



Ye Olde TOWNSMAN Valley



"The Best Journal Published by a Dam Site!"

VOL. 18 NO. 4 GRAHAMSVILLE, NY 12740 JANUARY 27,, 2022 \$1.00

Mysterious Book Report John D. McKenna Pg 5 • *The Olive Jar* Carol La Monda Pg 6 • *The Scene Too* Jane Harrison Pg 11
Knarf's Classic Movie & Trivia Pg 50

Sullivan County Announces Partnership with New Mobile Health Unit *NYS Attorney General Letitia James Praises Launch of Service*



With the mobile health unit gleaming behind them, NYS Attorney General Letitia James and Bethel resident Lowell Feldman cut the ribbon with a host of local officials and supporters.

Monticello, NY - NYS Attorney General Letitia James joined Sullivan County officials today to inaugurate Bridge Back to Life Center's new mobile health unit, which will be used to bring sorely needed medical and substance use services to communities across the County.

"The opening of the Bridge Back to Life Center's mobile treatment unit starts a new chapter of healing for Sullivan County," said James. "After years of devastation by the opioid crisis, we are finally holding pharmaceutical companies accountable for the destruction they caused, so far bringing up to \$1.5 billion that will go directly into communities for treatment, prevention, and education services just like this one. Our work to uplift communities weighed down by this crisis is far from done, but today we begin the healing process for so many families." (Contd. Pg. 17)

UC Executive Pat Ryan Recognizes First Vax-to-School Scholarship Winner; Announces Another Round of Vax-to-School PODs at Locations Throughout Ulster County

- *Amani Green, a Sophomore and Honor Roll student from Kingston High School, has won a two-year scholarship to SUNY Ulster*
- *County Executive Pat Ryan announces a second Vax to School scholarship raffle is now open to children who are eligible for COVID vaccination*

Ulster County Executive Pat Ryan announced today that the first lottery drawing for the Ulster County Vax to School scholarship was held last week. Kingston High School sophomore Amani Green won a two-year scholarship to SUNY Ulster. Green was entered into the lottery when she was vaccinated against COVID-19 during the County's Vax to School program last fall. Green, an Honor Roll student, hopes to study nursing and become the first in her family to graduate from college. "I want to thank SUNY Ulster and Ulster Community College Foundation for their partnership in incentivizing what we know is the clearest path to safely keeping our schools and businesses open: vaccination against COVID-19," County Executive Pat Ryan said. "I also want to congratulate Amani Green, and recognize her courage and leadership in choosing to get vaccinated. We are proud of Amani, and excited to support her as she pursues her dream to serve her community as a nurse." (Contd. Pg. 13)



From left to right: Kingston City Schools Assistant Superintendent Mary Beth Bonville, Kingston High School Principal Vincent Deccico, Vax to School Recipient Amani Green, County Executive Pat Ryan, Executive Director of the Ulster County Community College Foundation Lorraine Salmon, and Kingston City Schools Superintendent Dr. Paul Padalino

YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN

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

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EDITOR: Linda Comando - 985-0501
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THE SCENE TOO - Jane Harrison

OLIVE JAR - Carol La Monda

MYSTERIOUS BOOK REPORT - John McKenna

FALLSBURG NEWS - Larry Schafman

MOVIE TRIVIA - Frank Comando a/k/a Knarf

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**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. Friday for the following 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 format

More than ever, thank you for your continued support.

ON THE FRONT BURNER: For the Lord takes pleasure in his people; he adorns the humble with victory.

Psalm 149:4

OBITUARIES

Robert Joseph Hannold of Woodbourne passed away on Friday, January 14, 2022 with his family by his side. He was 37. He was the son of Eric and May Hannold, born on July 27, 1984, in Harris, NY.



Known to many as Rob, he truly loved the outdoors. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, riding four wheelers and dirt bikes. He worked for many years in construction which he genuinely liked. He cherished spending time with his family and playing with his nieces and nephews. He was a person who would give the shirt off his back for anyone. He will be sadly missed by all his family. Sleep in peace!! We hope you're running and doing everything you couldn't do here in the physical world. We love you endlessly.

He leaves behind his loving parents Eric and May Hannold, his sister Tabitha (Jeff) Wiener, his brothers Eric (Allison Whipple) Hannold Jr., Chad (Jessica Behnke) Hannold and Ethan Hannold, several nieces, and nephews.

Visitation was on Wednesday, January 19, 2022 at Colonial Memorial Funeral Home followed by a funeral service at the funeral home. Interment followed at Woodbourne Cemetery.

Arrangements were under the care of Colonial Family Funeral Homes, for further information please call 845-434-7363 or visit www.colonialfamilyfuneralhome.com.

Bonnie L. Scriber, of Neversink, NY, passed away on Sunday, January 16, 2022. She was 79. She was the daughter of the late Clarence and Bertha (Hendrickson) Helms, born on October 21, 1942 in Roscoe, NY. Bonnie loved keeping active with art and crafts, playing Bingo and her love for animals. She was a loving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and friend. She will be deeply missed and fondly remembered. She leaves behind her children Randy B. Scriber and his wife Frances and Donald E. Scriber; grandsons Jesse Scriber and Steven Wilson and his wife Sarah; great-grandchildren Lucas, Oakley and Harley Wilson; as well as many nieces and nephews.

A memorial visitation was held on Saturday, January 22, 2022 at Colonial-Bryant Funeral Home, 29 Pearl Street, Livingston Manor, NY 12758. A funeral service followed at the funeral home. Rev. Walter Haff officiated. Arrangements under the care of Colonial-Bryant Funeral Home, for further information call 845-439-4333 or visit: www.colonialfamilyfuneralhomes.com

Miles R. Ellison, Jr., a 50-year resident of Grahamsville NY, Virginia Beach, VA and Pensacola, FL, died on January 18, 2022. He was born February 3, 1940. Son of Miles R. Ellison, Sr., of Monticello, NY and Agnes M. Harris of Harris, NY.

He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Peggy; daughters Christine Halloran and her husband Jim and children Michael (Alicia) and great grandson Braeden, Kevin and Sean (Janna); and his daughter MAC (ret) Kathleen Ellison, US Navy.

"Marvie has gone to collect Bantry Bay at the Rainbow Bridge where she has faithfully awaited his arrival. They will gather their friends and go on one more adventure together."

There will be no visitation or service. Cremation and the scattering of his ashes will be at the convenience of the family.

Marie R. Eck, passed away the morning of January 9, 2022 at the age of 76. She is survived by her beloved canine friend, Molly. The daughter of the late Frank and Ruth Eck of Woodburne, New York, Marie enjoyed a long career in education both as a teacher and then administrator in the Monticello New York Central school district. Born and raised in Sullivan County, New York Marie was a proud graduate of the State University of New York earning a Bachelors and Masters in education and advanced studies in administration. Many of her close friends held dear to her heart were those she met while enriching the lives of children through education.

Always admiring the work ethic, strong faith and craft skills of the Amish, Marie decided to move to Lancaster County Pennsylvania shortly after retirement, first to Mount Joy, then Lancaster. She loved the Lancaster farming community and of course enjoyed the local farm markets and bake shops. She opened her home to all who wished to visit and encouraged them to stay multiple nights. You always felt welcome in Marie's home.

Antique dolls were Marie's favorite hobby having acquired a keen knowledge as a Plangonologist. (Contd. Pg. 3)

Obituaries (From Pg. 2)

She frequented antique shops and auctions, always with a smile and research in hand. Aside from her pet friends Molly, and previously Princess, Marie's friends Maddie, Don, Eileen, Carol, Dee and Naomi were especially dear to her heart.

Marie was one of several cousins within the Eck and the Lepke families of Sullivan and Ulster County New York.

She will be quietly interned at the Fantinekill Cemetery in Ellenville, New York along with her parents, in accordance with her wishes. Although she desired no service, a celebration of her life is being considered for late spring.

Donations in her memory may be made to the Humane League of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania (2195 Lincoln Hwy. E., Lancaster, PA 17602) or The United Federation of Doll Clubs, Inc. (10900 N. Pomona Ave., Kansas City, MO 64153) or online.

Patricia Ann Grey of Grahamsville passed away on January 21, 2022 at home surrounded by her family. She was 83.



She was the daughter of the late Wilson Vanwagner and Ruth Keator, born on January 22, 1938 in Kingston, NY.

Pat was a military wife to James and she loved the lifestyle. This entailed traveling when needed and moving several times. She had a true knack for entertaining and hosting gatherings throughout the years. Pat enjoyed the outdoors and everything it had to offer. She liked fishing, hunting and camping. When Pat was younger she loved cooking and baking; fudge and chocolate

chip cookies were always on the menu. She enjoyed bowling, painting and most importantly spending time with her grandchildren and great grandchildren. They brought her a lot of happiness and joy. She had a special love for animals, especially dogs and horses. She will truly be missed by everyone that knew and loved her.

She is survived by her children Scott Grey and his wife Diana, Cheryl Bertholf and her husband James, Regina Lambert and her husband Jay, her grandchildren Kevin Bertholf and his wife Alyssa, Ryan Barkley and his wife Ashley, Casey Grey and his wife Katie, Patty Hinton and her husband John, Chris Grey and his wife Nicole, Garrett Grey and his wife Alexis and Brianna Comando and her husband Joseph, her great grandchildren, Katelynn, Levi, Gracie, Hunter, Zaylon, Jamie, Lilian, Aurora, and Della Scott, her siblings Helen "Toot" Clark, and Connie Matthews and her husband Thomas, many nieces, nephews, cousins and a host of friends. She was predeceased by her devoted husband James Grey and her great granddaughter Lela Jo.

There was a visitation on Tuesday, January 25, 2022 at Colonial Memorial Funeral Home, Woodbourne, NY 12788. A funeral service was held at the funeral home. Interment followed at Grahamsville Rural Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to Hospice of Orange and Sullivan Counties C/O Friends of Elizabeth, 800 Stony Brook Court, Newburgh, NY 12550.

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

Household Hint:

Clear the air in your kitchen

If the smell of yesterday's cooked cabbage or fish stew is hanging around your kitchen longer than you'd like, mix a pot of 1/2 cup white vinegar in 1 cup water. Let it boil until the liquid is almost gone. You'll be breathing easier in no time.

Nature Column - A tribute to the memory of all of the *Townsmen 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 and Shirley Davis.

Mystical Snowflakes

Now that we have had our first significant snowfall this season, perhaps you may have caught a moment to escape

back to simpler times and winter childhood memories — catching snowflakes on your tongue, sleigh riding or making a snowman.

The birth of each snowflake is not simple. A snowflake begins when a tiny dust or pollen particle comes

into contact with water vapor high in Earth's atmosphere that coats the tiny particle and freezes into a tiny crystal of ice - the "seed" from which a snowflake will grow.

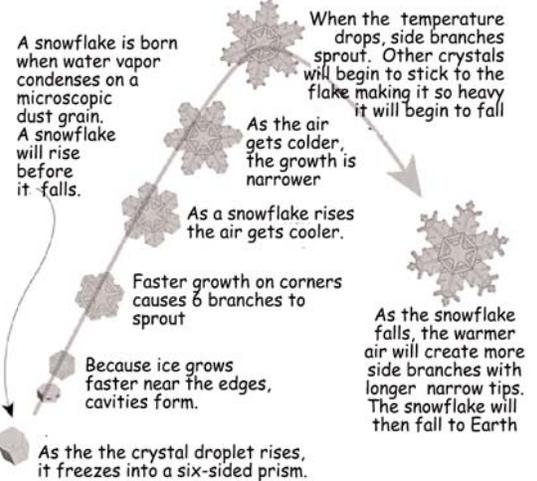
There are two basic ways that water vapor condenses to become a snowflake. The first way is to form facets, like a flat face on a 3D shape such as a prism. The crystal structure of



frozen ice is a six-sided shape which is where the symmetry in a snowflake comes from. The second way a snowflake grows is to form branches as water vapor condenses on the first thing it touches.

The newly-formed ice crystal is heavier than the surrounding air and begins falling. While falling toward Earth through humid air, more water vapor freezes onto the surface of the tiny crystal. The water molecules of the vapor arrange themselves so that the hexagonal crystal structure of ice is repeated. The snowflake grows larger and larger as it falls. No two snowflakes are the same as each represents the conditions of temperature and humidity and water vapor the snowflake encountered during its fall. Some combinations produce flakes with long needle-like arms, flakes with wide flat arms or branching arms all emanating from the six-sided crystal structure of frozen ice.

Scientists have pondered the mystery of snow crystals since the early 1600s. In 1611 Johannes Kepler published a short treatise on the Six-Cornered Snowflake, which was the first scientific reference to snow. Kepler wondered why snow crystals always exhibited a six-fold symmetry. He speculated that the hexagonal close-packing of spheres may have something to do with the morphology of snow crystals. Kepler recognized that the beginning of crystalline symmetry was an interesting scientific question, and he also realized that he did not have the means to answer it. (Contd. Pg. 4)



DAYS OF YORE... Today's History

January 23, 1952

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Slater of Lackawack are the parents of a son, Gary Emerson, born Saturday night at the Veterans Memorial Hospital in Ellenville. The baby weighed 8 lbs. 15 oz. Mrs. Slater was the former Vira Hornbeck.

The total snowfall for this area up to Thursday was 34.9 inches, according to Otis Donaldson, who has been recording the weather and the amount of rainfall for 38 years as gage keeper for the New York City B.W.S.

This coming Sunday the congregation of the Methodist Church will worship for the first time in the newly painted sanctuary. The newly organized choir, under the direction of Miss Marilyn King, will sing for the first time.

Maude, the mule belonging to Robert Van Keuren, died Monday of old age. No one seems to know how many years she had been a resident of this earthly vale. Maude was fond of cake, pie and candy and wasn't too proud to beg a handout from delighted neighbors.

January 24, 1962

Mr. George Erts, honorary member of the Claryville Fire Department, will be the speaker on Saturday evening at the dedication of the new Fire Hall in Claryville. There will also be dancing and refreshments for all following the dedication.

Dale Ross, son of Mr. and Mrs. W.E. Ross of Grahamsville, has been awarded first prize for a feature story in "The Polytechnic", student weekly newspaper at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy. His feature, "Through an International Window", won \$10 in the annual judging. Dale, a graduate of Tri Valley Central School, is a sophomore at RPI majoring in electrical engineering.

January 26, 1972

George Keeler and Mrs. Wilson DeMyer, both of Grahamsville, have announced the engagement of their daughter, Bonnie, to John Gasko. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William Gasko of Cochechton. The couple plans a July wedding. Miss Keeler is a graduate of Tri-Valley Central School and is attending Sullivan County Community College. Her fiancé graduated from Narrowsburg Central School and St. Bonaventure University in Olean. He is employed at Schmidt's Wholesale, Inc., Monticello.

Happy Anniversary to Mr. and Mrs. William Schulte, 11 years on Jan. 28th; Mr. and Mrs. Bill Harms, 30 years on the 30th; Mr. and Mrs. Herman Gotsch, 42 years on Feb. 1st; and to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Keller, 47 years on the 2nd.

January 28, 1982

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Clark of Grahamsville announce the engagement of their daughter, Irene, to Wayne Barringer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ross Barringer also of Grahamsville. Miss Clark is a senior at Tri-Valley Central School and will further her education in Business Administration. Mr. Barringer is a graduate of Tri-Valley Central School and R.P.I. with a Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering. He is now employed by I.B.M. in Virginia. Wedding plans are incomplete.

Samuel H. Carr of River Road, Grahamsville, a retired employee for the Town of Neversink and a lifelong area resident, died Thursday at home after a long illness. He was 75. The son of the late George and Elizabeth George Carr, he was born July 16, 1906 in Grahamsville. Survivors include his wife, Olive

Richards Anapel Carr, at home; a son, George Carr of Kansas and two grandchildren.

Wilson Van Wagner of Claryville, retired Supt. of Highways for the Town of Neversink, and a lifelong area resident, died Sunday at home after a short illness. He was 67. The son of the late Etson and Cora Brown Van Wagner, he was born Feb. 23, 1914 in Claryville. He was a former Justice of the Peace for the Town of Neversink and was a former bus contractor for the Tri Valley School for 25 years. Survivors include his wife, Connie Speck Van Wagner, at home; three daughters, Helen Clark of Accord, Patricia Grey of Grahamsville and Connie Matthews of Claryville; a sister, Edna Sheeley of Grahamsville.

Mystical Snowflakes

(From Pg. 3)

"Does some property of water vapor, or impurities in it account for its six-cornered shape, or must an external cause be sought? And why is the snowflake flat? Why does it not assume a three dimensional shape?" he wondered.

"Each single plant has a single animating principle of its own, since each instance of a plant exists separately, and there is no cause to wonder that each should be equipped with its own peculiar shape. But to imagine an individual soul for each and any starlet of snow is utterly absurd, and therefore the shapes of snowflakes are by no means to be deduced from the operation of soul in the same way as with plants." -- Kepler, 1611

During the mid twentieth century Ukichiro Nakaya performed a true systematic study of snow crystals by growing artificial snow crystals in the laboratory under controlled conditions. From his study Nakaya was able to describe the crystal morphology under different environmental conditions, which provided a clue, however, it still stands there is no complete scientific understanding of the physics of 'snow crystal formation' - a snowflake.

Isn't it amazing with all of the technology of today, a tiny snowflake still keeps this secret hidden? Perhaps that is why it seems so quiet and peaceful after a new snowfall. Maybe each little snowflake is put here just to let us know, we don't have all the answers - but rather just to enjoy its beauty and the magic of our own emotional memory.

Be a 'Snow Birder' This Winter

While the chilliest months of the year may seem like the hardest time to venture outdoors, it can be a great time to go birding. Layer up and head out to your backyard, local park, or other public space and observe some of the bird species that you may not normally see during warmer months. Winter raptors (PDF) including snowy owls (PDF), short-eared owls, barn owls, and hawks migrate south from the Canadian tundra and can be observed near open bodies of water and large grasslands. Some species of woodpeckers may be easier to hear or see in their winter homes. Black-capped chickadees remain in Northern climates due to their ability to survive the ultra-cold weather. Winter is also the best time to observe bald eagles!

Use a website like eBird at: <https://ebird.org/home> to see what species have been detected near you. The free Merlin Bird ID app can help you identify unfamiliar birds and add even more new species to your lists.

If you do brave the cold and snow, properly preparing for winter conditions is essential for a more enjoyable and safe experience. Check out our latest YouTube video on layering for winter, and read up on some of our winter hiking safety tips that can be for any outdoor trip.

