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# Ye Olde TOWNSMAN Valley

"The Best Journal Published by a Dam Site!"

**VOL. 21 NO. 5 GRAHAMSVILLE, NY 12740 JANUARY 30, 2025**

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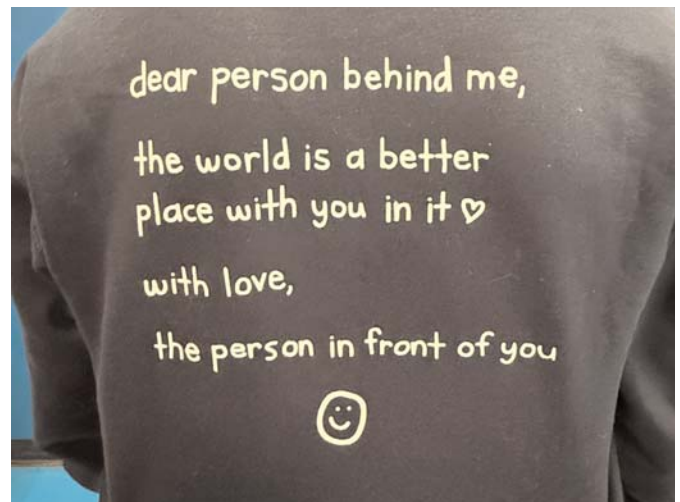
## Tri-Valley School Staff Spread Kindness and Unity with Heartfelt Message



On January 21st, the morning air at Tri-Valley was crisp as teachers, staff, and students began to arrive for another day of learning. However, this day felt different. As the bell rang, signaling the start of the school day, something new and special was unfolding.

In the hallways, clusters of staff members, including teachers, administrators, custodians, and lunch aides, were all wearing the same dark navy and red sweatshirts. Each one had a simple yet powerful message printed on the back: "Dear person behind me, the world is a better place with you in it, with love, the person in front of you."

At first, students and staff alike were curious. What was the meaning behind this uniformity? Was it a special event or a new initiative? (Contd. Pg. 4)



**YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN**

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

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THE SCENE TOO - Jane Harrison (Haitus)

OLIVE JAR - Carol La Monda

MYSTERIOUS BOOK REPORT - John McKenna

MOVIE TRIVIA - Frank Comando a/k/a Knarf

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**POLICY ON SUBMISSIONS AND  
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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 Telephone numbers will not be published.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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**NO EXCEPTIONS.** All press releases/articles sent by email should be sent as **Microsoft Word Documents**. Photos or graphics must be in jpg or pdf format

**More than ever, thank you for your continued support.**

**On the Front Burner:** Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6

## DAYS OF YORE...

### February 2, 1955

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Terwilliger of Lackawack have announced the marriage of their daughter, Susanna Terwilliger to Mr. Ronald Lee Joray, son of Mr. and Mrs. Everett Joray of Kingston. The wedding took place at the Methodist Church in Ellenville on January 16th. A reception took place at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Stedner of Ellenville.

A son, Phillip, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Guy Marks of Lackawack at Veterans Memorial Hospital in Ellenville on January 21st.

### January 27, 1965

Last Monday the Board of Supervisors approved a resolution appropriating \$26,625 for the County Mental Health Board to establish an approved program for mentally retarded children, effective March 1. The training center will be tuition free. James Boyd, president of the Association for Retarded Children, said he hoped the program would be ready by spring.

Mr. and Mrs. Adee Budd of Mountindale announce the marriage of their daughter, Louise Mary, to Thomas Carl Henderson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Henderson of Grahamsville. The couple were married on Saturday, January 23rd at the Grahamsville Methodist Church, the Rev. Harry Myers officiating. After a brief honeymoon, the couple are at home in their new house trailer on the Woodbourne Rd.

Kenneth Eidel died January 22nd in Liberty Maimonides Hospital. He was 49. Mr. Eidel was a truck driver and a member of Teamsters Local 445. He had resided in Curry for the past six years. Born Jan. 16, 1916 in Woodbourne, he was the son of Frank and Bertha Eidel. Mr. Eidel married the former Marian Swerderup. Survivors include his wife; two sons, Ronald of No. Carolina and Thomas; a daughter, Kathleen; five sisters and two brothers.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ferber of Grahamsville are the parents of a daughter, born on Saturday. Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Brackman of Grahamsville.

Lew and Dot DePew observed their 42nd wedding anniversary on January 15th.

The little town of Montela was submerged years back when the City of New York built the Rondout Reservoir. The Shell Oil Co. seems to think differently as Montela was still marked on their 1973 road map.

### January 31, 1985

Mr. and Mrs. James H. Grey of Sundown Rd., Grahamsville, announce the engagement of their daughter, Regina to Michael Barkley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Barkley of Hasbrouck Rd., Woodbourne. Regina graduated from Tri-Valley High School and is presently employed by William Brenner as a tax preparer. Her fiance graduated from Tri-Valley and is presently employed as an auto body repairman for Yits' Garage and will be attending the Academy for Correctional Officers. Wedding plans are incomplete.

### January 19, 1995

Tri-Valley Superintendent, George Vamderzell, announce that at the January 5 Board of Education Meeting, contracts were awarded for the addition to the high school. "We are already seeing work being done to prepare for the project."

Sam Anderson of Grahamsville a retired owner of A& S Gas and Merchant, a 47-year resident died on Friday, January 13.

Kenneth "Scott" Esole and Nancy Creco were united in Marriage on January 7, 1995.

Owen and Shirley Davis of Grahamsville announce the engagement of their daughter, Laure to Paul Bunning.

The Annual Scout Klondike Derby was held on January 21 at Hanofee Park. Boy Scouts and Weeblos were invited to attend.

The Sarah Wells Girl Scout Council announced the annual Girl Scout Cookie Sale was in progress. This year they offered a new fat-free cookie described as a 'soft' satisfying Cinnamon Oatmeal Raisin Bar.

Lagueux's Hardware Bowling Tam has a solid hold on first place in the Noonday League at Shawangunk Lanes in Ellenville.

## LOOKING BACK

by Beatrice Akerley

Published January 11, 1996

"I am bored," I overheard Kenny, one of my grandchildren, say a few nights ago as he grew tired trying to find cartoons on the T.V. Not that it was the first time I had overheard the same statement. It is getting to be a common expression among the children of today.

It is very hard to believe that in these days of computer games, computer disks and cable television, kids sometimes don't know what to do with themselves. How can youngsters who have so many toys and so much entertainment possibly get bored? But they can and do. I think the one thing they don't have is the need to use their own imagination.

On looking back many years ago, everything was quite different. I was there, as I think many of you were that read our little paper. As children we didn't have all these new-fangled games and toys kids have today; but we always got out and found things to occupy our time, and we were never "bored." I think the children of today would enjoy playing some of the games we played so many years ago, like "Fox and Geese" in the snow, or we fought our way up the heap to become "King of the Mountain." Many games we played didn't even involve a sled - like when the ice became thick enough on Orchard Lake to hold our weight, we would spend hours sliding or skating on its slippery surface.

I'm an old lady now and if it wasn't for sweet memories of those games we played so long ago, I too might say, "I'm bored!"

### Household Hint:

## Luminous Light Switch

A dab of glow-in-the-dark paint means no more groping for the light switch in the dark. You can buy glow-in-the-dark paint at hardware stores and home centers.

## Nature Column - L. Comando

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

## Anchor Ice is Back

About two weeks ago we had to go to Poughkeepsie. As we drove down Route 55A we noticed that there was very little, if any, ice on the reservoir. In contrast, as we crossed the Mid-Hudson Bridge we noticed the Hudson River had frozen over.. We also had not seen any ice to speak of in the Rondout Creek in the Sundown area, while we did notice that below the reservoir in Napanoch, there were spotty anchor ice formations.

That all changed last week. With the Arctic chill and temperature falling in the low teens and single digits, once again we are seeing those beautiful ice formations forming in the local creeks and streams. These unique ice formations seem to defy nature. Anchor ice forms from the steam bed up. If natural laws are perfect, how is it that ice, which is lighter or less dense than water, can sometimes form on the bottom of creeks and streams and not at the surface? Here is what happens.

When the rocks in the streambed have chilled below the freezing point it sets the stage for an ice formation. The swift flow of the stream does prevent the surface water from freezing, however free-floating crystals called frazil, begin to form in the super cooled water columns of the turbid stream



*Frazil Crystals*

Whenever the frazil contact other objects, or other frazil, it will immediately adhere to it. Once an anchor point is established the ice will grow quickly forming a cloud-like appearance in the stream that is under the water surface.

Anchor ice is different than ice on the reservoirs, ponds or lakes or even in a puddle where a sheet of ice will form across their surface when the water reaches the freezing point. In fast moving mountain streams, like those in the Catskills, the water molecules are below the freezing point and are attracted to each other and want to bond together, but are unable to do so in the turbulent water. As the water near the bottom of the stream bed moves more slowly it sort of drags along rocks and sand where the microscopic ice particles start to join together and form the beautiful anchor ice.

Anchor ice grows very rapidly once it starts. It can change the flow and appearance of a winter stream overnight. Anchor ice usually disappears as quickly as it forms.

Earlier in January, the temperatures created perfect cycles of thaws that melted any insulating snow covering, The recent cold spell created just the right environment for anchor ice to form and build up from the bottom of the streambed.



*Anchor ice in the Rondout Creek*



*Underwater anchor ice*

# Tri-Valley School Staff Spread Kindness and Unity with Heartfelt Message

(From Pg. 1) As the day went on, the message began to spread through the entire school like a wave of positivity. The message was carefully chosen, a gentle reminder that we all have the power to make someone else's day better simply by showing kindness and unity. It was a reminder to everyone in the building-whether student or staff-that they mattered, that they were part of something bigger. In this chaotic world, filled with stress and uncertainty, the district had chosen to pause, if only for a day, to focus on what truly mattered: each other.



It's a reminder that we're all in this together and that kindness makes the world a little brighter. The person behind you might be struggling, but you have the power to remind them that they matter.



"We wear these sweatshirts not just for the message, but because we believe it in our hearts. We believe in kindness. We believe in each other." said Superintendent, Erin Long. As the school day came to a close, many students and staff left the building with a little more lightness in their hearts. The message didn't end with the school day-it had

taken root in everyone's thoughts, sparking conversations, spreading smiles, and reminding them all of the power of unity and kindness.

The simple message on the sweatshirts may have seemed like a small gesture, but for the staff and students at Tri-Valley Central School District, it was a profound reminder that sometimes, the most important thing we can do is show up for each other-and remind each other that we are all part of something greater than ourselves.



## Sullivan County's Financial Reporting Continues to Win Awards



*From the left are Senior Fiscal Administrator Shannan Armbrust, Sullivan County Treasurer Nancy Buck and Deputy County Treasurer Kathleen Lara.*

Monticello, NY - For the 34th consecutive time, the Sullivan County Treasurer's Office has been accorded the Financial Reporting Achievement Award from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). The County also received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the GFOA.

The award was given after an impartial panel of judges determined the County's 2023 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) met GFOA's high standards, including demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" in communicating financial details and motivating people to read it. The report can be found at <https://sullivanny.gov/Departments/Managementandbudget/Audits>.

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

"We hope that your example will encourage other government officials in their efforts to achieve and maintain an appropriate standard of excellence in financial reporting," concluded Michele Mark Levine, the GFOA's Director of Technical Services.

The GFOA is a national nonprofit association serving approximately 21,000 government finance professionals, with offices in Chicago and Washington, DC.



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Executive Director

*Christopher P. Morrell*

Date: 1/27/2025

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

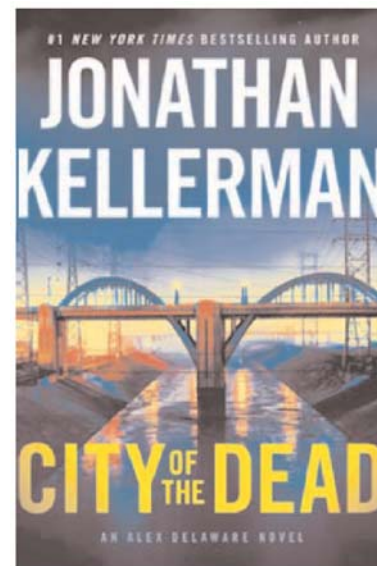


## City of the Dead Legacy Mysterious Book Report No. 117

by John Dwaine McKenna

## Mysterious Book Report No. 475

Published February 3, 2022



*City of the Dead*, (Ballantine, \$28.99, 336 pages, ISBN 978-0-525-61858-4), by Jonathan Kellerman is his 37th book featuring the duo of LAPD consulting psychologist Alex Delaware and Los Angeles Police Department Detective Milo Sturgis —now a Lieutenant, and an openly gay homicide investigator —whose solve rate is “close to 100 percent.”

The novel opens with the body of a naked and very dead man who's been hit by a moving van in the Westwood section of the city near the UCLA campus. Then, just as the reader begins to focus on the mystery of the naked man, the first of a series of plot twists . . . and a trail of blood droplets . . . lead the cops to a second body in a nearby house; it's a woman named Cordelia Gannett, who's been stabbed to death, whom Delaware recognizes from a child custody case he testified in two years previous. Gannett claimed to be a psychologist, but was exposed as a fraud. Now, she's been selling herself on the web as a “relationship expert.”

As Lt. Sturgis and Alex Delaware try to identify the nude man and look into Gannett's activities, a number of other crimes and fascinating characters begin to emerge in this entertaining whodunnit. The insights of Mr. Kellerman, who's an actual trained psychologist, are always spot-on, educational and enlightening as he digs into the minds of his interesting, but damaged human beings. Reading this novel however, was like slipping into an old flannel shirt and a comfortable chair, then spending the evening conversing with two old friends. Interesting and familiar . . . but not much in the way of drama and excitement.

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

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

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

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

**Thank You!**



## The Olive Jar

by Carol Olsen LaMonda

### For Pint

My Norwegian grandmother used “For Pint” (with a short “I”) to mean “Save it for Good.” I tried to find a translation and could not find exactly what “Pint” meant, but my Nana used it in this context, “Oh, that's so pretty. I'm going to save it for pint” or “That is too good to get soiled. Save it for pint.” Her half Norwegian/half Bay Ridge Brooklyn slang sent a message loud and clear. Her life was molded by the Great Depression. Save the good for later.

When Bruce's great aunt passed away at 99, we found a treasure trove of things she saved “for pint.” Some were still in boxes with the wrapping paper neatly folded inside the box. One treasure was a set of silverware dated 1938 all individually wrapped in cellophane (plastic had not become common) within a lovely wooden chest in a cardboard box. What was she saving it for?

The silverware is now used, at least for special occasions, by my daughter-in-law. But, why not use it every day? What makes an item so special that it cannot be enjoyed or used now?

When Emily in Thornton Wilder's “Our Town” finds out that she can return from the dead for one day, she is warned to not pick a special day like Christmas or her birthday. She is told to pick an ordinary day and that will be enough.

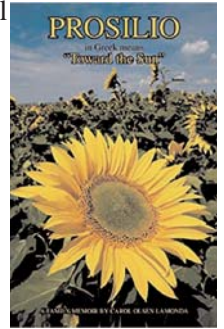
Every day is special. Every day is enough. Use that new dish towel. Splash on that expensive perfume. Eat off good china and set the table with your best forks and spoons. Wear that luxurious scarf with the boots that cost way too much to get muddy.

We are given the joy of waking up to a day ready to be lived to the fullest. Don't save anything for “pint.”

And here is some advise from my granddaughter Philanthe, who is a freshman at Onteora. It reminds us to live in the moment and not put our life on hold and save anything “for Pint.”

#### The FamilyMemoir, PROSILIO...

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



## Register for DPL's Spring Children's Programs

By Lisa Carroll

GRAHAMSVILLE-It's that time again, sign up for the DPL Spring Children's Programs!

Starting this week, parents and guardians of children 12 months to four-years-old who reside in the Tri-Valley Central School District can register their little ones for one of our three Spring Children's Programs. The eight week programs will begin the week of April 21, 2025. If you joined us in the fall, please register for the same program your child participated in then, for example, if your child attended Mother Goose in the fall, they would be registered for Mother Goose in the spring. These programs are completely free-thanks to the generosity of the community-and registration (online through our website) is a must as programs fill up quickly.

If you're new to the community, participation in our children's programs is a sure fire way to ignite your child's love of reading, appreciation for their local library and services and to build on their social skills foundation. Each of the three programs are specifically designed for the specified age group. Mother Goose (12-23 months) will meet Wednesdays, with one class at 9AM and the other at 10:30AM. This program includes "read together" time (each child will participate with their own board book), nursery rhymes, felt stories and playtime. Toddler Time (24-35 months) will meet on Thursdays, at 9AM and 10:30 respectively. This group will build on the skills learned during the Mother Goose program (though your child did not have to participate in Mother Goose to join Toddler Time, or either to join Story Hour). There will be a continuation of story sharing, felt stories, and music. Toddlers participating will also complete crafts and build upon their friendship-building skills. Story Hour will be held on Fridays for children three and four years-old, also at 9AM and 10:30AM. This is our classic, beloved program featuring the "Magic Bag," a read-aloud, felt stories and craft projects. Children will be introduced to "homework" with an assignment given each week. During all three of the children's programs, children are encouraged to check out as many books as possible! It's a very fun and educational program, while also given parents, guardians and caregivers an opportunity to meet others. These programs are set up so that children who participate will be in the same Tri-Valley CSD UPK classes, allowing for a smoother transition from home to school as they've already met many friends. The DPL Spring Children's Programs also brings back our visits with the three UPK classes at Tri-Valley, where library staff meet with each class, read a story, share a felt story and have children check out books. Your (UPK) child will be registered at school for this program.

