



Tri *Ye Olde* **BOONSDAN** Valley



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Mysterious Book Report John D. McKenna Pg 5 • *The Olive Jar* Carol La Monda Pg 6 • *The Scene Too* Jane Harrison Pg 11
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Sullivan County Vaccinates 165 People on First Day of Public Health-Run Clinic



From the left, Public Health Services staff Amanda Wolfe, RN, CHN; April Novello, RN, SPHN; Beverly Franskevicz, RN, SPHN; Wendy Brown, RN, MS, Deputy Director; Christina Haff, RN, CHN, MPH; and Sue Flynn, RN prepare to welcome well over 150 local first-responders who came January 21 to get their COVID-19 vaccinations

Liberty, NY - Sullivan County Public Health Services successfully administered 165 doses of COVID-19 vaccine to a group of essential workers on Thursday, January 21, and today the County began vaccinating residents over 65 years of age. Those clinics will go on through January 27, ultimately utilizing all 800 doses that have thus far. "Per State requirement, we set aside 200 of those 800 doses for police officers, firefighters and teachers, all of whom are considered essential workers," explained Public Health Director Nancy McGraw. "The State also directed that we use the remaining 600 doses for our population older than 65. Registration for that is closed, as appointments filled up within two hours of announcement." (Contd. Pg. 4)

Denning Resident Face in Lights at Time Square

Dr. Georgine Gorra, DSW, a seasonal resident of Denning for almost 40 years, was recently surprised to see her photo on the NASDAQ marquee in Times Square (bottom left of the photo).

Georgine has been a volunteer with the American Red Cross since September 11, 2001 when she raced to the fallen towers to help.

In 2019, she received the "Outstanding Volunteer" award from the American Red Cross & International Federation of Red Cross Societies.

Georgine can often be found on the links at Lochmor and Tarry Brae or mowing the yard at her home in Denning.

Thank you Vivian for sending us this little note and bright message and congratulations and thank you Dr. Gorra for all you do. We definitely cannot say that you are not being notice.



YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN

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THE TOWN OF NEVERSINK

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OLIVE JAR - Carol La Monda
MYSTERIOUS BOOK REPORT - John McKenna
HER QUIRKY JOURNEY - Marilyn North
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MOVIE TRIVIA - Frank Comando a/k/a Knarf

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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.

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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/article 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 support during these difficult times. Wishing everyone well.

ON THE FRONT BURNER: He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.
Psalm 91:1

OBITUARY

Horton Hyman 93, of Poinciana passed away Monday January 11, 2021. Fisk Funeral Home, Saint Cloud is handling the arrangements. To send flowers or a memorial gift to the family of Norton Hyman please visit our Sympathy Store. <https://www.fiskfh.com/obituaries/Norton-Hyman/#!/Obituary>

A Memorial to Norty Hyman

To those of you interested, here is a short synopsis of points along the way for our great friend Norton Hyman. These bits and pieces of info came from newspaper articles provided by Val Taggart and other info pieces from friends.

Thank you Norty for the memories!

From Missy and Joe Iatauro-

Very much like to think we are better people today after having Norty in our lives from the early 70's to present. As a Teacher, Coach and Friend we all learned a lot from just being around him. From what we knew of Norty prior to coming to "Tri-Valley School" we found he had an exciting life. In his 20's, he was a professional dancer, performing at "world renown" places like the Dunes and the Rivera in Las Vegas. In his own words he said, "I played for close to 20 yrs. But as the yrs went by, my strength and health couldn't last forever in this business". So he left that life and taught at 129th Street in Brooklyn and at Brooklyn Tech. In the late 60's he found himself in Livingston Manor with a Math Teacher position at the Tri-Valley School.

In 1970, Mr Hall, a Teacher in Phys Ed, recommended to Mr Condon (Superintendent) that Norty start a Cross Country program. So Norty started the program not only for the Boys but also the Girls. A student, Donna Dexheimer, asked if she would be allowed to run and Norty

who always wanted "equality" for girls, said of course. Donna ended up being a manager for the next 4 yrs but the 1st team had 3 girls led by Lynn Stratton. That started the very long tradition of excellence in the girls running program as Norty spearheaded both girls Cross country and Track.

In 1971 Norty had a Varsity Cross Country team and Jr Hi team. He coached because he believed girls deserved the opportunity though he really wanted the Girls to be coached by a female. He was very much an advocate of Girls Sports and Title IX. So Norty eventually became a Chairman in both the WSL and Section 9. By 1975 he lobbied the New York State Public HS Athletic Association to have its first Girls State Championship at Elma Meadows in Buffalo. Of course Norty had built his program to be the best in Section 9 and had his team in the meet. The small Tri-Valley School was represented in the 1st meet of its kind led by standouts Linda Nash and Cindy McKenna. The Team placed an awesome 2nd place. Also in 1974 Norty was very influential in getting 2 girls events, the 100 yd dash and 880 yd runs in the Boys State Track and Field Meet as exhibition events. In 1975 the State had its 1st Girls State Track and Field Meet at West Point. Evi Henke/Skidmore was TV's 1st State Track performer in the 880.

Norty cont'd coaching til the spring of 1979 where his record of hardly any losses had made his Girls Cross Country and Track and Field program one of the Best in New York State. In the Fall of 1979 he turned the reins over to one of his past athletes, Missy Stratton/Iatauro.

Personal Note:

When Norty and Agi moved to Sackett Lake, they invited not only Tri-Valley Track Teams but the entire Western Sullivan League to have a fun "day at the Lake". Norty and Agi always showed great hospitality and Norty would always give the kids a show doing his "trick" skiing. It was a day all the kids looked forward to at the end of the season.

DAYS OF YORE...**Today's History** (From Pg. 2)**January 24, 1951**

Seven of the local citizens of Grahamsville have bought a J-3 Piper Cub plane and are in the process of obtaining their licenses for flight. Members of the club are Dr. Karl H. Messinger, William Krum, Sam Anderson, George Maybury, Vincent and Jay Zanetti and Al Visscher.

Mrs. Nora Terwilliger, wife of Neal Terwilliger, died at her home on Friday, January 26th. She was born in Sullivan County on January 12, 1879, the daughter of Harmon and Eunice Van Wagner. Mr. and Mrs. Terwilliger had been married for fifty-five years and had spent all of that time in this vicinity.

January 25, 1961

Mr. and Mrs. George Knox are the parents of a son, born Monday, January 16th at the Maimonides Hospital, Liberty, N.Y.

Mr. and Mrs. John Murphy of Lake Paradise have purchased the farm house and 30 acres of land on Big Hollow Road. It is part of the Emmett Slater Farm.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Ralph VanValkenburg who are parents of a son born Saturday at the Liberty Loomis Hospital.

January 27, 1971 - Patricia Osterhout, sophomore at Clarkson College of Technology, Potsdam, N.Y. has been placed on the Dean's List for the fall semester, obtaining a 3.58 average. Miss Osterhout is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Osterhout of Woodbourne.

January 22, 1981 - Brrrr is the word with the thermometer dropping well below zero. (Minus 28 degrees on Davis Lane this morning). Most area residents are hibernating and enjoying the warmth of their home fires.

Glennie Curry was one of the many strikers arrested for 'sitting in' the lobby of the Harris Hospital after the close of visiting hours last week. The culprits were taken before a Town of Thompson judge and later released.

The water level of NYC's upstate reservoirs continues to decline and Mayor Koch says he expects the city to declare a drought emergency within the next 10 days. A Meteorologist at Cornell University in Ithaca is predicting that the Northeast is in for its most severe drought in modern times.

Beginning January 15, all Sullivan County canines must be confined to home turf per order of the County Board of Supervisors. The order was enacted on December 29, 1980 to restrict harassment of deer by dogs. The owner of a dog that kills or cripples a deer will be fined \$100 for the first deer, and \$1500 each additional deer. Any dog found free can be seized by an animal control officer or peace officer. If the dog has been seen chasing or harassing deer it will be killed.

It looks like Santa was good to Sylvia Rubnstein who is now riding around in her new Citation. It took Sylvia a little time to conquer the standard shift, especially on Grossinger Hill!

Household Hints:**Need a Quick Substitute for Buttermilk?**

Make buttermilk. Add a tablespoon of vinegar to a cup of milk and let it stand 5 minutes to thicken.

Nature Column - Linda Comando

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

**A Different Idea for the Nature Column
– Human Nature**

Is it a beautiful ice angel, a jötunn, (a very large ice monster as described in Norse mythology) or is it Buttermilk Falls on Peekamoose Road? It is all three, each supported by a different concept of nature based upon our individual human nature. The sum total of our species identity, the mental, physical and spiritual characteristics make each human unique – a human being.

One of the oldest tales is the ancient Greek tale of Persephone. Hades abducted Persephone and made her his bride, and crowned her Queen of the Underworld. When falling into despair, Demeter, her mother swore until she found her daughter she would let all the vegetation around her wilt; animals had no offspring and mankind started to die. Zeus was forced to intervene as the Earth was dying. He made a deal that for one-third of the year, Persephone would stay with Hades, and the rest of the year dwell on the Earth with her mother.

The story of Persephone is, like many myths, that deeply resonate with modern humanity. We may or may not believe in gods and goddesses, the underworld, or magical forces, and yet the story somehow still rings true. Persephone's story is one of a mother and daughter's love and an unbreakable bond. It's also a story - a metaphor - of death and renewal; winter always thaws into spring; that the bad things in our lives don't last forever; and that things come and go. It's a story of mortality, the tension of life and death – our human nature.

The COVID Pandemic has brought a similar type of chaos around the world – a long dark winter, death and violence. Ironically, efforts to curb the spread of the virus has resulted in what researchers call the 'hum of vibrations' in the planet's crust to such a low level it is allowing them to detect small earthquakes and monitor volcanic activity more carefully as well as other seismic events. According to Thomas Lecocq, a seismologist at the Royal Observatory of Belgium in Brussels, in the past, the noise reduction of this magnitude was only experienced briefly around Christmas!

Next week we will celebrate Ground Hog Day, also known as Candlemas in the early Christian Church and according to pagan Norse Mythology, Imbolc.

We are all familiar with the tradition of Punxatawney Phil on Ground Hog day. To those who celebrated Candlemas, it marked the day when Jesus was presented in the Holy Temple in Jerusalem, 40 days after his birth. To the ancient pagans Imbolc marked the half way point between the Winter Solstice and the Spring Equinox. Imbolc was considered the first day of spring or the lambing season as the female sheep began to show signs of giving birth to their young. They celebrated the goddess Bride or Brigid at their festival. All three traditions associated with February 2 had a similar message — a time for new beginnings.

Whether it is the Greek tale of Persephone, Candlemas, Imbolc, Bride, Brigid, Phil, or the melting waterfall on Peekamoose Road, they all have one thing in common, the reflection of human nature woven into a story — a metaphor of hope while we wait for Spring.



Sullivan County Vaccinates 165 People on First Day of Public Health-Run Clinic

(From Pg. 1) Due to limited supply, County officials are not yet sure when the next shipment of vaccine will arrive. But in the meantime, residents can sign up to receive a notification the next time a County-run clinic opens for registration. The sign-up form and other vaccine info can be found at <https://sullivanyny.us/Departments/Publichealth/COVIDvaccines>. A recorded voice message with the latest updates is also available at 845-513-2268.



Tiffany Kahn, RN, prepares Fallsburg Police Chief Simmie Williams' arm for the COVID-19 vaccine injection.

“We are eagerly awaiting more vaccine from the State and Federal governments and stand ready to host more clinics if and when those authorities give us the necessary supply of vaccine, and we continue to urge them to do so,” said District 2



Tiffany Kahn, RN, gives Fallsburg Police Chief Simmie Williams the #SullivanSafe sticker after getting the COVID-19 vaccine

and every day thereafter.”

“Together with our community partners, which also include Garnet Health Medical Center, Sun River Health (formerly Hudson River Healthcare), and Crystal Run Healthcare, and local participating pharmacies, we aim to get every resident and in-County worker vaccinated,” vowed McGraw. “We are working diligently toward the day when anyone who wants the vaccine will be able to get the vaccine. This is going to be a long-term project.”

Sullivan County Debuts COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Notification System Public Can Sign Up to Find Out Next Vaccine Opportunity

Liberty, NY - To meet numerous public requests to be notified of upcoming vaccination clinics, Sullivan County Public Health Services, in collaboration with the Division of Information Technology Services (ITS) and the Emergency Community Assistance Center (ECAC), today launched an online signup form open to local and regional residents.

“Our offices have received hundreds of calls from people seeking the COVID-19 vaccine,” confirmed Public Health Director Nancy McGraw. “The amount has overwhelmed our staff, and since most callers are simply asking when an upcoming clinic will be available, our amazing coworkers at ITS have rapidly developed a notification system to do just that.”

Anyone interested in being notified of upcoming Public Health-run COVID-19 vaccination clinics can sign up on the County's vaccine information page:

<https://sullivanyny.us/Departments/Publichealth/COVIDvaccines>

Near the top of that page is a form that requests the interested person's name, date of birth, county of residence and email address (or phone number, if the person does not have an email address or would prefer to be contacted by phone). It also asks if the person is an essential worker (as defined by the State) and has any health conditions that put them at high risk with COVID-19 complications. (Answering yes or no to those questions will not affect the notification process.)

