



Ye Olde
Tri TOWNSMAN Valley
 "The Best Journal Published by a Dam Site!"

VOL. 20 NO. 52 GRAHAMSVILLE, NY 12740 JANUARY 4, 2024

Mysterious Book Report John D. McKenna Pg 6 • *The Olive Jar* Carol La Monda Pg 7 • *The Scene Too* Jane Harrison Pg 11
Knarf's Classic Movie & Trivia Pg 66

All Nine Legislators Sworn In – New Chair and Vice Chair Elected



The new Sullivan County Legislature includes, standing from the left, District 6 Legislator Luis Alvarez, District 9 Legislator Terry Blosser-Bernardo, District 7 Legislator Joseph Perrello, District 1 Legislator Matt McPhillips, District 3 Legislator Brian McPhillips, District 4 Legislator Nicholas Salomone Jr., District 5 Legislator Catherine Scott and District 8 Legislator Amanda Ward; and seated center, District 2 Legislator Nadia Rajsz, who also was elected Chair. Seated next to her are Sullivan County Manager Joshua Potossek and Clerk to the Legislature AnnMarie Martin. (Contd. Pg 5)

Monticello Kiwanis Spread Holiday Cheer



Display of games and toys to United Way. From Left - United Way Volunteer Nija Reid and Monticello High School Student Volunteers Nazir Amzad and Roger Fairweather; on Right - Kiwanians Bob Huebner displaying check and Linda Barriger.

The Kiwanis Club of Monticello has had an interesting and fulfilling year continuing their tradition of spreading the holiday spirit by assisting local community programs in enhancing the well-being of those in need.

In support of the club mission of improving the world, one child and one community at a time, the club donated \$1,500 to their Sweet Dreams Project, which provides children in the foster care program who are transitioning into new surroundings with duffel bags filled with comforting items, such as blanket, pillow, stuffed animal, pj's, games, personal toiletries, depending on the age and needs of each child. It is hoped that these items help improve the self-esteem and lowers the anxiety for the children. (Contd. Pg. 11)

YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN

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THE TOWN OF NEVERSINK

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LETTERS TO THE EDITORS:**

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

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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: The bloodthirsty hate the upright; but the just seek his soul.
Proverbs 29:10

OBITUARIES

Carol Schoonmaker of Claryville, NY was born March 11, 1943, in Savannah, GA, to Ethel Crane and Charles Carroll Stevens.



At the age of eleven, Carol and her mother moved to Montgomery, following the sudden death of her father.

When Carol entered her senior year at Valley Central High School in Walden, NY, her school district merged with another one in the area. This fateful circumstance resulted in her walking past Paul Schoonmaker in a hallway. He asked her out on a date, perhaps it was a dance or the movies, neither could quite remember, but that detail didn't matter because they were married shortly after, and four children quickly followed.

They put everything they had to creating happy childhoods for the kids. From baseball to "Cornfests," drag races; Pioneer Girls, go-carts, back yard pools, trailbikes, summer trips to the Jersey Shore and cross-country explorations in their station wagon.

When the children moved away in different directions, Carol and Paul began building their dream home high in the Catskill Mountains. This was inspired by what they saw on their road rallies throughout Europe. It was on one

of those trips, amid beautiful hills, waters and chalets they declared, "We will build a place like this in our own mountains." Surrounded by endless trees and crystal-clear streams, they thrived.

Through the years, Carol would make flower arrangements, split wood for the fireplace, do her crossword books and play "her (video)games, write lengthy letters to people she loved, play with the dogs and cats and go on long walks. She walked everywhere with Paul, always hand in hand. One of their most exciting hobbies was to attend regional car shows and compete for trophies with their respective cars-Carol's green 1968 Jaguar 2+2 Coupe, and Paul's blue 1953 J2X Allard race car.

On Wednesday December 27th, 2023, Carol entered eternal rest. Carol was predeceased by her youngest son Mark Douglas Schoonmaker, her parents and her brother Arthur "Kidd" Stevens.