Stay tuned for future announcements on the New York State Birding Trail to find locations across the state to go birding. Visit: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/109900.html>



Snowy Owl



The Matchmaker: A Spy In Berlin

Mysterious Book Report No. 474

by John Dwaine Mc Kenna

The Matchmaker: A Spy in Berlin, (Pegasus Crime, \$25.99, 352 pages, ISBN 978-1-643313-865-7), by Paul Vidich, opens in 1989 and life, as she knew it, is about to change forever for an American woman named Anne Simpson. She's living in West Berlin, speaks several languages, works as a translator at the Joint Allied Refugee Operations Center, and is happily married to a German

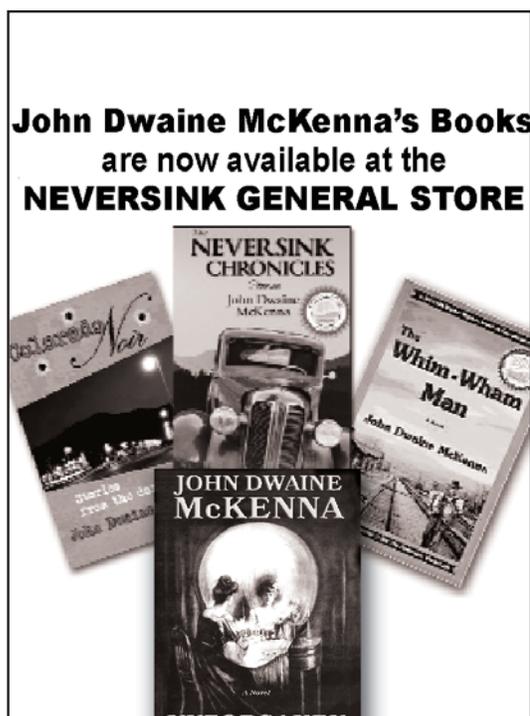
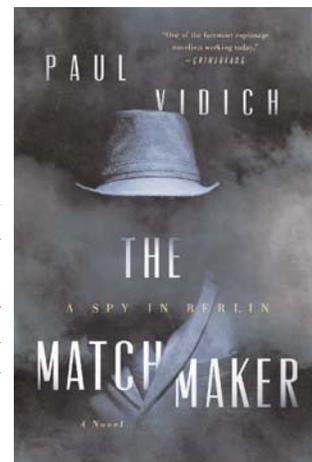
named Stefan Koehler; a professional piano tuner who travels around Europe. As the novel begins, Anne is expecting her husband to return from Austria –where she thinks he's been working –when a U.S. Embassy Official named James Cooper knocks on her apartment door and informs her that Stefan is missing and presumed dead . . . his wallet found alongside Landwehr Canal. The investigators believe he drowned, but his body has not been found. That's when a German intelligence officer informs her that they believe Stefan is a spy for the East Germans, working with a notorious spymaster known as “The Matchmaker”, to steal secret information about NATO forces and equipment as well as how they're deployed. At first, when Anne digs into her husband's background, trying to exonerate him, she believes he's innocent. But as more information about the man she's been married to for only two years becomes known, she's forced to accept the fact that Stefan has been leading a double life.

Set against the background of the end of the Cold War when the Berlin Wall fell and the end of the Soviet Union and East Germany, Anne's world crumples, piece by piece as she learns the sordid details of her husband's secret life as well as his treachery. This one's for hard-core espionage lovers who'll enjoy the re-telling of a well-used plot.

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

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

<http://Johndwainemckenna.com> or <http://Mysteriousbookreport.com>



Warming Centers Open Through Tuesday Morning

Monticello, NY -Sullivan County kept its two warming shelters open over the weekend and through Monday night in Liberty and Monticello:

- United Methodist Church, 170 North Main Street, Liberty
- Ted Stroebele Recreation Center, 2 Jefferson Street, Monticello

A comprehensive and interactive map of these locations is available on the Sullivan County website at www.sullivanny.us/Departments/RealProperty/GISData. Click on the “Warming and Cooling Center Locator” app button at the bottom of the page.

In addition, the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) - which can provide funds for fuel and heating system repair/replacement - continues Countywide, including aid for emergency heating situations. For more information, call 845-807-0142.

During the daytime hours (12-1 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, except holidays), the Federation for the Homeless at 9 Monticello Street in Monticello offers takeout food, and afterhours emergency food requests can be made to the Federation at 845-798-8774. The Federation's pantry is open to all (no documentation required) from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. every Friday, as well.



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Parolee Stopped in Stolen Car, Released on an Appearance Ticket



On Saturday January 22, 2022 at about 11:15 PM, The Sullivan County Sheriff's Office responded to a report of a car that had just been stolen out of a driveway on Route 42 South in the Town of Thompson. Responding deputies immediately put out a description of the wanted vehicle which was a white 2018 Chrysler 300 sedan. Approximately 15 minutes later, the vehicle was spotted by another Sheriff's Patrol on

Broadway in the Village of Monticello. The stolen vehicle attempted elude the patrol but was eventually stopped on North Street near the John Crawford Houses. Arrested in the vehicle was the driver, Michael J. Mackawgy, 24, of Binghamton, NY. He was in the company of Christine R. Kearney, 19, of Forestburgh, NY. Both suspects were taken into custody and charged with felony criminal possession of stolen property and misdemeanor petit larceny. Deputies learned that the pair had rifled through several unlocked cars and took property prior to stealing the Chrysler. Deputies also found out that Mackawgy is currently on parole for burglary. Under New York State's new parole and bail reform rules, Michael Mackawgy was released on an appearance ticket as was Christine Kearney. Both suspects are due back in the Town of Thompson Court on February

2, 2022 at 5:00 PM.

Sheriff Mike Schiff said that Sullivan County has seen a rash of stolen car cases lately. The Sheriff asks that all residents remain vigilant, remove valuables and lock up their vehicles when not in use. "If you see any suspicious persons or activity, don't be afraid to call 911", he said.

COVID POLICY UPDATE Woodstock School of Art

To address COVID concerns and ensure the safety of all, the WSA Board of Directors requires all students, instructors, visitors, and staff be up to date* with vaccinations and booster shots as per CDC guidelines before coming to the school campus and to be masked (preferably N95 masks, which will be available in the main office) at all times in the office and studios. Proof of vaccinations is needed on the first day of class. All studio classes and workshops will have reduced number of students and maintain social distancing. Additionally, air purification systems have been installed in all studios, office, and gallery.

* If you are presently not eligible for a booster due to health/medical reasons, then please provide proper paperwork (note from doctor or previous positive covid test).

CALL TO ARTISTS EXTENDED!

If you would like your work included in the online show, please submit no later than January 28th! For those that do not wish to enter work for the online show, please bring for gallery drop off on February 7th or 8th.

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FCSD Honors Scholar Athletes

At the Board of Education meeting on January 12, 2022, Superintendent Ivan Katz introduced members from three fall sports teams as recipients of special honors from New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA). Team awards went to Girl's Varsity Volleyball; Boy's Cross Country; and Girl's Cross Country. Also honored was Oldelmis Pavon Garcia as the Girl's Tennis Division Champion.



Coach Janet Carey with Girl's Tennis Division Champion Odelmis Pavon Garcia with her winner's patch.



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<http://www.bloominggreenlawnandlandscape.com>
"If it grows by day, have it cut & split by Knight"

Honorees that were present at BOE meeting were four volleyball players: Ashley Ingrassia, Maya Ballard, Jordyn Wall-Carty, and Sierra Kaplan with their coach Amy Johnson. Tennis coach Janet Carey accompanied Ms. Garcia as she received the commemorative patch for her victory on the tennis courts. The Boy's Cross Country Team Individual Scholar Athletes were Josie Galeas and Adam Mednick; Girl's Cross Country recipients were Ceci Mancia, Angelina Levner, Arianna Gonzalez, and Isabelle Batista. Danielle Halikias, Cross Country Teams Coach was present to support the team.

We appreciate your publishing the attached press release and photos regarding the honoring of Fallsburg Scholar Athletes at the January 12, 2022 Board of Education Meeting. Please contact me if you have any questions. Thank you.

In the larger group are Scholar Athletes from the Girl's Varsity Volleyball Team left to right, Ashley Ingrassia, Maya Ballard, Jordyn Wall-Carty, Sierra Kaplan, and Coach Amy Johnson; the second photo shows Coach Janet Carey with Girl's Tennis Division Champion Odelmis Pavon Garcia with her winner's patch.



Scholar Athletes from the Girl's Varsity Volleyball Team left to right, Ashley Ingrassia, Maya Ballard, Jordyn Wall-Carty, Sierra Kaplan, and Coach Amy Johnson

Take the 2022 Catskill Fire Tower Challenge



A person walking down the snowy stairs of a Catskills fire tower observing the snowy trees below. The 2022 Catskill Fire Tower Challenge is underway! This challenge can be a fun way to experience the Catskills, see beautiful scenery, and visit new places. Past participants have even made a vacation out of it! To participate in the 2022 challenge, hikers must hike to all six DEC-owned fire towers in the Catskills between January 1, 2022 and December 31, 2022:

Hunter Mountain Fire Tower
Tremper Mountain Fire Tower
Upper Esopus Fire Tower
(New!)

Overlook Mountain Fire Tower
Red Hill Fire Tower
Balsam Lake Mountain Fire
Tower

Once completed, participants submit a log of their completed hikes along with a favorite photo to:

CatskillsChallenge@dec.ny.gov. or via mail. Entries must be postmarked by January 7, 2023. Finishers will receive a letter, commemorative patch designed with the 2022 completion year, and a one-year subscription to DEC's Conservationist magazine. Upon completion, finishers will also be able to download a customizable certificate and will be eligible to win hiking accessories after the challenge period is closed. Learn more by visiting DEC's website. <https://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/76620.html>

Berry Hill Fire Tower is Open to Visitors

Looking up at the Berry Hill Fire Tower and the caretaker's cabin DEC announced that the Berry Hill fire tower in the town of McDonough, Chenango County, is open for recreation after the completion of interior and exterior upgrades to enhance safety and accessibility. Berry Hill is the only fire tower open for recreation on public lands in Central New York and is one of the highest points in Chenango County. The fire tower is located near McDonough State Forest and Bowman Lake State Park. The Finger Lakes Trail extends past the entrance to Berry Hill along Tower Road. Learn more about the history of fire towers in New York State.

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Welcome to the Catskills

The Welcome to the Catskills webpage is the place to go if you are interested in learning more about the Catskills. It provides information about the Forest Preserve and conservation easement lands, outdoor recreation opportunities, and Leave No Trace. Be sure to check out the links to additional information and tips for recreating safely and minimizing your impacts on natural resources, recreational infrastructure, and other backcountry users in the Catskill Mountains.

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/120094.html>

Catskill Outdoor Recreation Bulletin January 2022

This bulletin provides only the most recent notices. Check the Catskill Backcountry Information webpage for more detailed information on access, outdoor recreation infrastructure, and conditions.

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/108207.html>

Emergency Situations: If you get lost or injured; keep calm and stay put. If you have cell service, call 911 or the DEC

Dispatch, 833-NYS-Rangers (1-833-697-7264).

Hike Smart by packing the proper gear. See our recommended packing list (PDF) and safety tips for the winter season.

Recreation Highlight - Prepare for Winter Conditions

Current snow and cold weather are providing good conditions for winter outdoor recreation in the Catskills. To ensure a safe and enjoyable winter experience, plan ahead and prepare with proper clothing and equipment for snow, ice, and the cold weather.

This last winter storm brought about 12 inches of new snow to the mountains. Snowshoes will ease travel on snow and prevent "post holing," which leaves deep holes in the snow that can cause sudden falls and result in injury. Do your part and help prevent the posthole. Remember, microspikes or other traction devices should be used on icy portions of the trails, including summits and other exposed areas. Keep on reading to find out more about winter hiking essentials you don't want to forget on your next outing.

The Scene Too

-Jane Harrison

No column this week.

Jane is staying home where it is safe and warm and catching up on her knitting this week. As you can see, Missy Mags is helping her with her new socks she is knitting!



In a "Ready to Travel" State of Mind

Eight in ten American travelers are in a "ready to travel" state of mind. More than six in 10 say they desperately need a vacation. And since January 25 is National Plan for Vacation Day- it's time to plan your next getaway to our Sullivan Catskills-America's first vacationland.

We're full of natural beauty, wide open spaces, and legendary hospitality. Just look at all there is to love here! Come during our wildly popular summertime or spectacular leaf-peeping season. Stay at a full-service resort, a charming inn or B&B, a campground, hotel, motel, or vacation rental. Dine lakeside, fireside, or roadside on our inventive Catskill-icious cuisine. Savor the flavors of our award-winning Good Taste Beverage Trail. Find all 60 hand-painted dove sculptures on the Sullivan Catskills Dove Trail. Fish in crystal-clear waters, swim, hike, bike, golf. It's all here waiting for you. But why wait?

Gather your tribe and come see ours now! Old Man Winter just blessed us with enough snow this week for some breathtaking winter sports including-snowshoeing (rent your shoes at Fortress Bikes), cross country or downhill skiing, ice-skating, quiet hikes through snow-capped pines or eagle watching. And our hoteliers including-Villa Roma, Yo1 Health Resort, Resorts World Catskills, Kartrite Resort and Indoor Waterpark, The Eldred Preserve, Callicoon Hills, Seminary Hills, Inn at Lake Joseph, Red Cottage Inc. Vacation Rentals, Foster Supply Hospitality, Antrim Streamside and others- have some enticing Winter Specials you can book NOW!

Shoppers: our Main Street proprietors have everything from home goods and home-cooked goodies to wine, cheese, antiques, linens, jewelry and more. Bet you won't go home empty handed.

There's more winter fun on tap, soon. Save the date for:

January 29 for the Roscoe Beer Winterfest. This 7th Annual event is a great way to get out and enjoy the beauty of Winter in our Sullivan Catskills.

February 4-6 for the 8th Annual Ice Fishing Derby at The Arnold House including a special room package with meals, Derby Day Passes and more.

February 12 for the Town of Neversink's 1st Annual Winter Fest at the Grahamsville Fairgrounds featuring food, crafts, tubing, cross country skiing, sledding, snow painting, s'mores, music and more.

Pack your bags. Bring your facemask and come have that

getaway you've been longing for! We pledge to make you feel safe and confident because we're all following our Catskills Confidence program to keep us all safe and healthy.

We're just a 90-minute drive from Manhattan. Close. Clean. Confident and ready for vacation when you are.

Roberta Byron-Lockwood

President/CEO

Sullivan Catskills Visitors Association



January General Meeting

This Month's Speaker Steve Culton will present Wet Flies 2.0 -New tactics and techniques for the oldest way to fish

On Wednesday January 26, 2022 - 7PM - Zoom

Join Zoom Call at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89225658756?pwd=TFZBcU8wU1NjT0EvYlI3Qk5ZQmRyUT09>

Meeting ID: 892 2565 8756

Passcode: 263828

Join us this Wednesday evening for a special presentation of Steve Culton's Wet Flies 2.0. The long-awaited follow-up to Wet Flies 101, Wet Flies 2.0 takes a deeper dive into wet flies and wet fly fishing. Starting with the essential wet fly tackle and toolbox, Wet Flies 2.0 explores topics like matching hatches with wet flies (from caddis to mayflies to midges to stoneflies to terrestrials); searching tactics with wet flies; presentation and rigging options to match conditions and situations; fishing wet flies as nymphs or dry flies; wet flies on small streams; and much more!

Wayne County Arts Alliance announces their 2022 Outdoor Summer Arts project - HEARTS ALIVE!

The WCAA is looking for artists to paint and local businesses to sponsor and host our 50 Heart sculptures.

Last year's photo panels were a fantastic success! Driving through town, seeing people interact and sharing their photos was a great way to add memories of their visit to Wayne County. Some people made a point to visit all panels creating a great interactive adventure for the whole family.

This year we are continuing to put out the message....Wayne County is a caring place! Our goal is to have 50 artists involved in painting heart sculptures which will be sponsored by Wayne County businesses. A trail map will be posted online and also a QR code will be on each piece so people can explore the county as they visit each individually decorated sculpture.

These pieces will be placed at our Sponsor Businesses by Memorial weekend, and will be on view throughout the summer. After Labor Day, there will be an online auction for each piece to find a permanent home.

If you are an artist interested in painting a heart sculpture or a business interested in sponsoring one at your location, please contact ellensilberlicht@gmail.com.



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 Go to: Amazon.com
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Environmental Conservation Police On Patrol

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's (DEC) Division of Law Enforcement enforces the 71 chapters of New York State's Environmental Conservation Law (ECL), protecting fish and wildlife and preserving environmental quality across New York. In 1880, the first eight Game Protectors proudly began serving to protect the natural resources and people of New York State. In 2021, 282 Environmental Conservation Police Officers (ECOs) and Investigators across the state responded to 26,207 calls and worked on cases that resulted in 11,562 tickets or arrests for crimes ranging from deer poaching to solid waste dumping, illegal mining, the black market pet trade, and excessive emissions violations. Some of these incidents result in injuries, property damage, or even death, and starting this year, 'ECO Highlights' is transitioning to a new title, 'Environmental Conservation Police On Patrol.'

"DEC Environmental Conservation Police Officers and Investigators are on the front lines each and every day protecting our natural resources by upholding New York's environmental laws and regulations and safeguarding public health," DEC Commissioner Basil Seggos said. "From ensuring hunters and anglers follow rules and regulations afield and on the water, to sustaining partnerships with local law enforcement agencies investigating crimes that include solid waste dumping and air emissions violations, ECOs and Investigators are on patrol, ready to serve their communities. Each year brings new challenges, and fortunately, these Officers and Investigators are expertly trained to perform their duties with persistence, integrity, and good judgment, as they've done for over a century." **Illegal Trapping - Ulster County**



Conibear trap set for fisher

On Jan. 10, ECO Johnson solved the case of an illegal deer take in the town of Denning that resulted in several additional charges for the hunter. During the 2021 regular rifle season, ECO Johnson observed an untagged deer carcass behind the residence of a suspected baited property. The Officer also discovered a conibear trap set for fisher mounted on a tree. The ECO checked the property for several weeks but didn't see anyone. In the Southern Zone, traps must be checked every 24 hours and labeled with the trapper's information. The trap in question had incorrect information, but Officer Johnson eventually caught up with the responsible party. The suspect admitted to killing the deer behind the residence and received three summonses for failing to tag trap property, failing to check trap every 24 hours, and failing to report deer harvest within seven days.

UC Executive Pat Ryan Recognizes First Vax-to-School Scholarship Winner; Announces Another Round of Vax-to-School PODs at Locations Throughout Ulster County

(From Pg. 1) "I chose to get vaccinated to keep myself and others safe," Amani Green said. "I really appreciate this opportunity. I push myself and go to school every day because I know my dreams are going to come true. I am going to be the first in my family to graduate and I plan to become a nurse."

"I want to congratulate Amani and I admire her bravery and leadership in getting vaccinated," Kingston City School District Superintendent Dr. Paul Padalino said. "Now, thanks to Ulster County and SUNY Ulster, she will have the opportunity to go on to higher education without the worry of student debt."

"Thank you, Ulster County Executive Pat Ryan, for making this Vax to School partnership opportunity a reality in Ulster County so students can benefit from access to higher education at SUNY Ulster with scholarship support through the Ulster Community College Foundation," SUNY Ulster President Dr. Alan P. Roberts said.

"The nine public school districts of Ulster County and Ulster BOCES are excited to continue their enthusiastic support of the County Executive's Vax to School program. This is a win-win for all of us; students, parents, teachers, and staff," District Superintendent Ulster BOCES Dr. Charles Khoury said. "Our goal has been and continues to be to do whatever it takes to keep our schools open for in-person instruction while at the same time protecting the health and safety of the over 24,000 students and thousands of teachers and staff who cross our thresholds every day. We encourage parents and caregivers of eligible students to seriously consider taking advantage of this program. This program will move us further along the path of realizing the goal of continuous, uninterrupted in-person instruction for all."

Last fall, County Executive Ryan announced a partnership between the Ulster County Department of Health, the New York State Department of Health, the SUNY Ulster Foundation, and all nine Ulster County public school districts. Part of the statewide Vax to School initiative, vaccination PODs were conducted by the Ulster County Department of Health in each of Ulster County's nine school district high schools on select weekends during October and November 2021 in an effort to increase vaccination rates among the 12-17-year-old age group. Currently, 75.4% of individuals between the ages of 12-17 have received at least one vaccine dose.

This week, County Executive Ryan announced that a second round of the Vax to School program is launching for Ulster County residents next week. The Ulster County Department of Health will be administering pediatric COVID vaccines to 5-11-year-olds, as well as the vaccine series and boosters to ages 12+ at elementary and high schools around Ulster County.

Eligibility for the COVID-19 vaccine has expanded. 5-11-year-olds may now receive the Pfizer pediatric vaccine series, and 12-17-year-olds may receive a Pfizer booster, in addition to the Pfizer vaccine series. Eligibility to win the two-year scholarship during the second round of Vax to School lottery will mirror that expanded eligibility, and anyone aged 5-17 may enter to win by filling out a raffle ticket on site at the Department of Health's Best Buy POD, at any one of the Vax to School PODs, or by filling out the County's new online form, if vaccinated by a pediatrician, doctor, or pharmacist.