“Anyone who signs up will receive notifications listing the date, location and registration link for upcoming County-run clinics, as they become open to registration. These notifications will continue until Public Health confirms they have successfully received their first dose of vaccine,” explained McGraw. “Considering the currently severe limitation of available COVID-19 vaccine, they may receive notifications for quite some time, but our expectation is that most people will find that very useful as the rollout continues.”

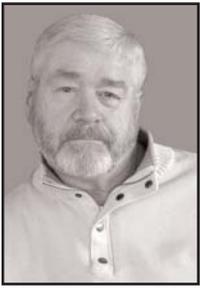
It is important to note:

- o This is NOT a registration form to access a vaccination clinic. Those who sign up will only be contacted with information about an upcoming vaccination clinic, for which they will have to separately register in order to get on a list to receive vaccine.
- o Filling out this form does not guarantee someone will receive vaccine.
- o At present, this notification system will not include info about COVID-19 vaccination events conducted by agencies, businesses, entities or municipalities other than Sullivan County Public Health Services.
- o The information provided will be used only by authorized Sullivan County government offices, agencies and partners to contact people about upcoming vaccination opportunities. It will not be shared with unauthorized parties or the general public.
- o Those who provide an email address will receive a notification email to that address, while those who provide a phone number will receive an automated voice message to that phone number (not a text). (Contd. Pg. 7)

The Art of Violence

Mysterious Book Report No. 432

by John Dwaine McKenna



I was intrigued by Dennis Lehane's blurb on the cover: "*S.J. Rozan can write sentences that make my jaw literally drop.*"

So I purchased a copy of her newest Lydia Chin/Bill Smith novel entitled, *The Art of Violence*, (Pegasus Crime, \$25.95, 275 pages, ISBN 978-1-64313-531-1), and read the first sentence: "*Shifting colors on a monster billboard bled through the April evening mist, showed me a shadow in the alley.*"

At that instant, I realized the endorsement was honest, accurate and spot-on. Simply put . . . Somebody sign me up. I'm hooked!

The narrator of that awesomely complex and colorful first sentence is the protagonist, a New York City Private Investigator named Bill Smith. The shadow is a man named Sam Tabor. He's a former client who's just been released from Greenhaven State Penitentiary, where he was serving time for the stabbing death of a young woman after he was secretly dosed with PCP . . . a hallucinogenic commonly known as 'Angel Dust.' But Sam is also a talented, world class outsider artist, whose release from prison was engineered by a consortium of art critics, celebrities, business people and writers, who all want to bring his art into view for the whole world to admire and appreciate . . . then buy and sell for lots of money.

But Sam Tabor, while showing such promise and talent, is also a hard drinker who regularly experiences alcoholic blackouts in times of personal stress; like when his art is being featured in a gallery opening, and he has to interact with crowds of people.

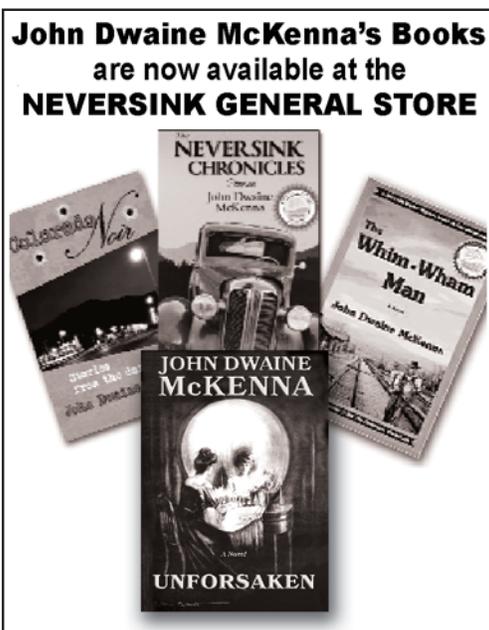
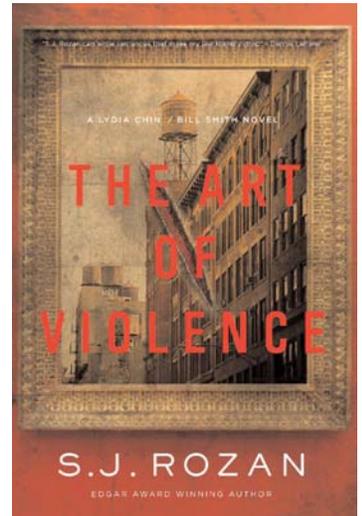
He believes that during those blackouts he's killed other women – and in one of several devious plot twists – he wants to hire Bill Smith to prove it because Tabor wants to go back to prison so that he won't kill any other women. He thinks he's a serial killer. A killer who wants no more victims on his conscience . . . and those are only a couple of the ingenious, well crafted and diabolic events and turnarounds in this easy reading, captivating and engrossing novel.

Ms. Rozan's fiction has been awarded an Edgar, Shamus, Anthony, Nero, Macavity, the Japanese Maltese Falcon and the Private Eye Writers of America Lifetime Achievement Award. You'll soon see why if you read any of her outstanding novels. *The Art of Violence* is a great one to start with!

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.

And Hey! 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.

Johndwainemckenna.com or Mysteriousbookreport.com



The Grand Isn't

Monticello ~ On Thursday, January 21, the Sullivan County Legislature heard presentations by three for-profit healthcare corporations seeking to lease the county-owned Care Center at Sunset Lake, which has a four-star (Above Average) rating from Medicare.

One potential lessee is a consortium that includes Vestracare, which owns the five-star Roscoe Regional Rehab and HCF. Another potential lessee is Grand Healthcare, which owns ten poorly rated facilities in upstate New York. Of those ten, five are rated one star (Much Below Average) and four have two stars (Below Average).

The day will kicked off when the Health and Human Services Committee convened. Members of the public concerned that the Grand Healthcare is even under consideration made their views known at this meeting. The presentations by the three potential lessees got underway at 12:30.

For further information contact:

Catherine Scott, We Stand with the Care Center
CatherineScott17@hotmail.com (845) 701 1020
Lou Setren, President
Family Council - Care Center at Sunset Lake
(845) 798 4903 mynycebyte@hotmail.com

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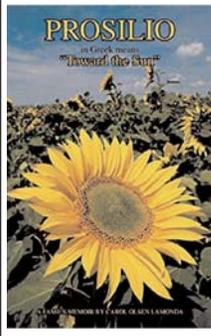



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The Family Memoir, PROSILIO...

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



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The Olive Jar

By Carol Olsen LaMonda



As I typed the date today, I realized today, like yesterday is a palindrome. 1/21/21 reads the same backwards and forwards as did yesterday, Inauguration Day. Perhaps, it is a reminder that the direction of tomorrow depends upon how we plan today. However, it may be subject to change.

As a teacher, we were issued "Plan Books" or "Planners" so we could keep track of a complex schedule of classes, meetings, assignments and deadlines. Some days were scheduled out to minutes. Mine would be in a mish-mosh of pencil and red and blue inks with every blank space occupied by something I needed to remember or do.

I still keep a calendar-like planner. However, it is mainly blank. Gone are the volunteer duties and an every-other week Meals on Wheels Delivery schedule. No parties, events or celebrations to attend. I have caught up on all the "Maintenance" appointments during the summer hiatus from a Covid surge. What was written in January was one reminder to give Hudson his Heartworm medicine and my Monday Zoom meetings with my art group that no longer paints together. We call it Art Therapy now because we debrief in our weekly talk sessions without brushes or paint.

The other thing written in January was the appointment to get the first vaccine dose of Moderna at the Kate Walton Field House. I was fortunate to be sufficiently old and quick to sign up for an appointment in Ulster County. Their site in Kingston was efficient and accommodating. The only problem is that the demand exceeded the supply the very first week. Now there are many awaiting that email that asks you to select an appointment.

My follow-up scheduled dose is written in the second week of February.

I must admit the Planner, delivered from Amazon, is neat and orderly without all my responsibilities and social life curtailed by a pandemic. Future months contain birthdays to remember, but little is planned until the pandemic gets under control.

Mentally, I have things I hope to write in the months ahead. A trip to Aruba around my birthday, the opening of the Lake House, backyard barbecues, luncheons with the ladies, yoga and art classes, pizza at the Boiceville Inn, breakfasts at the bakery with neighbors, yard sales, and movies.

Until then, I will plan my future in pencil, with an eraser, because the pandemic has taught me that all my foolish plans can be altered in a heartbeat or turn on a dime.



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Sullivan County Debuts COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Notification System Public Can Sign Up to Find Out Next Vaccine Opportunity

(From Pg. 4)

- o Notification of an upcoming clinic will be made as soon as possible after the registration link becomes available.
- o No information will be sent via this system unless there is an upcoming County-run COVID-19 vaccination clinic that is currently accepting registrants.

Those who are unable to fill out the notification form online can contact our ECAC staff

For more information, visit :
<https://sullivanny.us/Departments/Publichealth/COVIDvaccines>

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A recorded voice message with the latest updates is also available at 845-513-2268.

The County's dashboard for updates on the number of active cases locally can be found at:
<https://sullivanny.us/Departments/Publichealth/Coronavirus>

Vaccine info is also available at 1-833-NYS-4-VAX (1-833-697-4829).

Frost Valley YMCA Announces the Appointment of Kate Lewis as President of the Board of Trustees New Board Officers Elected

CLARYVILLE - Frost Valley YMCA is pleased to announce that Kate Lewis has been appointed as the president of its Board of Trustees. Lewis is chief content officer of Hearst Magazines, one of the world's largest publishers of monthly magazines, with more than 300 international editions and 25 plus U.S brands in print and digital, including "Harper's Bazaar," "Cosmopolitan," and "Esquire."

Lewis was a recipient of the Matrix Award from New York Women in Communications in 2019. She has also been named to Advertising Age's Women to Watch list, was inducted to MIN's Digital Hall of Fame, and was named one of FOLIO's Top Women in Media.

In addition to Lewis' election to president of the Board of Trustees, Frost Valley also



Kate Lewis, chief content officer of Hearst Magazines, was recently elected as President of Frost Valley YMCA's Board of Trustees.

announces the appointment of the following board officers: Vice Chairman Catherine Harvey from the Victoria Foundation; Vice President Elect, Treasurer, and Finance Chair Dave Bieler, IT consultant in the private equity industry; Secretary Jerry Dorfman, Esq. semi-retired New York general practice attorney; Audit Chair Peter Andruskiewicz, retired health insurance executive; Development Chair William Baker, from JP Mortgage Chase; COT Chair Al Filreis, professor of English at the University of Pennsylvania; PEL Chair John Butler, Esq. attorney and director of research for Fair and Just Prosecution; YUSA & Government Relations Chair Joshua Tucker, professor of politics at New York University, and Assistant Secretary Jerry Huncosky, chief executive officer of Frost Valley YMCA.

"Frost Valley is grateful for the vast wealth of knowledge, expertise, and enthusiasm Kate Lewis and all the executive officers bring to our Board of Trustees," says Jerry Huncosky, CEO of Frost Valley. "The trustees play a vital role in fundraising and furthering the mission of Frost Valley."

Frost Valley YMCA is a values-driven organization with a mission to foster youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility through outdoor educational and recreational programs for all. Located in the heart of the Catskill Mountains, Frost Valley provides year-round access to nature and fun through programs such as summer camp, adventure trips, farm camp, equestrian programs, group and family retreats, family weekends, school trips, teambuilding and more. Frost Valley, a not-for-profit organization chartered through the YMCA of the USA, is guided in this pursuit by its core values which serve as pathways for guests as they bond with nature and each other: Caring, Community, Diversity, Honesty, Inclusiveness, Respect, Responsibility, and Stewardship.