For more information or if you have questions, please contact DPL Children's Program Coordinator, Deirdre McHugh, through email at [dmchugh@rcls.org](mailto:dmchugh@rcls.org) or by phone at (845) 985-7233



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## Ulster County Clerk's Office introduces new County Historian



The Ulster County Clerk's Office is pleased to introduce Edward Moran III as Historian for the County of Ulster. Mr. Moran is a 2020 graduate of SUNY New Paltz with a BA in History. He was previously employed at Historic Huguenot Street where he served first as a tour guide starting in 2017 before transitioning to the role of Tour and Interpretation Manager in 2022. He is a lifelong resident of the Wallkill Valley, and a descendant of the region's Huguenot and Dutch colonizers.

“The role of County Historian has existed as an unfunded mandate in New York State law since 1919” stated Acting County Clerk Taylor Bruck. “With the passage of Ulster County Proposition 2 in November of 2024, the responsibility for appointing and supervising the County Historian has become the purview of the County Clerk.” Bruck further stated: “Our office, as keepers of a large por-

tion of the most historic records of the County, has often shouldered the burden of interpreting that history for the public. Having Mr. Moran as part of our team ensures that we can continue the vital work of preserving these records while giving more attention and scrutiny to the stories these records represent.”

Mr. Moran states the following on his past and current research: “During my time at Historic Huguenot Street, I was fortunate to carry forward a legacy of research and public programming on each of the diverse cultural groups who called New Paltz Home. These include Esopus Native Americans, enslaved and free African-Americans, and European colonists. Our county is awash with historical resources testifying to the experiences of these groups and others. Despite this, the attention and infrastructure of the history community was for too long dedicated almost exclusively to the stories, experiences, and possessions of European residents and their descendants. I'm proud to facilitate bringing forth the stories of enslaved and marginalized residents whose impact on our county was previously overlooked, and to facilitate programs in venues where residents may confront that history with thoughtfulness and context. Current research projects I am undertaking include: documenting references to enslaved Africans and Native Americans in the mid-18th century account book of Louis Bevier Jr of Marbletown; the experiences of two enslaved Africans named Anthony and Susanna in 17th century New York; and the story of Jack and Betty, first enslaved Africans to have been recorded in New Paltz”

Mr. Moran, who goes by Eddie, can be reached via email at [countyhistorian@co.ulster.ny.us](mailto:countyhistorian@co.ulster.ny.us) or reached via phone at the Ulster County Records Center at 845-340-3415.

# Ulster County Executive Jen Metzger has released the following statement on the death of Victoria Cooper:

“My heart goes out to the family and loved ones of Victoria Cooper, whose life was tragically cut short last Thursday night in a fatal pedestrian incident in Rosendale. As a Rosendale resident, I have long been concerned about this dangerous intersection of two state roads, right at the gateway of the town where there is significant commercial activity and pedestrian traffic. When this intersection was redesigned by the State Department of Transportation years ago, no accommodations were made for pedestrian safety. I urge NYSDOT to fix this intersection and create a safe pedestrian crossing with lit pedestrian signals to prevent avoidable heart-wrenching tragedies like this in the future.”



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## 2025 Agricultural Workshops from CCE Sullivan's Agricultural Department

LIBERTY, NY - Every program at CCE Sullivan, no matter its subject focus, strives to improve the quality of life for residents in Sullivan County through educational resources and opportunities. For 2025, Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan County's (CCESC) agricultural department is excited to announce the following programs and workshops geared to support farmers through the year:

### 1. Livestock Genetics Webinar

Wednesday, January 29th, 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

This virtual program is intended to explore the practical and economic advantages of choosing sires with beneficial genetics to ensure your animals achieve their maximum genetic potential. The speaker for this program, Dr. Adam Murray, Ph.D., Beef Cattle Extension Specialist from Cornell University PRO Livestock, will go over the basics of livestock genetics, how to read and understand a genetic analysis, and select sires with desirable traits.

### 2. Strategies for Climate Resilient Farming: Energy Efficiencies with Ag Energy NY

Thursday, January 30th, 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

New York farmers facing climate impacts are invited to explore available funding and best options for farm energy updates! This workshop will feature speakers from NYSERDA/EnSaveWe, Ag Energy NY, and Daylight Saving on topics such as the state agricultural energy audit program, available energy upgrades for each farm sector, agricultural energy audits, and helping farms identify renewable energy and efficiency opportunities!

### 3. Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Panel Workshop

Wednesday, February 12th, 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Want to learn how to organize and manage a CSA for your farm? Want to engage with organizations that organize multi-farm CSAs? Join us for a panel discussion on this and more! Panelists will include Tianna Kennedy from the 607CSA, Kate Ansreicher from the Hudson Valley CSA Coalition, and a farmer to represent a variety of CSA models from large multi-farm CSAs to farm-led CSAs. A question-and-answer session will follow with the panelists to allow attendees the opportunity to learn more.

### 4. Farm Food Safety Modernization Act Growers Training

Thursday, February 20th, 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM - Honesdale, PA

Wednesday & Thursday, February 26th - February 27th, 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM - Liberty, NY

Learn about produce safety, the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule, Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs), and co-management of natural resources and food safety. The course will provide a foundation of Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) and co-management information, FSMA Produce Safety Rule requirements, and details on how to develop a farm food safety plan. After attending the entire course, participants will be eligible to receive a certificate from the Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO) that verifies they have completed the training course. To receive an AFDO certificate, a participant must be present for the entire training and submit the appropriate paperwork to their trainer at the end of the course.

Participation in these programs is free or low cost to all attendees! If interested in any of these opportunities, please visit <https://sullivancce.org/events> to learn more and to register. Those with related questions can contact the CCESC office at (845) 292-6180 or [sullivan@cornell.edu](mailto:sullivan@cornell.edu). Many more agricultural programs and events are to come, so stay tuned!

Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan County provides equal program and employment opportunities. The public can contact the office to request accommodations.

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845-985-0501



## Studio Artists Group

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

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

### Daniel Pierce Library

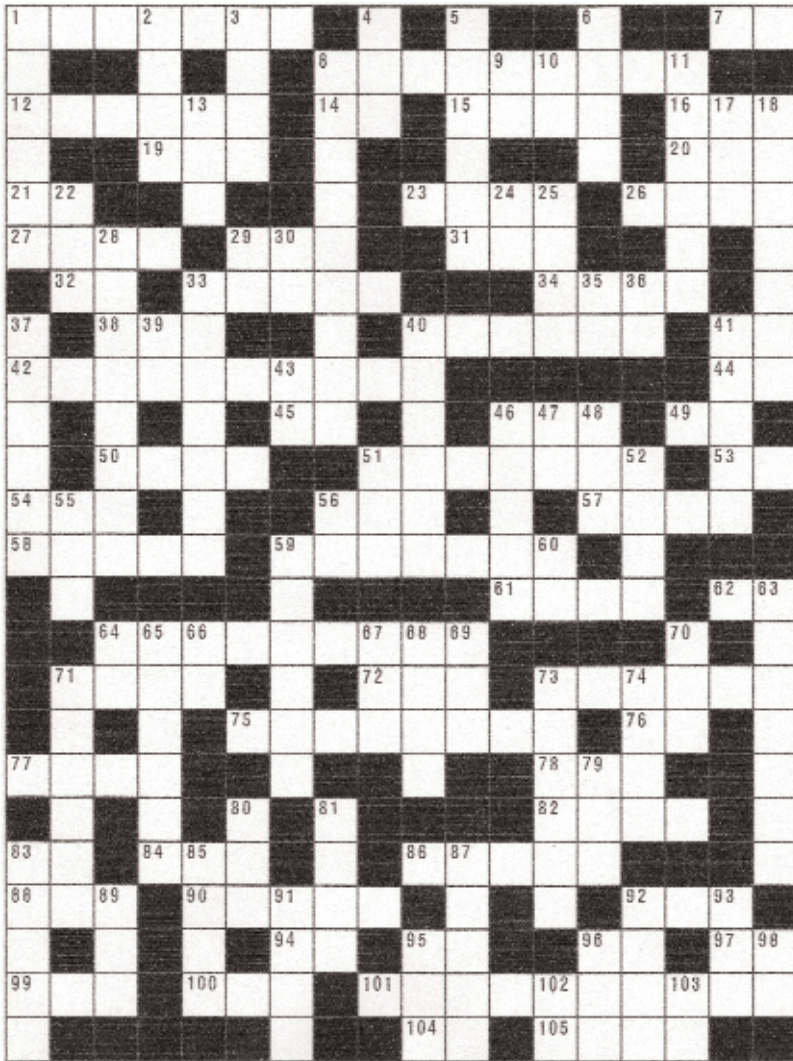
## 1st Friday BOOK CLUB

The first Friday of every month.

All adults welcome!



The Will Tell- L. Comando



**ACROSS**

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

- 33 Units of land
- 34 Word by which a person is known
- 38 Male child
- 40 Shining
- 41 Refer to you and I
- 42 Look forward to
- 44 Hour
- 45 Like
- 46 Ocean
- 49 Archaic plural form of thou
- 50 Ability to see
- 51 Single celled alga with silica walls
- 53 Extra terrestrial
- 54 Epoch
- 56 A fruit-filled pastry
- 57 Punxsutawney groundhog

- 58 Light again
- 59 Large open air fire
- 61 Fermented drink made with honey
- 62 United States
- 64 Spend the winter in a dormant state
- 71 Approximately
- 72 Slump
- 73 Another term for Irish
- 75 Popular myth
- 76 Delaware
- 77 Circle of light around the sun
- 78 Common football hero injury
- 82 Spouse
- 83 Knockout
- 84 Being able
- 86 Religious beliefs other

- than those of world religions
- 88 Brit's abbrev. for railway
- 90 Profound
- 92 Extra-sensory perception
- 94 Not out
- 95 Part of the mind
- 96 12 points
- 97 Ante meridiem
- 99 Belonging to one's mother
- 100 Grass covered soil
- 101 One of two main roads in Sundown
- 104 Half an em
- 105 Reject

**DOWN**

- 1 Prescribed ceremony
- 2 At that time
- 3 Natural Earth satellite
- 4 Give food to
- 5 One of four

- divisions of a year
- 6 In accordance with the rules
- 8 February 2nd
- Christian Festival
- 9 Abbrev. for billion
- 10 Right (abbrev)
- 11 Become apparent
- 13 Small round mark
- 17 Obligation to pay
- 18 Atmospheric conditions
- 22 Glovelike handcovering
- 24 Northeast
- 25 Make a resonate sound
- 28 Mardi Gras
- 29 South Carolina
- 30 Links alternatives
- 33 Belonging to the past
- 35 Exclamation of surprise
- 36 Mountain (abbrev)
- 37 Omnivorous nocturnal mammal
- 39 Informal exclamation
- 40 Confidence in someone
- 41 Circular object that revolves on an axel
- 43 Pennsylvania
- 46 Atmospheric disturbance
- 47 Executive Order
- 48 Ampere
- 51 Unpleasant loud noise
- 52 Simple roofed structure

- 55 Warm primary color
- 56 Post Office by an animal
- 59 Tunnel dug by an animal
- 60 Electrical Engineer
- 63 Not sacred
- 64 Exclamation of surprise
- 65 St Bridgid's Day
- 66 Exist
- 67 Question something
- 68 Story
- 69 Self-importance

- 70 Bitter brew
- 71 Shaded part of a picture
- 73 A Germanic language
- 74 Check
- 79 Bushman
- 80 United Nations
- Organization
- 81 Condensed atmospheric moisture
- 83 In the 50's where you could save some dough
- 'Kum to\_\_\_\_'
- 85 Large pri-
- mates
- 87 US
- Executive in cosmetic industry
- 89 Affirmative
- 91 Edge
- 92 Radiate
- 93 Friend
- 95 Anger
- 96 Night before an event
- 98 Myself
- 102 Official Nevada postal code
- 103 Archaic exclamation

**Hearty Crock Pot Beef Stew**

- 1 pound cubed beef stew meat
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 tablespoon paprika
- salt and pepper to taste
- 2 cups beef broth
- 1 onion, chopped
- 3 carrots, sliced
- 1 stalk celery, sliced
- 2 potatoes, cubed
- 1/2 pound mushrooms, quartered
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 bay leaf

1. Place beef stew meat into a slow cooker. In a small bowl, mix together flour, paprika, salt, and pepper; sprinkle over beef stew meat, stirring to coat. Stir in beef broth, teriyaki sauce, onion, carrots, celery, potatoes, mushrooms, garlic and bay leaf.

2. Cover, and cook on Low 6 hours, stirring occasionally.

数字は単数に限る

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

# Cryptogram

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

17 6 2 13 10 26 10 4 17 6 25 3 15 25 20 17

1 4 10 14 3 13 6 10 1 20 25 12 15

## Kids' Groundhog Fun Page

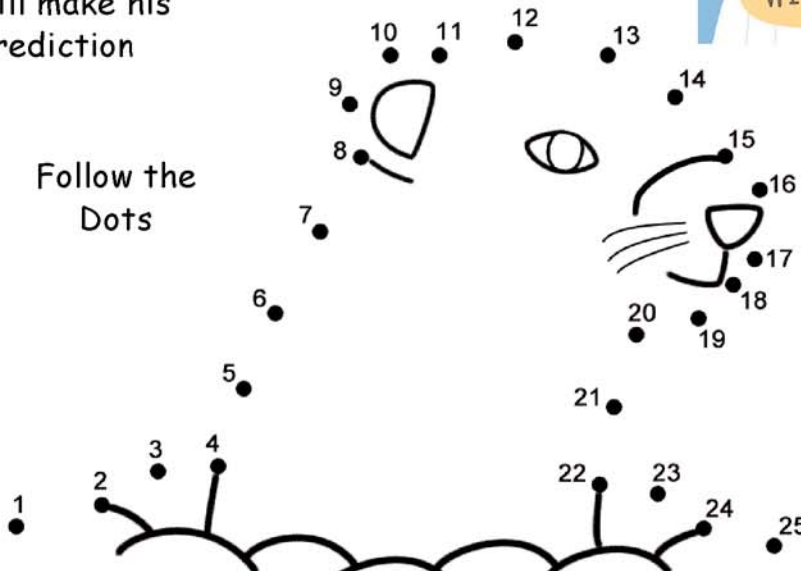
- L.Comando



Find the eight differences



Will he see his shadow?  
Help the groundhog through the maze where he will make his prediction



### GROUNDHOG DAY WORDSEARCH

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

- COLD
- FEBRUARY
- GROUNDHOG
- HOLE
- PHIL
- SHADOW
- SIX WEEKS
- SPRING
- SUNNY
- WARM
- WEATHER
- WINTER

### Cryptogram Key

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



## **LEGALS/PUBLIC NOTICES**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

The Town of Denning will hold a Public Hearing for Proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2025, Titled: **“A Local Law providing for a Moratorium on Actions Subject to Special Use Permit Review for Applications Related to Short-Term Rental Uses for a Period of Twelve (12) Months”** on Tuesday, February 11, 2025 at the Denning Town Hall, 1567 Denning Road, Claryville, NY 12725 set to begin at 6 pm prior to the start of the regularly scheduled Town Board meeting.

At SAID meeting any and all interested person(s) will be heard either for or against the Moratorium which will allow the Denning Town Board, Planning Board and the Ulster County Planning Board adequate time to review and possibly make changes to Denning's Short-Term Rental Zoning Law.

A copy of the proposed law is available in the Town Clerks Office during normal business hours.

BY THE ORDER OF THE DENNING TOWN BOARD

Nancy Parrow  
Town Clerk

January 28, 2025

1/30; 2/6

## **Empower Youth to be Vape Free!**

### ***Register for upcoming CATCH My Breath Vaping Prevention Training***

[LIBERTY, NY] - Sullivan 180 will host two trainings for teachers, community volunteers, youth workers and community health advocates to become facilitators of the CATCH My Breath Youth Vaping Prevention Program. The trainings will be taking place on February 14th and March 14th from 12:30 - 3:30 pm at the CVI Building in Liberty. Participants need only choose one date to attend. Trained facilitators will be certified to lead this program with youth in school and after-school settings or at youth serving organizations.

According to the Truth Initiative, 48% of young people aged 18-24 made quitting vaping their 2025 New Year's Resolution. “Quitting nicotine is hard, but it doesn't have to be a lonely or impossible journey,” said Kathy Crosby, CEO and President of Truth Initiative. Through programs like CATCH My Breath, students are given access to resources to help them stay or be vape-free. Sullivan 180 Prevention Coordinator Nicole Blais shared that “there are currently 436 stu-

## **Tri-Valley CSD Board Meeting**

**Thursday,  
February 13, 2025**

**at 7:00 p.m.**

**at the Tri-Valley Central School District  
Secondary School Lower Level  
Collaboration Center**

**It is anticipated that the Board of Education  
will enter into Executive Session prior to  
the Regular Board of Education Meeting.**

**The Executive Session  
will be held at 6:00 p.m**

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

dents who have graduated from CATCH My Breath, but we need more facilitators to ensure that every student in Sullivan County is given the resources they need to make healthy decisions”.

Newly trained facilitators in Sullivan County have shared that they see themselves “bringing the resources to youth in [their] personal lives and also recommend CATCH My Breath as a preventative measure for other programs and planning in the community.” “They have shared that the facilitator training is engaging and easy to follow and really connects the inner workings of the vape to its harmful consequences,” said Amanda Langseder, Senior Director of Prevention Programming at Sullivan 180.