Carol leaves behind her best friend and husband of 63 years, Paul Miles Schoonmaker; three children, Michael S. Schoonmaker (Sharon), Allen P. Schoonmaker (Nance) and Amanda L. Grey (Tom); her loving daughter-in-law Christine Pennes (Vic), her eight grandchildren, Vaughn Trudeau Schoonmaker, Logan M. Schoonmaker, Elan M. Schoonmaker (Daniela), Erin Grey Kachur (Sergey), Ryan T. Grey, Mark D. Schoonmaker Jr., Riley L. Schoonmaker and Roland S. Schoonmaker. Very recently, she was ecstatic to meet and hold her first great-grandson, Miles Henley Schoonmaker. When Carol recently learned she had a brother, Arthur, she was deeply blessed to forge an everlasting bond with his children and grandchildren including: Rose Stevens Mullice, Alicia Mullice and Mercedes Stevens Byrd, all in Midway, GA; Irene Stevens Ward (Randy) in Richmond Hill, GA; Charlotte Stevens Merritt (Charlie) in Bonaire, GA; and Wendell L. Stevens (Joyce) Philadelphia, PA.

A memorial service will be held, Saturday, January 6th, 11 a.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church Station Rd in Rock Tavern.

Arrangements were made by Millspaugh Funeral Directors.

(Obituaries Contd. Pg. 4)

DAYS OF YORE....

Today's History

January 6, 1954

The passing of Mr. Alfred Currey of Grahamsville on Friday is of deep concern to all this community. He was one of the oldest residents of Grahamsville, being nearly 92 years of age. He conducted the hardware store before his son, Charles Currey took over. His health and vigor had been excellent.

Pvt. Arthur Ter Bush writes from Korea that it is very cold there but they have no snow where he is located. He and some of his buddies have a cottage and a Korean house-boy.

The rate per day for welfare patients in county hospitals was increased from \$13.25 to \$15.00 by the Board of Supervisors. The hospitals had asked \$16.75.

January 1, 1964

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Costa of Grahamsville are the parents of a daughter born December 24 at Maimonides Hospital, Liberty. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Mickelson are the maternal grandparents. Mr. Anthony Costa is the paternal grandfather.

Richard George, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Krum was baptized at the Grahamsville Methodist Church Sunday morning with Rev. Harry Myers officiating.

Mr. and Mrs. William VanBenschoten celebrated their sixty-third wedding anniversary on December 26th. They received many cards and had quite a few callers.

Funeral services were held on Thursday, January 2, 1964 for Anthony D. Cypert who died on December 30th. Born on June 1, 1889 at Woodbourne, he was the son of Elizabeth Dillinger and August Cypert. He was married November 24, 1910 to Myrtle M. Kracht, who survives. Mr. Cypert, a farmer by occupation, was a lifetime resident of the Woodbourne area. He was a member of the Immaculate Conception Church in Woodbourne. Surviving are three sons: Paul, Walter and David; three daughters: Mrs. Mary Mentnech, Mrs. Thelma Botsford and Mrs. Rita Hotchkin; one sister, Mrs. Loretta Bertholf; 24 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Mickelson are the parents of a son born January 7th at Maimonides Hospital. Mr. and Mrs. George Krom are the maternal grandparents and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Mickelson are the paternal grandparents.

January 9, 1974

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Bevier of Napanoch have announced the engagement of their daughter, Susan Jane, to Daniel Charles Levy, son of Mr. Joseph Levy and the late Virginia Levy of Grahamsville. (Contd. Pg. 5)

Holiday Household Hint:

Food Containers for Ornament Storage

Don't throw away those empty egg cartons, drink carriers, plastic clamshell boxes from the bakery and other disposable grocery containers. They are excellent for storing holiday ornaments. They can be stacked neatly inside a larger bin and will keep your ornaments safe while in storage.

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 and Hulda Vernooy.

A Splash of Green

Usually when you drive through Peekamoose or Greenville Road this time of the year it looks like a winter wonderland. With no snow, it is still a pretty ride. You will see that the green leaves on the Mountain Laurel are their usual winter greenish gold. The leaves of the Mountain

Laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*.) do hang on through winter as Mountain Laurel is an ever-green shrub native to the Catskills. Mature plants can reach 6.5 to 10 feet tall.

Leaves are ever-green, tough and leathery, 1 to 4 inches long, and 1 to 2 inches wide. The majority of Mountain Laurel leaves survive for 2 to 3 years.