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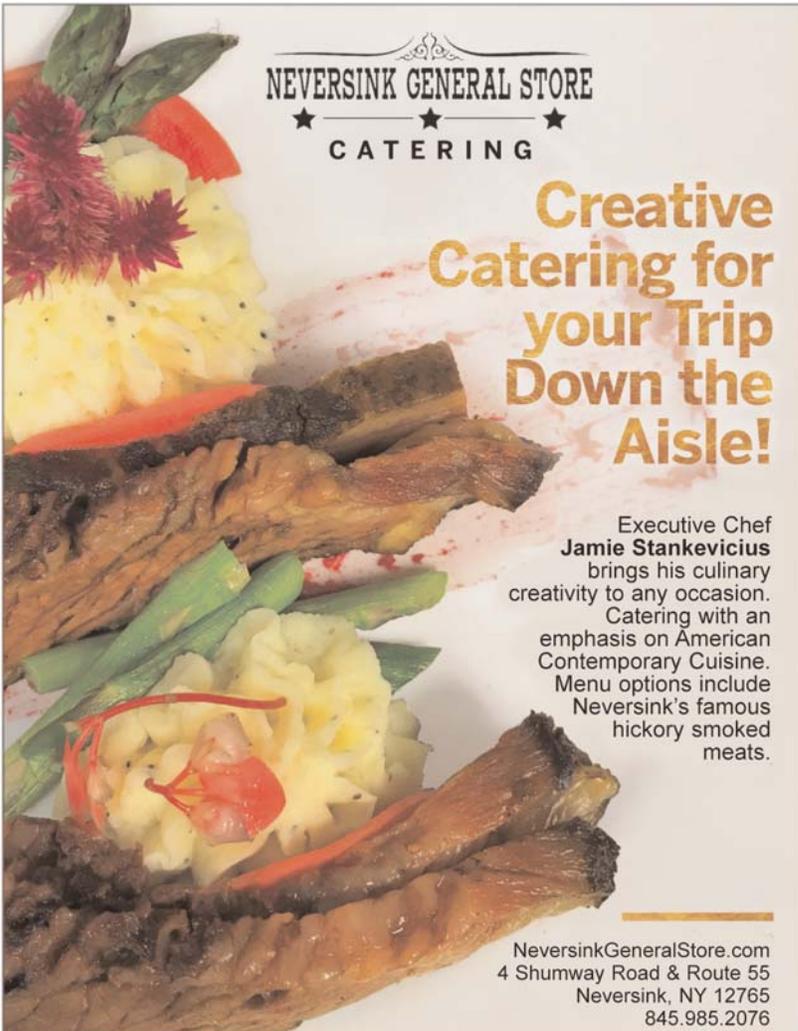
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Catskill Center Announces Margaret DiBenedetto Appointed Chair of the Board of Directors

January 20, 2021 - Arkville, NY: The Catskill Center for Conservation and Development announced the appointment of Margaret (Peg) DiBenedetto to Chair, at its most recent meeting of the Board of Directors. Mrs. DiBenedetto has been a member of the Board of Directors since 2014.



Peg DiBenedetto was raised on her father's dairy farm in Halcott Center, NY. As a teenager, Peg stuffed envelopes for membership mailings on the kitchen table, and even staffed the registration desk at annual meetings. Her mother, Ruth Reynolds, was the first employee of the Catskill Center.

"The Catskill Center is in my blood. I've been involved from its inception, and I am honored to have this opportunity to serve the Center and the Catskills in such an important capacity."

Peg graduated from Margaretville Central School, and received a Bachelor's Degree in Biology and Ecological Sciences from the State University College at Oneonta.

For more than 20 years, Peg worked in land management for the New York City Department of Environmental Protection, and hiked much of the Delaware and Greene County Catskills while performing boundary maintenance as well as monitoring Conservation Easements. For several years she monitored bald eagle nests at the Schoharie Reservoir for the DEP, and continues to do so as a volunteer for the New York State Department of Conservation.

Peg and her husband Michael have been active with the Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society, working to capture and track wintering resident golden eagles of the Catskills.

Peg has worked on various disaster relief and food aid projects throughout Africa and the Caribbean. Most recently, Guatemala has been top of her travel list, with ShoesForKids, the non-profit she co-founded.

Since her retirement from DEP, Peg assists at the Friends of the Feathered and Furry Wildlife Center, where she enjoys working with raptors, bears, and other local species. Peg is also a Trustee for the Michael Kudish Natural History Preserve in Stamford, NY, is a Board member of Catskill Neighbors, and a past Board Chair of The MARK Project.

Peg and Michael enjoy time in the outdoors with their 3 grown children and 6 grandchildren.

Jeff Senterman, Executive Director of the Catskill Center, said "we are very grateful to our Board of Directors, former Chair Markley Boyer especially, for providing our organization steadfast guidance and support. As we continue the work of the Center, we are guided by our mission and the legacy championed by our founders and our current and former board members. We warmly welcome our new Chair, Mrs. DiBenedetto, and look forward to continuing our work at the Catskill Center to preserve and protect the Catskills in so many different ways."

AdventureAtHome: Cross-Country Skiing this Winter

Looking for a new way to enjoy the outdoors this winter? Cross-country skiing is a great way to explore wintry landscapes, and many trails can be easier to traverse with smooth, deep snow. Cross-country skiing is also known as "Nordic skiing" and may be abbreviated "XC." There are two styles of cross-country skiing: classic skiing - the original version, and involves a straight-line stride - and skate skiing, where movements may look like a speed skater on ice.

All trails on DEC lands are open to cross-country skiing and snowshoeing in the winter. Check out this list of great places to explore.

If there is not enough snow to enjoy cross-country skiing or snowshoeing, you can still take in the sights and sounds of the season by checking out a winter hike.

Plan ahead and prepare for a safe and enjoyable adventure by checking out these outdoor winter hiking safety tips. Be sure to always PLAY SMART * PLAY SAFE * PLAY LOCAL*. In case you missed it, watch a Facebook LIVE with DEC Forest Rangers discussing Winter HikeSmartNY tips.

Check out our YouTube playlist for more winter recreation ideas.

For more ways to #ExploreLocal, check out DEC's Facebook page February 4, and February 18.



Frog Alley Receives Award



The project to preserve the ruin at Frog Alley, a collaboration between Friends of Historic Kingston, RUPCO, City of Kingston, Dutton Architecture and Arold Construction, has been named winner of the 2020 New York State Historic Preservation Award by the New York State Historic Preservation Office!

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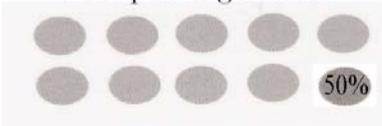



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BCES First Quarter Honor Roll

Benjamin Cosor Elementary School announced the following students for the Honor Roll during the First Quarter of 2020-2021.

Fourth Grade Superintendent Honor Roll: Jonathan Padgett, Jr., Easton Pugh, Benjamin Teri, and Yamein Wheeler. Honor Roll: Evangeline Capicchioni, Nicolas Ciorciari, Layla Cruz, Michael Damms, Michael DeMondo-Gernant, Liam Doyle, Sara Abigail Flores Ramos, Leily Nicolle Garcia Menjivar, Ariyanna Laudadio, Lindsay Lopez Landaverde, Andrew Machado, Nelson Machado III, Emily Mackerley, Michelle Maradiaga, Rebecca Moocz, Alena Nicholson, Daniel Perez Martinez, Samantha Saciolo, Brooke Severing, Alena Tarabichi, Kristopher Tiritilli, and Kimberly Zempoaltecatl.

Fifth Grade Superintendent Honor Roll: Addison Alvarado, Natalia Evangelista, Carlos Granados Reyes, Layla Hermann, Camdyn Hoefling, Sophia Jacobs, Pedro Pineda Ortiz, Keily Rosales Charuc, Jiahnnny Sebastian, Zayd Amir Hamid Snead, Joshua Tetteh. Honor Roll: Elenora Ahmetaj, Leila Basic, Ayden Brown, Makenzie Collins, Gianna Colombo-Gonzalez, Aaliyah Davis Feeney, Maddelynn DeMondo-Gernant, Mariama Gai, Amhara Gillmer, Eriberto Gonzalez Jr., Stephon Harris, John Anthony Ketcham, Emmet Kleingardner, Dalila Koljenovic, Alisson Esmeralda Lagos Guardado, Nazareth Manjarrez Paredes, Brandon Mariaca, Josue Martinez-Lopez, Madelyne Maxwell, Jania McGriff, Paola Nicole Melendez Deras, Ronny Mendoza, Kileen Milligan, Gabriella Moreno, Jaysi Nicanor-Perez, Lillian Odom, Dillan Padilla-Avila, Jiya Patel, Shiv Patel, Henry Reyes, Kayden Saravia, Kiara Sauer, Zoey Saunders, Luca Sinigaglia, Joslyn Smith, Connor Torres, Helen Vasquez, Avery Wall-Carty, and Lavante Ward.

Sixth Grade Superintendent Honor Roll: Shaun Brenner Jr., Emma Cenovic, Jordyn Cerrone, Carissa Ciorciari, Riley Gorr, Adryana Kozachuk, Ashton Lowe, Trevor Machado, Efram Rodriguez, Layla-Marie Russell, Leah Russell, Peyton Varner, and Tyler Wright. Honor Roll: Juliana Barreto, Robert Blake Jr., Je-niah Cannonier, Ayden Carpenito, Maiya Davis, Ashleigh Fuentes Arden, Guiseppa King, Connor McManus, Dominic McPherson, Tristin Miller, Eric Moocz, Alexa Smith, Abigail Toledo, Alisha Tremper, Sierra Velazquez, and Xavier Young.

The Scene Too

- Jane Harrison

It's been barely a week since I received the phone call that my brother had passed away suddenly and I'm just now catching my breath. If these were normal times, I'd have been on a plane, had the rental car waiting, staying with my niece, spending time with his wife and children grieving and remembering together. But these are not normal times. There certainly can't be a plane ride for me, or an airport or a train. There could be no funeral or gathering of any kind. I would have had to find a hotel, because the niece I stay with, she's the one whose oxygen level is still so low from her hospitalization with CoVid related pneumonia that a tank of the stuff is her constant companion even in her house. It's been a month now.

It is one thing to read about these things happening during this pandemic. It is quite another to experience them first hand and I can tell you, it is not at all pleasant.

There is some good news about, though, these days. Joe Peters, relentless harasser for years, ignorer of countless restraining orders has been convicted. More about that next week. I'm glad my friends Wade and RJ, owners of one of my favorite places CABERNET FRANKS, have prevailed.

The nation finally FINALLY has a memorial acknowledging the over 400,000 Americans (that we know of) who have died from CoVid 19 related illnesses. Have you noticed the nay-sayers have ramped up their rhetoric since the memorial was unveiled?

The screws touted to be replacement screws to affix my new TV to its stand arrived and fit just fine. Sorry big chain store, you don't get the chance to tell me you don't have a replacement for my TV WITH screws but how about a 50" for hundreds more.

I have just a few more rows until my Annie Socks are finished.

The vine-y plant and the geranium that had been on the porch all summer refuse to die. I don't get it....don't they know it's MY house?? (I notoriously kill plants)

A friend found buttermilk for me. I now have soda bread and blueberry buttermilk pancakes in the freezer.

I've lost ten more pounds by design, not stress. I'm eating a lot more freshly made food and limiting my bread and pasta. It works for me.

But most importantly, I found CUMIN!!! There's chili in the crockpot as we speak.

And a few annoyances....

The gazillion pound behemoth of a dead TV still stares at me.

Once it is gone, the newly affixed TV stand feet are too widely set to sit on that same piece of furniture. (Time to redecorate?)

It's too darned cold!

Stay warm, stay masked, stay safe.
Until next time.....

The Ashokan Pepacton Watershed Chapter of TU invites you to a scheduled Zoom chapter meeting



Ashokan Reservoir on a winter's day

Topic: January Ashokan-Pepacton Watershed Trout Unlimited Chapter Meeting, via Zoom
Date/time: Jan 27, 2021, 7:00 PM Eastern Time

There will be a very short business meeting introduction, followed by two guest presenters from Trout Unlimited National: Caroline Shafer and Tracy Brown. Both have been of vital help and leadership working with the chapter's East Branch Delaware (EBD) River restoration committee/projects upstream of New York City's Pepacton Reservoir. Caroline is a Trout Unlimited NY Field Technician working on the NY Northeast Coldwater Habitat Program and has worked on the EBD. She will explain what she does as an employee of Trout Unlimited on the Delaware River. Her presentation will also include information on Trout Unlimited current and upcoming projects, how members can help and get involved, plus she will also give members a chance to suggest future projects and concerns. Tracy Brown needs little introduction, a longtime Trout Unlimited employee and NY/CT Restoration Manager.

Caroline Shafer: <https://www.tu.org/blog/busy-summer-for-tu-field-tech-in-new-york/>

Tracy Brown: <https://www.tu.org/staffer/tracy-brown/>

Plan to join the virtual Zoom session starting at 6:50 PM. This is the chapter's first attempt, so hopefully it will go well and hope you can join us.

Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7159250819?pwd=bVpHRE5uK1U2QzA3T1o5emJjU1F4QT09>

Meeting ID: 836 9210 0861
Passcode: 378374

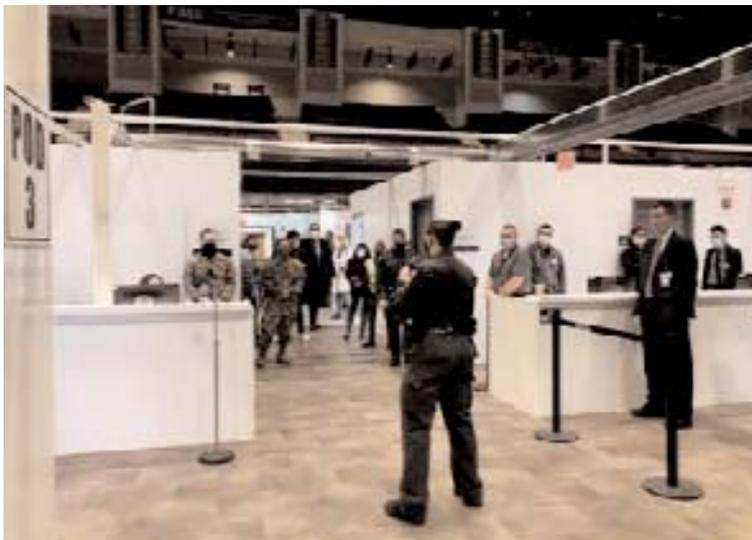
ECOs help check on a dolphin in Bellport Bay,



On Jan. 10, ECOs Bobseine and Doroski assisted the Riverhead Foundation with locating a dolphin in Bellport Bay. The dolphin had been living in the bay for nearly one year. Since 2020, the foundation has periodically checked on the animal due to reported sightings. On this sunny winter afternoon, the dolphin surfaced as the two ECOs made it under Smith's Point Bridge in their safeboat. A biologist for the Riverhead Foundation, also onboard the vessel, quickly identified the dolphin and determined it was healthy before it swam away.