Adults trained will gain free access to the complete curriculum to guide young people, grades 5 -12, through this evidence-based program which is proven to reduce the chances of youth starting a lifelong addiction to nicotine. Educators will receive CTLEs for completing this training thanks to an agreement with Sullivan BOCES. Partnering organizations including the Tobacco Free Action Communities Reality Check Program, Catholic Charities of Orange, Sullivan & Ulster, Restorative Management Corp. and the American Lung Association will be presenting resources available to schools and opportunities for students to get involved in a youth-led movement against big tobacco.

To register for this training or to learn more about upcoming facilitator trainings, email [trainings@sullivan180.org](mailto:trainings@sullivan180.org).



# A Settlement Divided

*Virtual Program by Sullivan County Historian John Conway*

Sunday, February 2, 2 p.m.

Virtual Only

Members: FREE, Non-Members: \$5

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

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

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

Time and the Valleys Museum

845 985-7700

Email: [info@timeandthevalleymuseum.org](mailto:info@timeandthevalleymuseum.org) to request link



# ICE SKATING

## *Schedule*

**THURSDAY: 6:30-8:30 PM**

**FRIDAY: 6:30-8:30 PM**

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

**SUNDAY: 1:00-4:00 PM**

**MUSIC | ICE SKATING | ALWAYS FREE!!**

**@ Grahamsville Fairgrounds**



**Days & times subject to change, check  
Facebook for updates or text  
Tanya @ 845-807-7502**



# Daniel Pierce Library

## PBS Nova Documentary Inner Worlds



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

Snow Date March 6th

Recommended for adults and students ten and up

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

Inner Worlds focusing on Venus & Mercury.

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

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

Advanced registration is required at [www.danielpiercelibrary.org](http://www.danielpiercelibrary.org).

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



### Daniel Pierce Library

328 Main Street | P.O. Box 268  
Grahamsville, New York 12740-0268 | 845-386-7233  
[www.danielpiercelibrary.org](http://www.danielpiercelibrary.org)

10<sup>th</sup> Annual

# Wings & Wheels for Warriors

**Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup> 2025**

Rain Date: Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>

9am to 3pm

Judging begins at 11am

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MONUMENTS INSTALLED IN ALL CEMETERIES  
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**Sundown United Methodist Church  
Covered Dish Supper  
5:30 pm  
Feb 1, 2025**

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

*Sundown United Methodist Church Hall*

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

**Mass Times**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Grahamsville United Methodist Church**

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

**Grahamsville & Sundown United Methodist Churches**

Come and Join us for  
in person Worship on Sundays.

Sundown UMC 8:30 am  
Peekamoose Rd., Sundown

Grahamsville UMC 10:30 am  
350 Main Street, Grahamsville

Pastor Harriet Wilkin  
845-985-2283

*Grahamsville Reformed Church*

*The Church with a friendly welcome*

**Pastor Kenneth Ronk**  
Sunday School 9:30 am  
Worship Service 9:30 am  
P O Box 238 - Route 55  
Grahamsville, NY 12740  
845-985-7480

**Claryville Reformed Church**

Claryville Road  
Claryville, NY 12725  
845-985-2041

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



**Loucks Funeral Home**

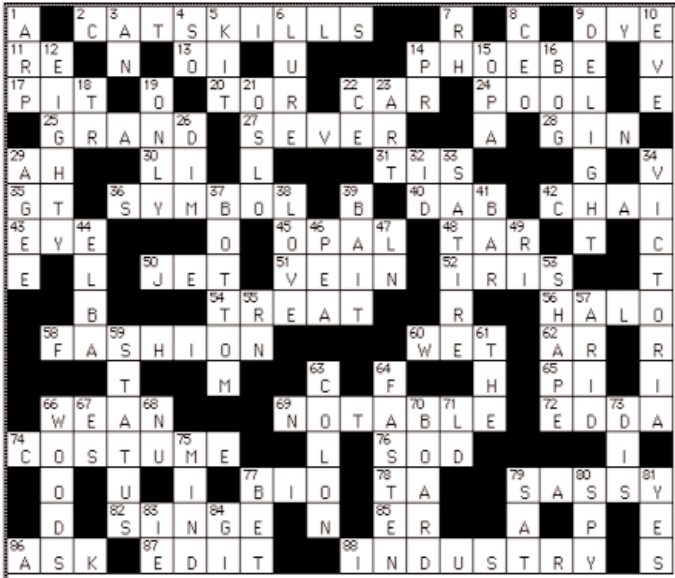
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*"Celebrating Life, One Family at a Time"*

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Ellenville, New York  
(845) 647-4343

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

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

Ans to last week's Crossword



## Sundown United Methodist Church Covered Dish Supper

Saturday,

February 1 2025 5:30 pm

at the Church Hall

Check out the tables with Yard Sale items available for sale

(Covered Dish Suppers are held the First Saturday of each month at 5:30 pm at the Church Hall)

## Order Your 4 Free At-home COVID-19 Tests

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

Do you want 4 free Covid Tests Kits?

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

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

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

SUUJI WA TANSU NI KAGIRU answer

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

## \$17.5 BILLION in Lost Money

Every day New York State returns \$1.5 million to those who file claims here. Is any yours? To find out, go to:

<https://osc.state.ny.us/ouf> or <https://ouf.osc.state.ny.us/ouf>

Many have checked, and sure enough after following the directions and filing a claim, have received a check from the NYS Comptroller's Office. It only takes a few minutes to find

Check the air quality where you are at:

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

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or visit our Virtual Mail  
<http://gnomehomeinc.com>

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

## LOCAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2/1/25	<b>Sundown UMC Covered Dish Supper</b> 5:30 Church
2/4/25	Claryville Fire District Monthly Meeting 6:30 pm
2/11/25	Denning Town Board & Business Meeting 6:00 pm Denning Town Hall
2/12/25	Town of Neversink Organizational - Board Meeting
2/12/25	Neversink Fire District Commissioner Meeting 7:00pm
2/16/25	Claryville FD All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast 8 am - 12 noon
2/17/25	Town of Neversink Holiday - PESIDENTS' DAY
2/29/25	Town of Denning Planning Board Meeting 6:00 pm Denning Town of Town Hall

**TOWN OF OLIVE MEETINGS ARE AS FOLLOWS:**

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

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

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

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

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

## Ulster County Legislature Weekly Update For The Week Of January 27 - January 31, 2025

**Monday, January 27**

o **4:30 PM - Ulster County Economic Development Alliance Board Meeting**, in the KL Binder Library, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston & Via Zoom, Meeting ID: 861 5639 0806, Passcode: 280205

o **5:00 PM - Recycling Oversight Committee**, in Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston

o **CANCELLED: Climate Smart Committee**

**Tuesday, January 28**

o No Meetings

**Wednesday, January 29**

o **6:30 PM - Ulster County Environmental Management Council**, in the SUNY Ulster Kingston Center, Meeting Room 215, 94 Marys Avenue, Kingston & Via Zoom, Meeting: 974 4254 9615, Passcode: 278571

**Thursday, January 30**

o **5:00 PM - Ulster & Delaware Corridor Advisory Committee**, in Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston

**Friday, January 31**

o No Meetings

**SONG CLUB at MISU**

**Every last Saturday of the month  
All ages and voices welcome**

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

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

40 Market St. Ellenville  
[www.misucatskills.org](http://www.misucatskills.org)  
845.377.3727



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@misucatskills

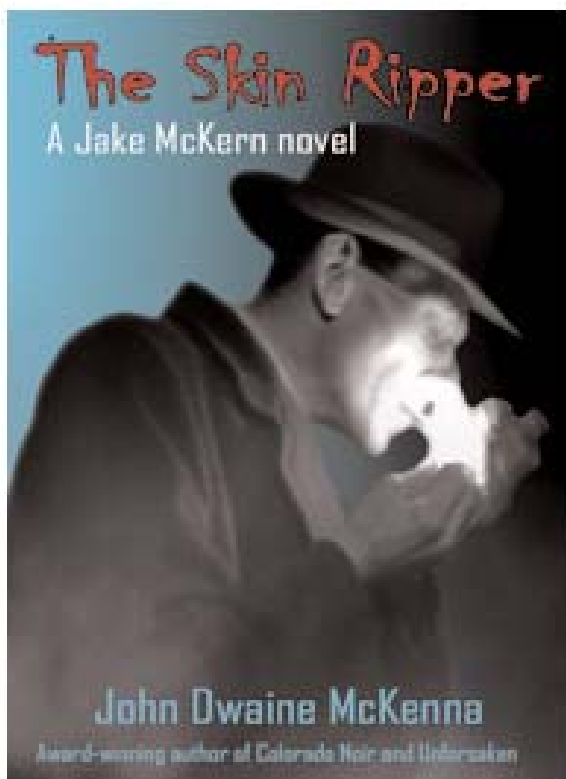


# The Skin Ripper

A novel

John Dwaine McKenna

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



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

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

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

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325 pages

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# Winterfest

2025

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Feb. 8th  
11a-4p

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

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Now Accepting Vendor Applications!!  
email: [parksandrec@townofneversink.org](mailto:parksandrec@townofneversink.org)

Alternate date: Feb 22nd

SHADOWLAND  
STAGES  
ACADEMY

WINTER 2025

## Saturday Acting Classes

February 1st - March 15th (7 weeks)

Invited Showings March 15th! Same Time as Class!

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Cost of each class is \$125

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visit [shadowlandstages.org](http://shadowlandstages.org)



All Classes in Studio at  
**SHADOWLAND STAGES**

14 Market St. on the corner of Center St.

# SLAC

## Senior Legislative Action Committee Meeting

*Friday at 10AM,  
January 31st, 2025  
in the Legislation  
Meeting Room*

### AGENDA as follows:

Update on the ACC situation and concerns regarding the CON application.

Update on the Garnet Sullivan Hospital's removal of vital services for the residents of Sullivan County.

Seeking ideas to rectify this from all residents who are concerned.

This is a new year, and we hope that we can complete all our concerns this year.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

#### Israel Facing Ongoing Hostilities

Israel is a strategic ally in a vital region. It is the defender of Western civilization in the Middle East, and it is the cradle of the Jewish and Christian religions.

On October 7, 2023 Hamas Palestinians attacked and murdered Israeli civilians. A survey found 80% of West Bank Palestinians approved of the Hamas attack. Israel will not allow the formation of a Palestinian country which could launch more murderous attacks; and on July 17, 2024 Israel's parliament voted to oppose the establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

Subsequently, Israel responded to Hezbollah attacks from Lebanon and invaded southern Lebanon to create a buffer zone and safeguard communities in northern Israel.

The overthrow of the Assad regime in Syria, which was an ally of Iran, could reduce a threat to Israel, including eliminating the supply of military equipment to Hezbollah.

Hopefully the new Syrian government will seek peace and prosperity in the Middle East.

Unfortunately, Turkey, a hostile country, is now conducting warfare against the Kurds in Syria.

It is noteworthy 75% of Americans, probably including many of our 60 million Evangelical Christians, and President Trump, believe the viability of Israel is important for U.S. national security and the preservation of Christianity in the Middle East.

Israel must be prepared for ongoing wars, because the objective of some hostile Arab countries and terrorist organizations is the annihilation of Israel, and any peace is just an interlude between wars.

Donald Moskowitz  
Londonderry NH

## Sun Trail Storage

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we will publish it each week  
through the week of the event)

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

Low Rates  
High Visibility!



# 2025 SULLIVAN COUNTY DMV winter schedule

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



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

Schedule an appointment on the county website [sullivanny.gov](http://sullivanny.gov) | County Clerk Russell Reeves

## Join us for Songclub with Debbie Lan! Saturday, January 25 from 5:00-6:30 pm. All ages and voices welcome!

This Songclub drop in will be held at the Common Good bookstore located at 119 Canal St. in Ellenville.

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

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

Originally from Cape Town, South Africa and now living in upstate NY, Debbie Lan is a musician, choral director, vocal arranger, singer, lyricist, and award winning songwriter who has enjoyed many facets of making music.

Debbie has entertained audiences as a solo artist, with

various bands and Playback Theater companies, written two musicals which premiered at The Rosendale Theater in Rosendale New York, and has taught music and singing to children 18 months through 8th grade.

Now in its 17th year, Debbie founded, directs and arranges songs for Bloom, a 50 voice ensemble, as well as The B2's, Perennial and The Resisterhood Community Choir. The ensembles have performed at many local venues singing original arrangements of an eclectic mix of uplifting and joyful songs.

Debbie also founded Songclub, a drop-in singing experience aimed at bringing communities together through singing original arrangements of familiar songs in a safe and welcoming environment. All voices and levels are welcome. The audience is the choir!

Debbie is passionate about building community through facilitating joyful and fulfilling group singing experiences for all voices.

For any updates and information about song choices please visit SongClub with Debbie Lan on Facebook.

# Gillibrand Announces BiPartisan Legislation to Address Shortage of Affordable Child Care As of 2018, 64% Of New Yorkers Lived In A Child Care Desert

*Legislation Would Provide \$100 Million In Federal Funding To Develop The Child Care Workforce, Build New Child Care Facilities*

WASHINGTON, D.C. -. Today U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand held a virtual press conference to discuss her bipartisan legislation to address the nationwide shortage of affordable child care. Nearly two-thirds of New Yorkers live in communities that lack adequate access to child care, a share higher than in all but 4 states. Gillibrand's bill would provide \$100 million in federal funding over 5 years for states to build or expand child care facilities and to help train a robust child care workforce.

“Access to quality, affordable child care is a necessity for working parents, but a dire shortage of facilities and workers has made it inaccessible for millions of New Yorkers,” said Senator Gillibrand. “I’m proud to introduce this bipartisan legislation to help recruit, train, and retain child care workers and to build or expand child care facilities in communities that need them. I am committed to working across the aisle to get this done.”

The Child Care Workforce and Facilities Act would address the shortage of affordable child care and qualified child care professionals by providing competitive workforce development grants and facilities grants to states. Flexible workforce development grants can be used for a wide range of job training activities, such as offering scholarships or tuition subsidies; paying for the purchase of textbooks, equipment or other required educational materials; or covering other education and referral costs necessary to increase labor participation in the state's child care sector. Facilities grants would fund the construction, expansion, or renovation of child care facilities.

Prioritized projects would be ones that expand access to child care in child care deserts - areas where the number of children under the age of five is more than three times the number of slots with local child care providers who are licensed by the state. Under this definition, 64 percent of New Yorkers live in a child

**Multiplicity: Together and Apart**

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

Curated by Jan Sosnowitz

January 18 – March 1, 2025

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

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

**Artists in the show:** Lowell Miller, Robert Ohnigian, Vincent Pidone, Alan Samalin, MJ Shepard, Frank Tagariello

NOVA DARKSTAR, TED DIXON, ROBIN FACTOR, PAT HOUGH, SARAH MECKLEM

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**Birds of Prey** WITH Robinson's Wildlife

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST at 11 a.m.

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

care desert, including 73 percent of those in rural areas. Herkimer, Lewis, Wyoming, Oswego, and Jefferson counties face especially extreme shortages.

The legislation is led by Senators Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) and Dan Sullivan (R-AK) and cosponsored by Senators Angus King (I-ME), Jeff Merkley (D-OR), Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH), and Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI).

## Free Online Tax Filing with Ease: Governor Hochul Announces Direct File Program is Now Available

- *Free Online Tax Filing for Millions of New Yorkers Starting on January 27th*
- *Taxpayers Can Save Hundreds in Tax Prep Fees*
  - *Part of Governor's Affordability Agenda and Ongoing Effort To Improve Government Services*

Governor Kathy Hochul today urged New Yorkers to consider using the Direct File program in New York State to ease the burden of filing taxes. The joint project with the IRS, available starting today, allows taxpayers to file their federal and state taxes online at no cost. Building on Governor Hochul's initiative to make New York more affordable, this program helps the average New York taxpayers save around \$260 in tax preparation fees.

"Direct File is a common-sense approach to filing taxes," Governor Hochul said. "If you have a basic return, you'll find that it's easy to complete the process and that you can save hundreds of dollars in tax preparation fees."

The Tax Department estimates that 3.4 million New Yorkers will be able to use Direct File this year. To find out if you're eligible, visit the New York State Tax Department's webpage at:

<https://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/efile/direct-file/>

New York State Department of Taxation and Finance Acting Commissioner Amanda Hiller said, "Direct File is a safe, secure system that you can access from a smartphone or desktop computer. Qualified New Yorkers can answer simple questions instead of filling out forms or paying a preparer to complete their income return."

New York piloted Direct File with the IRS in 2024. In its first year, the program was open for a limited time to a limited number of taxpayers. Some 14,000 New Yorkers used Direct File last year and 96 percent reported a positive experience.

The 2025 Direct File Program - available starting today - expands eligibility, covering more tax credits and different types of income. The Tax Department estimates that 3.4 million New Yorkers will be able to use Direct File this year. New Yorkers with 2024 wages of up to \$200,000, or \$250,000 if filing a joint return, may qualify.

Direct File is part of Governor Hochul's ongoing effort to save New Yorkers money and improve government services. As part of her FY 2026 Budget, Governor Hochul proposed a middle class tax cut to deliver nearly \$1 billion in tax relief to more than 8.3 million New Yorkers. When fully phased in, the middle class tax cut will deliver hundreds of dollars in average savings to nearly 77 percent of filers - representing three out of every four taxpayers.