Mountain Laurel leaves begin to die in the late spring during their 2nd growing season while a few persist into the 3rd; hence, about half of the leaves on any given plant are the current year's production.

Flowers bloom April to June from buds that form during the previous growing season. The complete flowerhead including stems, stalks, bracts, and flowers will produce a compound flower cluster of showy saucer shaped flowers, 1/2 " to 1 inch wide that are generally light pink. Stems are long and narrow with furrows and ridges, often sloughing in narrow strips or flakes. The fruit is a small capsule that bears hundreds of small seeds. Below a basal burl (knotty growth), Mountain Laurel has a thick rootstock that supports numerous other vertical and horizontal roots that may reach up to 30 inches in depth. Mountain Laurel is monoecious, having both the male and female reproductive organs. Pollination is by insect or self-mediated. Bumblebees are the primary species of insect-mediated pollination. Mountain Laurel anthers are positioned under tension which is suddenly released when a bumblebee or other insect lands on the flower. If the flowers remain unpollinated, the anther will self-release pollen onto the flower's own pistil. Seeds are contained in small fruit-like capsules each containing 300 to 700 seeds. Seedfall begins in the fall and continues through the spring.

Mountain Laurel stem growth occurs during the spring and ceases during summer.

Mountain laurel's leaves, buds, flowers and fruits are poisonous and may be lethal to livestock and humans. However, white-tailed deer, eastern cotton tails, black bear, and ruffed grouse are known to utilize this species especially as winter forage or during years of food shortages

The wood of mountain-laurel has a long history of uses by native and Euro-Americans. It has been used in the manufacturing of pipes, wreaths, roping, furniture, bowls, utensils, and various other household goods and novelties.

While we still haven't had any appreciable snow, winter isn't over. If the landscape suddenly turns to white over the weekend, the splash of green that the Mountain Laurel offers to a white winter landscape will be another beautiful scene presented by the changing seasons and weather.



Everett Walter Smith of New Windsor, entered into rest on Thursday, December 20, 2023. He was 81.

Born in Bay Shore, NY on July 17, 1942, he was the son of the late Ruth Adeline Smith and Walter Ockers Smith. Everett grew up in West Sayville, Long Island where he shared an amazing childhood through young adulthood, with close family and the best of friends.

His passion for newspapers began in 6th grade when he became editor of their new classroom newspaper! At twelve years old, he began his

career in the newspaper business as a newspaper carrier for the Long Island Press; a job where he found a wonderful mentor and many adventures. Everett worked his way up to circulation manager, District Manager and then Zone Supervisor.

Everett was a graduate of Sayville High School but valued "on the job experience" rather than a classroom setting.

Everett enlisted in the Army Reserve in 1964; receiving his basic training in Fort Polk, Louisiana, followed by training for the Army Medical Corps at Fort Sam Houston, TX. He served with the 42nd Infantry Division as a Senior Medical Specialist, until he was honorably discharged in 1970. He was also proud to be a top ranking sharp shooter.

After the army, Everett moved to Mahopac, NY where he became Circulation Manager of The Putnam County Courier, and then Circulation Manager for the **Evening News** in Newburgh.

In 1978, in the basement of his home, Everett created his own weekly newspaper, *The Sentinel*. He was president and publisher from 1979 through 2022. He started the E.W. Smith Publishing Co. and in later years, published *The Orange County Post*. Everett also formed Sentinel Printing Services in 1993 and became publisher of The Senior Gazette in 2011.

Everett always dreamed of owning a family business, which came true as his children were employed and worked with him from diapers to adulthood! His wife Mary also worked at the paper.

Everett loved using "the power of the press" to serve his community. From helping a single mom find a place to live, to getting New Windsor its own zip code, Everett jumped at every opportunity.

He served on the Board of Directors of McQuade Children's Services for 20 years, served on the New Windsor Ethics Board, was a past Chairman of the Putnam County Chapter of the American Red Cross, a member of the Advisory Committee of the Orange County Chapter of the American Cancer Society, charter member of the New Windsor/Cornwall Optimist Club and honorary member of the New Windsor Volunteer Ambulance Corps...and proudly, the list goes on.