NYS COVID-19 Vaccination Response

New York State has begun the process of opening up COVID-19 vaccination centers over many parts of the state. ECOs, Forest Rangers, and other DEC experts are on the front lines assisting federal, state, local and non-government entities build and support vaccination sites at multiple locations, filling various key positions in the incident command structure up to the highest level of incident commander and working closely with other DEC staff and partners in this important mission.



Planning Section Chief ECO Bohling gives morning briefing at Westchester County vaccination site

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RUPCO'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2021

RENT RELIEF AVAILABLE

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, many New Yorkers have been struggling financially. A COVID Rent Relief Program, offered through New York State Homes and Community Renewal, provides assistance to eligible households that experienced an increased rent burden due to loss of income in 2020.

The application period is open until Monday, Feb. 1, 2021. To apply, visit: <http://covidrentrelief.hcr.ny.gov>

If you are in need of assistance in filling out your application, we would be happy to help! Please contact us at 845-331-9860.

THE COVID VACCINE IS HERE!

RUPCO's Property Management department has been coordinating with CVS Pharmacies to come and administer COVID-19 vaccines to our residents at our senior properties and the staff who are in close proximity with them.

Last week, we had the first round of vaccines at our Park Heights property in Rosendale. Pictured is Barry Gorsline, Maintenance Tech extraordinaire, getting his shot!

FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYER INFORMATION SESSION FEB 17 @ 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Ready to buy your first home but don't know where to start? This virtual, First-time Homebuyer Information Session outlines the RUPCO HomeOwnership Center's Homebuyer Program and the path to homeownership. This is a recommended first step before you formally apply for the Homebuyer Counseling Program.

Call 845-331-9860 or email Homeownership@rupco.org to register today!

“Welcome to a new world” 5 Wednesday sessions to face the challenges of 2021

Join your Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce for a series of five Wednesday mornings in February and March to learn and talk about a variety of topics that can make 2021 a successful year for your business.

These will be 1-hour, 8 AM virtual and interactive panel sessions with a moderator and subject experts. Bring your coffee or tea and join us for one or all of the following sessions:

SESSION 1: COVID related business and relief programs: What's out there and who can apply?

Date: February 10, 2021

Time: 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM EST

February 17, 2021: Health & Safety: How to keep customers, your staff, and yourself safe & protected.

February 24, 2021: The Chamber's collaboration with Lunarcow: How to get the most benefits out of the Chamber's digital platform.

March 3, 2021: Marketing for 2021: What's different, what's new, what works, and what doesn't?

March 10, 2021: Fit for survival: staying healthy, focused & sane!

All sessions are free and run from 8-9 AM. The Sullivan County Chamber uses the *gotomeeting* platform. Sign-on links will be released on Chamber website and social media prior to each session.

SULLIVAN COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FIRST FRIDAY VIRTUAL NETWORKING

Friday, February 5, 2021 at 8:30am

Meet Michael Brooks Vice Chair of the Sullivan County Legislature. He will be speaking about the County Broadband Project and other important County information. FREE
You must register at:

<https://business.catskills.com/events/details/first-friday-virtual-networking-breakfast-february-9715>

The 43rd Annual 98.3 WSUL Heart-A-Thon Friday, February 19, 2021 – “The Beat Goes On”

Hearts are available at the Chamber and other sites around the county.

More info at: <http://www.wsul.com>

Thank you to the Liberty, Livingston Manor, and Monticello Rotary Clubs for the donation of medical face masks to the Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce to provide to small businesses. The Chamber is proud to be part of the Rotary Million Mask Challenge #millionmaskchallengetake2. Distribution of these masks will be announced soon. #rotaryreponds

Join the Chamber of Commerce in a ribbon TYING event TYING OUR COMMUNITY TOGETHER

As we navigate the reopening process the Chamber wants you to tie two pieces of ribbon together and take a selfie or a video post it to our Facebook page with the hashtag #TyingOurCommunityTogether - we will promote you and your business (absolutely free) as helping to TIE our community together. The Chamber will supply the ribbon and a door tag that you can display as a proud participant in this community wide show of solidarity - When we all are reopened - The Chamber will do community wide ribbon cuttings to help celebrate you, your business and our community. Don't wait, contact the Chamber for your ribbon and free promotion of your business. Go to download our informational flyer.

<https://growthzonesitesprod.azureedge.net/wp-content/uploads/sites/984/2020/05/ribbon-tying-info-flyer.pdf>

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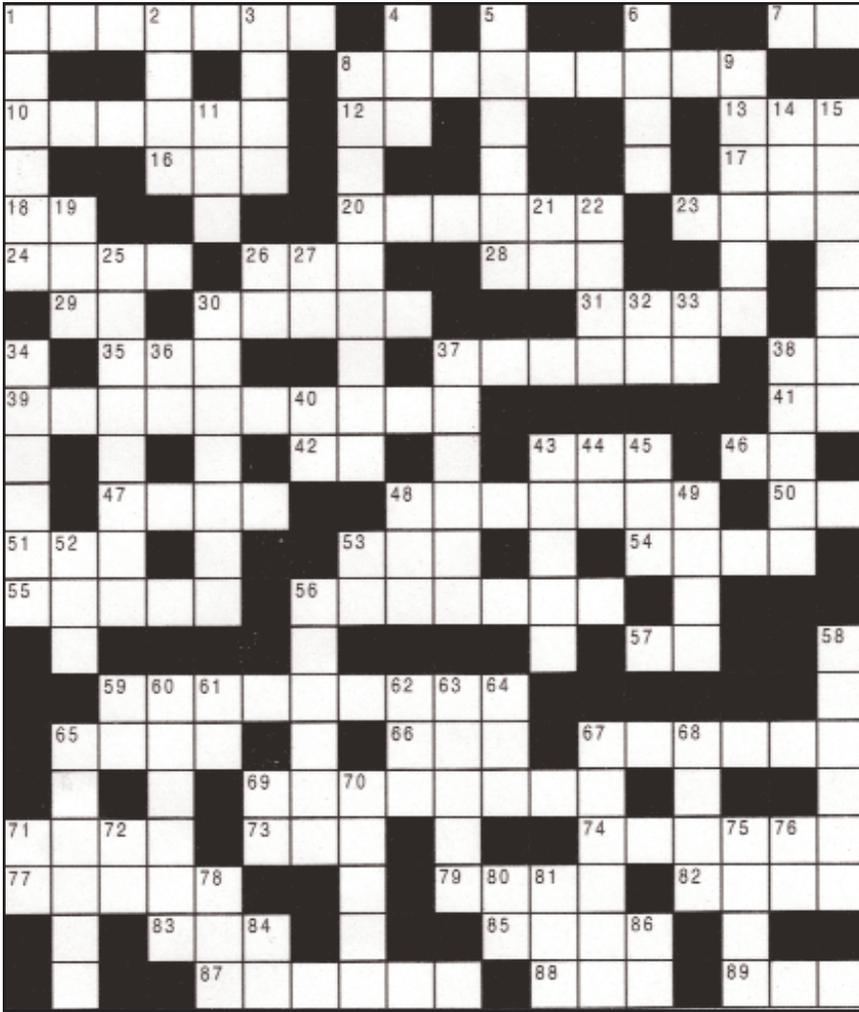
REMINDER

Visit Our Website For Information On COVID-19 Financial Relief For Small Businesses @:

<https://www.catskills.com/56006-2/>

<https://growthzonesitesprod.azureedge.net/wp-content/uploads/sites/984/2020/05/correctedfinalwhws-may142020.pdf>

Wondering When Winter Will Wane? - L. Comando



ACROSS
 1 Repeated patterns
 7 Indicating the mean of achieving something
 8 Honor; praise publicly
 10 Donned by keeper of Phil on Feb 2nd
 12 Advertisement
 13 Cut an area of grass
 16 Not doing prefix
 17 Female sheep
 18 Morning
 20 Evil spirits
 23 A region
 24 Raise to a higher level
 26 Sun
 28 New; combining form
 29 General

Electric
 30 Units of land
 31 Word by which a person is known
 35 Male child
 37 Saint whose feast day is Feb 1
 38 You and I
 39 Look forward to
 41 Hour (abbrev)
 42 Like
 43 Ocean
 46 Archaic plural form of thou
 47 Ability to see something
 48 Single-celled alga
 50 Extraterrestrial
 51 Major division of time
 53 Fruit-filled pastry
 54 Punxsu-

tawney groundhog
 55 Light again
 56 Large open air fire
 57 Part of the mind
 59 Spend the winter in a dormant state
 65 Unchanged
 66 Slump
 67 Another term for Irish
 69 Popular myth
 71 Circle of light around the sun
 73 Wonder
 74 Animal associated with spring that reproduce prolifically
 77 Objects of worship

DOWN
 1 Prescribed ceremony
 2 At that time
 3 Natural Earth satellite
 4 Gave food
 5 One of four divisions of a year
 6 In accordance with the rules
 8 February
 2nd Christian Festival

9 Become apparent
 11 Small round
 14 Obligation to pay
 15 Atmospheric conditions
 19 Russian fighter plane
 21 Northeast
 22 Short poem or words set to music
 25 A celebration
 26 South Carolina
 27 Used to link alternatives
 30 Belonging to the past
 32 Artificial intelligence
 33 Mountain (abbrev)
 34 Omnivorous nocturnal mammal
 36 Informal exclamation
 37 Confidence in someone
 38 Circular object that revolves on an axle
 40 Pennsylvania
 43 Atmospheric disturbance
 44 Executive Order
 45 Ampere

48 Unpleasant prolonged noise
 49 Simple roofed structure
 52 Warm primary color
 53 Post Office
 56 Tunnel dug by a small animal
 58 Aspects
 59 Exclamation of suspicion
 60 Pagan name for Feb 2 celebration

61 Exist
 62 Question something
 63 Chats
 64 Self-importance
 65 Shaded part of a picture
 67 Immigrants of this country who brought the idea of Groundhog Day to the USA
 68 River in Central Europe
 69 Fourth note of the diatonic scale

70 Smallest amount
 71 Friendly greeting
 72 Exclamation drawing attention to an event
 75 Novel
 76 Not out
 78 Fluid that will soon be collected from local maple trees
 80 Each
 81 A distinct period of history
 84 Negative answer
 86 Road (abbrev)

GERMAN
GROUND HOG DAY CHOWDER

- 1 lb. (8 links) fully cooked pork sausage cut in 1/2 inch pieces
- 2 potatoes (2 cups), peeled and chopped
- 1 onion, (1 1/2 cups), chopped
- 1 small cabbage (4 cups), shredded
- 3 cups milk
- 3 tbsp. flour
- 1 cup (4 oz.) Swiss cheese, shredded
- Fresh parsley, minced

Combine sausage, potatoes, onion in a Dutch oven; add 1 1/2 teaspoons of salt and a dash of pepper. Stir in 2 cups of water. Bring to a boil and reduce heat. Cover and simmer 20 minutes or until potatoes are nearly tender. Stir in cabbage and cook 10 minutes more or until vegetables are tender. Stir in 2 1/2 cups of the milk. Stir remaining milk into flour and stir into soup. Cook over low heat to avoid scorching and be sure to use a heavy bottomed pan. Stir until thickened to desired consistency. Add cheese and stir until melted. Garnish with fresh parsley. 6 servings.

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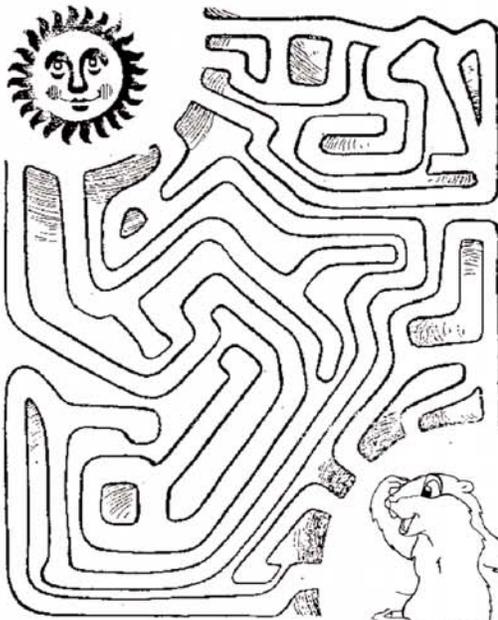


All eyes will be on Phil Tuesday morning. What are the differences between the two pictures?