Additionally, Governor Hochul proposed New York's first-ever inflation refund that will put \$3 billion back in the pockets of 8.6 million taxpayers. Joint tax filers who make \$300,000 or less will receive a \$500 payment and all single New York taxpayers who make \$150,000 or less will receive a \$300 payment. Governor Hochul also proposed a vast expansion of New York's Child Tax Credit that will double or triple the current credit in many cases, offering up to \$1,000 annually per child under four and up to \$500 per child aged four to 16. This marks the largest increase in the credit's history, significantly surpassing the current maximum of \$330 per child.

For more information on the Governor's Affordability Agenda see:

<https://www.governor.ny.gov/programs/making-new-york-state-more-affordable>

For more information on Direct File, visit the New York State Tax Department's webpage at:

<https://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/efile/direct-file/>

## SC Legislators Seek Residents to Serve on Charter Review Commission

### Volunteer Group to Help Chart County's Course

Monticello, NY - In accordance with the Charter of Sullivan County, legislators encourage local residents to submit letters of interest to the County as they create a Charter Review Commission.

"Our founding document, the Charter, requires the Legislature to convene a Charter Review Commission every 10 years, and the last one started meeting in 2015," explained Legislature Chair Nadia Rajsz. "We are looking for people willing and able to review this important document to see if changes are warranted. We're particularly interested in hearing from residents who might never have served on a County advisory committee before."

The Charter requires that Commission members be "qualified county electors": 18 years of age or older and eligible to vote in local elections. It also stipulates that members should represent various segments of the community, so legislators urge a wide variety of residents to submit a letter of interest, including any past work or life experiences they deem relevant for consideration, to Clerk of the Legislature AnnMarie Martin at [annmarie.martin@sullivanny.gov](mailto:annmarie.martin@sullivanny.gov) (or mail or drop off the letter in person at the Office of the Legislature, Sullivan County Government Center, 100 North Street, Monticello, NY 12701). All letters must be received by March 28, 2025.

Legislators will appoint members of the Charter Review Commission in May, with a goal of convening the first meeting in June. Meetings will be open to the public. Members will choose the frequency of their meetings, who their chair/vice chair will be, and what officials, experts and other speakers will be invited to provide information. At the conclusion of their deliberations, they will provide a written report to the Legislature, including recommendations to revise the Charter, if deemed necessary.



Sundown  
United  
Methodist  
Church



February 1, 2025

5:30 pm

Bring a covered dish to share  
Enjoy good food and fellowship

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

Sundown United Methodist Church Hall

(Intersection of Sundown Rd., Peekamoose Rd. & Greenville Rd., Sundown, NY 12740)





## Please Help Save Our School!

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

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

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

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

### Thank You!

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

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

Please mail your check to:

**Time and the Valleys Museum**

P.O. Box 254, Grahamsville, NY 12740

or go online:

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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Thank you so much for your donation.

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

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- ◆ FREE admission to over 30 other museums in New York State



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

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

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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Thank you for supporting local history and the Museum

## Time and the Valleys Museum

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

THE ACADEMY AT  
SHADOWLAND  
STAGES

WINTER 2025

# ADULT ACTING CLASS

## Tuesday Evenings

Audition Techniques + Monologues

5:30 PM - 8:00 PM

February 4th - March 25 (8 weeks)

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

Cost of the class is \$125.

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

**SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE**

[https://shadowlandstages.easy-ware-ticketing.com/classes?N=1197&mc\\_cid=71fdf21bcc&mc\\_eid=138a9b9d06](https://shadowlandstages.easy-ware-ticketing.com/classes?N=1197&mc_cid=71fdf21bcc&mc_eid=138a9b9d06)

to register or for more information

email [ben@shadowlandstages.org](mailto:ben@shadowlandstages.org)  
call (845) 647-5511  
visit [shadowlandstages.org](http://shadowlandstages.org)

All Classes in Studio at  
**SHADOWLAND STAGES**

14 Market St. on the corner of Center St.

## Last Chance to Register for Winter Acting Classes!

Don't miss your opportunity to step into the spotlight this winter with The Academy at SHADOWLAND STAGES! Whether your child is a budding performer or you've been dreaming of getting on stage yourself, our acting classes are the perfect way to develop skills, build confidence, and have a blast.

We offer classes for all ages and experience levels:

### Youth Acting Classes (Ages 6-18)

Start Date: February 1st

Our youth classes nurture creativity, teamwork, and storytelling, providing a fun and supportive environment for young actors to shine.

See below for information about each specific class.

### CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR KIDS CLASSES

[https://shadowlandstages.easy-ware-ticketing.com/classes?N=2432%202430%202425%202428&mc\\_cid=5779a0451d&mc\\_eid=138a9b9d06](https://shadowlandstages.easy-ware-ticketing.com/classes?N=2432%202430%202425%202428&mc_cid=5779a0451d&mc_eid=138a9b9d06)

### Adult Acting Classes

Start Date: February 4th

Discover your inner actor, build new skills, or simply explore a creative outlet. No matter your experience level, these classes are designed to inspire and challenge!

### CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR ADULT CLASSES

[https://shadowlandstages.easy-ware-ticketing.com/classes?N=1197&mc\\_cid=5779a0451d&mc\\_eid=138a9b9d06](https://shadowlandstages.easy-ware-ticketing.com/classes?N=1197&mc_cid=5779a0451d&mc_eid=138a9b9d06)

### Why choose The Academy?

Work with experienced instructors who bring professional expertise to every class.

Learn in a welcoming and inclusive space where creativity thrives.

Develop skills that go beyond the stage, like confidence, communication, and collaboration.

Spaces are limited, and registration closes soon—don't wait!

Let this winter be your time to shine. We can't wait to see you at SHADOWLAND!

## 2025 DVAA Exhibition Schedule

NARROWSBURG, NY - On Saturday, February 8th, 2025, DVAA will welcome the community to the start of a packed and exciting schedule of exhibitions for 2025. Featuring the talents of local and regional artists, DVAA's 2025 roster of exhibitions run the gamut from painting to printmaking, sculp-

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ture to performance art, and everything in-between.

First up in the Alliance Gallery, Torey Akers' exhibition, *Baubo*, explores the human form in intricate and intimate oil paintings and ink drawings, exploring depth and form with sculptural, collaged elements made from dressmakers' pins. DVAA will be hosting a Coffee and Conversation event where Akers will discuss work and process at 3pm on February 8th.

On view in the Loft Gallery will be DVAA's member show, *Assembly Required*. Curated by DVAA Gallery & Grants Manager Tanner Simon, the exhibition features collaborations between local artists - many of whom specifically responded to the exhibitions call for submissions. Including visual artists, writers, musicians, performers, and others *Assembly Required* offers a glimpse of what is possible when we embrace dialogue and exchange and break out of our silos and blur our boundaries in the spirit of collaboration, understanding, and a greater whole.

Opening Receptions for both exhibitions will take place on Saturday, February 8th from 4-6pm.

DVAA is located at 37 Main Street, Narrowsburg, NY. Walk-ins are welcome, and our galleries are ADA-accessible. Gallery & Shop hours are Thursdays - Sundays, 11 am - 4 pm, and by appointment.

For more information, visit [DelawareValleyArtsAlliance.org](http://DelawareValleyArtsAlliance.org)  
(Contd. Pg. 37)

## 2025 DVAA Exhibition Schedule

(From Pg.1)

Opening Receptions take place from 4-6pm on the first day of each exhibition.

### Saturday, February 8 - Sunday, March 30, 2025

o Torey Akers (Brooklyn, NY) - Baubo

Akers' work takes on the mantle of the Renaissance-era erotic nude - simultaneously coy and brazen, exploited and self-referential.

\*A Coffee & Conversation event with the artist will take place at DVAA on Saturday, February 8th, 3pm



### o Group Show - Assembly Required



DVAA members' show, curated by Tanner Simon, features artistic collaborations across a dizzying array of mediums.

\*A series of collaborative live performances will take place during the opening reception and on March 29. For details visit [delawarevalleyartsalliance.org](http://delawarevalleyartsalliance.org)

### Saturday, April 5 - Sunday, May 11, 2025

o Jenny Carpenter (Cold Spring, NY) - Open Spaces

Carpenter's paintings on birch panel capture a sense of place, a moment. They offer viewers a pause to gather a thought or ruminate on a feeling, to create space before life interrupts.

\*A Coffee & Conversation event with the artist will take place on Saturday, April 26th, 1pm



o Kelly O'Brien (Wurtsboro, NY) - When We Are Among The Trees

Spanning sculpture, wall-based art, and installation, O'Brien's work explores ecological uncertainty and relational entanglement, navigating and holding complex ideas lightly and nimbly.

\*A Nature Reading Circle with the artist will take place on Saturday,

May 3rd, 1pm

### Saturday, May 17 - Sunday, June 22, 2025

o Bobby Abate (Callicoon, NY)

Abate's work spotlights the Queer underground, drag

culture and evolving forms of gender.

o Sherry Rossini (Holland, PA) - Transpose Matter

Rossini works in natural materials, including marble and unprocessed wood, to explore themes of meditation and reflection.

### Saturday, June 28 - Sunday, August 3, 2025

o Jami Taback (Hawley, PA) + Jane Ingram Allen (Santa Rosa, CA) - In Deep Water

Taback, a printmaker, and Allen, a papermaker, collaborate on a large scale mixed-media installation about our current climate change crisis with a focus on water, the most essential requirement for life.

o Douglas Schindler (Swan Lake, NY)

Schindler's impasto oil paintings conjure an intimate reflection of the direct and indirect experiences of living in low income, violence-prone areas. While these works heavily display violent story-scapes, they also exhibit the spaces in between the violence - spaces of love, peace, and freedom.

### Saturday, August 9 - Sunday, September 14, 2025

o Mellissa Wilkinson (Warwick, NY)

Wilkinson's meticulous watercolor and ink wash paintings draw from images sourced from the Hollywood golden era, late 70's/early 80's tomboys and heartthrobs, disco and Tumblr to explore her own queer identity.

o Nancy Wells (Damascus, PA)

A print-making retrospective from this ground-breaking local artist.

### Saturday, September 20 - Sunday, October 26, 2025

o Avani Patel (Brooklyn, NY) - Rhythmic Allure

Influenced by her childhood in Mumbai, India, Patel's work uses vivid colors, mark-making and repetition as tools to signify change in nature, the passage of time, and retention and rejection of memory.

o Candy Spilner (Cochecton, NY)

Influenced by her rural surroundings and filtered through art history, Spilner investigates visual perception and the complexity of pictorial space using color and layers and texture to create illusion and even confusion.

### Saturday, November 15 - Saturday, December 21, 2025

o Art in Sixes, 21st Annual Small Works Exhibition  
Every November for 21 years, DVAA has mounted "Art in Sixes," an exhibition that celebrates and grows the region's artistic community. Each year, artworks by hundreds of artists fill the galleries of DVAA. Ascribing to the rule that no artwork be larger than 6" x 6", the beloved annual show is a must-see for artists and audiences alike.

### LOOKING AHEAD TO 2026

Interested in exhibiting at DVAA? Artists and curators are invited to submit an application for the 2026 exhibition season- now through January 31st, 2025. Emphasizing artists from the Mid-Hudson, Catskill, or Upper Delaware River Regions, the program welcomes diverse media, styles, installations, and curator proposals, showcasing high-quality work by both emerging and established artists. More information: <https://delawarevalleyartsalliance.org/exhibition-call-for-entries/>

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

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

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

What the critics say:

"A letter-perfect love story" - *BroadwayWorld*

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

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

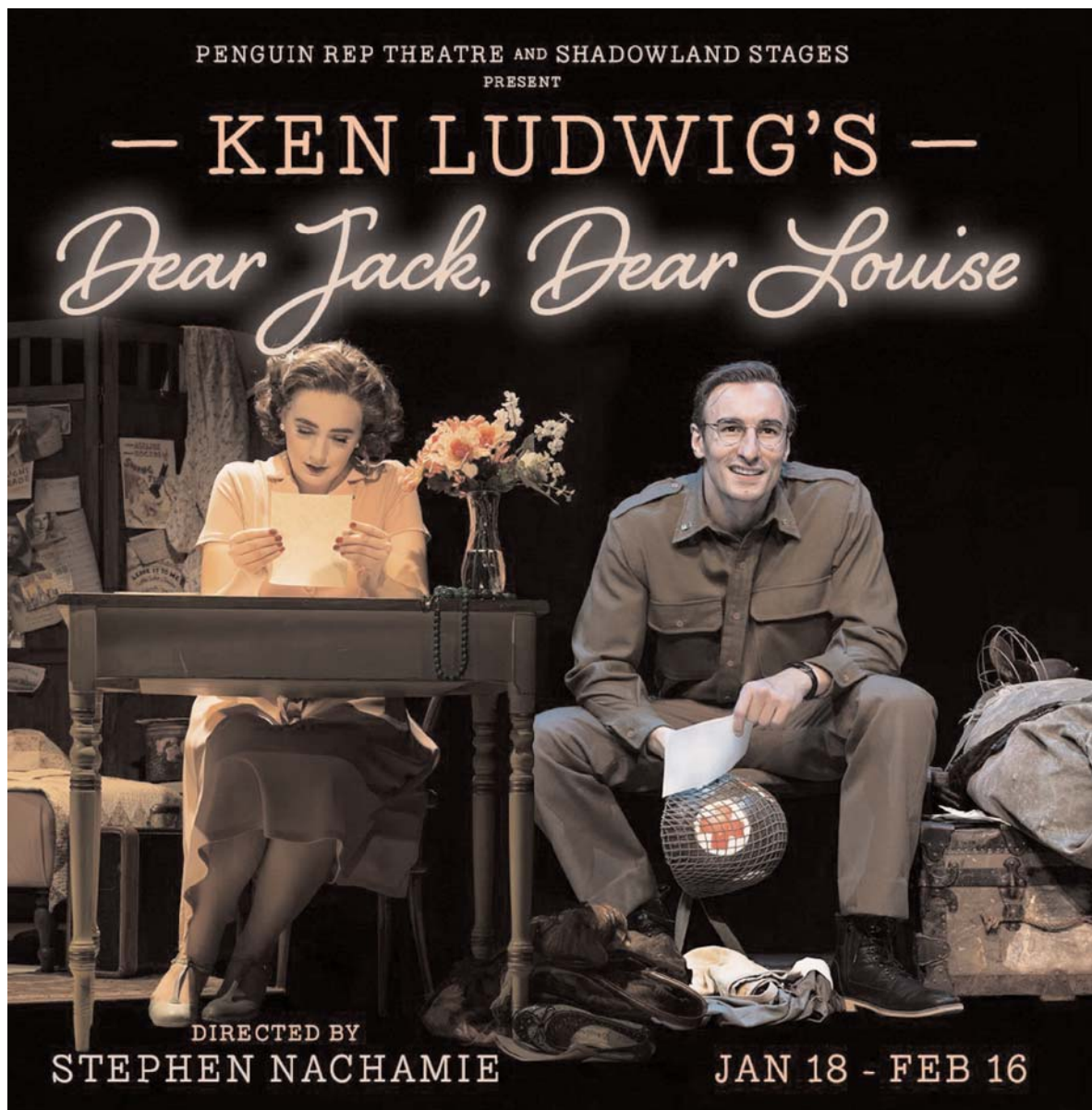
Special event - Join a post-show talkback with Tony Award-winning playwright Ken Ludwig and Joe Brancato, Artistic Director of Penguin Rep Theatre, on Friday, January 31, following the 7:00 PM performance.

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

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

Click here for tickets

[https://59e59.org/shows/show-detail/ken-ludwigs-dear-jack-dear-louise/?mc\\_cid=71fdf21bcc&mc\\_eid=138a9b9d06#schedule-and-tickets](https://59e59.org/shows/show-detail/ken-ludwigs-dear-jack-dear-louise/?mc_cid=71fdf21bcc&mc_eid=138a9b9d06#schedule-and-tickets)



# SAVE A LIFE! DONATE! SHARE OUR STORY!



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

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

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

### More about our warrior Nick....

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

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

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

*For any other questions  
845.798.2077 [nickneedsokidney@gmail.com](mailto:nickneedsokidney@gmail.com)*

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

# DEC Forest Rangers - Week in Review Recent Statewide Forest Ranger Actions

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Forest Rangers respond to search and rescue incidents statewide. Working with other state agencies, local emergency response organizations, and volunteer search and rescue groups, Forest Rangers locate, and extract lost, injured, or distressed people from across New York State.

In 2024, DEC Forest Rangers conducted 362 search and rescue missions, extinguished 122 wildfires covering nearly 6,500 acres, participated in 60 prescribed fires that served to rejuvenate more than 1,155 acres of land, and worked on cases that resulted in more than 1,200 tickets and arrests.

“From wildfires, to floods, to search and rescue operations, whenever emergencies strike, DEC's Forest Rangers are always the first to jump into action,” DEC Interim Commissioner Sean Mahar said. “I commend our Rangers for their heroic work to keep New Yorkers and our visitors safe in some of the most adverse conditions in the world, and for leading the state's response to emergency situations. Their efforts to inspire the next generation of safe and responsible outdoor enthusiasts are instrumental in DEC's efforts to support the outdoor recreation economy, and I encourage all New Yorkers interested in joining our ranks to visit DEC's website to learn how to become the next New York State Forest Ranger and be part of their historic legacy of protecting New York's forests.”

### Village of Wurstboro Sullivan County Training:

On Jan. 16, Forest Rangers Cowart and Pries led flat ice rescue training for seven Rangers at Bashakill Wildlife Management Area. Rangers practiced self-rescue and subject-rescue techniques.