The Vax to School POD Schedule for pediatric and 12+ vaccines and boosters is as follows:

- o January 25th, 4:30-7pm, Kerhonkson Elementary School, 30 Academy Street, Kerhonkson
- o January 27th, 3:30-6pm, Rondout Valley High School, 122 Kyserike Rd, Accord
- o January 31st, 4-6pm, Grand D. Morse Elementary, 70 Harry Wells Rd, Saugerties

- o February 1st, 3:30-6pm, Phoenicia Elementary School, 11 School Ln, Phoenicia
- o February 3rd, 3:30-6pm, Marlboro High School, 50 Cross Rd, Marlboro
- o February 7th, 4-6pm, Mount Marion Elementary, 744 Glasco Turnpike, Saugerties

Vaccination appointments are available at:
<http://VaccinateUlster.com>

DEC Commissioner Seggos Names Captain Karen Przyklek Director of DEC's Division of Law Enforcement



New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos began the new year on a high note by naming Captain Karen Przyklek as the Director of DEC's Division of Law Enforcement (DLE). Przyklek's promotion follows a successful 26-year career with DLE during which she played a vital role investigating environmental crimes, assisting the public, and effectively enhancing the division's work. Przyklek also makes history as the division's first woman director.

"Throughout her 26 years at DEC, Director Przyklek demonstrated a steadfast commitment to protecting communities from polluters and safeguarding natural resources," Commissioner Seggos said. "I'm honored to promote to her new role as Director as she breaks the glass ceiling and I am confident that she will lead DEC's outstanding Law Enforcement Officers with dignity and dedication."

Przyklek began as an Environmental Conservation Police Officer patrolling New York City in 1996, and later became an Investigator with the Division's Bureau of Environmental Crimes Investigation. In 2014, she was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant, followed by Captain in 2019. Most recently, Przyklek served as Captain of the Division's Special Operations Group, which includes the statewide K9 Unit, Homeland Security/Radiation Unit, Wildlife Response Team, and Haz Mat Training Unit. Przyklek worked diligently to create DLE's Environmental Forensic Unit (EFU), one of the first such units in the nation, to collect forensic evidence at contaminated environmental and wildlife crime scenes. The Unit was deployed to multiple significant events throughout the State and brought the EFU to the forefront of environmental sampling and evidence collection. Przyklek is a 9/11 first responder and assisted DEC's response following the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center. Prior to joining DEC, she served as a Deputy with the Monroe County Sheriff's Office in Rochester.

Director Przyklek said, "I am honored to work alongside men and women dedicated to protecting New York's fish, wildlife, and other natural resources. Our officers will also be actively engaging in environmental quality enforcement initiatives across the State to better enhance the health, safety, and well-being of all New Yorkers. Additionally, I'm committed to working to diversify our workforce and aim to increase the frequency of our police academies to better reflect the citizens of the state of New York."



*Come join us for the
1st Annual Town of Neversink Winterfest*

On Saturday, February 12th

(blizzard date-February 19th)

From noon till 7 pm.

At the Grahamsville Fairgrounds

We will have lots of vendors selling crafts and food.

Your school and sports organizations will be there selling snacks and other items.

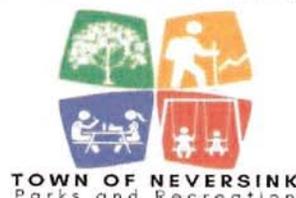
We will have the Beer Garden, music and Ice Carving demonstrations.

And we will have lots of fun things to do. If there is snow, bring your sleds, saucers and tubes for sledding. If there is no-snow, don't worry we have lots of other things to do.

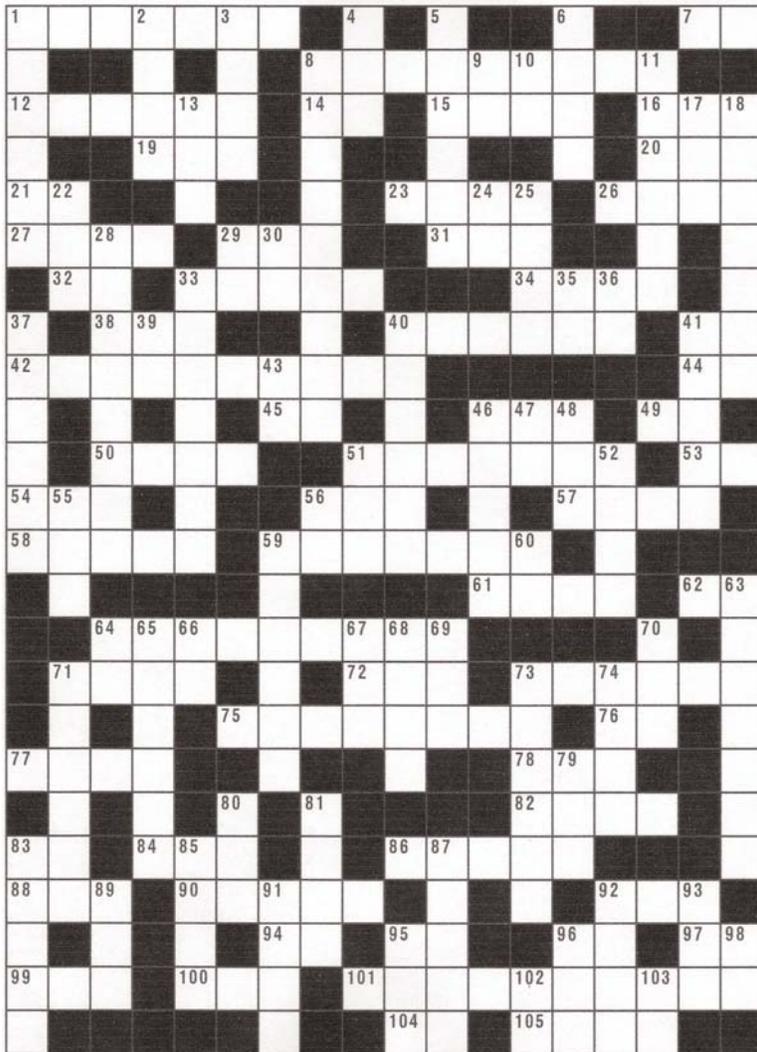
The ICE RINK WILL BE OPEN FOR THE EVENT.

And there is NO ENTRY FEE for the event!

*Check our Town of Neversink Parks & Recreation Facebook page for updates.
Any questions please contact Parks and Recreation at cwparksandrec@gmail.com*



To See or Not to See his Shadow! - L. Comando



ACROSS

- 1 Repeated patterns
- 7 Adjacent to
- 8 Commemorate
- 12 Donned by Phil's keeper on Feb 2nd
- 14 Advertisement
- 15 Against
- 16 Cut an area of grass
- 19 Prefix-not doing
- 20 Female sheep
- 21 Morning
- 23 Waterhole
- 26 A region
- 27 Raise to a higher level
- 29 Sun
- 31 Combining form of new
- 32 Ch. element Tellurium
- 33 Units of

- land
- 34 Word by which a person is known
- 38 Male child
- 40 Shining
- 41 Refer to you and I
- 42 Look forward to
- 44 Hour
- 45 Like
- 46 Ocean
- 49 Archaic plural form of thou
- 50 Ability to see
- 51 Single celled alga with silica walls
- 53 Extraterrestrial
- 54 Epoch
- 56 A fruit-filled pastry
- 57 Punxsutawney groundhog
- 58 Light again
- 59 Large open air fire
- 61 Fermented drink made with

- honey
- 62 United States
- 64 Spend the winter in a dormant state
- 71 Approximately
- 72 Slump
- 73 Another term for Irish
- 75 Popular myth
- 76 Delaware
- 77 Circle of light around the sun
- 78 Repetitive strain injury
- 82 Partner
- 83 Knockout
- 84 Being able
- 86 Heathen
- 88 Brit's abbrev. for railway
- 90 Profound
- 92 Extra-sensory perception
- 94 Not out
- 95 Part of the mind
- 96 12 points
- 97 1st person

- singular present of be
 - 99 Belonging to one's mother
 - 100 Grass covered soil
 - 101 A road in Sundown
 - 104 Half an em
 - 105 Reject
- DOWN**
- 1 Prescribed ceremony
 - 2 At that time
 - 3 Natural Earth satellite
 - 4 Gave food to
 - 5 One of four divisions of a year
 - 6 In accordance with the rules
 - 8 February 2nd Christian Festival

- 9 Abbrev. for billion
- 10 Right (abbrev)
- 11 Become apparent
- 13 Small round mark
- 17 Obligation to pay
- 18 Atmospheric conditions
- 22 Glovelike handcovering
- 24 Northeast
- 25 Make a resonate sound
- 28 Mardi Gras
- 29 South Carolina
- 30 Links alternatives
- 33 Belonging to the past
- 35 Exclamation of surprise
- 36 Mountain (abbrev)
- 37 Omnivorous nocturnal mammal
- 39 Informal exclamation
- 40 Confidence in someone
- 41 Circular object that revolves on an axel
- 43 Pennsylvania
- 46 Atmospheric disturbance
- 47 Executive Order
- 48 Ampere
- 51 Unpleasant loud noise
- 52 Simple roofed structure
- 55 Warm primary color
- 56 Post Office
- 59 Tunnel dug by an animal
- 60 Electrical Engineer
- 63 Not sacred

- 64 Exclamation of surprise
- 65 Another name for Candlemas
- 66 Exist
- 67 Question something
- 68 Story
- 69 Self-importance
- 70 Bitter brew of a picture
- 71 Shaded part of a picture
- 73 A Germanic language

- 74 Check
- 79 Bushman
- 80 United Nations Organization
- 81 Condensed atmospheric moisture
- 83 In 1958 'if you saved some dough you could Kum to_____'
- 85 Large primates

- 87 US executive in the cosmetics industry
- 89 Affirmative
- 91 Edge
- 92 Radiate
- 93 Friend
- 95 Anger
- 96 Night before an event
- 98 Myself
- 102 Official Nevada postal code
- 103 Archaic exclamation

Spinach and Feta Stuffed Chicken

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

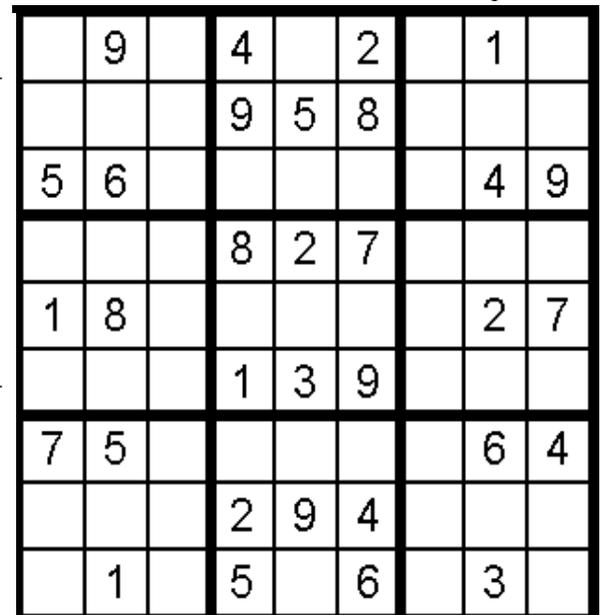
Preheat oven to 375°. In a large skillet, cook and stir spinach over medium-high heat until wilted. Stir in vinegar, sugar and pepper; cool slightly.

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

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

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

数字は単数に限る



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

22 7 15 13 21 12 5 25 24 7 12 13 8 20 9 9 9 15 22 5 4 19 25 12 8

8 7 15 22 7 15 21 22 7 15 21 15 8 20 9 9 23 15 14 25 15 14 21 9 11

4 10 21 20 25 13 12 21 4 25 12 8

Kids' Winter Fun Page

- L. Comando

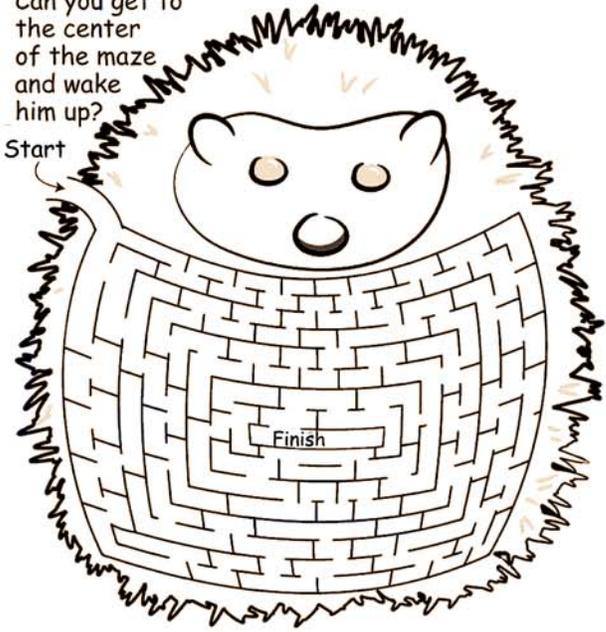


What will the groundhog predict? Can you find the differences between the two pictures?

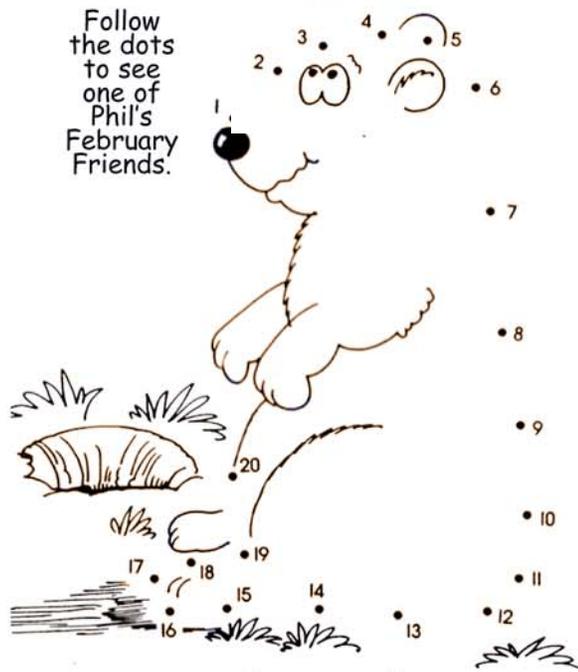


Will the hedgehog come out of hibernation? Can you get to the center of the maze and wake him up?

Start



Follow the dots to see one of Phil's February Friends.



WORDSEARCH

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

GROUNDHOG
 HEDGEHOG
 SHADOW
 CLOUDS
 SUNSHINE
 FEBRUARY
 WINTER
 SPRING
 WEATHER
 LORE

Cryptogram Key

6	11	18	8	16	5	22	4	21	26	10	12	25	3	9	19	1	20	7	13	17	15	24	2	23	14
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

Sullivan County Announces Partnership With New Mobile Health Unit

NYS Attorney General Letitia James Praises Launch of Service

(From Pg. 1) “We are targeting the most rural areas of the County, bringing Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) to combat the opioid epidemic in communities that haven't had adequate access to services,” added Lowell Feldman, a Bethel resident and longtime healthcare professional who is partnering with Bridge Back to Life Center in this venture.



NYS Attorney General Letitia James gave her support to Sullivan County's efforts to aggressively respond to the opioid epidemic. Listening in the background is District 2 Legislator Nadia Rajsz, chair of the Sullivan County Legislature's Health & Family Services Committee

“This is really a dream come true,” noted Deputy Sullivan County Health & Family Services Commissioner Wendy Brown, who co-chairs the Drug Task Force with District Attorney Meagan Galligan. “We could not be successful without the phenomenal job that law enforcement, healthcare, service providers, County legislators and people on higher levels do. We WILL get better in Sullivan County - we're getting better already!”

“This is a welcomed and needed addition to the services in Sullivan County,” agreed Melissa Stickle, Sullivan County's Director of Community Services. “This mobile unit will provide much-needed access to services. As a new provider and a member of United Sullivan, all services will be provided in a welcoming and respectful manner. We are really excited to welcome Bridge Back to Life to our community.”

Wrapped in bright signage by a team of Sullivan County BOCES students, the 32-foot-long, fully heated and air-conditioned mobile health unit will be staffed by a nurse practitioner licensed to prescribe MAT and render a variety of general healthcare services, along with a Certified Peer Recovery Advocate who will assist patients in securing needed social services. A Clinical Social Worker is anticipated to be added to the team in the future.

“One of the reasons I wanted to be a DARE officer was because there was no hope for our kids,” District 6 Legislator Luis Alvarez, a retired Sheriff's Deputy, related. “So when they said we're getting a trailer, I said, 'Finally, we're getting hope!’”

Sullivan County will have priority use of the unit as part of its comprehensive package of services currently offered to those dealing with substance use and other health issues.

“Our Division of Health & Family Services, which reports to my committee on the Sullivan County Legislature, doesn't ever rest in responding to this crisis,” affirmed District 2 Legislator Nadia Rajsz. “In addition to the incredible work of our Drug Task Force, we offer on our website a complete list of substance use service providers, from healthcare groups to support groups, including an interactive map. We have a 'Hope Line' (866-832-5575) where anyone can call, 24/7, to get the help they need at the

time they need it. We have personnel trained to provide Individual Psychotherapy, Marital & Family Counseling, Group Therapy, Medication Therapy, Crisis Intervention/Outreach, and Medication Assisted Therapy.

“We will not leave anyone out in the cold.”

About Bridge Back to Life Center, Inc.

Bridge Back to Life Center, Inc. is New York State OASAS-licensed to operate chemical dependency treatment programs.

Since 1988, Bridge Back to Life Center, Inc. has provided outpatient treatment to recovering individuals as well as education & support for their families and significant others. Their philosophy begins with the idea that abstinence from alcohol, drugs, and all mood-altering substances must be the primary goal of treatment.

For more information, visit www.bridgebacktolife.com.



The 32-foot-long mobile health unit is privately operated but will be utilized by Sullivan County's Department of Community Services and a host of other local agencies

LEGALS/PUBLIC NOTICES

The Tri-Valley School District
is searching for a new
Superintendent of Schools

Community Focus Group Session

Come and give your input regarding the needs of the district and the responsibilities of the new Superintendent.

To register and for more information call
(845) 295-4016

Thursday, February 10, 2022
7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Location: Tri-Valley Central School
in the High School Auditorium

1/27

Please Take Notice:
Covid-19 Home Test Kits

are available at
Town of Denning Town Hall
1567 Denning Road Claryville, NY
Mondays through Thursdays
8:30 AM - 3:00 PM
until they are gone.

Call (845) 985-2411 for more information.

Full Time Residents Only
Proof of Denning
residency required
ONE kit per household
(2 tests)
Signature required

Ulster County
is tracking distribution

Fallsburg CSD
Board of Education
February Meetings

January 19, 2022
Meeting Cancelled

Next meetings

February 2, 2022

February 16, 2022

Tri-Valley CSD Board Meeting

Regular Meeting #14 -

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Call to Order - 6:00 p.m. -

Secondary School Library Lower Level

Anticipated Proposed Executive Session -6:00 p.m. -

Secondary School Library Upper Level

Regular Meeting resumes - approximately 7:00 p.m. -

Secondary School Library Lower Level

Regular Meeting #15

Thursday, February 3, 2022 -

- Anticipated Proposed Executive Session - 6:00 p.m. -

Secondary School Library Upper Level;

Regular Meeting resumes approximately 7:00 p.m. -

Secondary School Library Lower Level.