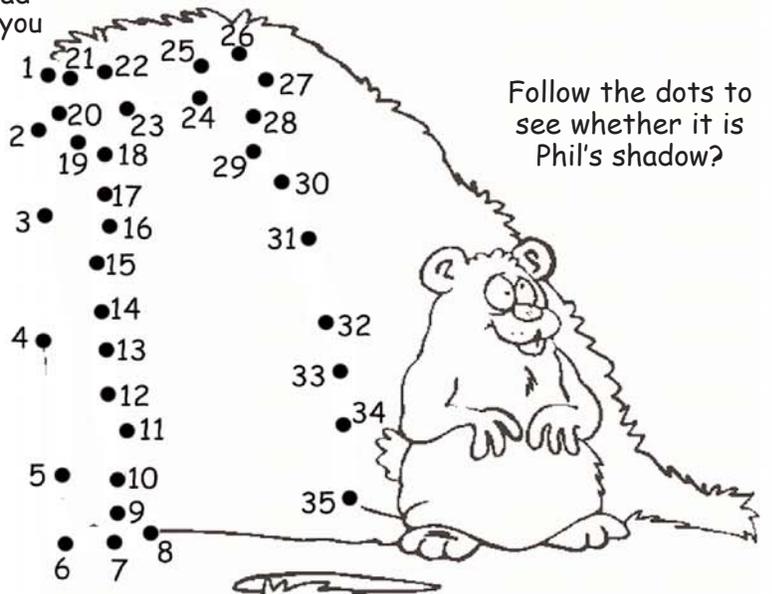


Kids' Winter Fun Page

L. Comando



Will Phil get through the maze and see his shadow? Maybe you can help him.



Follow the dots to see whether it is Phil's shadow?

Groundhog Day Wordsearch

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

- PUNXSUTAWNEY
- PHIL
- GROUNDHOG
- WINTER
- SHADOW
- CANDLEMAS
- BURROW
- SPRING

25	13	14	22	7	17	12	6	5	9	6	9	12	17	7	14	13	25
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
Z	Y	X	W	V	U	T	S	R	Q	P	O	N	M	L	K	J	I

Recently Closed DEC's Bureau of Environmental Crime Investigation Cases

Illegal Sale of Bear Bile Products - NYC Chinatown

Some New York City stores recently paid penalties for illegally selling bear bile products. In 2019, Region 2 Investigator Harvey received intel from global wildlife organization "World Animal Protection," alleging these products were being offered for sale in stores throughout the city. Preliminary inspections of the locations confirmed these findings, and ECOs executed a sting on Sept. 2, 2020. With the assistance of ECOs Shea, McCarthy, and Parmelee, the team seized thousands of dollars in bear bile products from three locations. DEC entered into consent orders with each store that included \$5,000-\$4,500 in suspended penalties; illegal items were forfeited to DEC. Bear bile has historically been valued in some cultures as a traditional medicine and continues to be commercialized worldwide.

Illegal Commercialization of Leopard Hide



ECO Sulkey with seized leopard hide

On Oct. 9, 2020, a Beacon woman paid a penalty for trying to sell a leopard hide online. On Aug. 19, 2020, Investigator Sulkey responded to an ad for the sale of a leopard hide listed at \$1,400. On Aug. 25, 2020, Investigator Sulkey posed as a potential buyer and met with the seller of the hide, Kimberly Sauer. Sauer offered the hide for sale and stated that it was authentic leopard. ECO Wamsley, waiting nearby, responded to assist with the seizure. Sauer entered into an order on consent with DEC for the illegal commercialization of this listed endangered species. In addition to paying a \$500 penalty, she forfeited the leopard hide.

As COVID-19 Surges Across NYS, Gillibrand Urges Congress to Deliver Emergency Funding for Community Health Centers and Bolster Health Care Systems in Underserved Areas

The Proposed Emergency Fund For Community Health Centers Would Provide \$13.5 Billion In Dedicated Federal Funding for Critical Centers On The Frontlines Of U.S. Public Health Challenges

WASHINGTON, D.C. - As the coronavirus continues to surge across New York State, U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand today urged Congress to establish a Community Health Center Preparedness Program (CHCPP). The Emergency Fund would dedicate \$13.5 billion in federal funding to help CHCs pre-

pare for and respond to public health crises. Senator Gillibrand is also calling for an additional \$12.4 billion for urgent workforce and infrastructure investments. CHCs are on the frontline of health care in the United States, particularly in rural and underserved areas, and provide a critical health care safety net during times of crisis. Throughout the pandemic, these health centers have provided their communities with testing, tracing, vaccine preparedness, and other health services. Delivering critical needs to their communities has wiped out many community health centers' financial resources and, without a dedicated source of federal funding related to emergency preparedness, many have been forced to temporarily close. Senator Gillibrand is fighting to send essential resources into underserved communities to protect public health in the next coronavirus relief package.

"CHCs provide a wide-range of services to some of our most underserved populations and they ensure our communities have access to quality health care, especially in times of public health emergencies," said Senator Gillibrand. "CHCs have stepped up to provide even more essential health services to their communities and they are in need of dedicated federal funding to stay afloat. Due to strained financial resources, hundreds of these vital centers have been forced to temporarily close when health care services are needed more than ever. Congress can't allow this to happen; we must create an emergency fund to protect the health of all communities."

CHCANYS President and CEO Rose Duhan said, "Politicians continue to talk about the health disparities in Black and Brown communities that have been exacerbated by COVID-19, and the need to provide vaccines in those communities first. Thanks to Senator Gillibrand for standing up for CHCs, which are located in the communities where the vaccines are needed most. It's time for all politicians on both sides of the aisle to put your money where your mouth is and ensure CHCs have not just the COVID vaccine - but the funding to get it in the arms of the people who need it most."

CHCs provide affordable primary and preventative health care to the most vulnerable and underserved communities. Over 30 million patients, including almost 400,000 veterans and almost 9 million children, receive quality medical, dental, vision, and behavioral health care services from a CHC. CHCs employ over 250,000 full-time employees nationally, produce nearly \$63.5 billion in economic activity, and save our health care system more than \$24 billion per year (facts and figures prior to the pandemic). CHCs also help people access healthy food, safe housing, and affordable transportation. In the midst of the addiction epidemic, CHCs are well-positioned providers of substance use disorder and mental health treatment in communities. Services provided by CHCs help patients avoid unnecessary trips to the emergency room and reduce health disparities in our communities.

To support CHCs throughout the COVID-19 crisis, Senator Gillibrand is specifically calling for a \$13.5 billion emergency fund that could be used for:

- o COVID-19 emergency funding required to adequately respond to this public health crisis
- o COVID-19 emergency funding to reach underserved and prioritized populations with vaccine
- o Telehealth reimbursement expansion of coverage and rates that are insufficient to cover costs as well as inadequate for all of telehealth's potential uses
- o Equal access to emergency funding for health center Look-Alikes

LEGALS/PUBLIC NOTICES

**Multiple Potential COVID-19 Exposures
at Holiday Mountain Ski Area
in Monticello
Facility Responds Promptly, Working
with Public Health**

Monticello, NY - Sullivan County Public Health Services is alerting anyone who visited Holiday Mountain Ski Area in Monticello on the following date and time that they may have been exposed to someone who has since tested positive for COVID-19:

- **Sunday, January 17, between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.**

"The individual became symptomatic on Jan. 19 and is experiencing mild symptoms at this time. Known exposures have been quarantined," explained Public Health Director Nancy McGraw. "Holiday Mountain staff have been cooperative and decided to voluntarily close the ski club for the weekend.

The facility has been proactive about notifying the public, cleaning, and working with Sullivan County Public Health Services staff and NYS contact tracers."

If someone thinks they have been exposed, they should self-quarantine for 14 days and call their health care provider if symptoms develop, or call Sullivan County Public Health Services at 845-292-5910.

Symptoms may appear 214 days after exposure to the virus. Possible symptoms COVID-19 include one or more of the following:

- o Fever or chills
- o Cough
- o Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- o Fatigue
- o Muscle or body aches
- o Headache
- o New loss of taste or smell
- o Sore throat
- o Congestion or runny nose
- o Nausea or vomiting
- o Diarrhea

Stay home if you or a loved one is experiencing any of these symptoms.

If someone is showing any of these signs, seek emergency medical care immediately:

- o Trouble breathing
- o Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- o New confusion
- o Inability to wake or stay awake
- o Bluish lips or face

McGraw reminded, "Cases are increasing, and the public should assume that widespread community transmission is occurring, causing the number of positive cases and those with symptoms of illness to increase. We urge everyone to practice social distancing, handwashing, use of hand sanitizer, and wearing masks at all times when indoors and/or outdoors and near others, to reduce further transmission of the coronavirus. And please, stay home if you are awaiting coronavirus test results."

Any New Yorker can call the COVID-19 Emotional Support Hotline at 1-844-863-9314 for mental health support and counseling.

For more information on coronavirus, go to <https://sullivanny.us/departments/publichealth/coronavirus> or <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home>.

**Tri-Valley CSD
Board Meeting**

February 4, 2021

February 18, 2021

**Anticipated proposed Executive Session 6:00 p.m.,
Regular Meetings Begin at 7:00 p.m.**

Meetings will be conducted on YouTube Live

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Attorney General James Files Lawsuit to Support Safe, Rapid, and Complete Dismantling of Indian Point

NEW YORK - New York Attorney General Letitia James today filed a lawsuit, on behalf of the state of New York, against the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) over the decommissioning of the Indian Point nuclear power facility in the lower Hudson Valley. The suit challenges the NRC's denial, last week, of New York's petition for a hearing on the state's concerns regarding the decommissioning plan for Indian Point, proposed by Holtec International and its subsidiaries (Holtec). The suit also challenges the NRC's decision to allow Holtec to use more than \$630 million of the plant's dedicated decommissioning trust funds for spent fuel management costs, which is the legal and financial responsibility of the federal government.

"For the health and safety of New Yorkers, it's imperative that Indian Point be safely, rapidly, and thoroughly dismantled," said Attorney General James. "The NRC is attempting to bypass critical transparency and accountability steps, and also is seeking to make New Yorkers pay for the job. The NRC's unwillingness to hear New York's valid concerns is a slap in the face to all New Yorkers. I am committed to fighting back against the NRC's misguided and illegal actions and ensuring that Indian Point is decommissioned in a responsible way."

In 2017, Entergy - the owner of Indian Point - agreed to close the two remaining operating units at the site. Unit 2 powered down in April 2020, and Unit 3 is scheduled to cease operations in April 2021. On January 23, 2020, the NRC announced that it was considering approval of an application by Entergy to transfer the Indian Point license - and the facility's decommissioning trust funds - to Holtec for decommissioning.

Decommissioning, the radiological clean-up and dismantling of a nuclear facility, is extremely demanding, both technically and financially. Accordingly, the NRC requires that nuclear facilities establish and maintain funding to pay for eventual facility decommissioning following closure. In the case of Indian Point, its three decommissioning trusts were capitalized by New York ratepayers through electricity bills. Holtec obtained the NRC's approval to use the trust money, not only to conduct the required radiological decommissioning, but also to fund spent fuel management. Of the approximately \$2.1 billion of aggregated trust funds intended to decommission the facility, Holtec intends to spend more than \$630 million for spent fuel management alone, raising concerns regarding the sufficiency of the remaining funds to conduct safe and comprehensive decommissioning at a site known to harbor substantial contamination. The federal government has a legal obligation to reimburse spent fuel management costs, but the NRC's approval allows Holtec to pocket those reimbursements rather than returning them to the decommissioning trust funds.

On February 12, 2020, Attorney General James filed a petition, on behalf of the state of New York, to intervene in the license transfer, arguing that the transfer violates the NRC's rules for approving a nuclear facility license transfer. Attorney General James also requested that the NRC hold a public hearing on whether the proposed Holtec licensees have demonstrated financial qualification, whether they have shown adequate decommissioning financial assurance, and whether their decommissioning plans will actually ensure adequate funding for decommissioning and the other



William A. Brenner ESQ.

Attorney-At-Law

157 Main Street, (Route 55 at Route 42) P.O. Box 369
Grahamsville, NY 12740

Very Important

Have you made a "Simple Will"?

- 1) Spouse with children or
- 2) Couples living together
- 3) Second marriages

[must personally meet and discuss your ideas, plans & options]

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activities for which Holtec sought to use the decommissioning trusts, particularly spent fuel management. On March 24, 2020, and again, on October 7, 2020, New York opposed Holtec's request for an exemption from the NRC's regulations that prohibit the use of trust funds for non-decommissioning activities. Today's lawsuit was filed in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

"The NRC has once again failed to prioritize the real and substantive concerns of Lower Hudson Valley residents by denying the public hearing requests by the Town of Cortlandt, Village of Buchanan, Hendrick Hudson School District, and New York Attorney General's Office that were submitted almost a year ago," said U.S. Senator Chuck Schumer. "Allowing Indian Point to change hands without a proper public hearing is a slap in the face to all who live and work in the communities surrounding Indian Point, and I urge the NRC to immediately reverse this decision."

"Westchester residents deserve to have their voices heard on whether or not Holtec is right for our community," said Westchester County Executive George Latimer. "Indian Point is in our backyard and the decommissioning process is one that will impact our region for generations. We need answers on Holtec's plans for protecting local jobs and restoring the site environment while also seeing adequate proof of sufficient financial responsibility. I applaud and support the attorney general's suit and look forward to results that will benefit Westchester residents now and for years to come."