Outdoor enthusiasts are advised to be aware of essential safety guidelines and make sure ice is thick enough before heading out. Before leaving shore, ice anglers are advised to check the thickness of ice. <https://dec.ny.gov/things-to-do/freshwater-fishing/learn-to-fish/tips-skills/how-to-ice-fish#Safety>

Four inches of solid, clear ice is usually safe for anglers accessing ice on foot. However, ice thickness can vary between waterbodies and even within the same waterbody, increasing the need to ensure thickness. Anglers should be particularly cautious of areas of moving water and around boat docks and houses where

bubblers may be installed to reduce ice from forming. Checking the ice can easily be done with an auger or “spud bar” (a long, metal tool with a chisel on one end) at various spots.



Flat ice rescue training in Wurtsboro

JIM YORK State and Federally Licensed  
 163 Krumville Road, CR2A (845) 657-6330 (Ph.)  
 Olive Bridge, N.Y. 12461 (845) 657-7031 (Fax)  
 Email: jyork@hvc.rr.com

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Start at Route 28 and Reservoir Rd in Shokan	1.7 Miles
← Turn LEFT onto Monument Road	
Continue onto NY-28A West	1.8 Miles
← Turn LEFT onto NY-213	1.1 Miles
→ Turn RIGHT onto Krumville Road/CR-2A	0.8 Miles
Gun Shop on LEFT	

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

## Bingo at the Monticello Elks Lodge

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

### Hamlet of White Lake Sullivan County Public Safety:

On Jan. 18, Forest Ranger Schweider assisted the White Lake Fire Company and not-for-profit, Sullivan 180 at their “Freeze for a Cure” event. Ranger Schweider worked with members of White Lake Fire and Kauneonga Lake Fire to ensure everyone who took the plunge safely got out of the frozen water.

All proceeds went to the Alzheimer's Association.



Freeze for a Cure



## Governor Hochul Announces \$10 Million Available to Support Youth and Teen Mental Health First Aid

- *Key Statewide Initiative To Certify Youth and Teen Mental Health First Aid Programs*
- *Mental Health First Aid Teaches Young New Yorkers How To Assist and Support Individuals Experiencing a Mental Health or Substance Use Crisis*

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced that \$10 million in State funding is available to offer a statewide Youth and Teen Mental Health First Aid program. The State Office of Mental Health will administer the funding to develop a training and certification program that helps New Yorkers identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders in young people who may be experiencing a crisis.

“Young New Yorkers are facing unprecedented mental health challenges, and we must take action to support them,” Governor Hochul said. “This statewide training program will empower teachers, caregivers and teens to recognize and assist those in need - bettering their health and that of those around them.”

OMH is providing \$10 million over five years for a not-for-profit organization to create or expand Youth Mental Health First Aid and Teen Mental Health First Aid training and certification programs. Governor Hochul secured this funding in the FY25 Enacted Budget and laid out plans to further expand the initiative in her 2025 State of the State address, calling for a statewide roll out of a Teen Mental Health First Aid program in high schools to drive a generational culture change.

The Youth Mental Health First Aid training is designed for parents, family members, caregivers, teachers, school staff, peers, neighbors, health and human services workers, and others. The program trains them on how to help young people between the ages of 12 and 18 who are experiencing a mental health or addiction challenge or who are in crisis.

The Teen Mental Health First Aid training is designed for young people between the ages 15 and 18 so they may identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges in their friends and peers. The training provides the skills to recognize common signs and symptoms of mental health and substance use challenges; the impact of bullying and school violence on mental health; how to have impactful conversations with classmates about mental health concerns or to seek help from an adult; formal and informal support, and self-care.

Previous state investments have resulted in more than 2,000 adults trained in Youth Mental Health First Aid. Likewise, roughly 5,000 young people have been trained in Teen Mental Health First Aid as a result of State funding.



**BECOME  
SOMEONE'S  
Angel**

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

**HOPE**  
not HANDCUFFS  
[www.hopenothandcuffshv.com](http://www.hopenothandcuffshv.com)

Governor Hochul has remained steadfast in her commitment to protecting the mental health of children and teenagers, enacting nation-leading legislation to address online safety and the harmful impacts of social media. Earlier this year, she signed the Stop Addictive Feeds Exploitation For Kids Act to restrict the addictive features of social media and the New York Child Data Protection Act to restrict the collection of minors' personal data by online sites.

Governor Hochul also established the Youth Mental Health Advisory Board, a 30-member advisory board which includes youth between the ages of 11 and 17. The advisory board convenes quarterly and is designed to ensure that youth-informed best practices continue to be incorporated in developing behavioral health programs and policies.

As part of her \$1 billion mental health initiative, Governor Hochul has also significantly expanded access to mental health care and resources for young people and their families - investments that were increased again in the FY25 Enacted Budget. These investments include \$20 million in start-up funding and a rolling application process for school-based mental health clinics; and providing \$9.6 million to add 12 new Youth Assertive Community Treatment to ensure resources and supports are available for more families.

# Farm Arts Collective to Receive \$10,000 Challenge America Award from the National Endowment for the Arts

Damascus, PA-Farm Arts Collective is pleased to announce it has been approved by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) for a Challenge America award of \$10,000. This grant will support the creation and presentation of the 2025 Dream on the Farm production of Paradise Lost: Scavenger Hunt, a new site-specific devised theatre performance set for presentation at the new Agri-Cultural Center located on Willow Wisp Organic Farm, July 24 to August 3, 2025.



The NEA will award 272 Challenge America awards nationwide totaling \$2,720,000 as part of the recent announcement of fiscal year 2025 grants.

“The NEA is proud to continue our nearly 60 years of supporting the efforts of organizations and artists that help to shape our country’s vibrant arts sector and communities of all types across our nation,” said NEA Chair Maria Rosario

Jackson, PhD. “It is inspiring to see the wide range of creative projects taking place, including Farm Arts Collective.”

Farm Arts Collective artistic director, Tannis Kowalchuk says, “We are very pleased to receive an NEA award to support Dream on the Farm, a community-based performance project about climate change. We are thrilled to be among the slate of national awardees again this year. We will honor our responsibility to bring professional, high quality agri-cultural art to our



community, created by a cohort of incredible local artists, farmers, musicians, scientists, and makers. Kowalchuk and the Farm Arts Collective launched Dream on the Farm in

2020 with the intention to build one new climate change-themed play every year until 2030. The project was initiated in response to scientists’ call to the world community to radically reduce carbon emissions in order to keep global average temperatures from rising above 1.5 Celsius. Paradise Lost: Scavenger Hunt will be the collective’s sixth play in the series.

For more information about Farm Arts Collective visit [www.farmartscollective.org](http://www.farmartscollective.org)

and to learn more about other projects included in the NEA’s grant announcement, visit [arts.gov/news](http://arts.gov/news).


*elle*

## CELEBRATE

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*Call 845 985-7233 for availability or go to our website for further details.*



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dpl@rcls.org • www.danielpiercelibrary.org



## Montigram President's Corner

Lori Orestano-James

BRRRRRRR....Baby it's cold outside!

Thank you to all who reached out to wish me well during my bout with COVID.

Still not 100% but a lot better than I was - Cough....Cough!

But, it is time to get back to business! So....

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

The event closest at hand is our participation in the WSUL 98.3 Heart-a-thon. A community event, but one with a strong Rotary presence. This year, Monticello Rotary will be hosting the Healthy Heart Health & Wellness Fair on February 21st from 10am - 4pm. Chaired under the very able Crystal Tweed, work is being done on scheduling of mini courses to be offered throughout the day along with agencies and organizations who will provide materials and resources on a myriad of health and wellness issues.

During the Health Fair, we will hold our Joint Club Blood Drive as well. Anyone wishing to donate blood should register for a time at

[https://donate.nybc.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/321501](https://donate.nybc.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/321501)

To make a donation to the Monti Rotary Team, use this link:

<https://www.givegab.com/p2p/47th-annual-98-3-wsul-heart-a-thon/montirotary2025>

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

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1406liV8Y4jTedMvQ1QPz-Lpn-NvmRGVUMHjEWRBuxus/edit?gid=178320377#gid=178320377>

If you need assistance in doing this, please let me know and I am happy to help.

Below, Liberty and Monticello Rotarians helped to raise over \$500 during Heart Sales this past weekend! Thank you Rebecca Sko-da, Merri White, Fay Cerullo, Ta-nita Owens, Les Kristt, (and camera shy Gary Silverman) for a



great start on this collaborative project!

### Coldest Night of the Year

The Coldest Night of the Year is a National Program supported by Rotary International held annually on what is, by the calendar, The Coldest Night of the Year. This year, we are pleased to create a team called Monti

Rotary & Friends. Jodi Goodman and Lori Orestano-James will be co-chairing this event which is being run locally by The Sullivan County Federation for the

Homeless. Members of Rotary or friends may join the team by clicking here: <http://tps://secure.e2rm.com/registrant/ReturningRegistrantOption.aspx?eventid=389906&langpref=en-CA&TeamID=1026771&Referrer=https%3a%2f%2fsecure.e2rm.com%2fregistrant%2fTeamFundraisingPage.aspx%3fteamID%3d1026771%26langPref%3den-CA> To

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

You may join the team virtually for the walk as well...1.2 miles. Just walk with us from where ever you might be on that night (Florida, North Carolina, your treadmill in the middle of your living room), you can still participate. Just join the team, help us to raise funds, and we will create a live on our Rotary Facebook Page for you to join us.

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

### District Team Learning Seminar

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

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeRa7bikPH-HpFjIY7PNBLI-KOBwVtqcNWL3r1D5ByLCi9jTw/view-form?usp=sharing>

Program for January 28, 2025 - Dr. David Potash, President of SUNY Sullivan

Agenda for January 28, 2025

1. Meeting Called to Order - President Lori Orestano-James
2. Pledge Of Allegiance - Past President - Brad Rutledge
3. Introduction of Guests of Members - Full Membership
4. Guest Speaker - Dr. David Potash - President SUNY Sullivan
5. Committee Reports:
  - Taste of Sullivan - Helen Diehl
  - Heart-a-thon/Blood Drive/Health Fair - Lori Orestano-James, Crystal Tweed/Les Kristt
  - SCFH Coldest Night of the Year Event - Jodi Goodman & Lori James (Contd. Pg. 44)

# Montigram

(From Pg. 43)

Help with California Wild Fires

Rotary Radio - Rick Stein

Interact/RYLEA - Cris Spinner

6. Regional Updates/District Updates - District Team

Learning Seminar

7. Old Business

8. New Business

9. Happy Dollars

10. 50/50 Raffle

11. Adjourn

Link for Zoom Meeting Sign-on

[:https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88506100931?pwd=MUNmWnhZanR6M2lCSy9McjNQSTBudz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88506100931?pwd=MUNmWnhZanR6M2lCSy9McjNQSTBudz09)

Looking forward to seeing you all for our meeting at Albella on Tuesday night at 6:30. For those needing the Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88506100931?pwd=MUNmWnhZanR6M2lCSy9McjNQSTBudz09>

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

Dates to Remember can be found below.

Some upcoming important dates to mark on your calendar: Monticello Rotary Monthly Board Meeting (Rescheduled from last week) Tuesday, January 28, 2025 5:30 Albella (See additional dates in information narrative above).

With Rotary Pride,

Lori Orestano-James

President Monticello Rotary 2024-2025

## Stories

### COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR

On February 22nd from 4:00-7:00 Sullivan County Federation for the Homeless is hosting the Coldest Night of the Year. The event begins at Dos Gatos, located in the Alder-Resorts World Catskills. From there we will embark on a 2k (1.2 mile) walk with the intention of feeling solidarity with those who experience this harshness of weather so very often through lack of shelter. This particular event is hosted in more than 40 cities across America on this night. We will be

supporting the work done right here in Sullivan County for people who experience hurt, hunger and homelessness. Jodi Goodman and Lori Orestano-James have create a team for the Monticello Rotary. To join the Monti Rotary & Friends Team please click here: <https://secure.e2rm.com/registant/TeamFundraisingPage.aspx?teamID=1026771&langPref=en-CA> To donate directly to the team, click here: <https://secure.e2rm.com/registant/TeamFundraisingPage.aspx?teamID=1026771&langPref=en-CA>

Any questions or if you need assistance with the links, contact Lori Orestano-James at [LoriJames.Rotary@gmail.com](mailto:LoriJames.Rotary@gmail.com)

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

### ROTARIANS SING FROM THE HEART

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

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

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

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

"Service Above Self"  
THE FOUR-WAY TEST: of the things we think, say or do...  
Is it the TRUTH?  
Is it FAIR to all concerned?  
Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?  
Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?





# Take Your Child to the Library Day

Wednesday, January 29, 2025

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

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

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

## Why Visit?

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

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

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



## Daniel Pierce Library

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[www.danielpiercelibrary.org](http://www.danielpiercelibrary.org)



### Attending President Trump's Historic Inauguration

This week, President Donald Trump was sworn in as the 47th President of the United States, marking a pivotal moment for our country and our world. In November, 77 million Americans elected Donald Trump and issued a mandate for change. The last four years have been plagued with record-high inflation, an unprecedented migrant crisis, America Last foreign policy and the weaponization of our justice system. However, our nation's future is bright with President Trump's steadfast leadership. I am eager to work with President Trump and his administration to lower taxes, secure our border, unleash American energy production, make our government more efficient, and cut wasteful government spending.

In the first few days after his Inauguration, President Trump issued 28 Executive Orders to reverse harmful policies from the Biden administration and fulfill his promises to the American people. These orders include several initiatives that align with areas I have also worked on. Below is a list of some of Trump's Executive Orders, along with ways I am working to enhance some of these initiatives or make them permanent:

**Executive Order: Initial Rescissions of Harmful Executive Orders and Actions**

**Summary:** This executive order rescinded 78 executive orders and Presidential memorandums issued by President Biden. Here are some key executive orders that were rescinded under this executive order:

**Executive Order 14019** directed federal agencies to utilize federal resources, staff, and facilities to carry out voter registration, dubiously extending federal agency operations beyond its core mission into partisan political activity. Last Congress, I cosponsored the Promoting Free and Fair Elections Act to defund President Biden's Executive Order 14019, which threatens the safety and security of American elections. Additionally, I submitted amendments to five separate appropriations bills to defund this harmful executive order.

**Executive Order 14020** created the White House Gender Policy Council which promoted radical ideologies on gender. I cosponsored multiple bills to uphold the fact that there are only two genders: male and female. The White House Gender Policy Council threatened Title IX protections for women's sports by proposing allowing biological men into women's sports.

**Executive Order 14035** added DEIA requirements to federal hiring guidelines, requiring federal agencies to consider race and ethnicity, rather than only hiring based on merit. I cosponsored multiple bills to combat this racist ideology, and applaud President Trump for withdrawing this harmful executive order.

**Executive Order 14115** imposed sanctions on Israelis living in Judea and Samaria, the first time an ally like Israel has been targeted by sanctions. I created the Friends of Judea and Samaria Caucus to advocate for the strong relationship between the United States and the Judea and Samaria region and oppose harmful measures like this. I also introduced the RECOGNIZING Judea and Samaria to formally rename the "West Bank" to

Judea and Samaria under U.S. law. I look forward to working with President Trump, Secretary Rubio, and incoming Ambassador Huckabee to strengthen our relationship between Judea and Samaria and the United States.

**Executive Order 14008** "put the climate crisis at the center of United States foreign policy and national security." Instead of focusing on the sole duty of ensuring the safety of Americans at home and abroad, this backwards EO made climate alarmism a critical component of our nation's foreign policy. Declaring that "climate considerations shall be an essential element of United States foreign policy and national security" is a gross contortion of the mission and purpose of all foreign policy wings of the federal government, and I am happy to see that this executive order was rescinded.

**Executive Order 14027** formally established the Climate Change Support Office (CCSO) within the Department of State. Adding to an already bloated federal bureaucracy is the last thing this country needs at a time of heightened foreign conflict and skyrocketing debt and inflation. Overturning this absurd EO will help refocus the Department of State's mission on advancing the foreign policy goals of the American people.

**Executive Order 14057** set ridiculous and impossible to comply with carbon goals for the federal government that wasted billions of taxpayer dollars on misguided, green new deal technologies. It required the heads of each executive branch agency to develop and implement climate strategies that to meet net zero goals, shifting the focus of our federal officials away from their core mission. It's time that our nations bureaucrats get back to work advancing the goals of the American people, not climate alarmists.

**Executive Order: Ending the Weaponization of the Federal Government**

**Summary:** Under the Biden administration, the federal government was inappropriately weaponized against everyday Americans and political opponents. This executive order will ensure that under the Trump administration, the federal government is restored to working for the American people, not against them, and will not be used to target political opponents. I strongly supported the creation of the Select Subcommittee on the Weaponization of the Federal Government and fought against the Biden administration's targeting of President Trump and conservative organizations. **Executive Order: Restoring Freedom of Speech and Ending Federal Censorship**

**Summary:** The First Amendment right to Freedom of Speech is one of the many critical freedoms enshrined in our Constitution, but the Biden Administration regularly used the government to silence dissenting views and censor political opponents. This executive order ends this terrible practice and ensures that the government does not repeat this terrible practice. During the 117th Congress, I was a member of the House Big Tech Censorship and Data Task Force, which worked to stop this government censorship. I also sent numerous letters to the Biden administration and social media companies imploring them to stop censoring conservative views.

**Executive Order: Restoring Accountability to Policy-Influencing Positions Within the Federal Workforce**

**Summary:** Far too often, career bureaucrats work to undermine the President's agenda by either unnecessarily delaying implementation of the President's agenda or even actively working against it. This cannot be allowed to continue. This executive order creates Schedule F in the federal workforce, allowing Schedule F bureaucrats to be fired more easily if they are not fulfilling their duties. I strongly support the creation of Schedule F to ensure that entrenched bureaucrats do not impede President Trump's ability to implement his agenda to Make America Great Again.