All Board Meetings will be broadcast on our
YouTube Live Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCki224vKQ8nAWhR6NVa024w/live>

VETERANS STAND-DOWN

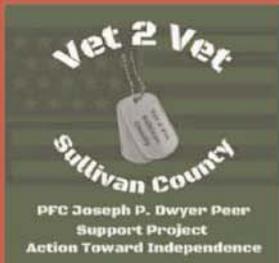
HOSTED BY

VET2VET OF SULLIVAN COUNTY

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 26, 2022 11AM - 5PM

THIS EVENT IS FOR

VETERAN SERVICES * VETERAN NETWORKING * VETERANS IN NEED
* HOMELESS VETERANS

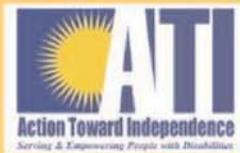


MONTICELLO

TED STROEBELE
RECREATION CENTER
8 JEFFERSON STREET
MONTICELLO, NY 12701



FOOD PROVIDED BY LOCAL SPONSORS



OVER 15 PROVIDERS & EXHIBITORS!

BENEFIT ASSISTANCE (BY ACCREDITED OFFICERS) *
MILITARY SURPLUS CLOTHING * VA CLINIC



FOR MORE INFORMATION

CONTACT VET2VET OF SULLIVAN COUNTY AT
(845) 794 - 4228
Vet2Vet@atitoday.org

Sullivan County Towns, Villages Continue Distributing Test Kits

Monticello, NY - Sullivan County continues to work closely with towns, villages and schools to ensure COVID-19 at-home test kits reach as many people as possible.

“Over the weekend, we took possession of more than 5,000 kits,” Community Resources Commissioner Laura Quigley explained. “We’ve been distributing them to local officials since yesterday, and I’m happy to say many have already reached the hands of local residents.”

Kits are free and contain one test apiece. Supplies are limited and are being distributed on a first-come, first-served basis.

Here’s the list of towns and villages which are distributing kits, how many they’re receiving, and how to contact them to find out where and when to get a kit:

- o Town of Bethel, 252 kits - 845-583-4350
- o Town of Callicoon, 180 kits - 845-482-5390
- o Town of Cohecton, 96 kits - 845-932-8360
- o Town of Delaware, 156 kits - 845-887-5250
- o Town of Fallsburg, 780 kits - 845-434-8810
- o Town of Forestburgh, 60 kits - 845-794-0611
- o Town of Fremont, 72 kits - 845-887-6055
- o Town of Highland, 144 kits - 845-557-6085
- o Town of Liberty, 576 kits - 845-292-5110
- o Town of Lumberland, 156 kits - 845-856-8600
- o Town of Mamakating, 696 kits - 845-888-3000
- o Town of Neversink, 204 kits - 845-985-2262
- o Town of Rockland, 216 kits - 845-439-4399
- o Town of Thompson, 900 kits - 845-794-2500
- o Town of Tusten, 72 kits - 845-252-7146
- o Village of Bloomingburg, 24 kits - 845-733-1400
- o Village of Jeffersonville, 24 kits - 845-482-4275
- o Village of Liberty, 252 kits - 845-292-2250
- o Village of Monticello, 384 kits - 845-794-6130
- o Village of Woodridge, 48 kits - 845-434-7447
- o Village of Wurtsboro, 72 kits - 845-888-2522

For those unable to access these locations, contact the Sullivan County Community Assistance Center at 845-807-0925 for help.

“Since we continue to receive only a fraction of the tests needed to reach all 77,000 of our residents, we parceled out the kits by population,” noted Public Safety Commissioner Thomas Farney. “The formula we used was 60 kits per 1,000 people, setting aside around 1,500 for the County to give out directly to the elderly, the low-income and others who might struggle to obtain these kits.”

More kits are on order and will be distributed as soon as the County receives shipment.

Free Kits Now Available Through the Federal Government

Free at-home COVID-19 test kits can now be ordered via the Federal government and the United States Postal Service at www.covidtests.gov. The tests are expected to ship free of charge within 7-12 days of being ordered. Limit one order per residential address, which includes 4 individual rapid antigen COVID-19 tests.

Rapid Testing Offered at SUNY Sullivan County NY

Oral, saliva-based PCR tests are available at SUNY Sullivan, 112 College Road, Loch Sheldrake, with appointments available between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

Appointments can be made via test provider Quadrant Biosciences at:

<https://app.acuityscheduling.com/schedule.php?owner=24841628&calendarID=6421122>.

Thompson Democratic Committee

(Monticello) The Democratic Party will be holding a Monticello primary election to nominate two candidates to run for two, four year village trustee seats. The primary will be held on Tuesday, January 25, 2022 at the Ted Stroebele Center (formerly the Neighborhood Facility) from 12 Noon to 9 p.m. Only enrolled members of the Democratic Party in election districts 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 of the Town of Thompson who reside in the Village of Monticello are eligible to vote in the Democratic primary. The candidates whose names will appear on the ballot (in alphabetical order) are: Michael Greco, Gordon Jenkins, Rochelle Massey and Charles Sabatino. The two candidates selected in the primary will run on the Democratic line in the village election to be held on March 15, 2022.

Monti Candidates Garner Support

(Monticello) The Town of Thompson Democratic Committee



Michael Greco

has endorsed two of the candidates running in the village Democratic primary on Tuesday, January 25th. At a meeting held on November 23rd, the committee endorsed Michael Greco and Charles Sabatino. Greco and Sabatino have also been endorsed by the Republican Party. Greco is a Democrat and Sabatino is a Republican. Thompson Democratic Committee Chair Bill James said, “Mike and Charlie will work with Mayor George Nikolados in moving the village forward in a positive way.”

NYS DEC BOW in the SNOW Canceled

After careful consideration, we have decided to cancel the 2022 Winter BOW in the SNOW Workshop to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 during the rapid spread of the Omicron variant. Since the indoor classes, the small dining hall, and the bunk houses cannot be well ventilated during winter, the risk of spreading the virus between people from all regions of the state is too high.



Take Your Child to the Library Day

Saturday, February 5th

10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Come and visit the library on "Take Your Child to the Library Day" and you will ignite your child's imagination!

Face-coverings are required to be worn by all ages 2 and up.

A love of reading and books starts with pictures, stories, and rhymes. Our beautiful children's floor has easy access to picture books and comfortable seating to relax and read. Older children may enjoy using the computers or WI-FI, borrowing DVD's, while finding latest books to check out.



Stop by and make your own ocean snow globe. Try completing a puzzle or two! Remember our beloved doll houses and amazing train set, they'll be set up as well.

Register your child with Miss Deirdre for our Spring Children's Programs- Mother Goose, Toddler Time, and Story Hour!

In case of inclement weather, please check our FB page for library hours.

ST. MARK'S UMC
Napanoch

INDOOR YARD and CLOTHING SALE

Will be opened every Friday from 10 - 3

Something for Everyone



COLONIAL FAMILY of FUNERAL HOMES

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<http://www.colonialfamilyfuneralhomes.com>

MONUMENTS INSTALLED IN ALL CEMETERIES
CREMATION MEMORIALS & BENCHES, MONUMENT LETTERING & CLEANING

Sundown United Methodist Church

Sundown Ladies

See you this summer!

Sundown United Methodist Church Hall



ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL MISSION

The Little Church with the Big Heart
ALL ARE WELCOME!

Closed until further notice because of COVID

5277 State Rt. 42 • South Fallsburg
845-436-7539

For information contact:
The Reverend Diana Southwick Scheide
Canon Missioner of the Delaware Catskill Episcopal Ministry
PO Box 296 Callicoon, NY
vicardcem@gmail.com
845-887-3201 • 717-870-7874 cell

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 morning 8:50 am; Tuesday morning 8:50 am; Wednesday morning No Mass; Thursday afternoon 3:00 pm; Friday morning 8:50 am and Saturday morning 8:50 am.

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

Grahamsville United Methodist Church

Thrift Sales will reopen in the Spring
See you then



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



Loucks Funeral Home

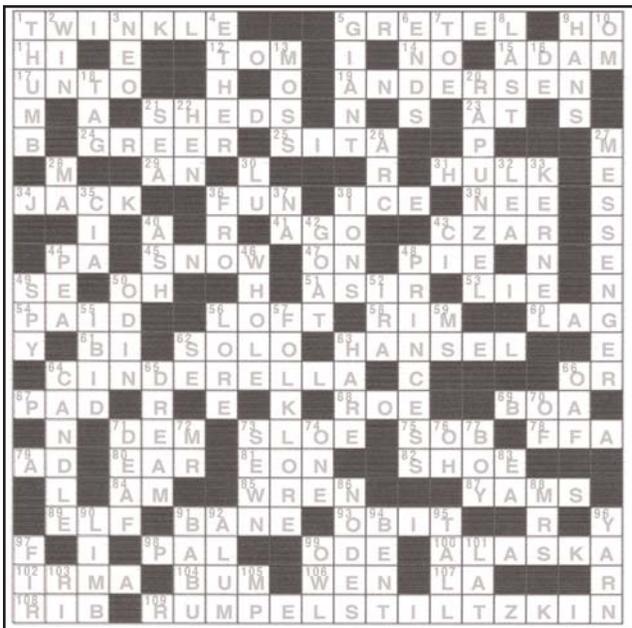
Geoff and Heather Hazzard
"Celebrating Life, One Family at a Time"

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

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

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

Ans to last week's Crossword



Grahamsville United Methodist Church

The GUMC held their final 2021 Thrift Sale on November 6th. Even when we are closed we want the community to know that, by appointment, our Thrift items are always available to anyone in case of an emergency by calling 845-985-2283. Because of storage space we are **NOT ABLE** to receive items again until next spring. Please help us by storing your treasures at your house until then.

FCSD Hosts Winter Ice Skating Event

Mark the date of Saturday, February 5, 2022, when Fallsburg Central School District presents a day of ice skating with free skates provided; snowshoeing; prizes/raffles, including a state-of-the art mountain bicycle; free food and refreshments from a Food Truck with gluten free Arepas and fully loaded Nachos; warm coats and hats for children that need them; and hot chocolate to keep everyone cozy. The location is Benjamin Cosor Elementary School, 15 Old Falls Road, Fallsburg, NY, where a portable ice rink will be set up. . All this fun is courtesy of FCSD, the Wellness Committee, My Brother's Keeper, the SGA Club, and Sullivan 180. For contact information: Please call (845) 434-6800, extension 1223.

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

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

DANIEL PIERCE LIBRARY

Curbside Pickup

LIBRARY HOURS

MONDAY - 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
 TUESDAY - 10:00 am - 7:00 pm
 WEDNESDAY - 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
 THURSDAY - 10:00 am - 7:00 pm
 FRIDAY - 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
 SATURDAY - 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Curbside pick up will continue to be available every day from 9:00 am until a half hour before closing time.

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

AL-ANON MEETINGS- <http://www.al-anon.alateen.org>
 Mon- 7:00 p.m. United Methodist Church, 170 N. Main Street, Liberty • Thurs- 7:00 p.m.
 Immaculate Conception Church Annex, 6317 Rt 42, Woodbourne
 Sat- 8:00 p.m. United Methodist Church, 170 N. Main Street, Liberty

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

LOCAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 1/18/22 Town of Neversink Zoning Board Meeting 7:30 pm
 1/20/22 TVCS Board Meeting (See Pg. 18 for details)
 1/25/22 **SPECIAL ELECTION OF THE NEVERSINK FIRE DISTRICT** 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm Neversink Fire Station
 2/1/22 Claryville Fire District Meeting 6:30 pm
 2/2/22 Town of Neversink Planning Board Meeting 7:00 pm
 2/15/22 Town of Neversink Zoning Board Meeting 7:30 pm
 2/20/22 Claryville Fire Department **All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast** 8 am - 12 noon

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

Please remember to send us your **Events Calendar for 2022** so that we may continue to post your meetings and events thru out the coming year. You may email them to: tvtownsman@yahoo.com or
 USPS Mail - The Townsman, PO Box 232, Grahamsville, NY 12740
 or Drop them in the Drop Box at the Grahamsville 1st Aid Building

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.

During these uncertain times - PLEASE CONTACT A MEMBER OF EACH ORGANIZATION for updates & changes

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

Ulster County Legislature Weekly Update January 24 - January 28, 2022

Monday, January 24

- o 12:00 PM - Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency Annual Organizational Meeting with Regular Meeting Immediately Following, Hosted by WebEx, By Phone Dial 1-408-418-9388, Access Code: 2631 390 2415, Password: 1234#
- o 5:30 PM - Ulster County Board of Ethics, at 303 Clinton Ave, Kingston
- o 6:00 PM - Trails Advisory Committee, Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 876 6071 2554, Passcode: 663305, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656
- o 7:00 PM - Climate Smart Committee, Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 818 0076 1922, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656

Tuesday, January 25

- o No Meetings

Wednesday, January 26

- o 8:00 AM - Ulster County Soil & Water Conservation District, at 271 Main Street, New Paltz
- o 3:00 PM - Electrical Licensing Board, Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 814 3695 6631, By Phone Dial (929) 436-2866
- o 5:30 PM - American Rescue Plan Act Special Committee, Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 846 2769 9696, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656
- o 6:30 PM - Environmental Management Council, Powered by Zoom Meeting. Meeting ID: 974 4254 9615, Passcode: 278571, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656
- o 7:00 PM - Fire Advisory Board, Powered by Zoom Meeting. Meeting ID: 867 2310 8732, Passcode: 223421, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656

Thursday, January 27

- o No Meetings

Friday, January 28

- 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" x 3")
 - \$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

(4" x 6") - \$48.00 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" x10" - \$100.00 per 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 to the week of the event)
As in the past, there is no fee for advertising for our local churches.

**Low Rates
 High Visibility!**

DMV at the Neversink Town Hall on 2/3/2022. *This is a date change*



You **MUST** go on the DMV Website to make a reservation.

Search [sullivancountydmv.scheduling](https://sullivancountydmv.scheduling.com)

*** SULLIVAN COUNTY RESIDENTS ONLY ****

Please read all appointment types before selecting one. If you select the wrong appointment type you may have to reschedule due to time constraints.

Now doing business at SIX locations:

Monticello Govt Center - 100 North Street, Monticello, NY (M-F 9-12, 1-4:30pm)

*****Neversink Town Hall - 273 Main Street, Grahamsville, NY (rotating schedule)*****

Callicoon Town Hall - 19 Legion Street, Jeffersonville, NY (rotating schedule)

Rockland Town Hall - 95 Main Street, Livingston Manor, NY (rotating schedule)

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

Mamakating Town Hall - 2948 US 209, Wurtsboro, NY (rotating schedule)

Customers **MUST** have all forms completed **PRIOR** to arriving for their appointment. You can access forms through the NYS DMV website - dmv.ny.gov

***** IF YOU ARE LATE OR NOT PREPARED YOU WILL BE ASKED TO RESCHEDULE *****

ONLY THE PERSON COMPLETING THE TRANSACTION WILL BE PERMITTED TO ENTER THE DMV

The DMV will continue to take mail-in license renewals with proof of an eye exam and registration renewals to: Sullivan County DMV, 100 North Street, Monticello NY, 12701

For further information please contact us at: 845-794-3872

We reserve the right to cancel multiple appointments or appointments to out of county residents.

Governor Hochul Adds \$12 Million to Program that Helps Consumers Save up to \$2000 when Purchasing Electric Vehicles

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced more than \$12 million added to the Drive Clean Rebate program to help consumers save up to \$2,000 on the purchase of an electric vehicle and \$2.7 million awarded to local governments to purchase electric vehicles and install zero-emission charging/fueling stations for public use to address climate change and build healthier communities. Together, the consumer rebate program and the grants awarded to 49 community-based projects total \$14.7 million to advance the State's efforts to achieve New York's ambitious Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 85 percent by 2050.

"Zero-emission vehicles are one of the most effective ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and boost the electrification of our transportation sector," Governor Hochul said. "Every milestone we reach in transitioning to clean electric vehicles is another step closer to improving air quality in communities, and New York is proud to continue paving the way towards a cleaner, greener future."

For consumers purchasing or leasing an electric vehicle, the Drive Clean Rebate program offers a point-of-sale rebate that reduces upfront costs. Available in all 62 counties of the State, the rebate, administered by the

New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), is offered by car dealers. Rebates ranging from \$500 - \$2,000 are available on more than 60 models of vehicles and consumers receive higher rebates for the purchase or lease of longer range, all-electric vehicles with a base Manufacturer Suggested Retail Price of less than \$42,000.

Mid

The \$2.7 million in grants for the 2021 round of the DEC Municipal Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) program is funded by the State's Environmental Protection Fund and administered by DEC. The 49 awards to 20 municipalities total nearly \$2.5 million to help fund the installation of 200 additional Level 2 charging ports, six additional direct current fast charge (DCFC) pedestals, and two hydrogen fueling nozzles. Additionally, 10 awards totaling \$215,000 were provided to nine municipalities to support the purchase of 32 all-battery electric vehicles for municipal fleet use. Eligible vehicles must have a minimum electric range of 50 miles.

(Contd. Pg. 26)

Governor Hochul Adds \$12 Million to Program that Helps Consumers Save up to \$2000 when Purchasing Electric Vehicles

(From Pg. 25)

Mid-Hudson Recipients of the 2021 ZEV awards are:

City of Yonkers: \$261,842 for 74 Level 2 charging ports

Town of Red Hook: \$153,628 for two fast charge pedestals

Town of Clarkstown: \$89,403 for 10 Level 2 charging ports and \$10,000 toward two battery electric vehicles

City of Kingston: \$73,637 for six Level 2 charging ports

Town of Pound Ridge: \$57,790.60 for 20 Level 2 charging ports

Town of Montgomery: \$51,480 for 10 Level 2 charging ports

Town of Poughkeepsie: \$46,388 for 10 Level 2 charging ports

City of New Rochelle: \$35,000 toward seven battery electric vehicles

Village of Walden: \$22,426 for two Level 2 charging ports

Town of Fishkill: \$7,500 toward one battery electric vehicle

Village of Hastings-on-Hudson: \$7,500 toward one battery electric vehicle

Village of Ossining: \$5,000 toward one battery electric vehicle

Since its inception in 2016, the DEC Municipal ZEV Program has awarded more than \$7.5 million towards the purchase of 144 plug-in hybrid vehicles, 106 all-electric vehicles, 622 Level 2 charging ports, 16 fast charge pedestals, and three hydrogen fueling nozzles. For more information, visit <https://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/109181.html#ZEV>.

As announced in Governor Hochul's 2022 State of the State Agenda on Jan. 5, New York will accelerate the adoption of electric zero-emissions vehicles with a proposed \$1 billion investment to support electric vehicle adoption and infrastructure, electrifying the State fleet by 2035, achieving 100 percent electric school buses by 2035, and transforming Hunts Point into a Clean Distribution Hub.

The New York Power Authority has now installed 90 high-speed charging stations in its cross-state Evolve NY network, which is bringing high-speed open access charging to key locations along primary travel corridors and in urban areas to encourage the adoption of EVs.

To further support the decarbonization of the transportation sector, New York State has already implemented several key programs to accelerate the transition to zero-emission vehicles. In September, Governor Hochul signed legislation setting a goal for all new passenger cars and trucks sold in New York State to be zero-emissions by 2035. Governor Hochul also recently announced DEC's finalization of the Advanced Clean Truck Rule that will phase in the sales and use of zero-emission trucks and will reduce their harmful pollutants, which disproportionately impact the health and well-being of disadvantaged communities.

DROP BOX NOW

AVAILABLE AT NEVERSINK TOWN HALL

A drop box has been installed in the front of the Town Hall. It is to the left of the door, under the window. Please feel free to use this box for tax payments, dog license renewals and any other Town Clerk business.

**PLEASE DO NOT PUT CASH
IN THE DROP BOX.**

Olive Free Library

HUDSON

BEEKEEPERS
SUPPORT
GROUP



NO MEETING
IN JANUARY!

Olive Free Library

GUEVARA & ZHELEZOVA
PIANO DUO

*Reconnecting:
Fantasies & Dances*

ONE PIANO FOUR HANDS

Thursday, April 28
at 7:00 p.m.

Rescheduled!

SUGGESTED
DONATION: \$12

DEC and Partners Launch Adirondack Moose Research Project Data Collected from GPS Collars will Guide Research on Moose Population Health, Mortality, and Dispersal

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) today announced the start of a new moose research project in the Adirondack region.