"The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's decisions to deny public input to the license transfer process and to allow the use of more than half a billion dollars in ratepayer funds for cleaning up the Indian Point nuclear facility are both outrageous," said State Senator Pete Harckham. "The NRC is supposed to protect the public interest, not serve to assist private industry dip into the pockets of hardworking New Yorkers. The lawsuit New York Attorney General Letitia James has filed against the NRC is well founded, and I applaud her action taken today."

"It is intolerable that the NRC would allow Holtec to divert money from the trust fund for spent fuel management," said Assemblymember Sandra Galef. "New Yorkers will not be Holtec's piggy bank. Our concerns are not trivial and need to be addressed thoroughly through a public hearing. What is the NRC afraid of? Why are they shirking responsibility? I applaud the attorney general for her leadership on this issue."

If you wish to download this week's Church bulletin from St. Peter's, Liberty, NY please go to: stpeters/bulletin

As New York begins to open allowing churches to once have services, we encourage our readers to contact their individual church or parish for updated information.

St. Mark's UM Church
68 Clinton St., Napanoch

**YARD AND CLOTHING SALE
CLOSED
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**



Sundown United Methodist Church

Covered Dish Supper

5:30 pm

To be Announced

Sundown United Methodist Church Hall



Grahamsville United Methodist Church

Saturday Thrift Sale

9:00 am to 12 noon
To be Announced

Thrift Sale
9am-12 noon
Luncheon
11 am - 12:30 pm
To be Announced



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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 5:45 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



Sundown United Methodist Church
Peakamoose Rd., Sundown
Sunday Worship Service - 8:30 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study - 6:45 p.m.
Pastor Seung Jin Hong
845-985-2283
e-mail: Sundownumc@gmail.com

Grahamsville United Methodist Church
Rte. 55, Grahamsville
Sunday Worship Service - 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School for grades k-7 - 10:30 a.m.
Mid-week Bible Study opportunities available!

Regular Office Hours
Wednesday 9 am - Noon
Friday 3 pm to 6 pm

If you wish to make an appointment to talk to Pastor Seung Jin Hong please call 845-985-2283

For all other information contact Pastor Seung Jin Hong.
845-985-2283 • e-mail: Grahamsvilleumc@gmail.com

Grahamsville Reformed Church

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Pastor Kenneth Ronk
Sunday School 9:30 am
Worship Service 9:30 am
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Grahamsville, NY 12740
845-985-7480

Claryville Reformed Church



Claryville Road
Claryville, NY 12725
845-985-2041

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Church Hall available for rent
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St. Augustine's Chapel
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Sunday Mass - 9:30 am
Holy Days 5:30 pm

Penance 9:00 am, 2nd Sunday of the month
Rev. Thomas P. Kiely, **Pastor**

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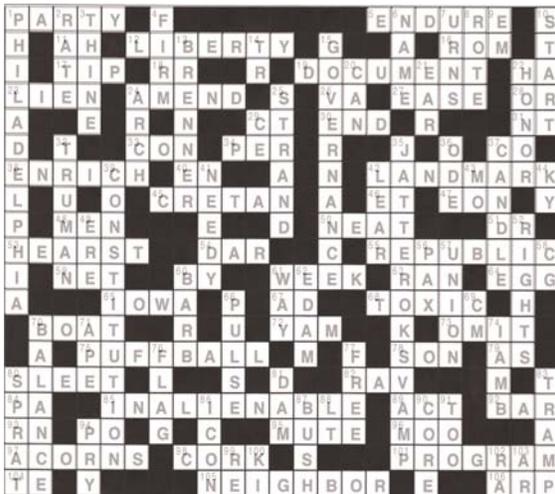
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AL-ANON MEETINGS- <http://www.al-anon.alateen.org>
 Mon- 7:00 p.m. United Methodist Church, 170 N. Main Street, Liberty
 Thurs- 7:00 p.m. Immaculate Conception Church Annex, 6317 Rt 42, Woodbourne
 Sat- 8:00 p.m. United Methodist Church, 170 N. Main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

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

Ans to last week's Crossword



SUUJI WA TANSU NI KAGIRU
 answer

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

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Please join us on Thursday, January 28th for Animal Agriculture, Climate Change, & Plant-based Diets

What: A presentation, interactive talk & live cooking demonstration by Nava Atlas (author of various vegetarian and vegan cookbooks) on the intersection of animal agriculture, climate change, and plant-based diets.

When: 6- 7pm EST on Thursday, January 28, 2021

Where: RSVP at bit.ly/january28veganatlas

Who: This event is brought to you by New Paltz Climate Action Coalition and New Paltz Climate Smart Task Force, featuring Nava Atlas. <https://theveganatlas.com/about/>

Celebrate Veganuary! In this interactive talk, we'll discuss steps we can take, as individuals, to make food choices that can help mitigate the climate crisis. It's something every individual can do every day, in a world where effecting change is an enormous challenge. And honestly, it's a truly delicious, nutritious, and sustainable way to eat and live!

As part of this Zoom meeting, Nava will live-demo a couple of recipes from her recent books, 5-Ingredient Vegan and Plant-Powered Protein, to show just how easy and fun a plant-based diet can be.

Explore this great fact sheet beforehand:

If you're interested in the impact of animal agriculture on climate change, this concise, two-page report based on the FAO's findings can help change your worldview and is a good introduction to the subject: <http://tinyurl.com/3hsh46c>.

The program will start with the topic at hand as it pertains to climate, then move on to the food demo, and end with time for Q & A and discussion.

RSVP at <http://bit.ly/january28veganatlas>

More about our guest presenter

Nava Atlas has authored various vegetarian and vegan books over the past few decades. Her recent titles include 5-Ingredient Vegan, Plant Power, Wild About Greens, Vegan Holiday Kitchen, and Vegan Soups and Hearty Stews for all Seasons.

Nava's recipes have been featured in: *A Vegan Passover - The New York Times*; *A Thanksgiving Feast, No Turkeys Allowed - The New York Times*; *When Turkey Won't Fly - The Washington Post*; *VegNews*; *Epicurious*; *Cookstr*;

Her work has been featured in: *The New York Times*; *Well* section: *A Thanksgiving Feast, No Turkeys Allowed*; *Well* blogs: *A Vegan Passover*; *NY Times Cooking*: *Nava Atlas's Quinoa Pilaf*; *NY Times Cooking*: *Nava Atlas's Sweet Potato Tzimmis*; *Washington Post*; *Weeknight Vegetarian*, *A Spicy Stew Made with Creamy Nut Butter*; *Philadelphia Daily News*; *Holiday Vegan Recipes*; *Portland Oregonian*; *Cookbook Review: Wild About Greens* by Nava Atlas; *Jewish News (UK)*; *Pesach: A Veggie Seder (fit for all)*; *Huffington Post - Ellen Kanner*; *Meatless Monday columnist*; *Nava Atlas and the Art of Plant Power*; *(Vegan) Holiday Party with Nava Atlas*; *Nava Atlas on What to Cook and How to Be*; *Vegetarian Times*, *Philadelphia Daily News*, *Washington Post*, *Portland Oregonian*

Nava was a regular columnist and contributor for many years, and has written numerous articles for their print publications.

Nava's books have also been reviewed in the print and online versions of: *Eating Well*, *Cooking Light*, *Energy Times*, *Hudson Valley Magazine*, *Valley Table Magazine*, *Organic Spa Magazine*, *Vibrant Life*, *Albany Times-Union*, *Poughkeepsie Journal*, *Santa Cruz Sentinel*, *Detroit News*, *Burlington Free Press* ... and many other publications.

Nava has been featured on radio shows and podcasts including: Martha Stewart Radio, Progressive Radio Network's It's All About Food, WDST-Woodstock Radio, the Doug Grunther Show, Feisty Side of Fifty, Vegan and the Living is Easy, Real Radio Daytona's Tim Granger Show, Main Street Vegan with Victoria Moran, The Dr. Don Show, & Jazzy Vegetarian with Laura Theodore

RSVP at <http://bit.ly/january28veganatlas>

Javits Center - Manhattan New York State COVID-19 Vaccination Center



On Jan. 5, Forest Rangers were deployed to support the State's effort establishing a vaccination center at the Jacob K. Javits Center in Manhattan. Four DEC Forest Rangers were assigned with the mission of helping to meld the Department of Military and Naval Affairs' military command structure with their civilian counterparts in the Department of Health into a Unified Command Team using the Incident Command System (ICS). Rangers assumed roles as Deputy Incident Commander, Deputy Logistics Chief, Deputy Operations Chief, and Plans Chief. The Unified Command Team is responsible for the construction and design of the site, as well as the training, assigning, supervision, and logistical support of nearly 650 staff on site.

The ICS put in place and reinforced by the Forest Ranger contingent supports the Unified Team's success in the long-term mission of vaccinating New Yorkers. Additional agencies assisting with the Javits Center Vaccination Site are the State Department of Homeland Security, Office of Information Technology Services, Department of Transportation, New York State Police, and New York City Police Department.

COVID Update from Governor Cuomo

January 22, 2021 We are about to receive next week's vaccine delivery. As we do, we'll continue getting shots into arms as efficiently and as quickly as possible. I urge providers to refrain from scheduling vaccination appointments in advance of confirming their supply. Providers must be sure they will have the doses needed for the appointments opened; we want to avoid any cancellations due to lack of anticipated supply. I want to note: New Yorkers who have already received their first dose do not have to worry that they will not be able to get their second dose. Second dose allocation is a separate process, and we always ensure there are enough second doses to complete vaccination for those who received the first dose.

New York State is ready, willing and able to administer over 100,000 vaccine doses a day-if we have the supply. I'm hopeful that the Biden administration will take steps to increase production and shorten the anticipated timeline. For now, I encourage New Yorkers to remain patient.



Photo of the Day: Part of the team that administered the 10,000th vaccine dose at the Javits vaccination site earlier this morning (Photo by Sergeant Sebastian Rothwyn)

Here's what else you need to know tonight:

1. As of 9am today, 97 percent of the first doses New York received from Weeks 1-5 deliveries have been administered. This excludes facilities that are a part of the federal government's Long Term Care Facility Program. New Yorkers can follow the progress of New York's vaccination efforts through the State's Vaccine Tracker.
2. Total hospitalizations have declined to 8,846. Of the 268,001 tests reported yesterday, 15,144, or 5.65 percent were positive. There were 1,546 patients in ICU yesterday, down 14 from the previous day. Of them, 992 are intubated. Sadly, we lost 165 New Yorkers to the virus.
3. The rate of increase of statewide COVID hospitalizations is slowing. During the week of December 22 to December 28, the average increase in hospitalizations was 165 per day. From January 5 to January 11, the average increase was 48 per day. In the past seven days, the average increase was just 5 per day. The downward trend is clear. In fact, hospitalizations today are down 218 from Wednesday's high of 9,055. While this is great to see, we must remain alert due to the presence of the more contagious UK strain in New York State.
4. Three new cases of the UK variant have been discovered in New York State. Two cases were found in Westchester County and another was found in Kings County. There are now 25 known cases of the UK variant in New York State.
5. A new State-run vaccination site opened in Plattsburgh, NY. Vaccinations are by appointment only. To determine eligibility and schedule an appointment to receive their first dose, New Yorkers can utilize the state's "Am I Eligible" app or call the New York State Vaccination Hotline at 1-833-NYS-4VAX (1-833-697-4829).
6. New York has conducted over 30 million tests. Getting tested for COVID regularly is a great way to ensure your health and the health of those around you. If you are experiencing symptoms of COVID or believe you may have been exposed to the virus, get tested. Find a testing site near you. You can also call 1-888-364-3065 to make a free appointment at a New York State-run testing location.
7. Five new State-run vaccination sites opened across New York State. Vaccination sites at SUNY Stony Brook, the Aqueduct Racetrack in Queens, SUNY Potsdam, SUNY Buffalo and Plattsburgh International Airport are open and vaccinating eligible New Yorkers against the COVID-19 virus. Vaccinations are by appointment only. (Contd. Pg. 23)

RUPCO – Services Delivers Food on Christmas Eve



The sound of sleigh bells jingling at the Stuyvesant hallways on Christmas Eve was none other than our fabulous Program Services department delivering meals and holiday cheer to our residents!

Big thank you to The Lunchbox, "Ulster County's Smallest Restaurant", for preparing all 50 meals. This holiday cheer was made possible thanks to a generous contribution from the Aegon TransAmerica Foundation.

COVID Update from Governor Cuomo

(From Pg. 22)

To determine eligibility and schedule an appointment to receive their first dose, New Yorkers can use the "Am I Eligible" app or call the New York State Vaccination Hotline at 1-833-NYS-4VAX (1-833-697-4829). More sites coming soon!

8. As part of my 2021 State of the State, an additional \$25 million will go to continuing the Nourish NY Initiative. 2020 was a painful year for many New Yorkers but the Nourish NY program ensured that no food was going to waste at a time when people are hungry. The program redirected 17 million pounds of food from local farms to New Yorkers in need. We will continue to ensure all families in New York have access to healthy, locally grown food.

9. Nearly 1,200 senior NYCHA residents have received their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. Last week, the State deployed five "community vaccination kits" to NYCHA housing complexes. These sites will be set up again three weeks from now to administer second doses. Kits will be deployed to additional locations to further bolster our efforts to ensure the fair and equitable distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine in communities that are underserved by traditional health care institutions.