**Executive Order: Clarifying The Military's Role In Protecting The Territorial Integrity Of The United States** (Contd. Pg. 47)

**Tenney** (From Pg. 46)

Summary: Under the previous administration's open-border policies, millions of illegal aliens flooded across our borders, including members of drug cartels and individuals on the terror watchlist. This executive order clarifies the important role that our military has in protecting our nation's borders by protecting our national sovereignty and repelling the mass entrance of illegal aliens, narcotics, and human trafficking. Over 85 percent of suspected terrorists that have entered our country illegally have done so through our Northern border, endangering NY-24 communities. As a member of the Northern Border Security Caucus, I have worked to secure our borders and codify President Trump's work on this issue from first term.

Executive Order: Holding Former Government Officials Accountable For Election Interference And Improper Disclosure Of Sensitive Governmental Information

Summary: This executive order revokes the security clearances of the 51 intelligence officials who falsely claimed Hunter Biden's laptop was disinformation. These individuals have caused lasting harm to our democracy, national security, and political institutions. Americans deserve an intelligence community fully dedicated to protecting our nation, not advancing political agendas. As a member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, I look forward to working with Chairman Crawford, Speaker Johnson, and President Trump to ending the politicization of the intelligence community and restoring it to its primary mission of keeping our nation safe and secure.

Executive Order: Realigning the United States Refugee Admissions Program

Summary: New York has a rich history of welcoming immigrants and refugees, and we should continue to do so in a manner that is consistent with our laws and national security priorities. However, under the Biden administration, our country deviated from the requirement that refugee programs remained consistent with our laws and national security priorities. This executive order temporarily pauses refugee programs under the Secretary of Homeland Security submits a report on the alignment between refugee programs and the interests of the United States. I support President Trump's decision to ensure that all immigration programs continue to put America First and support America's best interests.

Executive Order: Designation of Ansar Allah As A Foreign Terrorist Organization

Summary: This executive order would redesignate the Houthis, formally known as Ansar Allah, as a Foreign Terrorist Organization. The Houthis are an Iranian-backed terrorist organization based in Yemen that regularly attacks U.S. merchants travelling through the Red Sea, and has attacked our ally Israel multiple times. President Trump proudly designated the Houthis as an FTO in his first time and Biden quickly removed this designation, allowing the Houthis to attack U.S. merchants with impunity. Last Congress, I signed multiple letters to Biden urging him to redesignate the Houthis, and I was an original cosponsor of H.R.6046, the Standing Against Houthi Aggression Act, to codify the Houthi FTO designation over President Biden's objections. I also voted for this important bill when it passed the House on April 17.

Executive Order: Reevaluating And Realigning United States Foreign Aid

Summary: The Biden administration wasted billions of taxpayer dollars on unnecessary international development programs that did not align with American national security interests and instead promoted radical ideologies like DEI and CRT. This executive order requires a 90-day pause in foreign development assistance and programs while the Trump administration reevaluates each program and determines whether the program should be continued, modified, or ceased. This important pause will allow

President Trump to ensure U.S. funding is only used in an appropriate manner and not wasted on project that do not advance the United States' soft power and interests.

Executive Order: America First Policy Directive To The Secretary Of State

Summary: This executive order directs Secretary of State Rubio to advance an America First Foreign Policy and ensure that our country's foreign policy aligns with our national interests. This directive builds upon my America First Foreign Policy Plan which would re-align our foreign policy to finally put America First. I look forward to working with President Trump and Secretary Rubio to implementing their America First agenda and strengthening America's position on the international stage.

Executive Order: Reforming The Federal Hiring Process And Restoring Merit To Government Service

Summary: This executive order will restore the principal that the government should only hire based on merit and not based on radical ideologies like DEI. I introduced H.R. 10411, the Federal Employee Performance and Accountability Act to establish a performance-based pay structure for federal employees, instead of allowing inefficient bureaucrats to continue to collect pay without doing their jobs. As an member of the DOGE Caucus, I look forward to working with President Trump to ensure that the federal government works for the American people and hires the best people for each and every job.

Executive Order: Designating Cartels And Other Organizations As Foreign Terrorist Organizations And Specially Designated Global Terrorists

Summary: This executive order makes it official U.S. policy to eliminate the presentence of transnational criminal cartels, like Tren de Aragua (TdA) and La Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13), in the United States and to protect American citizens from the threats posed by these cartels. These cartels engage in human and drug trafficking across our borders and endanger our communities. I strongly supported the creation of the House Task Force to Combat Mexican Drug Cartels and H.R. 2, the Secure the Border Act which required reports on how the United States can best combat these dangerous cartels and the threats they pose.

Executive Order: Restoring Names That Honor American Greatness

Summary: This executive order will restore the name of Mount McKinley from Mount Denali and rename the Gulf of Mexico to the Gulf of America. Our nation's national wonders should honor our nation's history and ensure that future generations continue to recognize the greatness of our county. I cosponsored the Gulf of America Act to officially recognize the name the Gulf of America in U.S. law and policy and continue to support efforts to honor our nation's heroes, like President McKinley.

Executive Order: Protecting The Meaning And Value Of American Citizenship

Summary: This executive order would make individuals who were born in the United States, but whose parents are here illegally ineligible for birthright citizenship. American citizenship should only be reserved for the children of American citizens and those who are here legally. The Fourteenth Amendment has never been interpreted by the Supreme Court to guarantee every individual born in our country, even if the parents are here illegally, to be entitled to U.S. citizenship. We cannot continue to incentivize illegal immigration by providing this valuable benefit to those who break our nation's laws. I look forward to working with President Trump, Homeland Security Secretary Noem, and Border Czar Homan to secure our nation's borders and uphold the sanctity of U.S. citizenship. (Contd. Pg. 48)

**Tenney** (From Pg. 47)

**Executive Order: Withdrawing the United States from the World Health Organization**

Summary: This executive order would withdraw the U.S. participation in the World Health Organization (WHO). The WHO has consistently pushed the agendas of the Chinese Communist Party at the expense of American interests and taxpayer dollars. The WHO covered up information regarding the origins of COVID and even denied that it could spread from person-to-person, until the CCP allowed them to disclose this vital piece of information. President Trump rightfully decided in 2020 to leave the WHO, which was reversed by President Biden. Last Congress, I cosponsored the WHO Withdrawal Act which would have required former President Biden to remove the U.S. from the WHO and prevent taxpayer dollars from being used to fund the organization. I was also a cosponsor of H.R.343, the No Taxpayer Funding for the World Health Organization Act, which would end any assessed or voluntary contributions from the United States to the WHO.

**Executive Order: Securing Our Borders**

Summary: This executive order establishes the policy to use all available resources to secure the Northern and Southern borders from illegal immigration flooding our country. Under President Biden, an unprecedented number of people entered the country illegally. Notably, over 85% of people caught that were on the terrorist watchlist came from the Northern border. In support of securing our borders, I co-founded the Northern Border Security Caucus in the House and announced my Border Security Plan to secure our borders and uphold our nation's laws. In 2023, I cosponsored and voted in favor of H.R. 2, the Secure the Border Act, which is the strongest border security bill ever passed by Congress. Most recently, I cosponsored and supported the Laken Riley Act, to ensure that illegal immigrants charged with a crime are held in custody until their case is adjudicated. I look forward to President Trump signing the Laken Riley Act into law and will work with the Trump administration to secure our borders and keep our communities safe.

**Executive Order: Protecting the American People Against Invasion**

Summary: This executive order established United States policy to enforce current laws against illegal immigration, particularly those who threaten the safety or security of the American people, and to do so in an efficient and expeditious manner. Last Congress, I cosponsored H.R.5857, the No IDs for Illegals Act. This legislation would uphold the law and forbid agencies to give identification cards to illegal immigrants. I also introduced the Red Light Act to withhold federal transportation funding from states that enact laws to provide driver's licenses or identification cards to illegal immigrants in the United States. We cannot continue to allow individuals to flood across our borders illegally, break our nation's laws while they are here, and then continue to remain in our country illegally. I wholly support President Trump and Border Czar Homan's commitment to deporting criminal illegal aliens and look forward to supporting their efforts.

**Executive Order: Establishing And Implementing The President's "Department Of Government Efficiency"**

Summary: This executive order establishes the Department of Government Efficiency to maximize government efficiency and cut waste, fraud, and abuse. In support of this effort, I became an original member of the DOGE Caucus and introduced the DOGE Acts. The DOGE Acts are a set of four bills, all of which seek to address out-of-control spending, freeze government hiring, decentralize the power of unelected bureaucrats, establish performance-based pay structures for federal employees, and limit increases on spending in non-security discretionary spending. I applaud President Trump's commitment to restoring fiscal sanity to the federal government and ending the waste of federal taxpayer dollars.

**Executive Order: Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring**

**Merit-Based Opportunity and Ending Radical and Wasteful Government DEO Programs and Preferencing.**

Summary: These executive orders will remove racist DEI and CRT practices within federal agencies and bring back merit-based hiring and selection of all government employees, ending illegal preferences and discrimination of people. We cannot allow our government to continue wasting taxpayer dollars on racist DEI and CRT initiatives that discriminate against individuals based on their race or ethnicity. Last Congress, I cosponsored the H.R.8706, the Dismantle DEI Act of 2024, which would eliminate taxpayer funding for DEI initiatives, including DEI offices, positions, grants, and training. I also cosponsored H.R. 3278, the Working to Address Recruiting and Retention to Improve Our Readiness (WARRIOR) Act and supported key provisions within the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) to make changes within the military to stop unnecessary DEI funding. Finally, I cosponsored H.R. 1229, the Stop CRT Act, which would ban federal funds from being used to promote and teach CRT. Under the Trump administration, these woke, racist, and anti-American ideologies will no longer be promoted or endorsed by our federal government. **Executive Order: Defending Women From Gender Ideology Extremism And Restoring Biological Truth To The Federal Government**

Summary: This bill makes it official U.S. policy to only recognize two genders, male and female. This determination based on a person's biology will govern all administrative interpretations of the law to combat the woke agenda of the Biden Administration that plagued the American people and harmed women. Last Congress, I cosponsored H.R. 8218, the Defining Male and Female Act which codifies the definite terms "male" and "female" into U.S. law. Title IX also specifically provides protection for women in sports and must be defended from radical ideologies that allow men into women's sports. I introduced H.Res. 536, supporting women to designate a National Women's Sports Week to celebrate the anniversary of title IX, which protects women's sports. I also cosponsored and voted to pass the Protecting Women and Girls in Sports Act to bolster Title IX by prohibiting men from entering women's sports. I applaud President Trump for this executive order and his commitment to upholding women's rights and recognizing the biological differences between men and women.

**Executive Order: Putting America First In International Environmental Agreements**

Summary: This executive order directs the United States Ambassador to the United Nations to promptly withdraw from the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The Secretaries of State and Commerce, along with other agency heads, are instructed to prioritize economic efficiency in all international energy agreements. Furthermore, the order nullifies and rescinds the U.S. International Climate Finance Plan. This EO will be a huge boost to our economy, which is reeling from far too many unnecessary, burdensome energy regulations. The Paris Climate Agreement does nothing to lower global CO2 emissions, 40% of which come from China and India alone. I have long been an advocate of withdrawing from short-sighted international climate agreements that put the needs of foreign NGO's ahead of Americans. Last Congress, I helped reveal deep corruption surrounding the Biden administration's proposed rule requiring companies to contract with Science-Based Targets Initiative (SBTi), a foreign subsidiary of left-wing dark money groups. This proposed rule would require any company that contracts with the federal government to meet emissions requirements set by SBTi, many of which are derived from the Paris Climate Agreement. (Contd. Pg. 49)



**Tenney** (From Pg. 48)

## Executive Order: Unleashing American Energy

Summary: This executive order establishes a policy for the United States to promote energy production and exploration on federal lands and waters while eliminating the electric vehicle mandate. It instructs department heads to review and address regulations that hinder domestic energy production and implement plans to revise or repeal such regulations. The order overturns several of President Biden's executive orders on energy and the environment and takes steps to terminate the Green New Deal. It also directs agency heads to streamline permitting processes and accelerate projects critical to the nation's economy and security. Additionally, it instructs the Department of Energy to resume reviewing LNG export applications and to identify agency actions that place unnecessary burdens on domestic mining operations. I have introduced and cosponsored multiple pieces of legislation to unleash American energy. Last Congress, I introduced H.R. 9343, the Federal Electric Vehicle Mandate Prohibition Act, which would have prohibited federal, state, and local governments from enacting mandates on electric vehicles (EV's). I also introduced H.R. 4153, the Hydrogen Permitting Simplification Reform Act, which would have streamlined the hydrogen permitting process for federal hydrogen programs, such as the DOE-supported hydrogen production demonstration project at the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station in Oswego. Additionally, last Congress I Cosponsored H.R. 1, the Lower Energy Costs Act, which would unleash American domestic energy production and lower costs for families suffering through high inflation. I am happy to see multiple elements of these bills included in this executive order.

## Executive Order: Declaring a National Energy Emergency

Summary: For the first time in history, a national emergency on energy has been declared by the President. This executive order grants the President authority to waive certain environmental regulations, impose restrictions on crude oil exports, and authorizing emergency approvals for specific projects. The order highlights regions like New York as key contributors to the need for this declaration, emphasizing that the energy crisis is particularly acute in the Northeast and on the West Coast. It states that harmful state and local policies in these areas threaten the nation's core defense and security needs while undermining the prosperity of both local residents and the broader U.S. population.

## Executive Order: Unleashing Alaska's Extraordinary Resource Potential

Summary: This executive order outlines a policy to maximize the utilization of Alaska's abundant natural resources. It directs federal agencies to repeal or amend restrictions, policies, and environmental reviews introduced since January 2021 that hinder resource development on federal and state lands in Alaska, including the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). Additionally, it instructs agencies to accelerate permitting, leasing, and infrastructure projects essential to developing Alaska's resources, with a particular focus on the liquefied natural gas (LNG) industry and the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System. Last Congress I cosponsored H.R. 6285, the Alaska's Right to Produce Act, which would provide for oil and gas leases in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) and would have nullified any order or action by President Biden or the Department of the Interior that places a moratorium on, suspends, or otherwise pauses leasing in ANWR's 1002 Area. I am glad to see many of the elements from the bill included in this executive order, which will unleash American energy independence and unlock the vast untapped resources at our disposal in Alaska.

Ryan Corbett is FREE

After 894 long days, Ryan Corbett has finally been reunited with his family. These past two and a half years have been incredibly challenging for the Corbett family, yet the resilience and strength demonstrated by Anna, Ketsia, Miriam, and Caleb have

been nothing short of inspiring. It has been our privilege to advocate for the Corbett family in Congress. We are especially glad that, through our efforts, the Corbetts were able to meet with National Security Advisor Mike Waltz and other members of the Trump administration even before President Trump was sworn into office. We extend our deepest gratitude to President Trump, National Security Advisor Mike Waltz, and the incoming Special Presidential Envoy for Hostage Affairs, Adam Bohler, for their dedication to bringing Ryan home. This is an important moment for our community and our nation, and we are thrilled that Ryan will finally be back where he belongs-at home with his family.

**Protecting the Right to Life**

We must continue to stand against the radical left's extreme pro-abortion agenda, which threatens the lives of the unborn. That's why I introduced two critical pieces of legislation this week to ensure Congress protects and supports expecting mothers and their born and unborn babies.

The first, the Unborn Child Support Act, emphasizes the value of life from the very beginning of pregnancy and provides vital support to mothers. Mothers can choose to opt-in for prenatal payments through the court system, should they decide to pursue this vital assistance.

The second, the Pregnancy Resource Center Defense Act, is a critical measure designed to protect pro-life pregnancy centers from violent attacks by radical activists. Following the Supreme Court's *Dobbs v. Jackson* decision in 2022, pro-life pregnancy centers across the nation have become targets of violence by pro-abortion extremist groups. In Upstate New York, CompassCare Pregnancy Services-a pro-life center in Amherst-was firebombed in 2022 and vandalized again in 2023. This legislation ensures such attacks are met with accountability, safeguarding the compassionate care these centers provide to women and families.

My commitment to defending the sanctity of life has earned me an A+ rating from the Susan B. Anthony (SBA) Pro-Life America's National Pro-Life Scorecard. This recognition demonstrates my unwavering commitment to defending the sanctity of life and working alongside remarkable pro-life organizations, facilities, and advocates.

I will continue to fight to protect the right to life and stand up for the most vulnerable among us-the unborn.

**Welcome to Kirsten's New York Minute!**

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

## 1. Restoring our SALT deduction

Removing the cap on the state and local tax (SALT) deduction would allow New Yorkers who itemize when filing federal taxes to fully deduct certain taxes paid to state and local governments, ensuring that they can keep their hard-earned money in their pockets.

On Sunday, Kirsten joined Senator Schumer and other Democratic members of the New York congressional delegation to urge President Trump to permanently remove the SALT deduction cap.

Read more. <https://www.amny.com/news/new-york-trump-salt-tax-reduction/>

(Contd. Pg.. 50)

## Welcome to Kirsten's New York Minute!

(from Pg. 49)

2. Celebrating the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. taught us to meet hate with love and work tirelessly toward a better tomorrow. In this time of division, we must keep fighting for justice, decency, and equal opportunities for all.

Kirsten was honored to join Reverend Al Sharpton, National Action Network, and elected officials from New York to reflect on Dr. King's legacy ahead of MLK Day.

