funding to address mental health crisis and substance abuse disorders.

Building a Greater New York

- o Closing the pandemic learning gap, expanding school choice, and further investing in vocational education and workforce development;
- o Providing support to our veterans to reacclimate and find educational and career opportunities; and
- o Investing in and strengthening our infrastructure to encourage growth.

Ellenville Regional Hospital Auxiliary

"SOUP"ER BOWL SALE



Delicious Soup from Sammy Brown's Walkaway Café

Options Include

Potato Bacon Corn Chowder
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Cabbage with Kielbasa
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Vegan Chili



\$6 a pint | A portion of the proceeds benefit the ERH Auxiliary
All soups are ready to heat and eat, or to freeze for later.

Place an order...

- In the ERH Gift Shop every Friday from January 5th - February 2nd from 11am to 3pm
- call/text to Haze Gal (ERH Auxiliary) at 516-356-7687
- email at hgal12420@gmail.com

A confirmation will be sent via text, when your order is received

DEADLINE TO PLACE ORDERS IS February 2nd

PICK UP AT ERH LOBBY FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9 FROM 11 AM TO 3 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.



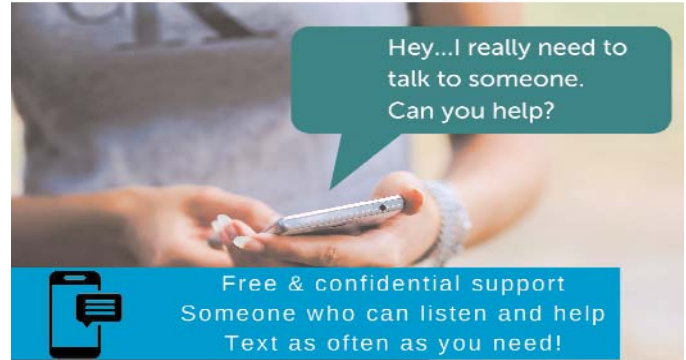
Text 845-372-1817
Call 866-372-2336

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



Free & confidential support
Someone who can listen and help
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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:
845-637-9486

OFF HOURS:
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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Rewarding lives. Healthy communities.

COVID-19 Vaccines Save Lives

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Amigos

Family

¿A quien protegerás?

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Obtenga los hechos.

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#VaccinateSullivan

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Sullivan County
Public Health Services

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Contact:

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(845) 645-6544

awowk@chowc.net

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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

Cornell Cooperative Extension | Sullivan County

Tai Chi for Arthritis & Falls Prevention

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

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



What is Tai Chi?

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

Tai chi helps:

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

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

Register:



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

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

Cornell Cooperative Extension in Sullivan County provides equal program and employment opportunities. Contact CCE/SC to request special accommodations.

Pattern Report Examines How New York's Neighbors are Taking State-level Actions to Address the Housing Crisis

- *Report underscores that New York is lagging behind its neighboring states to create policies that address the severe underproduction of housing and the affordability crisis*
- *Decades-old strategies and legal precedents in other states help to strike a balance between home rule and the production of housing to meet statewide and regional needs*

NEWBURGH - Hudson Valley Pattern for Progress today released a new research brief that examines the strategies, requirements, and legal precedents utilized by New York's neighboring states to produce affordable housing for their residents. The report - Local Zoning, Regional Needs - outlines how other states have preserved the core intent of home rule while also requiring their towns to allow for the development of diverse housing that meets statewide and regional needs.

"Proposals to create statewide housing policies in New York are often decried as attacks on home rule," Pattern CEO Adam Bosch said. "But our research found that practically every state surrounding New York balances home rule with reasonable mandates to diversify zoning and meet regional housing needs. Our neighbors prove that states can allow towns to govern and design themselves, while also requiring those towns to allow for certain housing that meets the greater public interest."

The report examines the underlying laws, regulations, and legal precedents related to zoning and housing in the states of Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Vermont. All those states are so-called "home rule" states, except Vermont.

Among the six states, New York stands out as lagging in its efforts to create statewide policies that address the severe underproduction of housing in its municipalities. There is longstanding case law in New York that requires local governments to diversify their zoning to protect "the greater public interest that regional needs be met." However, these legal precedents have not inspired mandates or programs in New York like they have in our neighboring states.

The following are some examples of state-level actions that our neighbors have taken to maintain home rule, diversify their zoning, and meet the growing need for housing:

- o Under the "Anti-Snob Zoning Act" in Massachusetts, developers are entitled to appeal municipal decisions to a statewide Housing Appeals Committee when a municipality rejects a building proposal or imposes onerous conditions. Developers can only appeal if their project includes at least 20-25% affordable housing. Municipalities in which 10% or more of the housing is already affordable are not subject to the authority of the Housing Appeals Committee.

- Massachusetts also requires that all municipalities served by the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority, including those directly adjacent to those municipalities, establish at least one multi-family zoning district within one-half mile of rail, bus, subway, or ferry stops. Development in that district must be permitted at a minimum gross density of 15 units per acre and may not be subject to age restrictions.