10. Eight vaccination kits have been deployed to churches and cultural institutions in New York City, Long Island and Westchester. These pop-up sites also serve our mission to distribute the COVID-19 vaccine to low-income communities and leave no New Yorkers behind.

"Deep Breath Moment": In his battle against cancer, Bills fan Victor Neilson rang the bell at his treatment center yesterday marking the end of his five-month chemotherapy. And he celebrated in classic Bills fashion (Bills fans will know what we mean!). Congratulations Victor and go Bills!

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.

CALENDAR OF LOCAL EVENTS

- 2/3/21 Town of Neversink Planning Board Meeting 7 pm (App submission Dt. 1/20/21)
 2/9/21 Town of Denning Town Board and Business meeting at Denning Town Hall 6:00 pm (Please note: 2nd Tuesday)
 2/10/21 Town of Neversink Town Board Meeting - Regular
 2/15/21 **Town of Neversink Holiday - President's Day**
 2/16/21 Town of Neversink Zoning Board of Appeals 7:30 pm
 2/18/21 Town of Denning Planning Board Meeting - 6:00 pm Denning Town Hall

Save the Date!

Matthew Bertholf's 10th Anniversary Horseshoe Tournament Sunday, July 11, 2021
 Neversink Fire Department Pavilion.

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.

PLEASE CONTACT A MEMBER OF EACH ORGANIZATION FOR UPDATES ON OPENINGS

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

**Ulster County Legislature
 Weekly Update For The Week of
 January 25 - January 29, 2021**

Monday, January 25

- 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 132 956 6981#, Password: 1234#
- 6:00 PM - Trails Advisory Committee Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 857 6060 4160, Passcode 499025, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656
- 7:00 PM - Climate Smart Committee Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 941 7494 7702, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656

Tuesday, January 26

- No Meetings

Wednesday, January 27

- 9:30 AM - Ulster County Soil & Water Conservation District at 5 Park Ln, Highland. Contact the office for attendance details (845) 883-7162 Ext. 3
- 3:00 PM - Electrical Licensing Board Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 812 2889 2040, By Phone Dial (929) 436-2866
- 4:30 PM - Criminal Justice Reform Task Force Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 988 1042 6830, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656
- 6:30 PM - Environmental Management Council Powered by Zoom Meeting. Meeting ID: 974 4254 9615, Passcode: 278571, Dial In (929) 205-6099
- 7:00 PM - Fire Advisory Board Powered by Zoom Meeting. Meeting ID: 838 1721 8686, Passcode: 692213, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656

Thursday, January 28

- 6:00 PM - Commission on Reapportionment Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 956 1062 6098, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656

Friday, January 29

- No Meetings

Regards,
 Jay Mahler, Deputy Clerk
 Ulster County Legislature

**Tri-Valley Elementary School
 WANTED:**

Local establishments to display student KINDNESS artwork

Contact Penny Hennessey in the Main Office at 985-2296 ext. 5306 or pennyhennessey@trivalleycsd.org.

All artwork and frames will be provided by the District and refreshed bi-annually.

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

Classified ads - \$6.00 for the first 20 words/

20 cents each additional word
 1" Boxed ad (1" x 3")
 - \$7.50 per week

Business card ad (2" x 3")
 \$15.00 per week

(3" x 4") - \$30.00 per week
 (3" x 6") - \$45.00

(4" x 6") - \$60.00

1/4 pg (4" x 5") - \$50.00

(6" x 8") - \$120.00

1/2 pg (4"x8") - \$80.00

Full Page - 8" x10" - \$160

Low Rates - High Visibility!

Non-Profits Welcome to Apply for Discretionary Contracts

Monticello, NY - The Sullivan County Legislature is pleased to continue the Legislative Discretionary Contract Program intended for not-for-profit agencies to apply for consideration of legislative funding. Resolution No. 327-16, unanimously passed on July 21, 2016, adopted Program Guidelines for analyzing annual requests for funding.

The purpose of the Legislative contract application process is to identify local entities, including community and not-for-profit organizations throughout Sullivan County, that have specific needs or Countywide significance by tying applications to identified County and municipal goals. The applicant must be a not-for-profit agency or civic organization operating within Sullivan County that is not part of County government.

The application deadline is February 1, 2021 and must be completed and submitted in one of the following ways:

- o Complete the application on-line via fillable pdf form on the Sullivan County website, www.sullivanyny.us, under "Helpful Links."
- o Submit the application and supporting documentation as email attachments to Michelle Huck at michelle.huck@co.sullivan.ny.us.
- o Mail or hand-deliver the printed application and supporting documentation to the Office of the Sullivan County Manager, c/o Michelle Huck, County Government Center, 100 North Street, Monticello, NY 12701.

Ellenville-Wawarsing Chamber of Commerce Announces February's "First Friday Feature" Event An online Lunch & Learn on Friday, February 5th at Noon

(January 21, 2021) Today the Ellenville-Wawarsing Chamber of Commerce (EWCOC) announced the first event as a part of its monthly "First Friday Feature" series, where they demonstrate available EWCOC.com features that both members and non-members can take advantage of. Due to the pandemic, the January through June events will be online "Lunch & Learns" held at Noon on the first Friday of each month, with the link to attend sent via email to all registrants.

Outgoing Membership Committee Chair Mary Sheeley said "The February event will demonstrate how anyone in the community can take advantage of our new Community Calendar feature on EWCOC.com. Having one shared calendar that features all of the wonderful events in our area has long been a goal for many of us -- both Chamber members and non-members alike. The Chamber of Commerce is thrilled to be able to offer a free digital calendar feature for the community to use, and we invite all to learn how to enter their own organization's or business' events into our platform, so that we can share them with our visitors."

The Ellenville-Wawarsing Chamber of Commerce hopes to leverage the new features and fresh look of their EWCOC.com website in order to establish a single destination that promotes area events to residents, visitors and those considering relocating to our area. Chamber members and sponsors can even request a specific calendar feed that features only their own events, for use on their own website and social media promotion.

Those interested in attending the Lunch & Learn event can register on the EWCOC.com website, by utilizing the already existing events calendar and clicking on the February 5th date. The EWCOC requests that you register prior to Wednesday, February 3rd, in order to ensure that you receive the login information.

New Year, New Beginnings! The SCVA Just Released Its 2021 Travel Guide

January 25, 2021, Liberty, NY-The Sullivan Catskills Visitors Association (SCVA) is excited to announce that its new 2021 Travel Guide is published and ready for immediate distribution.

The SCVA team worked diligently in the past year to adjust to our changing times and steward its member businesses through so many of the confronting obstacles. They are now looking forward to the new year, with a fresh perspective and a brand-new Travel Guide leading the way.

"Our travel guide is a portfolio of the best-of-the-best experiences, telling the story of who we are as a world class destination. We have evolved into a place that appeals to those from all over the globe seeking wellness, luxury, outdoor adventure, authentic main streets and superior farm-to-table cuisine. All eyes are on us! We have been named top places to visit by Lonely Planet, Fodor's Travel and Harper's Bazaar. This year's new guide showcases all that we have to offer for those who desire a memorable getaway. The Sullivan Catskills is truly the trending place to be and our guide is one of our best pieces of advertisement," Stated Roberta Byron-Lockwood, President, CEO, SCVA. "It is also an excellent resource to educate residents on things to do with their family and friends in their own backyard."

The Travel Guide aligns with SCVA website www.sullivancatskills.com which is designed to make things easier to find and for those who want more information on attractions, lodging, restaurants and events. In addition to the featured guide, the SCVA has niche Trail Brochures, which are updated annually, for those who desire specialized experiences such as the famed Dove Trail, Craft Beverages, Arts & Culture, Antiques, Pottery and more...

"This year's Travel Guide is truly a piece that captures the essence of who we were and where we are now in the travel and tourism industry," stated Byron-Lockwood. The cover photo, taken by local photographer Jerry Cohen encapsulates that we are a place that has a profound legacy and a getaway where one can experience solace and distance with the backdrop of our majestic Catskill Mountains."

The SCVA's previous years' Travel Guides won numerous American Graphic Design Awards as well as the prestigious Hermes Creative Award.

For more information on the SCVA or how to obtain a 2021 Travel Guide visit www.sullivancatskills.com or call 845-747-4449

U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand Responds to Biden's Buy American Executive Order



*U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand at the Corning Glass facility in June 2020 -
(photo credit: Office of U.S. Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand)*

Washington, D.C. --- U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand issued the following statement in reaction to President Joe Biden's executive order that will strengthen American manufacturing:

“President Biden's Buy American executive order signals the renewal of our federal government's commitment to not just rebuilding, but reimagining the tools needed to beat this pandemic and recover stronger. From upstate manufacturing hubs to New York City, New Yorkers are ready to ramp up production of quality American-made products that will ensure our victory over COVID-19, and a shared future where the dignity and labor of all Americans is respected. I look forward to working with the Biden administration to deliver good-paying union jobs for our country and our state.”

Attorney General James Congratulates Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer

NEW YORK - New York Attorney General Letitia James tonight congratulated Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer for his ascension to the most powerful position in the United States Senate:

“We always knew Brooklyn ruled the world, but now it rules the U.S. Senate! I want to congratulate my good friend, Chuck Schumer, for his ascension to Senate majority leader.

“As a U.S. senator, every year, Chuck Schumer visits all 62 counties - attending every graduation, parade, street fair, and picnic he can while he engages with New Yorkers from across the state. As majority leader, I have all the confidence that he will use that same spirit to engage with senators from across the nation and deliver real results for the American people.

“As New Yorkers, we can all be proud that our values will be guiding the work of the U.S. Senate.”

Sullivan County Legislature Evaluates Nursing Care Service Providers for Lease of County-Owned Care Center at Sunset Lake Nursing Home Facility - Nursing Care Service Providers have Dramatically Different Publicly Available Records on Care

The Sullivan County Legislature heard from three nursing care facility management companies during open meetings last Thursday, January 21, 2021.

These three nursing care providers presented the legislature with their proposal to manage Sullivan County's only county-owned nursing care facility, The Care Center at Sunset Lake. The Care Center at Sunset Lake, currently under county management, has a Medicare rating of 4 stars.

These three nursing care providers, The Grand Healthcare Systems, Infinite Care Management and VestraCare/TheMcGuire Group/Absolut, have dramatically different Medicare ratings for standard of care.

The Grand Healthcare Systems, for instance, has overall Medicare ratings of one star, the lowest possible rating, for nearly half (seven of sixteen) of Grand Healthcare facilities in New York State. The company has dramatically low ratings across various care categories rated by Medicare, including for health inspections (eight of sixteen facilities score one star), staffing (75% of facilities score two stars or lower) and fire safety. The Grand Healthcare Systems has also been the subject of U.S. Dept. of Labor investigations and has incurred steep fines.

By contrast, the consortium of nursing care facility management companies encompassing VestraCare/TheMcGuire Group/Absolut has overall Medicare ratings of five stars, the highest possible rating, for over one half (nine of eighteen) of healthcare facilities under management in New York State. The McGuire Group specifically has an average overall rating from Medicare of 4.8 stars for the six New York nursing facilities under its management.

The Sullivan County Legislature may be reached at (845) 807-0447. A list Sullivan County's nine county legislators can be found at:

<http://sullivanny.us/Departments/Legislature>.

(Contd. Pg. 27)

McGuire Group								
Rating system is 1 through 5 stars with 5 stars as a top rating.								
Facility Name	Town	Rating	Inspection		Resident	Safety	Fictel/penalty	Notes
Autumn View Health Care Facility LLC	Hamburg, NY	4	4	2	5	0	0	
Brookhaven Health Care Facility LLC	East Patchogue, NY	5	5	5	5	1	0	
Garden Gate Health Care Facility	Cheektowago, NY	5	5	3	5	0	0	
Harris Hill Nursing Facility, LLC	Williamsville, NY	5	5	3	5	1	0	
North Gate Health Care Facility	North Tonawanda, NY	5	5	3	5	1	0	
Seneca Health Care Center	West Seneca, NY	5	4	3	5	0	0	
	Overall Average	4.83	4.67	3.17	5			
	Total Citations/Penalties:					2	0	
VestraCare								
Rating system is 1 through 5 stars with 5 stars as a top rating.								
Facility Name	Town	Rating	Inspection		Resident	Safety	Fictel/penalty	Notes
Bishop Rehabilitation and Nursing Center	Syracuse, NY	1	1	3	4	13	2	Medicare Alert - This facility has been cited for abuse! \$94,595 on 11/3/2017 \$8,223 on 8/14/2019
Chautauqua Nursing and Rehabilitation Center	Dunkirk, NY	5	4	2	5	4	0	
Golden Hill Nursing and Rehabilitation Center	Kingston, NY	5	4	2	5	7	0	
Roscoe Regional Rehab & Residential HCF	Roscoe, NY	5	4	2	5	6	0	
Sunset Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Inc	Boonville, NY	2	2	1	5	3	0	
Susquehanna Nursing & Rehabilitation Center	Johnson City, NY	2	2	2	4	2	0	
	Overall Average	3.33	2.83	2.00	4.67			
	Total Citations/Penalties:					35	2	
AbsolutCare								
Rating system is 1 through 5 stars with 5 stars as a top rating.								
Facility Name	Town	Rating	Inspection		Resident	Safety	Fictel/penalty	Notes
Allegany Center for Nursing & Rehab Allegany	Allegany, NY	5	5	3	5	0	0	
Absolut Center for Nursing & Rehab Aurora	East Aurora, NY	2	2	2	4	14	0	
Absolut Center for Nursing & Rehab Gasport	Gasport, NY	3	3	3	3	4	0	
Orchard Brooke	Orchard Park, NY							Listed on website, but unable to locate in Medicare.gov .
Absolut Center for Nursing & Rehab Three Rivers	Painted Post, NY	1	1	2	4	2	0	
Absolut Center for Nursing & Rehab Westfield	Westfield, NY	3	2	3	5	2	0	
Absolut Center for Nursing & Rehab Endicott	Endicott, NY	1	1	3	4	3	1	This facility isn't listed on their website, but is listed with Medicare.gov. \$7,699 on 1/25/2019
	Overall Average	2.5	2.33	2.67	4.17			
	Total Citations/Penalties:					22	0	

DEC Issues Guidance to Avoid Coyote Conflicts

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) issued guidance to help prevent conflicts between people and coyotes

"Coyotes may become more territorial during the breeding and pup-rearing seasons, which in New York run from January through March, increasing the risk for potential conflicts with people and pets," said DEC Commissioner Basil Seggos. "While coyotes are an important part of New York's ecosystem, New Yorkers are encouraged to be aware of the increased risks for conflicts and follow DEC's guidance to prevent coyote encounters."