This winter, 14 moose were fitted with GPS collars as part of a multi-year project assessing moose health and population. To safely capture, collar, and monitor these animals, DEC partnered with researchers at the New York Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit and the College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University, the State University of New York



College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY ESF), and Native Range Capture Services.

"New York's storied moose population, which began its recovery in the 1980s, is a critical part of our state's biodiversity," Commissioner Seggos said. "DEC's new research partnership will collect valuable data to help us better understand these fascinating animals and guide management for moose in the Adirondacks and across their range."

Additional moose will be equipped with GPS collars in years to come, which will provide location data and information on moose activity patterns, movements, and mortality. Data collected as part of this research effort will contribute directly to the continued management of moose in New York.

Previous moose research in the Adirondacks has helped researchers better understand adult moose survival and reproduction, but little is known about calf survival and dispersal in New York. By collaring calves and monitoring their survival to adulthood, biologists will be able to investigate factors limiting moose population growth such as the effects of parasites on juvenile moose survival. These parasites, including winter ticks, brain worm, and giant liver fluke, and their associated diseases have increasingly become a management concern in the northeast and elsewhere. For example, winter tick infestations can be a major cause of moose mortality, particularly with calves.

"The moose population in New York is at the southern edge of their range in the United States and has not grown as expected since moose recolonized the State in the 1980s," said Angela Fuller, Cornell University Professor and U.S.G.S. New York Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit Leader. "We have a fantastic collaborative research team focused on unraveling

the complex factors that could be limiting moose population growth. Information from the GPS collared moose calves, paired with data collected on parasites and predators of calves will allow us to better understand threats to survival and moose health."

"Moose health is a critical issue across many moose populations, including the Adirondacks," said Krysten Schuler, Wildlife Disease Ecologist and Co-Director of the Cornell Wildlife Health Lab. "Through previous work, we identified emerging health issues and are now excited to test hypotheses about the influence of parasites on juvenile moose survival."

The research is funded by a Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration grant through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. These funds are collected through federal excise taxes on firearms, ammunition, and archery equipment, and then apportioned to states for wildlife conservation.

The project also includes sampling white-tailed deer pellets and water sources to detect and better understand the prevalence and distribution of brain worm and giant liver fluke across the landscape. Larvae from these parasites are found in deer scat, where they are picked up by snails and then incidentally consumed by moose as they forage on plants. Biologists also deployed trail cameras this past fall to determine range overlap between deer and moose, and monitor hair loss on moose infested with winter ticks.

For additional information about moose biology, current research, or to report moose sightings, visit DEC's website at: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/6964.html>



Town of Neversink Parks & Rec ICE RINK HOURS

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday	7pm-9pm
Saturday	1pm-3pm
	&
	7pm-9pm
Sunday	1pm-5pm

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

UC Executive Pat Ryan Announces Seven New Key Appointments to his Administration

Ulster County is attracting diverse, talented leaders to serve in critical roles in County Government

“For the past two years, we have managed the pandemic while developing innovative policy around mental health, housing, equitable economic initiatives, and more,” County Executive Pat Ryan said. “Ulster County is a phenomenal place to work, and we continue to attract diverse, talented, and experienced individuals to serve in critical roles in County Government. These proven, dedicated leaders will help us go even further in delivering results for Ulster County residents. I am proud to have them as members of my administration and of Team Ulster County.”

Johanna Contreras has been appointed Deputy County Executive. Contreras previously worked in the Office of Management and Budget in New York City since 2013, most recently serving as the Assistant Director for Education. She holds a Master of Science in Urban Policy Analysis from the Milano School of Policy, Management, and Environment at The New School and earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Nicholas Hvozda has been appointed Director of the Department of the Environment. Hvozda previously worked as the Deputy Director of the Department of the Environment since 2017 and served in the United States Navy as a pilot and staff officer for nearly a decade. He holds a MBA in Sustainability from Bard College, is a Certified Energy Manager and earned his undergraduate degree from the United States Naval Academy. His appointment is pending confirmation from the Ulster County Legislature.

Kenneth Juras has been appointed Director of Budget and Innovation. Juras previously worked at SUNY Ulster as the Dean for Administration - Operations and Human Resource Management since 2019. Prior he worked in the Ulster County Department of Finance serving in the roles of Deputy Budget Director and Deputy Commissioner of Finance. He holds a Master of Public Administration from the University at Albany, Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy and earned his undergraduate degree from Marist College.

Christopher Kelly has been appointed Deputy County Executive. Kelly previously worked for Ulster County as both the Deputy Budget Director and the Deputy Commissioner of Finance. Prior he worked in the New York State Bridge Authority where he held the positions of Director of Electronic Toll Systems, Deputy Chief of Staff and Chief of Staff. He holds a Masters Degree in Public Administration from Marist College and earned his undergraduate degree from Siena College.

Laura Nordstrom has been appointed Director of Research and Operations. Nordstrom previously worked for the town of

Hyde Park as a Legislative Aide, the office of Assemblymember Kevin Cahill as a District Office Representative, and at the YMCA of Kingston as the Youth Development Director. She is pursuing a Masters in Public Administration from Marist College and earned her undergraduate degree from SUNY New Paltz.

Kayleen Scali has been appointed Assistant Deputy County Executive. Scali obtained her Business Administration degree from SUNY and thereafter traveled to Italy where she worked for several years as a teacher. Upon returning to Ulster County, Scali's success as Marketing Manager for the Emerson Resort & Spa resulted in her recruitment by the Director of the Ulster County Department of Economic Development as Confidential Secretary. For the past 2.5 years, Scali has worked alongside the County Executive as his Director of Research and Operations, Confidential Secretary, and most recently as the County Executive's trusted Chief of Staff.

Sharon Williams has been appointed Director of Office of Employment and Training. Williams previously worked as the Hudson Valley Director of the Adoptive and Foster Family Coalition of New York and previously served as the Executive Director of Big Brother Big Sisters of Orange County. She holds a Juris Doctorate from Brooklyn Law School, a Masters Degree in Non-Profit Management from the Graduate School of Management and Urban Policy New School University, and received her undergraduate degree from Pace University. Her appointment is pending confirmation from the Ulster County Legislature.

Attorney General James Provides Guidance to New Yorkers Following Expiration of Eviction Moratorium

NEW YORK - New York Attorney General Letitia James today issued guidance to remind New Yorkers of the various rights and protections for residents following the expiration of New York's eviction moratorium on January 15, 2022. Though landlords are now able to start new eviction cases, proceed with existing cases, and issue eviction warrants against some tenants, New Yorkers still have some protections under state laws and access to rental assistance programs to help keep them from losing their homes as the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic continues.

“As New Yorkers continue to struggle with the economic fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is imperative that individuals are aware of their rights so they aren't left out in the cold,” said Attorney General James. “Although our state's eviction moratorium may have ended, the guidance we are issuing today highlights the various measures that are still in place for New Yorkers to prevent eviction and stay in their homes. My office remains committed to protecting New Yorkers, and we will continue to do everything we can to ensure the safety and wellbeing of New York residents.”

New York state's eviction moratorium previously stopped landlords from filing new eviction cases and proceeding with pending cases through January 15, 2022 for tenants who signed a hardship declaration. While the moratorium has elapsed, New York state residents can still apply to have their rent arrears paid by the state under the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP). (Contd. Pg. 29)

Attorney General James Provides Guidance to New Yorkers Following Expiration of Eviction Moratorium

(From Pg. 28) Residents of Rochester and Monroe County, Yonkers, Onondaga County, and the towns of Hempstead, Islip, and Oyster Bay, must apply for emergency rental assistance through their local programs. For more information, including where to file an online application and to find out where funds are still available, New Yorkers are encouraged to visit ERAP's website.

In her continued efforts to protect New Yorkers and their rights, Attorney General James highlights the following information regarding New York's eviction protections as of January 16, 2022:

There is no automatic stay of eviction effective under New York state law at this time. Tenants whose cases were stayed because they had filed a hardship declaration should check with the court to find out the status.

New eviction cases can be filed without the landlord being required to provide the tenant a state hardship declaration form. Eviction cases that were previously stayed when tenants filed a New York state hardship declaration form can now proceed in court, unless an ERAP application is still pending.

Eviction proceedings where a petitioner-landlord or respondent-tenant has applied for rent arrears assistance under ERAP will be stayed until a final determination is made on their application by the New York Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance. Landlords who have received emergency rental assistance on behalf of a respondent-tenant must submit notice to the court where the eviction proceeding is pending.

Under the terms of New York's Tenant Safe Harbor Act, tenants who were sued in a summary proceeding under Article 7 of the Real Property Actions and Proceedings Law (RPAPL) for rent arrears accrued from March 7, 2020 through January 15, 2022 may be able to prevent eviction if they suffered financial loss due to COVID-19.

Landlords may not charge late fees for rent that was due from March 20, 2020 through June 24, 2021 and may not seek these fees in an eviction proceeding.

Eviction cases that were filed before March 17, 2020 will be allowed to proceed only after the tenant is notified to attend a conference initiated by the court. This applies to all stages of a case, even if a judgment and/or eviction warrant has been issued. **Attorney General James also highlights other tenant protections under New York law, including:**

Landlords must serve written late notices and a 14-day written rent demand before starting any nonpayment eviction case in court. Landlords must also serve notice and bring a court proceeding against tenants whose leases or rental agreements have expired (without a right to renewal).

If a tenant pays the full amount in rent before the hearing date on the nonpayment petition, the landlord must accept payment and the proceeding must be dismissed.

Courts have the discretion, for good cause, to stay or vacate a warrant, stay re-letting or renovation of a premise for a reasonable period of time, and restore tenants to possession. Courts also have the discretion to grant an occupant a stay of up to one year by taking into consideration factors such as serious illnesses and extenuating life circumstances.

It is illegal for landlords to harass or force tenants into vacating their apartments by denying or interrupting essential services or taking other actions interfering with the use of their dwelling. This conduct may constitute illegal eviction under law.

Landlords may not take self-help action to remove a lawful occupant who has lived in their dwelling for 30 consecutive days

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Every day
of the week
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or
(914) 672-3952

Please call for availability first

or more, without a court process.

Lastly, Attorney General James provides the following resources for tenants who are facing eviction:

To find an attorney in New York City, please contact The Right to Counsel hotline at 718-557-1379. Those outside of New York City can seek a legal referral through LawHelpNY's website.

The New York state court system's "Coronavirus Hotline" can be reached at 833-503-0447.

Anyone who is outside New York City can visit the New York state courts' website to find information on how to answer a petition. In addition, people are also encouraged to contact their local city, village, or district court to find information on how to answer a petition through the court's directory online.

Individuals in New York City can also contact Housing Court Answers for help by calling 212-962-4795. Additionally, people can also call the Civil Court's Housing Court Help Center depending on their location:

For the Bronx and Manhattan: 646-386-5554 or 5555.

For Brooklyn, Queens, and Staten Island: 718-262-7185 or 7186.

Statement from NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner Basil Seggos

Regarding his support of H.R. 4677 and its consideration before the Subcommittee on Waters, Oceans and Wildlife, United States House of Representatives

The New York/New Jersey Watershed Protection Act will provide critical federal support to strengthen and expand ongoing restoration and protection activities in the historic Hudson-Mohawk watershed. This important piece of legislation complements New York's ongoing efforts to combat climate change, with a particular focus on protecting communities that have historically borne the brunt of environmental pollution. I commend Congressman Tonko for his leadership and I am proud to support him in advocating for federal investments to improve water quality, restore ecosystems, and enhance flood resiliency across the Hudson-Mohawk Region and safeguard this national treasure.

View the testimony (PDF).

https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/administration_pdf/hr4667support01202022.pdf

UC NOW TRENDING...

January February 2022

Jan. 1-Dec. 31 2022 Catskills Fire Tower Challenge: Experienced hikers are encouraged to visit the region's six fire towers. Hike to all six Catskill Fire Towers between January 1 and December 31, 2022. Fill out the log of completed hikes along with one favorite photo. Download the Catskills Fire Tower Challenge log (PDF) and email it to catskillschallenge@dec.ny.gov or mail to New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Outdoor Recreation, 625 Broadway, Albany, New York 12233-1010. Entries must be postmarked by January 7, 2023. Limit one entry per person. Participants will receive a commemorative patch and will be entered to win great outdoor prizes including hiking accessories. Catskills Visitor Center, 5096 Route 28, Mt. Tremper. 845-688-3369; catskillsvisitorcenter.org

Jan. 30 Kingston Winter Farmers' Market: Indoors for winter. Locally-grown and crafted products. Vegetables and fruits, meats, dairy, wine and spirits, body care products and more. Feb. dates: 13 & 27. Senate Garage, 4 N. Front Street, Kingston; kingstonfarmersmarket.

Jan. Feb. 4 Saugerties First Friday: Every month in the village of Saugerties, businesses stay open late and offer special activities and discounts to visitors. 5-8 p.m. Partition, Market and Main streets, Saugerties; facebook.com/saugertiesscene

Jan. 22 Volunteer Fireman's Hall & Museum: Known locally as "a little gem of a museum." Open 10 a.m.-2 p.m. every other Saturday; weather permitting. Free. Feb. dates: 5 & 19. 265 Fair St., Kingston.

kingstonvolunteerfiremensmuseum.weebly.com

Jan. 27 Hand Knitting Chunky Blanket Sip and Craft at Magnanini Winery: Learn to hand-knit chunky blanket. Includes one free glass of Magnanini wine. An experienced artist will help you as much or as little as you want. Wine, beer and soft drinks will be available for additional purchase. Small bites can be purchased in the Tasting Room. Limited quantities. Seats are limited; please book ahead. Starts at 6:30 sharp. \$60. 172 Strawridge Road., Wallkill. 845-895-2767; facebook.com/magnaniniwinery

Jan. 28, 29 The Students of Rock Academy Present PRINCE! 7 p.m. Tickets available through a Rock Academy student and at the door. "Songwriter, producer, actor/director, multi-instrumentalist Prince was one of the greatest and prolific musicians of all time...." Director, Adrien Reju. Woodstock Playhouse, 103 Mill Hill Road, Woodstock. 845-679-6900; woodstockplayhouse.org

Feb. 5 Black History Month Kingston Kick-Off Event: 3-7 p.m. YMCA of Kingston & Ulster County, 507 Broadway, Kingston.

Feb. 5-July 17 The Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art at SUNY New Paltz - "Mary Frank: The Observing Heart:" A retrospective exhibition of Mary Frank's powerful artwork that spans her career of more than six decades. Centered on the twin themes of social justice and the preservation of the natural world. "Museum hours: Wednesday-Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Anderson Gallery and Howard Greenberg Family Gallery, 1 Hawk Drive, New Paltz. 845-257-3844; newpaltz.edu/museum

Feb. 6 Hans Karl Breslauer's "City Without Jews:" Conceived as a dark satire, 'City Without Jews' is based on the book by Hugo Bettauer. Silent film (1924) with live accompaniment by Marta Waterman. 2 p.m. The Rosendale Theatre, 408 Main Street, Rosendale. 845-658-8989; rosendaletheatre.org

Feb. 6 Esopus Fire Department Breakfast: 8:30-11:30 a.m. Cost: donations requested. Pancakes, French toast, sausage, bacon, scrambled eggs, home fries. Coffee, O.J., tea. The Esopus Fire House, 1142 Broadway, Esopus. 845-384-6575; Facebook: Espopusfire

Feb. 8 Watergrasshill Workshops: Hands-On Cooking Class: One Pot Wonders-These one pot meals will become your weeknight dinner

favorites. 6-8:30 p.m. 105 Phillies Bridge Road, New Paltz. 845-419-2661; watergrasshillny.com

Feb. 9 Inaugural Ulster County Black Business Achievement Awards and Mixer: In recognition of Black History Month, the Ulster Chamber, in partnership with Ulster County Tourism, is hosting this inaugural event. 5-8 p.m. Complimentary refreshments provided by several Black-owned Ulster County restaurants and caterers. Public is invited to attend. Admission is free; space is limited. Advance registration is recommended. Ulster Savings Bank, 180 Schwenk Drive, Kingston. 845-338-5200; business.ulsterchamber.org DATE January and February 2022 Calendar of Events

Feb. 18-21 Presidents Day Weekend: With our cross-country ski trails, ice skating rink, snow tube run, and snowshoe trails (weather permitting) your family will experience an idyllic winter weekend. Ice fishing on Lake Cole, broomball on Reflection Pond, and guided nature hikes to High Falls and other scenic vistas. Indoors: climbing gym, archery range or arts and crafts programs. Snow tubes, snowshoes, and cross-country skis are provided. Frost Valley YMCA, 2000 Frost Valley Road, Claryville. 845-985-2291 x450; frostvalley.org

Feb. 19 Sojourner Truth Life Walk 2022: 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sponsored by Black History Month Kingston. Details forthcoming. This event is produced by My Kingston Kids. Contact Frank Waters: fwaters@mykingstonkids.com blackhistory-monthkingston.org

Feb. 19, 20 Hot Chocolate Holiday at Nancy's Artisanal Creamery: Artisanal ice cream/coffee shop and café with homemade ice cream, decadent coffee drinks and pastries. Vegan options, pies and cakes too. Enjoy hot chocolate creations, hot chocolate bombs, Italian hot chocolate and more. (closed December 20-Jan 6.) 297 Tinker Street. 845-684-5329; nancysartisanal.com

Feb. 25 "Akeelah and the Bee:" Film. A girl strives to become a spelling champ. 7:30 p.m. Ulster Performing Arts Center (UPAC), 601 Broadway, Kingston. 845-339-6088; bardavon.org

Feb. 26 25th Annual Chili Bowl Fest: Women's Studio Workshop in Rosendale upcoming annual Chili Bowl Fest, a fundraiser which is scheduled to take place online and in-person in the dining hall at SUNY Ulster, 91 Cottekill Road, Stone Ridge. 845-658-9133; wsworkshop.org

Feb. 26 Bearsville Theater Presents comedian Pete Correale: Pete Correale is a professional stand-up comedian originally from New York. His comedy is reflective of his life and the experiences he's been through. Being married for almost twenty years and having a young daughter, Pete's never at a loss for material. 291 Tinker Street, Woodstock. 845-684-7133; bearsvilletheater.com

Feb. 26 Fifth Annual Black History Month Kingston Gala: Celebrate and pay tribute to the African-American heritage of the Kingston area. Enjoy dancing, networking, food and a special performance. Featuring musical performances, a wonderful dinner and this year's incredible honorees. Auction. Theme: "Coming To America." We ask that you consider arriving in African garb or accessory. From \$125. Diamond Mills Hotel, 25 South Partition Street, Saugerties. 845-853-0524; harambeekingstonny.org

Gillibrand, Colleagues Call on Biden Administration to Mobilize COVID Assistance to New York

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Amidst a surge of COVID hospitalizations and deaths in New York, U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand joined 12 of her colleagues in writing a letter to President Biden urging the administration to provide more COVID rapid testing kits for New York State. The letter calls on the administration to provide adequate rapid testing supplies to slow the spread of COVID-19 and emphasizes the need to ensure that tests are free and available to all those who need them.

"We are writing to respectfully ask that your Administration provide the necessary COVID-19 rapid test kits to help our state battle this latest surge in COVID-19 cases and provide guidance that ensures school communities are safe," wrote the lawmakers. "The need for COVID-19 rapid test kits in New York is palpable. Rapid COVID-19 tests provide New Yorkers not only with the ability to test in the comfort of their own home, but also help alleviate the hours-long lines seen at brick and mortar and mobile testing sites since late December. Without an adequate supply of COVID-19 rapid test kits, our efforts to limit the spread of the virus are compromised and all but ensure continued surges and loss. We further emphasize the need to ensure at-home tests are made available free of charge to remove barriers that may otherwise prevent people from receiving the care they need and keeping our communities healthy and safe."