3. Advocating for affordable child care

Access to high quality, affordable child care is a necessity for working parents, but a dire shortage of facilities and workers has made it inaccessible for millions of New Yorkers.

That's why this week, Kirsten announced bipartisan legislation that would provide \$100 million in federal funding over five years to help states build and expand child care facilities and to help train a robust child care workforce.

Read more. <https://www.wbng.com/2025/01/23/senator-gillibrand-announces-legislation-addressing-shortage-affordable-child-care/>

4. Supporting small business owners

Small businesses provide vital goods and services, stimulate local economies, and serve as the backbone of communities across New York.

This week, Kirsten joined small business owners in the Bronx to discuss opportunities to provide federal support for small businesses and grow the economy of the borough.

5. WATCH: Kirsten on MSNBC

On Sunday, Kirsten joined The Weekend on MSNBC to discuss President Trump's Cabinet picks, Pete Hegseth's confirmation hearing to be secretary of defense, and more. Watch [here](https://www.msnbc.com/the-weekend/watch/sen-kirsten-gillibrand-believes-majority-of-trump-s-nominees-will-be-confirmed-229712965622). <https://www.msnbc.com/the-weekend/watch/sen-kirsten-gillibrand-believes-majority-of-trump-s-nominees-will-be-confirmed-229712965622>

6. LISTEN: Kirsten on Crooked Media's "Hysteria" podcast

On Thursday, Kirsten joined Crooked Media's "Hysteria" podcast to talk about the future of the Equal Rights Amendment under Trump, Democratic prospects in the 2026 midterm elections, and honoring the memory of Cecile Richards.

Listen [here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3KwcDRJ3f0w). <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3KwcDRJ3f0w>

7. Helping New Yorkers get the tax refunds they deserve

When an Erie County business owner needed help securing IRS refund checks, she contacted Kirsten's office for help. Kirsten's team contacted the Taxpayer Advocate Service, who discovered that they had incorrect address information on file for the business.

Once this was corrected, the constituent was reissued checks for \$25,000.

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

## Gillibrand on ICC Sanctions Procedural Vote

Washington, D.C. - Today, U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand released the following statement regarding her decision to vote against ICC sanctions:

"I strongly support legislation sanctioning the International Criminal Court, an antisemitic organization that has twisted the law to target Israel. Not only has the ICC consistently undermined its credibility and the principles of justice by unfairly targeting Israel's leadership, but its actions have politicized its mission of holding actual war criminals accountable. Unfortunately, the bill put forth by our Republican colleagues was overly broad and could have harmed American allies and businesses. Democrats were willing to negotiate to address these concerns and strengthen the bill, but our offer was rebuffed. I believe the most effective way to hold the ICC accountable is through a bipartisan effort, and I urge our Republican colleagues to work with us on this important bill."

## Governor Hochul Commits Nearly \$1 Billion for SUNY Downstate Transformation

Governor Kathy Hochul today highlighted \$450 million in capital funding and \$100 million in operating support for SUNY Downstate in the FY 2026 Executive Budget during the Community Advisory Board's first of three public hearings. This funding is in addition to the \$300 million in capital funding and \$100 million in operating funding included in the FY 2025 Enacted Budget, making for a \$950 million total commitment for the facility. The Community Advisory Board, established by Governor Hochul and the Legislature under the FY 2025 Enacted Budget, is tasked with developing recommendations to ensure the long term financial health and stability of the facility and may consider recommendations for up to \$750 million in New York State capital funding for investment.

"The Downstate Community Advisory Board has begun the critical work of helping to secure the long-term fiscal stability of SUNY Downstate," Governor Hochul said. "These public hearings are an essential step in engaging the Central Brooklyn community and building a sustainable plan that ensures SUNY Downstate continues to deliver health care in its community and train a diverse health care workforce for generations to come."

The advisory board held the first of three public hearings on Wednesday, January 22, 2025, at 6 p.m. at SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University to hear from community members and other stakeholders as part of its process. Details for the remaining public hearings will be announced in the coming weeks. (Contd. Pg 51)

## Governor Hochul Commits Nearly \$1 Billion for SUNY Downstate Transformation

(From Pg. 50) Downstate's hospital provides inpatient and outpatient health care services in Central Brooklyn and leads in research and scholarship to address health disparities in New York City and across the state.

Last year, SUNY Downstate's hospital faced a \$100 million annual deficit and was at risk of being unable to operate without additional funding, while contending with a hospital facility in disrepair and vulnerable to major crises, including recent major infrastructure incidents.

In response, Governor Hochul worked with the Legislature and SUNY to develop a plan to engage community leaders in developing a sustainable future for Downstate and provided a historic capital investment, which will be guided by the advisory board's work.

Last year's Enacted Budget tasked the Advisory Board to consider recommendations of up to \$750 million in capital investments to establish a reasonable, scalable and fiscally responsible plan for the financial health, viability and sustainability of SUNY Downstate.

To develop its recommendations, the advisory board will consider overall healthcare service delivery trends and models; historic and projected financials for the hospital and the campus; the current state of building infrastructure and capital needs; community healthcare needs, outcomes, and health disparities; existing inpatient and outpatient service offerings and health outcomes; capacity and availability of inpatient and outpatient services in the broader primary and secondary service areas; efficiency of operations and quality of healthcare services benchmarking; and training needs for students and employment outcomes.

Members will use these public hearings to gather input and ideas directly from the community. Written recommendations will be submitted to the Governor and the Legislature by April 1, 2025.

## First State in the Nation To Implement \$15 Broadband Service for Millions of Low-Income New Yorkers, Keeping Money in Their Pockets

- *\$15.5 Million in Grants Available To Close Digital Divide Through Training and Technology Access*
- *Deadline for ConnectALL Proposals is 11:59 PM ET on March 24, 2025*

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced two major initiatives to expand digital access across New York State. The first initiative - Affordable Broadband Act (ABA) - has officially taken effect, making New York State the first state in the nation to require internet service providers to

offer qualifying low-income households broadband service at \$15 per month for 25 Mbps service or \$20 for 200 Mbps service. Second, the State is also launching its \$15.5 million Digital Equity Program Capacity Grant to provide two-year grants supporting digital literacy training, device access and support services for underserved communities. Additionally, to maximize the impact of this law and alongside its \$15.5 million Request for Applications, ConnectALL will invest \$3 million to publicize the ABA benefit to eligible households, support them in signing up for the low-cost accessibility option, and help them connect to education programs and affordable devices, while the Public Service Commission works to ensure all internet service providers fully comply with the law.

"Digital connectivity isn't a luxury - it's a fundamental right that opens doors to economic mobility and opportunity," Governor Hochul said. "With the Affordable Broadband Act and this \$15.5 million investment in our ConnectALL initiative, we're taking bold steps to bridge the digital divide creating affordable, accessible and equitable internet for all New Yorkers. These efforts will ensure that families and businesses across New York have the tools they need to thrive in today's digital world, while empowering local communities to create innovative solutions for long-term digital equity."

Under the ABA, qualifying New York households can access high-speed internet at two price points:

- o \$15 per month for speeds of at least 25 megabits per second
- o \$20 per month for high-speed service of at least 200 megabits per second

These discounted rates are permanent, though providers may adjust prices once every five years. Any price increase must be announced 30 days in advance to customers and regulators, and are limited to the lesser of either the most recent consumer price index change or a maximum of two percent per year.

New Yorkers can qualify for these low-income broadband plans if they participate in any of the following programs:

- o Free or reduced-priced lunch through the National School Lunch Program
- o Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
- o Medicaid
- o Senior citizen rent increase exemption
- o Disability rent increase exemption
- o Affordability benefit from a utility

ConnectALL's commitment to public awareness and enrollment supports its adoption. As a first step in the implementation process, the Public Service Commission has restarted a process, which had been stayed by court order, to implement the ABA law, and its staff will review requests for exemptions from small ISPs that have fewer than 20,000 customers and can show economic hardship. Today, the PSC reinstated temporary exemptions previously provided to small ISPs that requested such relief in May 2021. With the resolution of the litigation, providers with more than 20,000 customers will need to comply with the ABA's directives.

ConnectALL Digital Equity Program Capacity Grant: Applications Now Open  
(Contd. Pg. 52)

## **NYS First State in the Nation To Implement \$15 Broadband Service for Millions of Low-Income New Yorkers, Keeping Money in Their Pockets**

(From Pg. 51)

Empire State Development's ConnectALL Office is accepting applications for the \$15.5 million Digital Equity Program Capacity Grant. This competitive initiative will provide two-year grants to organizations and partnerships working to bridge the digital divide through high-quality digital literacy training, device access programs, digital privacy skills development and inclusive support services.

The RFA is funded through the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's State Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program and aligns with New York State's Digital Equity Plan. The funding follows NTIA's approval of New York State's Digital Equity Capacity Grant Application in October 2024, which secured nearly \$36.9 million in federal funding. ConnectALL aims to double the capacity of New York State's digital equity ecosystem by 2035. Apply for the Digital Equity Program Capacity Grant here on Broadband's website.

Proposals must be submitted by 11:59 PM ET on Monday, March 24 2025. To help organizations prepare their applications, ConnectALL will host an informational webinar on January 30, 2024. The complete RFA and webinar registration information are available at [broadband.ny.gov](http://broadband.ny.gov).

### **Governor Hochul's ConnectALL Initiative**

Governor Hochul has made expanding broadband access a cornerstone of her administration's efforts to create a more equitable New York. Through the ConnectALL initiative, New York State is investing \$1 billion to transform the State's digital infrastructure, enhance competition among providers and ensure that every New Yorker has access to reliable, affordable high-speed internet. To date, ConnectALL has overseen the successful launch and implementation of several programs to advance broadband access, including:

- o The Digital Equity Program will invest \$50 million, including a federal allocation of at least \$37 million to implement the New York State Digital Equity Plan to close the digital divide. The Plan outlines New York's statewide strategy to increase its capacity to improve digital literacy and digital job readiness skills, facilitate access to affordable internet and devices, enhance digital privacy and safety, and make government services more accessible through the internet.

and public housing. The Program has so far awarded over \$13 million and secured broadband service at \$10 per month for over 14,000 homes in Bronx, Erie, Monroe and New York counties. The program is currently accepting applications from internet service providers and requests to participate from housing owners and public housing authorities.

- o The ConnectALL Deployment Program will fund internet service providers to reach unserved and underserved locations. ConnectALL released the program's Request for Applications for about \$664 million in December 2024, drawing on federal funding from the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program, as described in the ConnectALL Broadband Deployment Initial Proposal.

- o The Municipal Infrastructure Program has awarded over \$214 million for the construction of publicly-owned broadband infrastructure and delivery of affordable broadband service across the State. The program, primarily funded by the U.S. Department of the Treasury under the American Rescue Plan's Capital Projects fund, facilitates a variety of models of municipal broadband, public-private partnerships, and open access networks to provide New Yorkers with affordable, high-quality service options. The Beta ConnectALL Projects Dashboard provides details on projects funded by the Municipal Infrastructure Program.

## **Ulster County Executive Jen Metzger has released the following statement in response to the County Comptroller's 2024 Third Quarter Report:**

“As the County Comptroller states, Ulster County is in a very strong financial position, which has been affirmed by our credit rating agencies and State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli. While it is true that the County maintains a robust Fund Balance, these strong reserves are especially critical at this moment as localities nationwide brace for potentially significant cuts to Federal aid. In addition, as the Comptroller is well aware, we are engaged in union contract negotiations and are developing a pay plan for the workforce that involves further investments to ensure that County employees are paid fair and competitive wages. Ulster County will continue to take the necessary steps to safeguard the financial health of our County.”

# Newsletter from NYS Senator Peter Oberacker

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As the 2025 Legislative Session begins, I am honored to return to the Senate Chamber with the same unwavering determination and passion that drove me when I first took office four years ago. Each time I step into this chamber, I am deeply reminded of the trust you have placed in me and the immense responsibility that comes with serving the 51st District.

Our communities face challenges that demand bold leadership and decisive action. But alongside these challenges lie extraordinary opportunities to build a brighter future for our families, farmers, and businesses.

Governor Hochul has proposed a staggering \$252 billion state budget—an increase of \$10 billion from last year. As I navigate the complexities of budget negotiations, I will be a relentless advocate for fiscal responsibility and for the common sense or, better yet, country sense values that define the 51st District.

Thank you for the privilege of representing you. Let's get to work!  
Peter Oberacker  
Senator, 51st District

## Honoring New York State Trooper Jill E. Mattice

On January 20, 2010, our community faced a profound loss—a loss that still resonates deeply within us. Fifteen years later, we remember and honor New York State Trooper Jill E. Mattice, a woman whose life was a testament to courage, compassion, and unwavering service.

Jill wasn't just a New York State Trooper. She was a protector, a mentor, and a beacon of hope for so many in her community. She brought humanity to her badge, and in doing so, she elevated what it means to serve.

Joining the New York State Police on April 7, 2003, Trooper Mattice dedicated herself to making a difference. Assigned to SP Oneonta as a School Resource Officer for the Unadilla Valley Central and Franklin School Districts, she wasn't just an officer in the hallways—she was a guiding light. Students turned to her for advice. Parents trusted her with their children's well-being. Teachers relied on her to help navigate challenges.

Jill's presence in those schools went beyond her duties; she was the steady hand, the listening ear, the voice of reason in moments of uncertainty. Jill built relationships and left an indelible mark on everyone she encountered.

On that tragic day fifteen years ago, the life of a dedicated public servant was cut short. But her legacy isn't defined by that loss; it's defined by the countless lives she uplifted along the way. Whether patrolling the roads of Otsego County or mentoring young people, Jill's actions spoke volumes about her character.

Her story reminds us of the profound sacrifices made by law enforcement officers. Every day, they put their lives on the line, facing risks that most of us cannot imagine, all in the name of protecting their communities.

To Jill's family, friends, and colleagues, we stand with you today. We grieve with you. We honor you. No tribute—whether words, ceremonies, or even the renaming of a highway—can truly capture the depth of our gratitude. But we pause to remember her light, her impact, and her legacy.

Trooper Jill E. Mattice reminds us of what it means to lead with compassion, to serve selflessly, and to inspire those around us. May we never forget her name, her sacrifice, or the example she set for all of us.

## Thank You for Making the First Annual 51st Senate District Coat Drive an Incredible Success!

I am deeply moved and inspired by the overwhelming generosity of the people of the 51st Senate District. Together, we collected

over 2,000 coats, ensuring families in need throughout our district will face this winter with added warmth and comfort. This incredible achievement would not have been possible without your support.

A heartfelt thank you to the outstanding organizations that partnered with us to ensure these coats reached those who needed them most:

Monticello Rotary Club  
United Way of Sullivan County  
The Angel Network of Cooperstown  
Delaware Opportunities  
United Way of Broome County  
The Joshua Project of Schoharie County

I also want to express my gratitude to the dedicated individuals and teams at our collection points, who graciously served as drop-off locations:

Jeff Bank of Monticello  
Sullivan County Government Center  
The Liberty Police Department  
Callicoon Town Hall  
Senator Charles D. Cook Delaware County Office Building  
The Laundry Basket of Cobleskill  
Ellenville Regional Hospital

This effort wouldn't have been possible without the extraordinary contributions of key community leaders who went above and beyond:

Assemblyman Chris Tague  
Assemblyman Joe Angelino  
Otsego County Sheriff Rich Devlin  
Delaware County Sheriff Craig DuMond  
Broome County Sheriff Fred Akshar  
Delaware County District Attorney Shawn Smith  
Eric Northrup, Delaware County District Attorney's Office  
Delaware County Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Tina Molé

Finally, I want to extend my deepest thanks to Helmut Michelitsch of Metro Cleaners in Cooperstown. His extraordinary generosity in picking up, cleaning, and delivering over 2,000 coats was the backbone of this effort. Helmut, your kindness and dedication made this drive possible, and we cannot thank you enough.

This initiative showcased the very best of our community—neighbors stepping up for neighbors in need. I am proud to represent a district where compassion and action come together so powerfully. Thank you all for your incredible support and for making a real difference in the lives of so many.

As I return to Albany for the 2025 Legislative Session, I need your input to help shape my legislative agenda. Please take a moment to share your thoughts so I can effectively debate bills and draft legislation that makes a meaningful difference in our communities.

Click here to take the questionnaire!

<https://www.nysenate.gov/questionnaires/peter-oberacker/senator-oberackers-2025-legislative-questionnaire>

Watch Senator Oberacker's Reaction to the Governor's State of the State Address!

[https://www.youtube.com/shorts/nmvdH\\_\\_\\_sLI](https://www.youtube.com/shorts/nmvdH___sLI)

Congratulations, Alexander!

Congratulations to Alexander Hilton of Boy Scout Troop 1, Unadilla on his ascension to the rank of Eagle Scout! I was honored to join my colleague Assemblyman Angelino and dozens of other community members to celebrate this milestone.

This accomplishment is a true reflection of Alexander's dedication—not just to scouting, but to his family, friends, and community. It speaks volumes about his hard work, perseverance, and character. Congratulations, Alexander!

(Contd. Pg. 54)

# Newsletter from NYS Senator Peter Oberacker

(From Pg. 53)

## Social Media Spotlights

### Awesome Meeting with Assembly Member Kay!

I had an awesome meeting with Assembly Member Paula Kay last week in Albany where we discussed key legislation that will have a direct, positive impact on our shared communities in Sullivan County.

I'm excited to collaborate with Assembly Member Kay as we tackle these critical issues together!

### Honoring the Life & Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

On Monday, we honored the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a leader whose unwavering commitment to justice, equality, and peace continues to inspire us all.