- Court cases in the 1970s and 1980s established the "Mount Laurel Doctrine" in New Jersey, which requires its municipalities to provide their fair share of affordable housing based on population and economic-growth trends that are reassessed every 10 years. The next update and recalculation will happen in 2025.

- Zoning reforms in Connecticut required all its municipalities to increase the variety of housing types they allow to affirmatively further fair housing across the state. This reform barred municipalities from using "neighborhood character" as a reason for denying approvals by land-use boards, and it prevents municipalities from capping the number of units allowed in a multifamily development.

- Although it is not a home rule state, Vermont has also taken steps to improve the quantity and diversity of its housing stock. For example, municipalities in Vermont must zone all areas served by public water and sewer at a minimum density of five dwelling units per acre. They must also permit duplexes in all single-family zones.

Additional examples of actions by our neighboring states can be found in Local Zoning, Regional Needs.

This research brief builds upon a guest lecture by Alan Mallach at Pattern's annual housing conference in 2023. Mallach, a longtime urban scholar and a senior fellow at the Center for Community Progress, shared a list of state-level actions taken by other states to improve the production of housing. Mallach helped Pattern to compile the information that is published in the Local Zoning, Regional Needs.

The report was also inspired by Pattern's examination of migration trends that track the movement of people into and out of the Hudson Valley. In its latest report on domestic migration, Pattern found that many thousands of people have moved out of the Hudson Valley and into our neighboring states in recent years. Outward migration from the Hudson Valley has far outpaced the number of people moving into the region. Along with certain tax advantages (the average family saves about 25-60 percent on taxes when they move to neighboring states), the availability of more diverse and affordable housing is likely a factor that contributes to this outward migration. A U.S. Census Bureau survey of people in the Northeast found that housing - affordability and availability - was the No. 1 reason people moved out of the region.

Local Zoning, Regional Needs was produced by The Center for Housing Solutions & Community Initiatives, which was created by Pattern in 2012 to promote the regional significance of diverse housing through research, planning, and policy recommendations. The center collaborates with public and private partners to create a positive impact for the Hudson Valley. Its research, technical assistance, planning, and innovative policy solutions have helped dozens of communities throughout the region learn about their housing needs and act to meet them.

About Hudson Valley Pattern for Progress

Hudson Valley Pattern for Progress is a nonprofit organization that provides objective research, planning, and educational training throughout the region. Its work identifies civic challenges and promotes regional, equitable, and sustainable solutions to constantly improve the quality of life in Hudson Valley communities. Pattern develops its work upon a considerable foundation of facts and experience, without political aims or affiliations.

Pattern was founded in 1965 by the region's academic, business, and nonprofit leaders. It serves a nine-county region that includes Columbia, Dutchess, Greene, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster and Westchester counties. Visit Pattern-For-Progress.org. Follow on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn @PatternForProgress, and on Twitter @HVPattern.

★ Daniel Pierce Library

PBS Nova Documentary Jupiter



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

(For adults and students ten and up)

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

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

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



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(there are TWO exhibit openings in 2023!)
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- Monthly historical and informative emails
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Join at the \$100 (Patron) level for FREE admission to thousands of museums all across North America! You can use the form below, or go to www.timeandthevalleymuseum.org to join with paypal.

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

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<input type="checkbox"/> Patron Silver	\$200 \$180	
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron Gold	\$500 \$450	

Thank you for supporting local history and the Museum.



BONUS - Free Art Catalogue!

A festive poster for a Mardi Gras Donuts event at Daniel Pierce Library. The background is a dark purple with a diamond pattern. At the top, there are colorful bunting flags in yellow, teal, and pink, and a purple masquerade mask. The text is centered and uses various colors and fonts. A yellow circle on the left contains the text 'Pre-orders Only'. The event details are in white and yellow. At the bottom, there are three masquerade masks in yellow, purple, and green, each followed by a line of text. The bottom of the poster features a decorative border of colorful dots.

Daniel Pierce Library

Mardi Gras

Donuts

Tuesday, February 13, 2024


9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Pre-orders Only

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Cinnamon Sugar and Plain
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Orders must be received by Saturday, February 10th.

To order:

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-  Place an online order at www.danielpiercelibrary.org
-  Fill out a pre-order form available at the circulation desk

Thank You for your continued support!