The letter was also signed by Representatives Jamaal Bowman (NY-16), Grace Meng (NY-06), Brian Higgins (NY-26), Sean Patrick Maloney (NY-18), Jerrold Nadler (NY-10), Thomas R. Suozzi (NY-03), Carolyn B. Maloney (NY-12), Nydia M. Velázquez (NY-07), Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (NY-14), Adriano Espaillat (NY-13), Gregory Meeks (NY-05), and Mondaire Jones (NY-17).

The full text of the letter can be found [below](#):

Dear President Biden,

Thank you for your continued leadership to meaningfully address the COVID-19 pandemic. Your Administration's announcement to purchase an additional 500 million COVID-19 tests to distribute to Americans for free comes at a dire time where it is clear the pandemic is not behind us. We are writing to respectfully ask that your Administration provide the necessary COVID-19 rapid test kits to help our state battle this latest surge in COVID-19 cases and provide guidance that ensures school communities are safe.

The toll of COVID-19 is far-reaching in our state where we have lost more than 62,000 New Yorkers, the COVID-19 positivity rate is 18 percent, and the number of children hospitalized due to COVID-19 rose from 85 at the start of December to 571 in early January. With the rapid spread of the virus comes increased demand for COVID-19 testing. At-home COVID-19 testing kits have also become scarce at pharmacies, forcing New Yorkers to wait in long lines at testing sites.

The need for COVID-19 rapid test kits in New York is palpable. Rapid COVID-19 tests provide New Yorkers not only with the ability to test in the comfort of their own home, but also help alleviate the hours-long lines seen at brick and mortar and mobile testing sites since late December. Without an adequate supply of COVID-19 rapid test kits, our efforts to limit the spread of the virus are compromised and all but ensure continued surges and loss. We further emphasize the need to ensure at-home tests are made available free of charge to remove barriers that may otherwise prevent people from receiving the care they need and keeping our communities healthy and safe. Additionally, we support providing COVID-19 rapid test kits that are accompanied with translations and other supporting information for accurate use which will help ensure New York schools can open safely. For our school communities to be healthy and safe for everyone, we further encour-

Please Wear
a Face Mask



Help Stop the Spread

Why wear a mask?

Out of respect.

When you wear a mask you are saying,
I respect my neighbors.

When you wear a mask you are saying,
I respect nurses and doctors.

When you wear a mask you are saying,
I respect other people.

We all need to show respect to one another
in difficult times.

Wearing a face covering is a small inconvenience to protect others. We have gotten through this crisis by standing together and doing the right thing. The right thing - the respectful thing - is to wear a mask.

age your administration to issue guidance that complements rapid test kits such that when a student tests positive for COVID-19, it is always communicated to the school and that the student quarantines at home. At this time, testing of our students is limited and we need to make every effort to prioritize and protect the health and well-being of everyone who is a part of our school communities. We appreciate your Administration's commitment to increase the number of COVID-19 rapid test kits available to schools by 10 million per month. Building on your successes in the fight against the virus, everyone who calls New York home must have access to a sufficient number of COVID-19 rapid tests to meet the demands of the Omicron surge.

Thank you again for your leadership to address the COVID-19 pandemic. We look forward to continuing to work with you to defeat this virus.

Governor Hochul Announces Award of More than \$3.7 Million to Support Addiction Prevention Services Across NYS

Funding Will Support Prevention Providers Impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic and Allow them to Expand Evidence-Based Practices

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced the award of more than \$3.7 million to expand evidence-based addiction prevention services throughout New York State. Funding was awarded to providers in each of New York State's ten economic development regions and will support prevention providers who had their services negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS) is administering this funding.

"Like many New Yorkers, my family has been affected by addiction," Governor Hochul said. "Expanding support services for those dealing with addiction is as vital as ever as we battle the opioid crisis. We will continue to work with local partners to boost preventative measures and treatment to help set New Yorkers on the path to recovery."

OASAS Commissioner Chinazo Cunningham said, "Prevention is an important pillar of the OASAS continuum of care, and during the COVID-19 pandemic our prevention providers have faced unprecedented challenges in delivering their services. Providers awarded funding through this initiative have the opportunity to greatly increase their prevention infrastructure, and make the changes that they need to continue to provide these lifesaving services in the communities they serve."

Throughout the pandemic, many providers have had to pivot from in-person services to using remote and virtual services, which presented challenges in continuing to reach individuals and communities in need. Providers can use these awards either as start-up funding to create new services, or to support continued delivery of existing services and update programs. It can also be used to upgrade IT systems and videoconferencing platforms.

Senator Peter Hareckham said, "Providing increased state funding aimed at prevention programs for residents with Substance Use Disorder will save lives. More resources in the fight against the overdose epidemic will allow providers and advocates to continue work on reducing easy access to substances and empowering communities through education and risk perception on substance use. Once again, I commend Governor Hochul for her tireless work in safeguarding our residents and ensuring that important public health initiatives like this are properly funded."

Assemblymember Phil Steck said, "The introduction of telehealth and video-conferencing has allowed for those in substance use treatment during COVID-19 to still receive outpatient services

for both substance use and mental health disorders, as well as provide prevention services. However, it is well-known that both private and public organizations in this arena are woefully underfunded. This funding will allow these awardees to expand their services beyond just those individuals onsite. I am very pleased that this award went specifically to "evidence-based" addiction prevention services, and to see that many Capital Region organizations are in receipt of these funds."

Mid-Hudson award recipients are listed below. All eligible providers who applied were awarded funding.

Council on Addiction Prevention and Education of Dutchess County, Inc.: \$29,965
Catholic Charities of Orange, Sullivan & Ulster: \$34,285
Warwick Community Bandwagon, Inc.: \$43,874
The Prevention Council of Putnam: \$63,000
Community Awareness Network For A Drug-Free Life And Environment, Inc. (CANDLE): \$33,700
Rockland Council on Alcoholism & Other Drug Dependence (RCADD): \$58,720 (Contd. Pg. 33)

**BECOME
SOMEONE'S
Angel**

Donate a little of your time and have a direct impact on someone's path to recovery!

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not HANDCUFFS
www.hopenothandcuffshv.com

Governor Hochul Announces Award of More than \$3.7 Million to Support Addiction Prevention Services Across NYS

(From Pg. 32)

Village of Haverstraw Drug Abuse Prevention Council: \$45,000

Family Services, Inc.: \$9,833

City of White Plains Youth Bureau: \$34,907

Harrison Youth Council, Inc.: \$40,000

Student Assistance Services Corporation: \$63,398

Over the past several years, New York State has instituted an aggressive, multi-pronged approach to addressing the overdose epidemic, and created a nation-leading continuum of addiction care with full prevention, treatment, and recovery services. To combat this epidemic, the state has worked to expand access to traditional services, including crisis services, inpatient, outpatient, and residential treatment programs, as well as medication assisted treatment, and mobile treatment and transportation services.

Governor Hochul was a member of the NYS Heroin and Opioid Task Force, which in 2016, recommended new, non-traditional services, including recovery centers, youth clubhouses, expanded peer services, and open access centers, which provide immediate assessments and referrals to care. These services have since been established in numerous communities around the state and have helped people in need access care closer to where they live.

New Yorkers struggling with an addiction, or whose loved ones are struggling, can find help and hope by calling the state's toll-free, 24-hour, 7-day-a-week HOPEline at 1-877-8-HOPENY (1-877-846-7369) or by texting HOPENY (Short Code 467369).

Available addiction treatment including crisis/detox, inpatient, residential, or outpatient care can be found using the NYS OASAS Treatment Availability Dashboard at FindAddictionTreatment.ny.gov or through the NYS OASAS website.

If you, or a loved one, have experienced insurance obstacles related to treatment or need help filing an appeal for a denied claim, contact the CHAMP helpline by phone at 888-614-5400 or email at ombuds@oasas.ny.gov.

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**Full payout and a progressive jackpot with weekly door prizes
• Food is also available in the Bingo kitchen**

The Lodge supports local veterans, scouts, Little League and the Homeless Federation, as well as providing coats and gloves to elementary school children.

For information, contact Bingo Chair and Past Exalted Ruler Ronni Scannell at (845) 701-0695.



VET 2 VET

Vet 2 Vet is a peer networking program for veterans, by Veterans in Sullivan County. Vet 2 Vet offers Veterans an opportunity to participate in programs and a safe, anonymous, and non-judgmental environment. We also offer advocacy and assistance with navigating the VA System and other services.

CORE SERVICES PROVIDED:

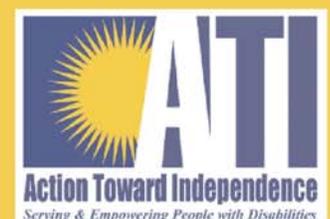
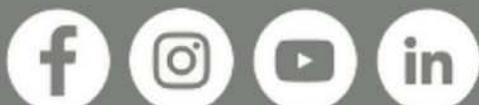
- Veteran Peer Support
- Peer Counseling
- Advocacy
- Financial Literacy
- Benefit Advisement
- Mental Health Support

For more information contact:

Ryan Fuller at (845) 794-4228

Kevin Coates at (845) 794-4228

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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)

FALLSBURG CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT PRESENTS

ICE SKATING WINTER EVENT

SKATES INCLUDED

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2022
11:00AM TO 4:00PM

FOOD MUSIC DRINKS

FOOD TRUCK

Gluten Free Arepas- Choice of Filling and Sauce
Free

-OR- Loaded Nachos - Choice of Filling and Sauce
Free

SUB SANDWICHES
HOT CHOCOLATE
DRINKS



PRIZES/RAFFLES

BIKE RAFFLE

NEW WINTER COATS/HATS

SNOWSHOEING NATURE WALK

AND MUCH MORE!!!!

ICE ARENA LOCATION:

Benjamin Cosor Elementary School
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Fallsburg, NY 12733
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ALL SMALL CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

ALL FREE!!!

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Gillibrand, Colleagues Urge President Biden, Federal Officials to Purchase and Distribute Made-in-America Masks

Purchasing American-Made Masks Would Support Domestic Manufacturing, Protect Domestic Supply Chains, And Create And Save American Jobs

WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand joined her colleagues in writing letters to President Biden and other top federal officials urging them to prioritize the purchase of American-made masks in order to support domestic manufacturing and reduce dependence on foreign-made PPE. As the Biden administration begins to distribute millions of masks at no cost to Americans, the letter calls on the administration to ensure that future purchases prioritize masks made in the U.S. with U.S. materials. The senators also called on federal officials to ensure that masks distributed to congressional staffers are American-made.

“Purchasing NIOSH approved N95 respirators and other high-quality masks, such as FDA-authorized surgical masks, made by American workers here in the U.S. advances our shared goals for supporting domestic manufacturing and ensuring a more reliable, consistent supply chain for these essential products,” wrote the senators. “Doing so not only helps to prevent further loss of life, keep our kids in school, and ensure our economy remains open, but it will also ensure that the United States maintains a robust PPE manufacturing capacity so that we are never again in a situation where we must be dependent on foreign-made products, like we were in the early days of the pandemic.”

The letter to President Biden was also signed by Senators Sherrod Brown (D-OH), Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), Tammy Duckworth (D-IL), Tim Kaine (D-VA), Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI), Richard Blumenthal (D-CT), Ron Wyden (D-OR), Ed Markey (D-MA), Jon Tester (D-MT), Alex Padilla (D-CA), Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV), Jeff Merkley (D-OR), Elizabeth Warren (D-MA), Tina Smith (D-MN), Chris Murphy (D-CT), Bob Casey (D-PA), Debbie Stabenow (D-MI), Jack Reed (D-RI), Gary Peters (D-MI), and Dianne Feinstein (D-CA).

The letter to the Architect of the Capitol was also signed by Senators Sherrod Brown (D-OH), Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), Tammy Duckworth (D-IL), Tim Kaine (D-VA), Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI), Richard Blumenthal (D-CT), Ron Wyden (D-OR), Ed Markey (D-MA), Alex Padilla (D-CA), Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV), Jeff Merkley (D-OR), Elizabeth Warren (D-MA), Tina Smith (D-MN), and Chris Murphy (D-CT).

The full text of the letter to President Biden can be below:

Dear President Biden:

We are encouraged by your commitment to make “high-quality masks” available to Americans at no-cost, starting as early as next week with an initial distribution of adult masks from the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS). As your Administration enters into contracts to replenish the SNS and purchase additional masks to distribute to adults and children across the country, we strongly urge you to take clear steps that prioritize long-term contracts for the purchase of masks made by American workers in the U.S. with U.S. materials. American taxpayer dollars should support high-quality products made in America by American workers. Period.

As you know, American companies have stepped up throughout the past two years, retooling manufacturing lines to help compensate for supply chain weaknesses and to meet the need for essential products, including N95 respirator masks and other personal protective equipment (PPE). These companies saved American lives. Thanks to the entrepreneurship and patriotism of these U.S. companies and their workers, we now have dozens more manufacturers of N95 respirators and other high-quality masks based here in the United States than we did before the pandemic, when less than 10 percent of N95 respirators were manufactured domestically. The nationwide and global reports of PPE shortages at the beginning of the pandemic underscore the necessity of maintaining domestic PPE production capability.

Despite the urgent need for high-quality, American made products, too many U.S.-based PPE manufacturers are struggling to exist as health systems and other major purchasers of PPE choose to purchase cheaper, lower-quality masks and other supplies from China. In fact, the American Mask Manufacturer's Association estimates that nearly 6,000 of the approximately 8,000 jobs that were created by U.S. mask manufacturers have since disappeared, due to the lack of support that these companies have received due to the continued purchase of foreign made - particularly Chinese-made-products. Regrettably, a key reason this part of the industry was offshored pre-COVID was because price was the predominant factor in purchasing. We must not compromise the health of Americans by making purchases based mainly on lowest cost. Purchasing PPE made by American workers here in the U.S. supports domestic manufacturing and helps ensure a more reliable, consistent supply chain for these essential products. It is imperative that the federal government prioritize domestic manufacturers when purchasing masks and other PPE with taxpayer dollars - not just to support American manufacturers and their workers who are eager to deliver high-quality masks, but to ensure the health and safety of Americans.

Unlike their KN95 competitors, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)-certified American N95 respirator masks must meet rigorous standards and offer excellent protection against COVID-19 transmission. According to a recent article in the Wall Street Journal, it “will take 25 hours for an infectious dose of COVID-19 to transmit between people wearing non-fit-tested N95 respirators. If they're using tightly sealed N95s - where only 1% of particles enter the facepiece - they will have 2,500 hours of protection.” The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued a warning that approximately 60 percent of KN95 respirators in the U.S. are counterfeit, and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has raised quality concerns with healthcare providers about Chinese-made PPE. Recognizing the risk that lower-quality, potentially counterfeit products pose to the health and national security of Americans, Congress acted in December 2021 to prohibit U.S. Department of Defense from purchasing any PPE - including masks - from China (Public Law No. 117-81, sec. 802) or other non-allied nations. Congress also provided \$10 billion in the American Rescue Plan for the federal government to purchase needed medical supplies, including N95 and other FDA-authorized masks. The entire United States government should hold itself to this higher standard that prioritizes American lives and American manufacturers over competition from China.

Purchasing NIOSH approved N95 respirators and other high-quality masks, such as FDA-authorized surgical masks, made by American workers here in the U.S. to fulfill your commitment to distribute hundreds of millions of free, high-quality masks to the American people advances our shared goals for supporting domestic manufacturing and ensuring a more reliable, consistent supply chain for these essential products. (Contd. Pg. 38)

Gillibrand, Colleagues Urge President Biden, Federal Officials to Purchase and Distribute Made-in-America Masks

(From Pg. 37) Doing so not only helps to prevent further loss of life, keep our kids in school, and ensure our economy remains open, but it will also ensure that the United States maintains a robust PPE manufacturing capacity so that we are never again in a situation where we must be dependent on foreign-made products, like we were in the early days of the pandemic. It also supports a healthy, stable supply chain for higher quality products, which offer superior protection against the transmission of COVID-19.

We strongly urge you to prioritize the use of federal taxpayer dollars for the procurement and distribution of domestically made PPE that meets high-quality standards from established, proven, and vetted suppliers in future purchases - including those meant to fulfill your recent commitment to provide American adults and children with access to no-cost high quality masks as well as those to replenish the SNS following this initial distribution of masks.

Thank you for your strong leadership in these challenging times, and for your demonstrated commitment to supporting American businesses and workers.

A copy of the letter to the Architect of the Capitol and the Secretary of the Senate can be found here or below:

Dear Mr. Blanton and Ms. Berry:

We write to share our frustration with the decision to provide members of the U.S. House of Representatives with KN95 masks made in China. We strongly urge you to take clear steps that ensure future mask purchases and orders for other essential products and personal protective equipment (PPE) prioritize products made in the U.S. using U.S. materials made by American workers. American taxpayer dollars should support high-quality products made in America by American workers. Period.

American companies have stepped up throughout the past two years, retooling manufacturing lines to help compensate for supply chain weaknesses and to meet the need for essential products, including N95 respirator masks and other personal protective equipment (PPE). These companies saved American lives. Thanks to the entrepreneurship and patriotism of these U.S. companies and their workers, we now have dozens more manufacturers of N95 respirators and other high-quality masks based here in the United States than we did before the pandemic, when less than 10 percent of N95 respirators were manufactured domestically. The nationwide and global reports of PPE shortages at the beginning of the pandemic underscore the necessity of maintaining domestic PPE production capability.

Despite the urgent need for high-quality, American made products, too many U.S.-based PPE manufacturers are struggling to exist as health systems and other major purchasers of PPE choose to purchase cheaper, lower-quality masks and other supplies from China. In fact, the American Mask Manufacturer's Association estimates that nearly 6,000 of the approximately 8,000 jobs that were created by U.S. mask manufacturers have since disappeared, due to the lack of support that these companies have received due to the continued purchase of foreign made - particularly Chinese-made-products. Regrettably, a key reason this part of the industry was offshored pre-COVID was because price was the predominant factor in purchasing. It is unacceptable that the federal legislative branch - using taxpayer dollars - has chosen to purchase potentially inferior masks from China when we have domestic manufacturers eager to deliver high-quality masks. We must not compromise the health of Americans by making purchases based mainly on lowest cost.

Unlike their KN95 competitors, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)-certified American N95 respirator masks must meet rigorous standards and offer excellent protection against COVID-19 transmission. According to a recent article in the Wall Street Journal, it "will take 25 hours for an infectious dose of COVID-19 to transmit between people wearing non-fit-tested N95 respirators. If they're using tightly sealed N95s - where only 1% of particles enter the facepiece - they will have 2,500 hours of protection." The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued a warning that approximately 60 percent of KN95 respirators in the U.S. are counterfeit, and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has raised quality concerns with healthcare providers about Chinese-made PPE. Recognizing the risk that lower-quality, potentially counterfeit products pose to the health and national security of Americans, Congress acted in December 2021 to prohibit U.S. Department of Defense from purchasing any PPE - including masks - from China (Public Law No. 117-81, sec. 802) or other non-allied nations. Congress also provided \$10 billion in the American Rescue Plan for the federal government to purchase needed medical supplies, including N95 and other FDA-authorized masks. The legislative branch of the United States government should also hold itself to this higher standard that prioritizes American lives and American manufacturers over competition from China.

Purchasing PPE made by American workers here in the U.S. supports domestic manufacturing and helps ensure a more reliable, consistent supply chain for these essential products. It also supports higher quality products, which offer superior protection against the transmission of COVID-19. We strongly urge you to prioritize the use of federal taxpayer dollars for the procurement and distribution of domestically made PPE that meets high quality standards from established, proven, and vetted suppliers in future purchases.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

EDITORIAL:

China Controls Critical Supplies

Alan Dowd documents some problems with China in The American Legion Magazine of December 2020, and I liberally quote from the article.

The COVID 19 pandemic has highlighted the adverse impact on the world attributable to China's domination of the production of medicines, personal protective equipment and other medical supplies. Prior to the pandemic China produced " 35.9 percent of America's antibiotics, 49.8 percent of our medical bandages, 71.7 percent of our facemasks and 77.2 percent of our plastic gloves. During the pandemic China " quietly managed to buy up much of the world's N95 masks.