The Eastern coyote is found in many habitats, from rural farmland and forests to populated suburban and urban areas across New York State. Coyotes are well adapted to suburban and even urban environments and tend to avoid conflicts with people. However, conflicts with people and pets may occur, particularly during the spring denning and pupping period. If coyotes learn to associate food, such as garbage or pet food, with peoples' homes, these animals may lose their natural fear of humans and increase the potential for close encounters or conflicts.

To reduce or prevent conflicts with coyotes, New Yorkers are encouraged to take the following steps: Do not feed coyotes; Do not leave food outside. Pet food and garbage attract coyotes and other wildlife and increase risks to people and pets; Do not feed pets outside; Prevent access to garbage; Fence or enclose compost piles; Eliminate availability of bird seed. Concentrations of birds and rodents that come to feeders can attract coyotes; Do not allow coyotes to approach people or pets. If you see a coyote, be aggressive in your behavior: stand tall and hold your arms up or out to look as large as possible. If a coyote lingers for too long, make loud noises, wave your arms and throw sticks and stones; Teach children to appreciate coyotes from a distance; Do not allow pets to run free. Supervise outdoor pets to keep them safe from coyotes and other wildlife, especially at sunset and at night. Small dogs and cats are especially vulnerable; Fence yards to deter coyotes. The fence should be tight to the ground, preferably extending six inches below ground level and taller than four feet; Remove brush and tall grass from around homes to reduce protective cover for coyotes. Coyotes are typically secretive and like areas where they can hide; Contact the local police department and DEC regional office for assistance if coyotes exhibit bold behaviors and have little or no fear of people, or if seen repeatedly during the daytime in a human-populated area or near residences. Seeing a coyote occasionally throughout the year is not evidence of bold behavior; Ask neighbors to follow these steps to prevent coyote conflicts.

For additional information about the Eastern coyote and preventing conflicts with coyotes, visit the DEC webpage

Attention Catskill Hikers

Doubletop and Graham mountains, located in the town of Hardenburg, Ulster County are no longer available for public use. This also includes the surrounding private lands. Local landowners have graciously allowed public access to these mountains and private lands for many years, however, they are no longer allowing access.

If hiking from the Seager Trailhead on Dry Brook Road in the Big Indian Wilderness or the Drybrook Trailhead on Millbrook Road in the Balsam Lake Mountain Wild Forest, only the parking areas and marked trails that traverse private property are accessible to the public until you reach the larger expanse of State Forest Preserve Lands. Please respect private property and stay on the marked trails in these areas until you reach the larger expanse of Forest Preserve Land.

Catskills Visitor Center

o The accessible trails at the Esopus Creek Fishing Access across the street from the Catskills Visitor Center has experienced damage during the recent flooding events. The trails were scoured by the over-

flowing Esopus Creek which also deposited several inches of thick, sandy mud over several hundred feet of the trail. Due to the damage, the trails at this location no longer meet ADA's (Americans with Disabilities Act) accessibility standards.

Shakdaken Wild Forest/Rochester Hollow - Access to the Rochester Hollow Trailhead on Matyas Road in the Shandaken Wild Forest is currently limited to 4-wheel drive vehicles due to damage sustained from the recent flooding events in the Catskill Forest Preserve. Please use caution when attempting to access the Rochester Hollow Trailhead - 2wd vehicles should not attempt access at this time.

Bluestone Wild Forest

o The road connecting the upper parking area to the lower parking area is closed annually when the roadway becomes covered with ice and snow. The gate is generally closed right after or right before the first big snow of the year. The upper parking area will still be available for use.

Balsam Lake Mountain Wild Forest

o The roadway providing access to Alder Lake in the Balsam Lake Mountain Wild Forest is closed annually when the roadway becomes covered with ice and snow. The gate is generally closed right after or right before the first big snow of the year.

Snowmobile trails and seasonal access gates will be opened for use once trails are covered in ice and snow for the following forests: Willowemoc Wild Forest; Delaware Wild Forest; Sundown Wild Forest

Sundown Wild Forest

o Red Hill Trail and Trailhead in the Sundown Wild Forest - The newly constructed Red Hill Fire Tower Trailhead is located in Ulster County on Denning Road in the Town of Denning is open for use. The trailhead improves access to the Red Hill Fire Tower in the Sundown Wild Forest through a land use permit agreement with NYC Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The location of the parking area can be found on google maps, <https://goo.gl/maps/49uP9bT8vXsaHtqL6>.

o 41°56'06.5"N 74°31'45.8"W. The trailhead is approximately four miles east of the intersection of W. Brand and Claryville Road. The Red Hill Fire Tower is a popular hiking destination in the Catskills. Visitors can hike the newly established blue blazed trail built by Tahawus Trails professional trail crew, traversing both DEP and Forest Preserve Lands through rocky outcroppings and hemlock laden forests. The newly constructed 1.4 miles of trail intersects with the existing trail leading up to the summit where hikers can climb the tower to the top.

o Attention Hikers! The trail marker color has been changed from blue to red along the Vernooey Falls trail from the Upper Cherrytown Trailhead through Greenville.

Kaaterskill Wild Forest

o Expect Kaaterskill to be very icy. Hikers should use caution on icy stone staircases and other rock surfaces. Be prepared with traction devices such as microspikes. For your safety, avoid hiking near cliff edges.

The following are seasonal roads and are not maintained during the winter months. Please be aware of snowy conditions:

Platte Clove Road - Indian Head Wilderness (Town of Hunter) Closed through April 15

Roaring Kill Road - Indian Head Wilderness (Town of Hunter)
Russell Brook Road - Delaware Wild Forest (Town of Colchester);
Mary Smith Road - Delaware Wild Forest (Town of Colchester);
Ploutz Road - Dry Brook Wild Forest (Town of Middletown)

General Conditions: Be Prepared, It's Winter & It's Cold

Winter Conditions: Check the forecast for your destination and pack and plan accordingly. Conditions will be more severe on summits with below freezing temperatures, snow, ice, and strong winds. Take wind chill into consideration when preparing for temperatures. Check the National Weather Service for Mountain Point Forecasts on select summits.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE



GRAHAMSVILLE REALTY
New York State Licensed Real Estate Broker
135 Peekamoose Road
Sundown, NY 12740
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<http://www.grahamsvillerealty.com>
845-985-0501 • 845-798-9853

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Bob 845-551-8081 or
Don 845-807-1036

HELP WANTED

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Electric Lift Chair. (Gold color).
Like new. \$150.00
Call 845-647-7411

\$1 Reader Ads are Back!

\$1 Reader Ads may be the solution to this year's spring cleaning. If you have an article(s) you want to sell, send along a description (20 words or less) along with \$1 for each item you wish to advertise for one week. If you wish to advertise for more than 1 week, just send \$1 more for every week you want your item advertised. Mail to: **The Townsman, P O Box 32, Grahamsville, NY 12740 - or you can email us your item description, and we will get in the next issue of The Townsman and send you a bill via your email.**



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... a virtual mall supported by local artists and crafters



KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIES & TRIVIA

“ON NETFLIX & AMAZON PRIME”

February 2021 See

CATCH ME IF YOU CAN

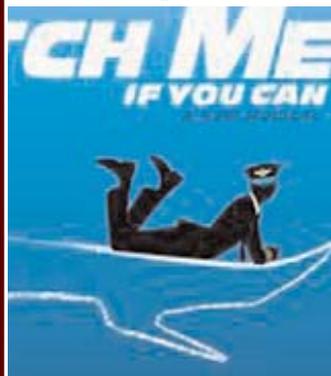
PG-13 - 2h 21min - Biography - Crime - Drama
December 25, 2002 (USA)

leonardo dicaprio tom hanks

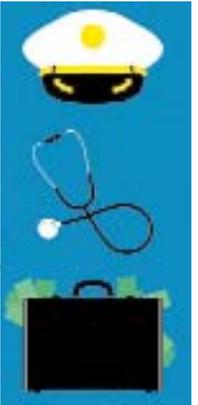


Based on a true story, DiCaprio plays Frank Abagnale Jr., who became a professional impersonation expert by the age of 19, earning millions of dollars while trotting around the globe. But at heart, *Catch Me If You Can* is the story of a father and a son, and is actual-

ly one of Spielberg's most personal films. It was directly influenced by Spielberg learning new information about his father's divorce. But this movie is also an absolute blast. **Written by Jeff Nathanson Directed by Steven Spielberg, and starring Leonardo DiCaprio, Tom Hanks, Christopher Walken, Martin Sheen, and Amy Adams, *Catch Me If You Can* is one of Steven Spielberg's best films that also boasts of being one of DiCaprio's best performances, and to top it off, with John Williams' hitting the best scores plateau. All are something else to be expiereaced.**



es, and to top it off, with John Williams' hitting the best scores plateau. All are something else to be expiereaced.



(Contd. Pg. 30)

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Get the service you need and keep your dollar local

(From Pg. 29)

**KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE #1
NETFLIX & AMAZON PRIME**

Hook

(PG · 1991 · 2hr 22min · Fantasy)

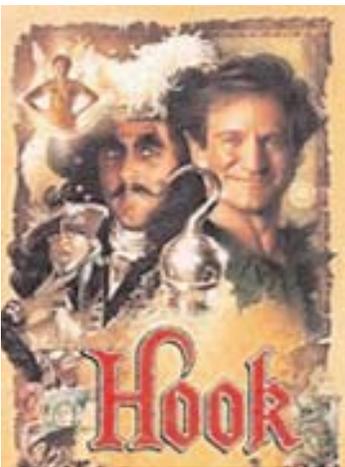
Written by: Jim V. Hart, and Malia Scotch Marmo, and **Directed by Steven Spielberg, starring. Robin Williams, Dustin Hoffman, Julia Roberts, Bob Hoskins, Maggie Smith, and Charlie Korsmo.**



While *Hook* was critically derided when it hit theaters in 1991, Spielberg found something special here in his retelling of "Peter Pan". Many still maintain it's one of Spielberg's great movies for kids of all ages. The affect it had on an entire generation of children is undeniable.

Williams plays a grown-up Peter Pan who's forgotten all about his time in Neverland, until Captain Hook (Dustin Hoffman) steals his children and forces Peter to go back. It's a struggle, as Peter keeps trying to deny any semblance of magic, and indeed at heart this is a story about reconnecting with your inner child. Perhaps that's why it works so well for kids. Well that and the tremendous production design that brings Neverland to life in vivid fashion. Watch this one with your children and they won't be disappointed.

It's also one of John Williams' best scores.



KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIES SUGGESTION GET AMAZON PRIME

Get "ROKU EXPRESS" on Amazon Prime, and get thousands of new CHANNELS & SHOWS. Some of Adnil's ancestry is from Sweden. So we are watching and enjoying hilarious laughing moments of the Swedish Broadcast Sit-Com "WELCOME TO SWEDEN," each night and/or with our morning coffee The story of two familys, two "Mama's Boys," two cultures, Socialism and Capitalism, enjoy our differences and help keep peace in the world.

Created by Greg Poehler, Josephine Bornebusch, Niclas Carlsson. With Greg Poehler, Josephine Bornebusch, Lena Olin, Claes Månsson. New York City accountant Bruce



Roku Express | HD Streaming Media Player
Speed HDMI Cable and Simple Remote
★★★★★ - 79,699
\$28.99
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Amazon Alexa

moves to Sweden in Northern Europe, after falling in love with a Swedish woman.

Two Mama's Boys, and one's, GF.



The story of two families, two mama's boys, two cultures



Rehearsal of her dance, coming down the aisle, on her wedding day.

A Feminist Priest. and much, much, more

Stay safe, May God Bless
Knarf Odnamoc
Gnome