As a five-time cancer fighter, Everett enjoyed participating and supporting the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life in Newburgh and was chosen to be a Grand Marshall of Ceremonies.

Mentoring the many young workers who started their first jobs at *The Sentinel* was one of Everett's passions. He always wanted to give back and share what his mentor, Mark Lessner, had given to him. Everett always made sure to impress the importance of hard work and perseverance.

Everett was very proud of being one of the founders of The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor in New Windsor, NY. Everett, General Don Hughes, Veteran Joe Farina and Senator William Larkin were called the Genesis group. The four men worked for eleven years to establish and bring the Hall of Honor to New Windsor. Everett appeared on *The Huckabee* show to pro-

mote the Hall.

The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor is the only facility in the nation dedicated to collecting, preserving and honoring more than 1.7 million service men and women who received a Purple Heart.

Among Everett's many accolades, (we would always joke that there was never enough wall space for all his plaques,) a couple of Everett's proudest were the NYS Legislative Resolution citing, "dedication shown to benefit others," and to be one of the first recipients to receive the 1st Annual Genesis Legacy Medal.

Everett loved boating on Fire Island with his kids and extended family. He loved his daily two-mile walks, convertibles, politics and mashed potatoes. Most of all, he loved the people in his life and the smell of a newspaper hot off the press.

Everett is survived by his wife: Mary Luce Smith; children: Debra Van Regenmortel and husband Jay Van Regenmortel of Goshen, Steven W. Smith and wife Cynthia Smith, Michael E. Smith of New Windsor; and grandchildren: Matthew Van Regenmortel and Angelo Yannone and his wife and children. He is also survived by his sister: Pauline Scharpf of Ronkonkoma, NY; and nephew: Jeffrey and wife Gabi Scharpf of Brookhaven; nephew: Eric and wife Sheri Scharpf of Aquebogue; and his niece: Kristin and husband Bill Von Eiff of Greenport; and many cousins and friends.

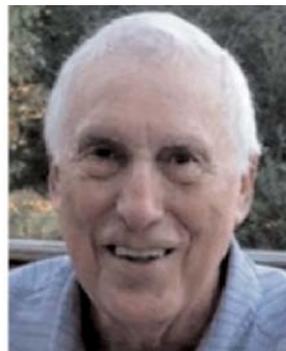
A church service will be held on January 6th at 11:00 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 30 Goshen Ave., Washingtonville, NY 10992, followed by visitation at Quigley-Sullivan Funeral Home, 337 Hudson Street, Cornwall-on-Hudson, NY 12520 from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Burial will be at Union Cemetery, Sayville, NY at a later date. Please visit www.quigleybros.com for updated information.

In lieu of flowers, please send a donation to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 or the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor, PO Box 207, New Windsor, NY 12553.

ED Notes: We met Everett in 2007 at a US Postal Meeting in Newburgh. Everett Smith suggested that *The Townsman* go to press, and it did. For almost 14 years, *The Townsman* was printed at *The Sentinel's* press in New Windsor. Many others from the Tri-Valley area, including many Veterans will remember Everett for all the great things he accomplished and his devotion to his community. It has been a privilege to have known this man -Everett Smith.

Linda and Frank Comando

Fernald F. "Fred" DuBois - Sept 27-Dec 27,



2023. Age 83 of Akron, NY. Beloved husband of 49 years to the late Joyce A. (nee Dunham) DuBois; loving father of Philip Dubois and Ananda (David) Etkin; cherished grandfather of Sierra and Maya; caring brother of Virginia (late Ralph) Rhunders and Irma (late James) Mentnich; also survived by nieces and nephews. Fred served as a radioman third class in the US Navy from 1958-62. The family

received friends on Tuesday, January 2, 2024 from at the Harris Hill Chapel AMIGONE FUNERAL HOME, INC. in Clarence, where Naval Military Honors took place. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Hospice Buffalo, Inc.' Please share condolences at www.AMIGONE.com.

DAYS OF YORE.... Today's History

(From Pg. 3)

Miss Bevier is a senior at Tri-Valley Central School. Her fiance is in the U.S. Air Force stationed at Sheppard AFB, Texas. Wedding plans are incomplete.