Let this day serve as a reminder to stand up for what is right, offer a helping hand to those in need, and work together toward a brighter future.

### Senator Oberacker Visits Orinoco Cattle & Farms!

I had the pleasure of spending the morning with Carlos from Orinoco Cattle Products & Farm where I got an inside look at his 100% grass-fed beef operation.

It was inspiring to see the dedication and care that goes into raising top-quality beef right here in our community!

## Senator Oberacker in the News

### Senator Oberacker Reacts to Governor Hochul's State of the State Address

<https://mylittlefalls.com/senator-peter-oberacker-reacts-to-governor-hochuls-state-of-the-state-address/>

### Senator Oberacker pushes bail reform changes after animal cruelty case

<https://midhudsonnews.com/2025/01/21/oberacker-pushes-bail-reform-in-animal-cruelty-case-video/>

### Senator Oberacker Touts Committee Assignments; Promises to Fight Drug Epidemic

<https://www.scdemocratonline.com/stories/senator-peter-oberacker-touts-committee-appointments-promises-to-fight-drug-epidemic,162981>



Has someone used your personal information to open accounts, steal your tax refund, or file fake health insurance claims?

### That's identity theft.

It can happen to anyone, but simple steps can help lessen the chance it will happen to you.

Join us for Identity Theft Awareness Week 2025. The FTC and its partners will host free podcasts, webinars, Facebook Live interviews, and other events focused on avoiding and recovering from identity theft and spotting scams. We'll have information for everyone and added advice for service members, older adults, young adults, and business owners.

## Identity Theft Awareness Week 2025, Jan. 27 - 31

Has someone used your personal information to open accounts, steal your tax refund, or file fake health insurance claims? That's identity theft. It can happen to anyone, but simple steps can help lessen the chance it will happen to you.

Join us for Identity Theft Awareness Week 2025. The FTC and its partners will host free podcasts, webinars, Facebook Live interviews, and other events focused on avoiding and recovering from identity theft and spotting scams. We'll have information for everyone and added advice for servicemembers, older adults, young adults, and business owners.

### Identity Theft Awareness Week events

Monday, January 27

- o Webinar: The FTC and BBB Institute for Marketplace Trust discuss how scammers target military consumers, how to protect your personal and financial information and military benefits, and how to share what you know with others at 1 PM ET. Join here.

Tuesday, January 28

- o Webinar-Recorded: The FTC and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs celebrate Identity Theft Awareness Week and Data Privacy Week in a discussion to help veterans spot and avoid scams and fraud. Watch here.

Wednesday, January 29

- o Webinar: The FTC and Korean Community Service Center of Greater Washington discuss understanding and avoiding identity theft at 12 PM ET. This event will be in Korean. Join here.

Thursday, January 30

- o Webinar: The FTC and Social Security Administration discuss understanding and avoiding identity theft at 12 PM ET. Join here.

- o Webinar: The FTC and Social Security Administration discuss understanding and avoiding identity theft at 2 PM ET. This event will be in Spanish. Join here.

Friday, January 31

- o Facebook Live: The FTC and AARP celebrate Identity Theft Awareness Week with a chat about identity theft at 1 PM ET. Learn about how to recognize the signs of identity theft to protect yourself and know what to do if it happens. Check back for a link to view the event.

### Information in Multiple Languages

The FTC now has information in multiple languages on what identity theft is, how to spot it, what you can do to protect your identity, and where to report it if it happens to you. Check out Identity theft happens in every community, so get help in your language.

### Spread the Word

Watch this space as we update the page, and please tell people who follow you on social media about Identity Theft Awareness Week. Share these messages and graphics. See the messages and graphics in Spanish at [ftc.gov/semanarobodeidentidad](https://ftc.gov/semanarobodeidentidad).

Message #1:

Identity Theft Awareness Week starts January 27! Visit [ftc.gov/IDTheftWeek](https://ftc.gov/IDTheftWeek) for details on free events and resources. #IDTheftWeek #IDTheft

Message #2:

Find out what to do if your identity is stolen. #IDTheftWeek starts January 27. Visit [ftc.gov/IDTheftWeek](https://ftc.gov/IDTheftWeek) to learn about free events and resources. #IDTheft



## **Join the DPL 2025 Reading Challenge!**

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

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

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

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

**Challenge yourself and your family.**

**Expand your horizons with new books.**

**For ALL ages!**

**Read adventurously!** 



# New York State Continues to Take Proactive Measures to Prevent Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza as Risk to Humans Remains Low HPAI in Wild Bird Population Continues to be Detected in New York State; Additional Detection on Commercial Poultry Farm

*Farmers are Encouraged to Practice Biosecurity Measures to Prevent Spread of the Disease; Minimize HPAI Risk by Preventing Contact between Domestic Animals and Wild Birds*

New York State continues to take proactive measures through monitoring and encouraged testing to prevent highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) and facilitate early detection, particularly as the State continues to see HPAI in the wild bird population. Just last week, Putnam County Department of Health announced a detection of HPAI in a wild goose found in Brewster. In addition, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Veterinary Services Laboratories has recently confirmed the presence of HPAI in a poultry farm in Suffolk County. The State is reminding commercial and hobby poultry farmers to increase their biosecurity measures to help prevent the spread of the disease. The State is also reminding the public that the risk to humans is low.

New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets Commissioner Richard A. Ball said, "These detections are always going to be concerning, but we will continue to do all we can to safeguard our state's flocks and livestock. The protocols we have in place, and continue to update, for early detection in poultry and livestock are working, helping us to identify cases and deploy resources to help. We encourage everyone who keeps poultry to be vigilant about minimizing their birds' exposure to the virus and to wild bird populations and practice good biosecurity measures."

New York State Department of Health Commissioner Dr. James McDonald said, "While there is no immediate threat to public health and no known cases of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in humans in New York State, I urge everyone who has regular contact with livestock and wild birds to remain vigilant and take precautions by wearing personal protective equipment when you're in contact with these animals. We will continue to work closely with the Department of Agriculture and Markets, the Department of Environmental Conservation and our local county health departments to monitor these detections in livestock and poultry as we continue to prepare for any potential risks to public health and safety."

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Interim Commissioner Sean Mahar said, "DEC is working closely with State and federal partners to reduce the spread of HPAI. We encourage the public to report unusual wildlife mortalities to their local DEC regional office. People should avoid direct contact with sick or dead wild birds and poultry, especially waterfowl and raptors. DEC also advises hunters not to harvest sick or dead animals and to wear gloves when processing game."

In both recent cases, the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets (AGM) is working closely with USDA APHIS on a joint incident response. As part of existing avian influenza response plans, AGM and USDA are also working jointly on additional surveillance and testing in the areas around Suffolk County farm. While no birds from the affected flock will enter the food supply, as a reminder, the proper handling and cooking of poultry and eggs to an internal temperature of 165 °F kills bacteria and viruses.

The New York State Department of Health is also reminding the public that this recent HPAI detection does not present an immediate public health concern. The State Department of Health is providing guidance and resources to the local health departments responding to these two situations. Individuals who may have had contact with infected birds are being monitored for symptoms and will be evaluated for avian flu if any become sick. The State Health Department is also providing personal protective equipment (PPE) to use in protecting farmworkers to reduce spread in animal populations and ensure reduced chance of spread in human cases and in the community.

The Department encourages those involved in poultry production to take extra steps to prevent their flocks from becoming infected. All poultry producers, from small backyard to large commercial operations, should review their biosecurity plans and take precautions to protect their birds. Poultry biosecurity materials and checklists can be found on the USDA's "Defend the Flock" website.

In addition to practicing good biosecurity, poultry owners should keep their birds away from wild ducks and geese and their droppings. Outdoor access for poultry should be limited at this time, particularly as the State continues to see HPAI detections in wild bird populations.

To report sick birds, unexplained high number of deaths, or sudden drop in egg production, please contact AGM's Division of Animal Industry at (518) 457-3502 or the USDA at (866) 536-7593.

## HPAI in Dairy Cattle

AGM recently announced that it is implementing new testing initiatives on dairy farms as part of its aggressive, proactive response to the outbreak of HPAI in livestock in other states. Working in close collaboration with federal partners, including USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, FDA, and the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture, and state partners, including the New York State Department of Health, this enhanced testing strategy is part of the State's effort to protect animal and human health and prevent the transmission of HPAI in livestock in New York State. While there have been no detections of HPAI in livestock in New York to date, the State's comprehensive approach is aimed at ensuring the state remains free of HPAI and facilitating early detection.

In addition to the new testing initiative, New York State has taken multiple preventative measures to prevent the spread of HPAI and protect animal and human health since the first detection of HPAI in dairy cattle in Texas in March 2024. In April, June, and August 2024, the Department issued orders on import requirements for dairy cattle coming into New York as well as testing requirements for lactating dairy cattle entering fairs or exhibitions. These orders continue to remain in place until further notice.

USDA offers several producer support programs that are available to all dairy producers as well as certain programs only available to dairy producers with HPAI-positive herds. These programs include tools to support biosecurity planning and implementation as well as financial support programs to offset costs associated with HPAI testing, veterinary expenses, personal protective equipment purchases, milk disposal, and milk losses.



New to the Daniel Pierce Library this year...

Introducing  
**Pages & Percs**

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

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

**You can:**

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

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

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

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

**Enjoy!**

# Homeschooling Group

4th Tuesday of each month

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

at the Daniel Pierce Library

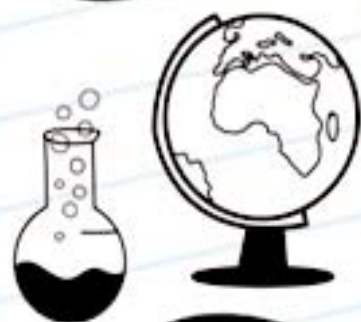
We invite all homeschooling families to join a self-guided group that meets monthly at the Daniel Pierce Library.

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

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

Please join in, the possibilities are endless!

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



**Beginning  
September  
24th**



**WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH A Daniel Pierce Library Card?**  
Explore everything your library card gives you!





**Read any way you like**  
Digital books, magazines, and newspapers, eAudiobooks, and audiobooks



**Listen at home or on the go**  
CDs and music to stream or download



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Free Wi-Fi

**Borrow movies, documentaries, TV series and more**

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Check out books, magazines, eAudiobooks and audiobooks from all 47 RCLS libraries

Download the RCLS Gateway App

**Entertain your kids – or yourself**

Passes to Mohonk Preserve and the American Indian Village Museum

Unlimited access to thousands of digital comics, graphic novels and manga

There's even more to explore with your library card:

- ▶ Online programming, databases and research materials
- ▶ Export reading recommendations
- ▶ Internet access and computers to use

**SIGN UP TODAY!** It's FREE and easy!  
Visit the Daniel Pierce Library for more details.

**SHARE THE NUMBER**

**SPREAD THE WORD**

CALL OR TEXT

**988**



CHAT

**988LIFELINE.ORG**

*There is hope.*



**988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE**

VOICESUNITED4CHANGE'S VIRTUAL

# YOUTH SUPPORT GROUP

**JOIN US!**



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

Contact Rebekah at [rumarbashar@asfl.org](mailto:rumarbashar@asfl.org) for more information.

EVERY 1ST & 3RD

**WEDNESDAY**

@ 6:30 PM






VOICESUNITED4CHANGE'S VIRTUAL

# PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

**JOIN US!**






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

Contact Anne-Marie at [afreitas@asfl.org](mailto:afreitas@asfl.org) for more information.

EVERY 2ND & 4TH

**WEDNESDAY**

@ 6:30 PM

### Sullivan County Intervention Line for Parents and Teens

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

**Help is available now!**

We are here anytime you need to talk.

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



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

Calls and texts are answered 24/7

A program of the DRC

### Sullivan County Text For Teens

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



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

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

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

**Text "Start" to:**  
**845-637-9486**

OFF HOURS:  
Call 1-888-750-2266, option 2

Mother Cabrini Health Foundation logo. Text for Teens is supported by a Grant of the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation. ACCESS: SUPPORTS FOR LIVING logo with social media icons (Instagram, Facebook, Twitter) and website accessupports.org. Rewarding lives. Healthy communities.

### COVID-19 Vaccines Save Lives

Who will you protect?



Friends

Amigos

Family

¿A quien protegerás?

Get the facts.



Familia

Obtenga los hechos.

Talk to your healthcare provider about the COVID vaccine.



Comunidad

Hable con su proveedor de salud sobre la vacuna del COVID-19.

**#VaccinateSullivan**

For more information, visit [www.sullivanny.us](http://www.sullivanny.us)



GET SIGNED UP TODAY FOR OUR UPCOMING CERTIFICATION CLASS !!

Contact:

Alyssa Wowk  
(845) 645-6544

[awowk@chowc.net](mailto:awowk@chowc.net)

Sullivan County Department of Social Services is looking for families who can help fulfill the **DESPERATE NEED** for ages **8-18!**



# FOSTER HOMES NEEDED!



Vet 2 Vet

# Caffeine & Camaraderie

✦ **Every Monday** ✦  
**10:00AM - 11:00AM**

Come join us along with other  
Vets to share some coffee and  
some stories.

**Place: 309 East Broadway  
Monticello, NY 12701**

**Call 845-794-4228 for more  
info, ask for Matt or Vinny**



# Action Toward Independence

## Presents

# Women's Empowerment Group



Join us on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of  
each month

from 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

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

### Be Inspired ~ Be Empowered ~ Be You

Location:

126 Seward Ave

Middletown, NY 10940

For More Information Call

845.343.4284

*Please RSVP  
Seats are limited*



Eligibility & Pre-Registration is required.




**Action Toward Independence**  
*Serving & Empowering People with Disabilities*



Find us on  
**Facebook**



# Veteran Peer Support



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

**Vet 2 Vet**



**Sullivan County  
NEW YORK**

*NYC Joseph P. Dwyer Peer Support Program*

Call or email us to register!

845-794-4228

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

309 E Broadway Suite A

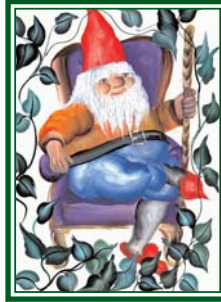
Monticello, NY 12701

**HELP WANTED**

**Part time Bookkeeper**  
Call 845-321-1919

**Blooming Green Lawn  
and Landscape Sevice**  
Part time/Full time work.  
Salary based on experience.  
Call: 845-665-3348  
or 945-985-0516

**Classified Ads**  
**Only \$5.00 a week!**



**“KNARF’S CLASSIC MOVIE I  
GROUNDHOG DAY  
(1993 / Rated - PG / 1h 41m)  
YouTube; Prime Video; Spectrum**

On February 1, self-centered and sour TV meteorologist Phil Connors (Bill Murray), news producer Rita Hanson (Andie MacDowell) and cameraman Larry (Chris Elliott) from fictional Pittsburgh television station WPBH-TV9 travel to Punxsu-tawney, Pennsyl-

vania, to cover the annual Groundhog Day festivities with Punxsutawney Phil, the Groundhog. However, things change when Phil is caught in a time warp at the annual emergence of the ground hog and he keeps repeating the same day until he learns to appreciate the little things in life.

This film is not without romance. Phil is captivated by his beautiful brilliant producer.



*The*  
**Gnome  
Home**



Sell your handcrafted items online from your own little virtual shop at the

**Gnome Home  
Virtual Mall**

Interested?  
Send an email to:  
[gnomehomeinc@yahoo.com](mailto:gnomehomeinc@yahoo.com)

... or if you just want  
to have some  
'gnome made' fun..

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

<http://www.gnomehomeinc.com>



Join the fun check out the

**COUNTDOWN CLOCK**  
[www.groundhog.org](http://www.groundhog.org)

(Contd. Pg 65)

Answer to last week's Trivia Question: Lauren Bacall

**This weeks' Trivia question:**

True or false: If the sun shines on Ground Hog Day and the groundhog sees his shadow winter will be over.



(From Pg. 64)

**KNARF'S**

CLASSIC MOVIE OF THE WEEK II

Apple TV; Google Play Movie; Fandango

**TORTILLA FLAT**

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



A wonderful romp through characters of antiquity during the 1940's. It will mesmerize you as you enjoy a bevy of interesting Mexican-American characters. It is the early 1940s life in Monterey California. **Danny (John Garfield)**, a poor, naive, highly emotional northern Californian Mexican-American inherits two houses and is swindled out of them for the good of his friends –Pilon (**Spencer Tracy**), amazes us with his portrayal of a Mexican-American gentleman of the streets and a totally selfish con-man. Let's not forget his equally depraved friend Pablo, played by **Akim Timmorif**, who keeps you laughing. Then we see **Hedy Lamarr** and we are stunned by her beauty as she plays Danny's girl friend.



Directed by Victor Fleming. Starring Spencer Tracy, Hedy Lamarr, John Garfield, and Frank Morgan. As written by *John Steinbeck* in his world renown book; "TORTILLA FLAT."

**KNARF'S**

CLASSIC MOVIE OF THE WEEK III

Amazon Prime; Apple TV; Fandango

**SEX, LIES, AND VIDEOTAPE**

(1989 / Rated NR Adult Language / 1 hr 41 min)



A sexually obsessed woman's husband is having an affair with her sister. The arrival of one of her husbands old friends with a rather unusual fetish changes her life, cures her mirrage, and effects everything going on in her life. *Sex, Lies, and Videotape* is Directed by Steven Soderbergh. With James Spader, Andie MacDowell, Peter Gallagher, Laura San Giacomo.



*Stay safe and stay well,  
Knarf Odnamoc  
Gnome*