China, a potential adversary, also controls the production of rare earth elements, which are used in the manufacture of a wide array of products, including " cell phones, televisions, vehicle engines, computers, lasers, industrial magnets, fiber-optics, and superconductors, and they are also used in our military hardware such as " F-35 aircraft and our M1A2 tank. "

A number of friendly countries are working together to move the manufacture of critical supplies and elements away from China to facilities in Australia, Japan, South Korea, India, Europe and Latin America, but the U.S. cannot rely on foreign manufacturers for these critical products. We must speed up our manufacturing of these items in our country.

Donald Moskowitz
Londonderry NH

Governor Hochul Announces \$35 Million in Grants to Help Low and Moderate Income Homeowners Make Critical Repairs, Accessibility Modifications

Funding Awards Will Aid Seniors, Veterans, and Disabled Households; Provide Assistance to First-Time Homebuyers

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced that \$25 million in grant awards have been made to nonprofit organizations and municipalities in every region of New York State to support safe and affordable homeownership. The grants will help low- and moderate-income homeowners make repairs or safety upgrades to their homes and provide down payment assistance for first-time buyers.

"Every New Yorker deserves the dignity and stability of a secure place to live, and this funding will provide much-needed support to affordable and supportive housing services," Governor Kathy Hochul said.

"These grants will go toward small communities all across the state, and they will fund critical programs that provide immediate assistance to New Yorkers in need. We can help build New York to be stronger than ever before by preserving housing, promoting homeownership, and supporting those who are vulnerable."

A total of 66 grants were awarded through state and federally funded programs including: Access to Home, Access to Home for Heroes, Access to Home for Medicaid, Mobile and Manufactured Home Replacement, RESTORE, the NYS Community Development Block Grant Program, and the NYS HOME Local Program. Administered by New York State Homes and Community Renewal's Office of Community Renewal, awards go directly to nonprofit organizations and municipalities to be administered locally and to help create and preserve affordable housing, serve veterans and older New Yorkers, improve and revitalize neighborhoods, and strengthen local economies.

A breakdown of OCR programs and funding awarded is available below. A complete list of awards is available here: <https://hcr.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2022/01/OCRDecember2021Awards.pdf>

Access to Home

The Access to Home program provides financial assistance to make homes accessible for low- and moderate-income persons with disabilities. This assistance with the cost of adapting homes enables individuals to continue living safely and comfortably in their residences or return to live in their residences instead of in an institutional setting.

HCR awarded eight Access to Home grants totaling \$1.3 million that will benefit more than 80 households.

Access to Home for Heroes

The Access to Home for Heroes program provides financial assistance to make homes accessible for low- and moderate-income veterans with disabilities.

HCR awarded four Access to Home for Heroes grants totaling \$1 million that will benefit nearly 60 households.

Access to Home for Medicaid

The Access to Home for Medicaid Recipients program provides financial assistance to make residential units accessible for Medicaid-eligible persons with disabilities.

HCR awarded one \$150,000 Access to Home for Medicaid Recipients grant that will benefit approximately 15 households.

Mobile and Manufactured Home Replacement

The Mobile and Manufactured Home Replacement program assists low- and moderate-income homeowners to replace dilapidated

ed mobile or manufactured homes that are sited on land owned by the homeowner with a new manufactured, modular or site-built home. HCR awarded two MMHR grants totaling \$800,000.

RESTORE

The RESTORE program provides financial resources to assist senior citizen homeowners with the cost of addressing emergencies and code violations that pose a threat to their health and safety or affect the livability of the home. Assistance for the cost of these critical repairs enables seniors to continue to live independently in their homes.

HCR awarded 10 RESTORE grants totaling \$1.4 million that will benefit approximately 166 households.

NYS CDBG Program

New York State CDBG is a federally funded program administered by HCR that helps counties, cities, towns, and villages with projects that improve communities and benefit their residents. The CDBG Housing grants can be used for housing rehabilitation of owner-occupied or renter-occupied homes, down payment assistance for low- and moderate-income first-time homebuyers, and private water/wastewater system assistance for low- and moderate-income homeowners.

HCR awarded 22 CDBG Housing grants totaling \$11.8 million that will benefit nearly 270 households.

NYS HOME Local Program

HCR administers NYS HOME Local Program funds to expand the supply of decent, safe, and affordable housing throughout the state. HOME funds can be used to acquire and/or rehabilitate single-family housing, provide down payment assistance, replace dilapidated mobile and manufactured homes as well as provide tenant based rental assistance to households with incomes at or below 80 percent of Area Median Income.

HCR awarded 19 grants worth \$10 million that will benefit approximately 200 owners or tenants.

HCR Commissioner Ruth Anne Visnaukas said, "Our \$25 million in awards will make a huge difference in the lives of homeowners across the state. By providing these grants directly to the municipalities and nonprofit service providers, we can expand our reach and efficiency, allowing people to make accessibility modifications, address emergency repairs and replace obsolete manufactured homes. This helps ensure that older New Yorkers, disabled adults, veterans and people who are on fixed or limited incomes can remain living safely and securely in the place they call home."

State Senator and Chair of the Senate Housing Committee

Brian Kavanagh said, "I have been proud to support these programs in the State budget and I applaud Governor Kathy Hochul and Commissioner RuthAnne Visnaukas for getting this critical assistance out to New Yorkers across the state. These grants will go a long way toward helping seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities maintain homeownership and make necessary repairs and safety upgrades to their homes. I congratulate the local nonprofit organizations and municipalities that are the recipients of these awards and thank them for their ongoing commitment to creating and preserving affordable housing."

Assemblymember and Chair of the Assembly Housing Committee

Steven Cymbrowitz said, "For so many New Yorkers, homeownership is a dream that falls outside the realm of possibility because of their financial situation and other challenges beyond their control. These grant awards will change and improve lives, helping first-time homebuyers make down payments and also assisting low- and moderate-income New Yorkers in making much-needed home repairs and upgrades. Thank you to Governor Hochul and HCR Commissioner Visnaukas for their ardent support of safe and affordable homeownership."

This Week in Washington Congresswoman Claudia Tenney

Fighting to Hold Big Tech Accountable

This week, I signed Congressman Ken Buck's discharge petition to force a vote on the House Floor on the State Antitrust Enforcement Venue Act. This is an important bill to hold Big Tech companies accountable by giving states more power in the litigation of antitrust cases. It will ensure that Big Tech does not push cases to venues of their choice, thereby tipping the balances of justice in their favor. This is a bipartisan bill that passed out of the House Judiciary Committee last year by a 34-7 vote. This year, it was supported in a letter by 48 state attorneys general, including 24 Republicans and 24 Democrats.

This is a commonsense measure that both Republicans and Democrats can get behind to hold Big Tech giants like Facebook and Twitter accountable. These companies dominate the digital public square and they continue to use their outsized influence to strangle competition and silence diverse viewpoints.

As a member of the House GOP Big Tech Censorship and Data Task Force, I am continuing to lead the fight to protect our First Amendment rights, hold big tech accountable, and safeguard our personal data. Not only have Facebook and Twitter made a habit of censoring conservatives online and harvesting our private data, they've also started playing a partisan role to influence our elections, as I recently exposed. It's time Big Tech plays by the same rules as everyone else, and I am committed to making sure they do.

Introduced the Bipartisan Women's Business Centers Improvement Act

This week I joined with Congresswoman Sharice Davids to introduce the Bipartisan Women's Business Centers Improvement Act. The Women's Business Centers (WBC) program is a national network of entrepreneurship centers that offer low-cost counseling and training to women interested in starting, growing, and expanding small businesses.

As a longtime small business owner, I understand the unique challenges women face in starting and growing small businesses, especially in rural areas. The Women's Business Centers program empowers female entrepreneurs across our communities, helping them cultivate their skills and build their businesses.

This bipartisan bill reauthorizes the WBC program through Fiscal Year 2025 and increases the cap on individual center grants for the first time. This bill not only strengthens the program, it also provides additional oversight and good governance measures to increase its effectiveness and accountability.

Exposing Attempts by Chinese Entities to Target and Silence American Companies

GOP Lawmakers Say Dem Appointees Doing Chinese Spy Firm's Bidding

I joined with U.S. Senator Marco Rubio this week in asking Cheryl Johnson, Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives, and Sonceria Ann Berry, Secretary of the U.S. Senate, to reject efforts by Chinese entities to use their offices to silence American companies. Earlier this year, there were reports that Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company (Hikvision) urged these congressional officers to investigate Internet Protocol Video Market (IPVM) for supposed lobbying disclosure violations. In doing so, Chinese state-controlled Hikvision attempted to exploit congressional processes to silence an American company for its unfavorable reporting about the video surveillance company.

Attempts to use Congressional ethics rules to silence free

speech and dissent must be called out and stopped. Hikvision is a Chinese state-directed surveillance equipment firm and has been shown time and again to be complicit in the Chinese Communist Party's mass detention and surveillance of Uyghur populations. Their cynical effort to intimidate IPVM, an American small business, should not be tolerated. Congress and its officers should not entertain this smear campaign and should be aware that other companies may try to replicate these efforts in the future.

Highlighting Our Local Small Businesses

1.19.22 HSBC Tenney Highlights Local Businesses

In a House Small Business Committee hearing on Wednesday, I took a moment to highlight upstate New York small businesses within the creative economy and to recognize the widespread challenges that so many of our businesses are still facing in the wake of last year's COVID-19 lockdowns. I also recognized our region's deep roots within the arts industry, noting individuals like Dick Clark, who once called our beautiful region home!

Demanding Answers from the Biden Administration About Its Opaque and Overreaching Federal Election Order

• House Republicans Demand Investigation Into Biden's Order To 'Promote Voter Registration'

As co-chair of the House Election Integrity Caucus, I joined with Congressmen Ted Budd, Mike Garcia, and over thirty of our colleagues in a letter to Acting Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Shalanda Young. The letter seeks answers about President Biden's recent unilateral attempt to federalize elections through an Executive Order (EO) that empowers unrelated federal agencies to craft and execute plans related to voting and elections.

Voting is one of our most sacred rights as Americans. Efforts to federalize our elections and empower shady third-party organizations to meddle in the process are not only unconstitutional, but they also diminish the power of the vote and the American people's confidence in our electoral process. The Administration should be transparent about this EO, openly address concerns regarding the role that left-wing activists played in crafting it, and immediately release any formal plans to the American people. The full text of the letter is available [here](#).

Urging Secretary Blinken to Re-List Iran-Backed Houthis as Foreign Terrorist Organization

• Pressure Mounts on Biden Admin To Reapply Sanctions on Iran-Backed Houthis

Yesterday, as a Member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, I led a group of my colleagues in a letter to Secretary of State Antony Blinken again urging him to reconsider the decision to de-list the Houthis as a Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO) and a Specially Designated Global Terrorist (SDGT). The Biden Administration de-listed the Houthis last year. This letter, which follows a similar letter I sent in March 2021, comes on the heels of the deadliest attack on United Arab Emirates soil in recent years by Houthi fighters in the region.

The Houthis continue to de-stabilize the region and reject good-faith efforts to negotiate a peaceful settlement to the conflict there. Unfortunately, the only people who are not paying attention are President Biden and Secretary Blinken. We must be clear-eyed about what's happening in Yemen - the Houthis continue to act like a terrorist organization and engage in terrorist activity. I urge this Administration in the strongest of terms to re-designate the Iran-backed Houthis as an FTO and SDGT before they target more innocent civilians. (Contd. Pg. 41)

This Week in Washington Congresswoman Claudia Tenney

(From Pg. 40) I want to thank all those who joined me in sending this letter, including Michael McCaul, Ranking Member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, as well as Reps. Joe Wilson (SC-2), Scott Perry (PA-10), Darrell Issa (CA-50), Brian Mast (FL-18), Tim Burchett (TN-2), Gregory Steube (FL-17), Ronny Jackson (TX-13), and Maria Elvira Salazar (FL-27).

Standing for Life: A+ Rating from SBA

This week I was honored to receive an A+ rating from the Susan B. Anthony List on their National Pro-Life Scorecard. In Congress, I am committed to supporting pro-life policies, like the Hyde Amendment, which ensures taxpayer dollars are not spent on abortion. Life begins at conception and it is more important than ever that Americans stand together to fight for the lives of the unborn.

My Votes Explained

I'm committed to restoring transparency to government, which is why I explain every vote I take on the House floor. While we may not always agree, you will always know where I stand on the issues and how I vote in Congress.

I voted "Yes" on S. 2959, the Supplemental Impact Aid Flexibility Act. This bipartisan bill will allow schools that disproportionately serve military families, Native American communities, and areas with a high proportion of federal land to have the resources they need to provide for their students. After the upheaval of the past two years, we need commonsense flexibility to allow our children to get back to normal and return to the classroom. This bill passed the House by a vote of 414-6.

I voted "Yes" on S.452, to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Willie O'Ree, in recognition of his extraordinary contributions and commitment to hockey, inclusion, and recreational opportunity. Willie O'Ree was the first black player in the National Hockey League (NHL). He played as a winger for the Boston Bruins in the 1960-61 season. O'Ree is often referred to as the "Jackie Robinson of ice hockey" for breaking the color barrier and opening opportunities for future players and hockey enthusiasts around the world. In 1998, he became the NHL's Director of Youth Development and an ambassador for the NHL Diversity program, allowing him to travel throughout North America to promote grassroots hockey programs and open the sport to disadvantaged children. This legislation passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 426-0.

I voted "No" on H.R. 4673, the EVEST Act. This bill would direct the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to automatically enroll eligible separating service members into the VA health-care system. The VA then would be required to notify veterans of their enrollment status and information on how to disenroll, if they would like. I am firmly committed to ensuring all eligible veterans can easily access quality care through the VA. However, this bill would enroll veterans in the VA care system without their knowledge or consent leading to confusion, administrative burdens, and potential costs and disruptions for veterans. It also could have a significant impact on wait times, funding, staffing, and infrastructure needs. Congress does not yet fully understand its impacts since there has not been a hearing on the bill during the 117th Congress, barring the VA and Members of Congress the opportunity to share input, including on whether the VA could successfully carry out the bill's directive. This bill passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 265-163.



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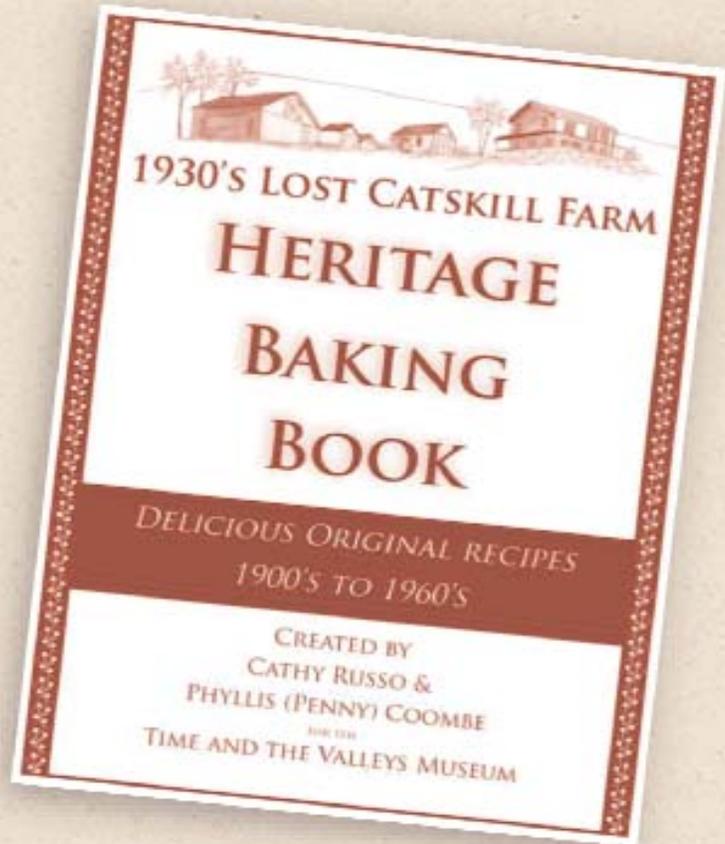
SBA U.S. Small Business Administration

NEW HERITAGE BAKING BOOK JUST IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

The new 68-page
Heritage Baking Book
has tried-and-true old time
treasured recipes for cakes,
muffins, pies, cookies and much
more, all from local bakers of the
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It includes a history of baking and
information and photos of many
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Congressman Delgado Weekly Recap

At the beginning of this week, we celebrated Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. - a personal hero of mine, who was a fierce advocate for equal rights and was committed to leading with love. We honor his legacy by continuing his work to ensure equality and justice for all.

After another week of work, I wanted to give you an update on how I've been serving you.

65 Town Halls Rep. Delgado's FB live

On Tuesday, I held my 65th town hall since taking office in 2019. I held a telephone town hall to answer questions directly from my constituents in New York's 19th district. During the event, I provided an overview of my work in 2021 and outlined my priorities for 2022. I was joined by Dr. Carol Smith, the Ulster County Commissioner of Health and member of my locally based, bipartisan Health Care Advisory Committee.

We heard from members of the community and answered questions about lowering consumer costs, working on a bipartisan basis, combating COVID-19 through vaccines and therapeutics, supporting the workforce, protecting voting rights, and more. Since taking office, I have prioritized transparency and accountability by holding regular town halls, meeting with upstate organizations and constituents, and visiting the communities I represent. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, I have also held virtual town halls and events to connect with constituents and provide critical information.

In case you missed the event, watch the recording on my Facebook Page.

Since 2019, I have had 18 of my bills passed into law, have hosted more than 650 virtual and district events, and now have held 65 town halls. As 2022 begins, learn more about how I've been serving New York's 19th Congressional District with an in-depth overview of the initiatives and legislation I have led.

House passes two Delgado amendments

I am proud to announce that this week, the House passed the Ensuring Veterans' Smooth Transition (EVEST) Act which included two of my amendments to improve communication between the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and veterans in rural communities.

This legislation creates a process to automatically enroll veterans who are eligible into the VA for medical care, with an opportunity to opt out. My first amendment allows the VA Secretary to consider texting as a method to notify veterans about VA services. My second amendment directs the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) to submit a report to Congress determining the best methods for the VA to provide notice of the automatic enrollment in the patient enrollment system.

Introducing Bill to support local law enforcement

I also helped introduce the bipartisan Invest in Law Enforcement Act which creates a new federal grant program for local law enforcement in New York and across the country.

Small, rural police departments need support as they seek to modernize and adapt their practices. This bipartisan effort will make targeted investments to equip local departments with de-escalation and mental health training, body cameras, and other operational improvements. I will keep pushing for commonsense legislation to support the safety and wellbeing of our communities.

Calling for Commonsense measures

This week, I joined two letters calling for commonsense measures to lower costs for families and provide people with supplies they need to stay safe and healthy.

I helped lead a letter with Congressman Krishnamoorthi and

Congresswoman Bordeaux urging Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg and the President's infrastructure team to prioritize bipartisan infrastructure law funding for projects that will immediately address the supply chain crisis. In 2022, I will keep working to stop shortages and lower prices for upstate families and small businesses.

I also joined a bipartisan letter with more than 100 of my colleagues, urging the United States Department of Health and Human Services and Secretary Becerra to guarantee at-home COVID-19 tests for Medicare beneficiaries at no cost. Currently, Medicare does not pay for at-home COVID-19 tests.

Register for upcoming Tax Season q&a
IRS tax season Q&A

Next week, I am hosting a virtual information session on the upcoming tax season. I will be joined by representatives from the IRS to answer your questions. With tax season right around the corner, make sure you have everything you need to file.

Sullivan County COVID-19 Test kit & mask distribution event

Monday, January 24th at 11:30 a.m., I will be joining Sullivan County officials to help distribute COVID-19 at-home test kits and masks to upstate New Yorkers. Monday's event will be the first of multiple distribution events across different counties in New York's 19th Congressional District.