Kathy Osterhout, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Osterhout of Woodbourne and Michael A. Currey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Horace Currey of Curry, were married November 24th at the Immaculate Conception Church, Woodbourne with Father John Maher officiating. After a wedding trip to the Poconos and the Amish country, the couple are making their home in Curry.

January 5, 1984

Sullivan County Judge Louis B. Scheinman of Woodbourne, a longtime public servant, former District Attorney and Family Court Judge, died December 20, 1983 in Syracuse Crouse-Irving Memorial Hospital of heart failure. Services were held Thursday, December 22nd at the Woodbourne Synagogue with Rabbi Nelson Latkin officiating.

LOOKING BACK

by Beatrice Akerley

Published January 7, 1999

This morning I am sitting here alone in my room. The little electric heater is humming away by my feet. It is December 30th and I am looking out at the first big snow fall of this season. I see no children out there with hand sleighs and it is vacation time from school.

When I was growing up, hand sleighs and ice skates were owned by every kid for winter fun. As I sit here, I am wondering if Orchard Lake up in Grooville is frozen over like it would have been in the early 1900's at about this time of year.

But then again, come spring out would come my baseball and bicycle. I recall one year when school recessed for the summer on my birthday, April 24th. It was great, no school until the day after Labor Day. We would get up and do what a kid does but Christmas vacation was the real fun time for us. We lived by a big hill and my sister Edith and I were always out sleigh riding after a storm. We'd be out there having a ball until our bodies were frozen and then we'd go home to thaw out and catch mom's wrath for not being on time for dinner. Ice skating on Orchard Lake was another fun pastime. At other times we would get a group of kids together for a game of fox and geese or a nice snowball fight.

In the early 1900's the worst part of winter for a good many children was having to walk several miles to school. It was especially hard when it was freezing cold, sleeting or snowing. I didn't have that problem as my dad's property joined the school grounds.

Mom was easy to deal with, when she would scream that was the end of it, but dad....when he got mad at us girls, all he had to do was look at us reproachfully. He never beat us, in fact during our childhood I don't remember him ever hitting me once.

In the old days, school was like a second home and teachers were like parents. I had one in fourth grade, Ethel Schriber. She worked with me after school to help me with my math. I'll never forget her or the good old days of long ago.

All Nine Legislators Sworn In – New Chair and Vice Chair Elected

(From Pg. 1)

Monticello, NY - The full Sullivan County Legislature was ceremonially sworn in today by Sullivan County judges Meagan Galligan and Jim Farrell.

Matt McPhillips (District 1-Democrat), Nadia Rajsz (District 2-D), Brian McPhillips (District 3-D), Nicholas Salomone Jr. (District 4-Republican), Catherine Scott (District 5-D), Luis Alvarez (District 6-D), Joseph Perrello (District 7-R), Amanda Ward (District 8-R) and Terry Blosser-Bernardo (District 9-R) took their oaths of office in front of a crowded Hearing Room at the Government Center in Monticello.

Afterwards, a majority of legislators chose Rajsz as Chair and Perrello as Vice Chair.

"Thank you very much for having faith in me to do this job," said Rajsz, the first woman to serve as Chair of the Legislature in 20 years. "I'm hoping I can bring a new perspective and a breath of fresh air into our legislative body. This is a great start, and I look forward to a whole new year."

"I welcome all the new legislators," stated Perrello. "We have a job to do, and we need to work together as a body to move Sullivan County forward."

"I look forward to being a problem-solver," remarked Matt McPhillips, "and working with what I think is a really great group of people here."

"Politics are done once the elections are over. We represent the people of this County, and we represent them equally. That is the only way this should work," said Brian McPhillips. "I look forward to Sullivan County being recognized for the greatness this County holds."

"I'm looking forward to working in a bipartisan way, as we have a lot of issues ahead of us," noted Salomone. "Public safety and roads will continue to be my two biggest priorities."

"I want to congratulate my fellow legislators. I look forward to working with all of you. There's plenty of good work that needs to be done, and that's what I'm here to do: good work," affirmed Scott. "I also want to remind the public that part of this social contract is that you keep showing up and you hold us accountable. We are here to serve you."