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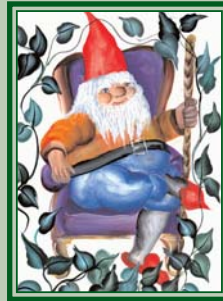
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"Knarf's Classic Movies"
**GET THE MOVIE,
ON AMAZON PRIME**

Finding Neverland

(PG · 2004 · 1hr 46min · Biography/Family)

Finding Neverland is a 2004 biographical drama. Directed by Marc Forster and written by David Magee, based on the 1998 play *The Man Who Was Peter Pan* by Allan Knee. The film is about playwright J. M. Barrie and his Platonic relationship with a family who inspired him to create Peter Pan. The film earned seven nominations at the 77th Academy Awards, including Best Picture, Best Adapted Screenplay, and Best Actor for Johnny Depp, and won for Best Original Score. The film was the inspiration for the stage musical of the same name in 2012. Starring, Johnny Depp as J.M. Barrie, Kate Winslet as Sylvia Llewelyn Davies, Dustin Hoffman as Charles Frohman, Julie Christie as Mrs. Emma du Maurier, Radha Mitchell as Mary Ansell Barrie



The story focuses on Scottish writer J. M. Barrie, and his platonic relationship with Sylvia Llewelyn Davies, and his close friendship with her sons named George, Jack, Peter and Michael, who inspire the classic play *Peter Pan*, or *The Boy Who Never Grew Up*. (Contd. Pg. 70)

Answer to last week's Trivia Question: *Sigourney Weaver*

This weeks' Trivia question: Name Mel Brookks' 1974 rendition of a western.

(From Pg. 69)

KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE'S

AMAZON PRIME; IMDB

ROMERO (1989)

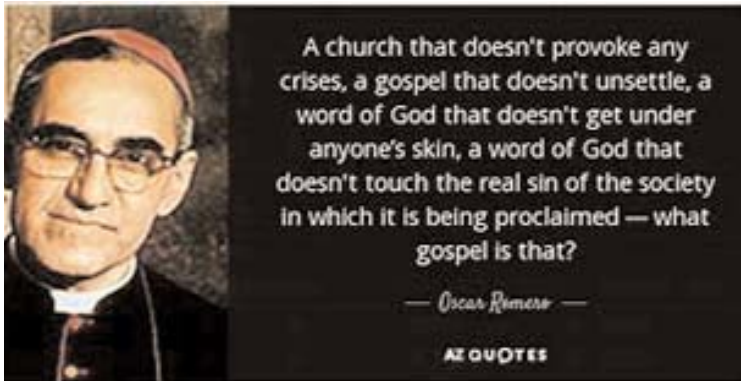
<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0098219>

Released Aug 25, 1989 · Directed by John Duigan. with Raul Julia, Richard Jordan, Ana Alicia, and Eddie Velez. The life and work of Archbishop Oscar Romero who opposed oppression of the poor, and drug supported Government.

FROM THE VATICAN

REMEMBERING ST OSCAR ROMERO: 44 YEARS AFTER HIS ASSASSINATION THE COUNTRY

On March 24, 1980, in El Salvador, Archbishop Oscar Romero was murdered while celebrating Mass. Recognizing him as “a martyr for the faith”, Pope Francis canonized him in 2018.



Oscar Romero’s father wanted his son to become a carpenter –with good reason. As a child, young Oscar had a talent for fixing things that were broken. When Oscar Romero was appointed Archbishop of San Salvador in 1977, his country was broken. Many people in El Salvador were living in poverty, while an elite group manipulated all political and economic power. Death squads ensured things stayed that way.

THE DEATH SQUADS

Just three weeks after becoming Archbishop, Romero’s good friend, Jesuit Father Rutilio Grande, was murdered by one of the death squads, another five priests were assassinated in the Archdiocese of San Salvador during the three years Romero was Pastor.

THE DICTATORSHIP

When a military junta seized power in 1979, Archbishop Romero began broadcasting weekly sermons over the radio. He openly criticized the regime and those supporting it, denouncing cases of abduction, torture and mass murder.

That is when he became known as “The voice of those without voice”.

THE CIVIL WAR

In 1980, social tensions erupted into a civil war which lasted twelve years and left over 75,000 people dead. Archbishop Romero set up pastoral programs to assist the victims of oppression. At the same time, he became even more outspoken, condemning human rights violations, and defending the preferential option for the poor.

THE APPEAL

Archbishop Romero appealed desperately to the Salvadoran military to stop killing their own people. “No soldier is obliged to obey an order that goes against the law of God”, he said. “I beseech you. I beg you. I command you! In the name of God: ‘Cease the repression!’” It was his last radio broadcast.

THE ASSASSINATION



At 6.30pm, on Monday 24 March 1980, the Archbishop of San Salvador was celebrating Mass in the chapel of the Divine Providence hospital. A car pulled up outside, and a single gunman fired a single shot from the

doorway straight into Oscar Romero’s heart. Moments earlier, the Archbishop had been speaking about how “Those who surrender to the service of the poor through love of Christ, will live like the grain of wheat that dies...”.

THE CANONIZATION

Recognized as “a martyr for the faith”, he was beatified on 23 May 2015 in San Salvador. On 14 October 2018, in St Peter’s Square, Pope Francis proclaimed Oscar Arnulfo Romero a saint. For the occasion, the Pope chose to wear the same blood-stained belt that Romero was wearing at the altar when he died.

“Aspire not to have more,
but to be more.”
Saint Oscar Arnulfo Romero”

Stay safe and stay well
Knarf Odnamoc
Gnome