The event will be held starting at 11:30 a.m. as a drive-thru at the Transportation Building (401 County Road 183, Swan Lake, across from Sullivan County Airport). I will be joining Sullivan County officials to assist in handing out test kits and masks while supplies last.

If you have any questions about the event, please call (845) 443-2930.

The following events will be held in:

- Montgomery County, Tuesday, January 25th at 11:30 a.m.
Ames Volunteer Fire Department
595 Latimer Hill Road
Ames, NY 13317
- Greene County, Wednesday, January 26th at 10:00 a.m.
15 Railroad Ave.
Cairo, NY 12413
- Columbia County, Thursday, January 27th at 11:30 a.m.
North Chatham Free Library
4287 Route 203 | PO Box 907
North Chatham, NY 12132

Resources for Residents

FY 2021 Fire and Safety (FP&S) Grants
Start planning your FY 2021 Fire and Safety (FP&S) grant applications now by reviewing the announcement and application guidance materials.

The application period opened Tuesday, January 18, at 8 a.m. Click the link below for more information:
<https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/firefighters/safety-awards/documents>

IRS Child Tax Credit Letters

Did you receive advanced Child Tax Credit payments in 2021? If so, look out for a letter from the IRS.

The IRS started issuing information letters to advance child tax credit recipients in December. Recipients of the third round of the Economic Impact Payments will begin receiving information letters at the end of January. Using the information in these letters when preparing a tax return can reduce errors and delays in processing.

People receiving these letters should keep them. Do not throw them away. These letters can help taxpayers, or their tax professional prepare their 2021 federal tax return. (Contd. Pg. 48)

Congressman Delgado Weekly Recap

(From Pg. 47)

Covid booster infographic

COVID-19 Booster Shot and Vaccine Update

BOOSTER UPDATE: The CDC expanded booster shot eligibility for 12-17 year olds.

If you received Pfizer-BioNTech: Everyone 12 years and older can get their booster at least 5 months after completing their primary COVID-19 vaccination series. Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna (mRNA COVID-19 vaccines) are preferred in most* situations. Teens 12-17 years old may only get a Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine booster.

If you received Moderna: Adults 18 years and older can get their booster shot at least 6 months after completing their primary COVID-19 vaccination series. Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna (mRNA COVID-19 vaccines) are preferred in most* situations

If you received Johnson & Johnson's Janssen*: Adults 18 years and older can get their booster at least 2 months after receiving your J&J/Janssen COVID-19 vaccination. Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna (mRNA COVID-19 vaccines) are preferred in most* situations

*Although mRNA vaccines are preferred, J&J/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine may be considered in some situations.

Learn more at [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) or [COVID-19 Vaccine | COVID-19 Vaccine \(ny.gov\)](https://www.nys.gov)

Get Covered

The New York State of Health's Open Enrollment Period for 2022 is NOW going on. Thanks to the American Rescue Plan, which I voted to pass, New Yorkers will be able to browse more plan options from more insurance companies and continue to benefit from lower healthcare costs. 2022 Open Enrollment will continue through January 31, 2022.

If you are interested in signing up for health insurance, reviewing the options for you and your family, or changing your provider, you can visit <https://nystateofhealth.ny.gov/> to look at your options. If you are currently uninsured, this window is an opportunity to get the coverage you need.

Staying Healthy & Safe

Cold and flu season is upon us, make sure you keep yourself and your loved ones safe by getting your flu shot. Find out more about where to get the shot and what you should know about the flu in New York State below.

<https://www.health.ny.gov/>

As always, it's an honor to represent you in Congress.

Sincerely,
Antonio Delgado

Connect With Us

I hope you'll connect with us soon. We're always here to help, and you can get in touch with us in the following ways:

Call 845-443-2930

Reach out online: <https://delgado.house.gov/contact>

Come to one of my town halls or public events

Find Your Adventure this New Year with More Outdoor Recreation Opportunities New Yorkers Celebrate the New Year Outdoors



A group of hikers standing in front of a creek at Rome Sand Plains Unique Area. Thousands of New Yorkers kicked off their 2022 outdoors with a First Day Hike, completing over a thousand miles on DEC lands alone. Started in 2011 as an effort to get people outdoors, the annual winter hike has become a tradition for many. DEC joined State Parks for a fifth year and hosted a combined 95 hikes throughout the state.

Inspired? Here are more great winter hikes for you to enjoy.

More Great Winter Hikes

Celebrate winter's frozen splendor in New York State! Hundreds of hiking trails on state lands take cross-country skiers, snowshoers and those seeking the sublime silence of walking through pristine winter woods past breathtaking scenery. Check DEC's hiking safety tips and head out to some of our favorite spots described below. Please note that without snowshoes or skis, hiking in



Willowemoc Wild Forest

deep snow can make even an "easy" hike very difficult.

Watch a video about winter hiking safety tips and check out these other clips on DEC's YouTube Channel.



Central Park, Manhattan, New York

Important Announcement from OverDrive



The OverDrive App is going away in February!



But that's okay!



The Libby App will replace the OverDrive app.

Get the Libby app today!

In February 2022, the OverDrive app will be removed from the Apple App Store, Google Play, and Microsoft Store. Then, only the Libby app will be available for download.

The OverDrive website will still be available; just not the mobile app.

- Kindle Fire Users -

Until OverDrive and Amazon reach an agreement about Libby and Kindle Fire tablets, only the OverDrive app will be available at the Amazon App store.

Scan the QR code to go to your App Store



Download Libby today!

New to Libby?

<http://help.libbyapp.com>

Daniel Pierce Library Patron

WINTER READING "AlphaBOOKbet" CHALLENGE

December 1st - March 1st

Read (or listen) to a book--26 actually--with titles that start with every letter of the alphabet. Fill in the reading log provided after each book, return the completed log to the library by March 1st, and receive a book to keep!

Visit the library to pickup a reading log
or go to our website to print it.

<https://danielpiercelibrary.org>



WIN PRIZE BOOKS | ALL AGES WELCOME TO READ

UC Executive Pat Ryan and Senator Michelle Hinchey Announce Vaccination PODs in Midtown Kingston and Saugerties

The Midtown Kingston COVID-19 Vaccination POD will be held at the Center for Creative Education on January 30th from 10am-2pm

There will be Three Additional COVID-19 Vaccination PODs Held in Saugerties

Kingston, N.Y. - Ulster County Executive Pat Ryan and New York State Senator Michelle Hinchey today announced details on upcoming COVID-19 vaccination POD events in Midtown Kingston and Saugerties. The first of four will be held at the Center for Creative Education, located at 16 Cedar Street in Kingston, on Sunday, January 30th from 10:00am-2:00pm.

"I want to thank Senator Michelle Hinchey for partnering with us and working with our shared constituents to ensure that we continue to get our residents vaccinated and boosted," County Executive Pat Ryan said. "Both the Senator and I agree that given the increase in positive cases brought on by the Omicron variant, vaccination is the single most effective thing we can do as a community to ensure that we can keep our schools and businesses open. Ulster County will continue to make vaccination easy, accessible, and equitable for all of our residents."

"Vaccines remain the most effective tool we have to save lives, keep schools and businesses open, and end this pandemic, which is why we need to make sure that we're bringing vaccines directly to our community members so that they don't have to travel far and it's as convenient for them as possible," Senator Michelle Hinchey said. "In response to this need, my office has partnered with County Executive Pat Ryan to open a series of easily accessible vaccination PODs located in schools and nonprofits across Midtown Kingston and Saugerties. Let's not let the progress we've made go to waste - we can all do our part by getting our shots and getting the word out about these upcoming vaccination PODs."

Sunday, January 30

10 AM - 2 PM

Center for Creative Education
16 Cedar St, Kingston, NY 12401

Monday, January 31

4 PM - 6 PM

Grant D. Morse Elementary
70 Harry Wells Rd, Saugerties, NY 12477

Monday, February 7

4 PM - 6 PM

Mt. Marion Elementary School
744 Glasco Turnpike, Saugerties, NY 12477

Monday, February 28

4 PM - 6 PM

Saugerties Senior High School
310 Washington Ave, Saugerties, NY 12477

The sites will provide the following:

- o Vaccines for children aged 5-11
- o First doses of the Pfizer vaccine for anyone aged 12 and older
- o Booster doses of the Pfizer vaccine for anyone over the age of 12 who has completed their primary series at least 5 months prior
- o Booster doses of the Moderna vaccine for anyone over the age of 18 who has completed their primary series at least 5 months prior
- o Booster doses of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine for anyone over the age of 18 who has received a single dose at least 2 months prior

The YWCA of Ulster County is cosponsoring the Kingston POD and will provide Spanish speaking assistance to those who need it.

Appointments will be available and the site will accept walk-ins as long as supplies last.

For additional information regarding vaccines, boosters, and testing, please visit VaccinateUlster.com.

Governor's Budget Offers Record Funding for Vital Programs

(Albany, NY) - Following the release of Governor Kathy Hochul's first executive budget, we have been offered a look at where her priorities are directed and where the Legislature and Executive can work together to accomplish shared goals of protecting the environment, expanding access to affordable healthcare and offering much needed support to our public university system, SUNY. The Governor's plan offers record funding and highlights the effectiveness of the revenue raising measures the Legislature implemented last year.

"This plan can be the start of a watershed moment of collaboration between the co-equal branches of government. I applaud the Governor for listening to the advocacy and expertise of the legislature to address the needs in our community," said Assemblymember Kevin A. Cahill (D-Ulster, Dutchess).

Holding true to her word during the State of the State, the Governor has made the protection and preservation of our climate a priority in her budget by proposing substantial spending increases for essential environmental programs. This includes a \$400 million appropriation for the Environmental Protection Fund, an increase of 25 percent from SFY 2022, \$200 million for the revitalization of state parks, up from \$110 million last year and a landmark \$4 billion for the clean water, clean air and green jobs environmental bond act. In addition, the Governor has proposed spending \$500 million to develop offshore wind farm supply chains and port infrastructure.

"While I continue to hope the Executive will embrace my bills to end fossil fuel subsidies and to enact a carbon pollution tax, it is encouraging to see renewed attention and investment in these key programs," said Assemblymember Cahill. "Amid the growing threat of climate change, New York must resume the mantle as a national leader in sustainable development and energy generation."

In the throes of a surge in COVID-19 cases, the Governor has focused attention toward bolstering our health systems and improving access to public healthcare, with an increase of over \$10 billion directed primarily to Medicaid services and basic coverage. The proposal includes an expansion of Medicaid for lower-income New Yorkers age 65 and up and those with disabilities, as well as an increase in Medicaid reimbursement rates to provide long overdue structural support to providers. (Contd. Pg. 48)

Governor's Budget Offers Record Funding for Vital Programs

(From Pg. 47) According to this proposal, Governor Hochul would also see significant growth of the Essential Plan, expanding eligibility to those whose income falls under 250 percent of the Federal Poverty Limit. To confront the strain the pandemic has placed on our health system, funding has been put forward to support at-home testing and vaccination, along with a \$10 billion, multi-year investment in wages and bonuses for healthcare workers.

Following a decade of austerity and disinvestment in public education, Governor Hochul put forth a historic funding plan for our schools. It increases annual school aid by over \$2.1 billion, a year to year increase of 7.1 percent, raising it to a record level of \$31.3 billion; a significant expansion compared to the 2.98 percent increase in the 2021-22 executive budget. The Governor has also sought to close the TAP gap by providing SUNY and CUNY state colleges with \$108.4 million in state funding. The budget also aims to support those with economic disadvantages through an additional \$24 million in higher education opportunity programs and training centers overseen by SUNY and CUNY. This higher education budget represents a strong initiative by the Governor for the Legislature to move even further to demonstrate our strong support for our SUNY system.

Governor Hochul's budget also addresses several issues related to the insurance industry. Under the proposed budget, telehealth services would be reimbursed at the same rate as those delivered in-person. This important area of concern deserves significant additional attention. Also included are proposals that individual and group plans shall cover all family planning services, including abortion.

"I appreciate the Governor providing this framework as a starting point for the Assembly and Senate to examine. In the coming weeks the Legislature will issue our own take on the spending plan further addressing the needs of all New Yorkers. I look forward to discussions with local stakeholders and community groups in determining how the budget can support their mission," concluded Assemblymember Cahill.

Assemblymember Kevin Cahill on the Passing of Former Speaker Sheldon Silver

"Sheldon Silver, a proud product of his neighborhood in lower New York, never forgot his origins and never let his love for the communities he represented be compromised. For over two decades, he mentored, advised, encouraged and helped any way he could to make the New York State Assembly the most diverse legislative body in the land. For more than two decades, he held back a tide of repressive legislation while advancing an agenda that provided equity, justice and opportunity for all. Shelly was particularly attentive to the needs of the communities I been honored to represent. He helped with hospitals, community centers, child-care, expanding tourism and helping local direct care workers earn a dignified wage, to name but a few items. He gave voice to constituencies across our great state who otherwise might not be heard. My deepest sympathy to his large, close-knit family and also to his friends, many of whom are lifelong, loyal and today mourning the loss of, in Shelly's words, a real mensch."

Governor Hochul Announces \$1 Million Now Available Through New Community Forest Conservation Grant Program Funding Helps Municipalities Establish Community Forests

Governor Kathy Hochul announced that \$1 million in grant funds is now available to municipalities through the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's new Community Forest Conservation Grant Program. The grant program will support community efforts to conserve local forests and create new opportunities for public access, help protect natural areas from development, and encourage sustainable management of forested lands. Municipalities may apply for funding to purchase properties directly or through conservation easements to establish community forests.

"Forests are crucial to the future of our planet and one of our greatest natural treasures that we must preserve and protect," Governor Hochul said. "Not only will this program create new opportunities for recreation, but it will conserve forested land and foster tree growth across the state, advancing New York's efforts to reduce climate-altering greenhouse gas emissions."

Grants ranging from \$50,000 up to \$300,000 are available to help reimburse local governments for the protection of community forests, including funds to acquire, appraise, and survey land, as well as title searches, tax services, recording fees, and attorney fees. Recipients must provide a 10 percent cash match of the grant amount requested. Properties to be acquired must be 10 or more contiguous acres in size, have forests on at least 75 percent of the acreage, be accessible to the public, and provide public benefits such as recreation opportunities, flood mitigation, wildlife habitat, clean water, and forest products. Grant funds will be managed and allocated by the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC).

DEC Commissioner Basil Seggos said, "Healthy forests provide New York's communities and environment with a wide range of benefits, including wildlife habitat, flood mitigation, recreational opportunities, wood products, mental health, air quality, water quality, carbon storage, and carbon sequestration. Today's announcement will bolster local efforts to conserve community forests across the state, providing residents with opportunities to connect with forests and foster a sense of stewardship, while also introducing new opportunities for municipalities to engage community residents in sustainable forest management."

Additional information about the Community Forest Conservation Grant Program is available on the DEC website. Applications must be submitted through the New York State Grants Gateway, paper applications will not be accepted. The deadline for applications is 2 p.m. on Wednesday, April 13.

New York State's Environmental Protection Fund (EPF), created in 1993, supports the Community Forest Conservation Grant Program. In her 2022-23 Executive Budget, Governor Hochul proposed increasing the EPF from \$300 to \$400 million, which would be the highest-level of funding in the program's history. The EPF provides funding for critical environmental programs such as land acquisition, farmland protection, invasive species prevention and eradication, enhanced recreational access, water quality improvement, and an aggressive environmental justice agenda. For more information about DEC's Urban and Community Forestry Program, visit DEC's website.



Due to the increased numbers of Covid-19 cases **Claryville Fire Dept** has **canceled** our **January 2022 Pancake Breakfast**.

We hope to be open for February 2022!
Stay safe and healthy!



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 135 Peekamoose Road
 Sundown, NY 12740
 grahamsvillerealty@yahoo.com
<http://www.grahamsvillerealty.com>
 845-985-0501 • 845-798-9853

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Store for Rent in Grahamsville (845) 985-7411

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Sundown Camp and Bait Shop!

Thank you all for your many years of support for
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firewood for sale**

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HELP WANTED: Typist (knows computers)
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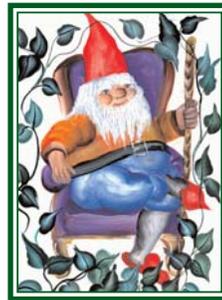
Interested? Send an email to:
thegnomehome@yahoo.com



... a virtual on-line mall

Visit:

<http://www.gnomehomeinc.com>



**KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE I
GROUNDHOG DAY**

(1993 / Rated - PG / 1h 41m)

<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0107048/>

On February 1, self-centered and sour TV meteorologist Phil Connors (Bill Murray), news producer

Rita Hanson

(Andie MacDowell) and cameraman Larry (Chris Elliott) from fictional Pittsburgh television station WPBH-TV9 travel to Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, to cover the annual Groundhog Day festivities with Punxsutawney Phil, the Groundhog, however Phil is caught in a time warp at the annual emergence of the ground hog Punxsutawney Phil, and he keeps repeating the same day until he learns what should be.



Want a lot of fun – check out; count down clock
<https://www.groundhog.org/>

Menu:

- Inner Circle
- Groundhog Ball,
- Lunch with Phil,
- Annual Groundhog Banquet, Hogspitality Village, The Dueling Pianos, Gobbler's Knob Got Talent FAQ,

Members Reception, Party All Night, About Legend & Lore, Resources for Teachers, Groundhog Day 2022 Events – Stay Connected.

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

(Contd. Pg. 51)



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Get the service you need and keep your dollar local

(From Pg. 50)

KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE OF THE WEEK II TORTILLA FLAT

(1942 · 1hr 45min · Romance/Comedy / G)

Directed by Victor Fleming. With Spencer Tracy, Hedy Lamarr, John Garfield, Frank Morgan.



A wonderful romp through the characters of antiquity of the early nineteen-forties in Monterey, California. It will mesmerize you as you enjoy a bevy of interesting Mexican-American characters. Played by many familiar faces as seen by classic film lovers.



Written by *John Steinbeck* is this world renown book, "TORTILLA FLAT."

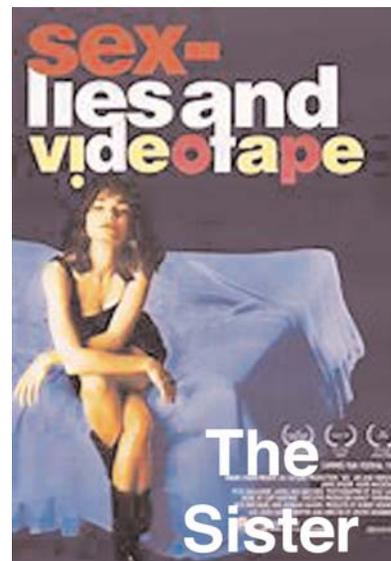
Spencer Tracy as Pilon, amazes us with his portrayal of a Mexican-American gentleman of the streets. A totally selfish con-man. Let's not forget his Salacious B. Crumb friend played by **Akim Timmorif**, who keeps your chuckles working. Then we see **Hedy Lamarr** and we are stunned by her beauty as she plays Danny's girl friend. (FYI -Hedy Lamarr was one of the most intelligent women in the 1940s. Her IQ was 154. She had a degree in Psychobiology from Vassar, and invented "Frequency Hopping." that during WWII, provided great help to the U.S. military. However, the Navy shelved her idea, and told her to go sell war bonds.) Next –one of my very favorite actors **John Garfield**, as **Danny**, a poor, naive, highly emotional northern Californian Mexican-American who inherits two houses and is swindled.

KNARF'S

CLASSIC MOVIE OF THE WEEK III
ON SPECTRUM OR YOUR FAVORITE MOVIE CHANNEL
SEX, LIES, AND VIDEOTAPE
(1989 / Rated NR Adult Language / 1 hr 41 min)
<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0098724>



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



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

Stay safe and stay well,
Knarf Odnamoc
Gnome