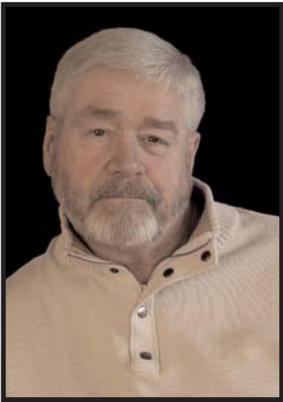
"We have a lot ahead of us, but I think we can tackle it," agreed Ward, who's making history as the Legislature's first African-American woman. "I'm excited that we've got such great diversity here, and it's incredible to be a part of that history. I also am pleased to work alongside the County's employees and recognize the tireless way they serve the people of Sullivan."

"This is going to be my 41st year working for Sullivan County," noted Alvarez, who long travelled the County as a Sheriff's deputy and is the first Hispanic man to serve on the Legislature. "This is my main purpose: to serve the people. I've been told to step back and take it easy. That is never going to happen - this is what I plan to do until the day I die."

"I look forward to getting to know all of the employees," said Bernardo, who has already begun profiling County leaders on her blog at www.legislatorbernardo.com. "I'm willing to work with you, learn what you do and how I can help better serve you."

Committee rosters will shortly be announced, but the meetings themselves are already scheduled for Thursday, January 11 and Thursday, January 18, followed by the Executive Committee and full monthly Legislature meeting on Thursday, January 25, all of which start at 9 a.m. in the Hearing Room of the Government Center, 100 North Street, Monticello. Meetings are open to the public and will be live-streamed. Meeting dates for the rest of the year will be announced in the coming weeks.

For further details, visit www.sullivanny.us/departments/legislature.



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

A Book of Bones

by John Dwaine McKenna

Legacy Mysterious Book Report No. 69

Mysterious Book Report No. 400

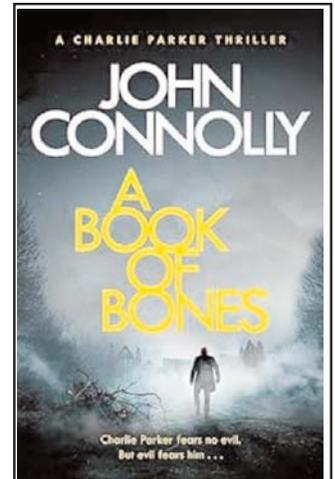
Published January 9, 2020

All readers of fiction, and especially crime fiction, are ultimately interested in the eternal battle between the forces of good versus the forces of evil. It's the tension between those two opposing sides that creates drama, and drama is what we all crave, because we're curious . . . and because we're rooting for one side or the other. Whether it's Mommy Dearest, or The Devil himself, it's only a matter of personal taste as to how graphic one likes their villains, but generally speaking, the baddest of the bad must have the greatest of the good as an opponent before either one can prevail.

So, what if . . . just suppose . . . there was an older, dormant God who was evil, just awaiting a wake-up call?

That's the premise behind A Book of Bones, (Emily Bestler Books/Altria, \$28.99, 673 pages, ISBN 978-1-9821-2751-0) by John Connolly, in his chilling, nineteenth Charlie Parker thriller.

The challenge and the conflict begins on the moors of Northumbria, England, when a young schoolteacher is ritually murdered, her body left at the site where the ancient, and evil, Familist Church was located before it was moved to Prosperous, Maine sometime in the seventeenth century. Then, an Iron Age mound to the south, is where a second victim, this time a young girl, is found murdered in a similar fashion. And not long after that a human skull turns up in the ruins of an abandoned monastery . . . all in an attempt to awaken an earlier, more brutal God known as the Green Man and re-impose chaos upon this world we know and love. But this world is only one of many worlds, all described in an ever-changing but incomplete, ancient hand-written tome



called the Fractured Atlas which, if reassembled, will allow our world to be destroyed; replaced by an evil, chaos-laden and unstable one.

A diabolic English lawyer named Quayle is in possession of the atlas, which is missing a single page . . . a page that is in the hands of an otherworldly detective named Charlie Parker and his two unholy assistants; Angel and Louis who's the last of the Reapers. An all-out battle for the missing page ensues, with victim after victim falling at the hands of the evildoers until the final scene at a five hundred year-old church where Parker himself may not see the light of the next day.

Connolly shows once again, why he's the undisputed master of the uncanny thriller in this electrifying tale that'll make you double check all the locks, throw more wood on the fire and keep you nailed to the page far into the scary dark night!

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

And Hey! When you have a moment, please check out our secure, all brand-new and combined website that's redesigned, prettier, simple to use, and makes it as easy as pie to send us your comments! Please do. We're looking forward to hearing from all of you.

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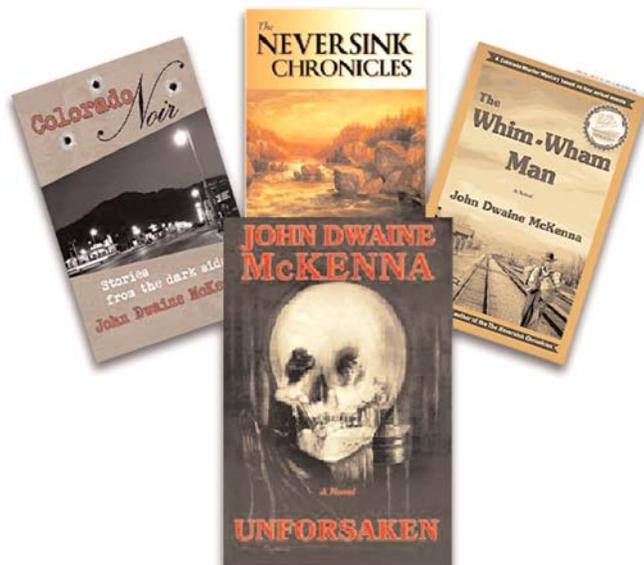
And Hey! Check out our combined website that's simple to use and easy as pie to leave your comments!

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OR

<http://Mysteriousbookreport.com>

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



The Olive Jar

by Carol Olsen LaMonda

New Year's 2024



Just two more days to write 2023, and, I must say, not one of my favorite years. In fact, good riddance to surgeries. Next year I declare one of healing and recovering all I seem to have missed these last two years.

Somehow, we used New Year's as a demarkation between the past and the future. As we enter the month named January, named for the Roman god Janus who had two faces, one to see ahead and one to look behind. Janus is probably modeled on the Greek Titan Epimetheus, brother of Prometheus, who had both insight and foresight. Epimetheus

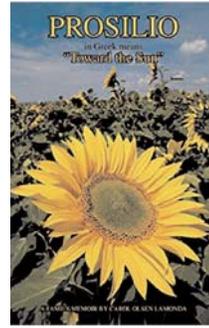
was husband to Pandora who warned her about opening the box/jar that contained all the evils of the world. Luckily, she was able to shut the box to save HOPE from escaping.

Perhaps there is a lesson for the modern world in mythology. Instead of berating ourselves and making lofty resolutions we will not keep, perhaps we can just hope for a better tomorrow, one without wars, poverty, sickness, bigotry, and injustice. Perhaps our resolution might be to just do whatever small thing we can do to make this world a better place. If each of us does that, a little thing becomes a big thing. My favorite quote is: "One person is a single drop of water; together we are an ocean."

I will not stay up to see the ball drop on television, nor will I hype up a celebration of excess expectation. As I go to bed at nine, I will just hope 2024 is a better year, and that I vow to do my small part to make it better.

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*



“

May your coming year be filled with magic and dreams and good madness. I hope you read some fine books and kiss someone who thinks you're wonderful, and don't forget to make some art - write or draw or build or sing or live as only you can. And I hope, somewhere in the next year, you surprise yourself.

neil gainman



Daniel Pierce Library

Between the Bookends

‘Resolve’ to visit the DPL in the New Year: and yes, we’ve “got books for that!”

By Lisa Carroll

GRAHAMSVILLE-As we just ushered in the new year, talk has centered around resolutions. Did you make one? I have to say, historically, mine start with the best intentions but fall flat somewhere around January 8. Hopefully, you have better luck.

To help you out, especially if your mantra is “New Year, New You!” we have you covered.

If eating healthier this year is important to you, peruse our growing collection of cookbooks: some assist in adding fruits and vegetables into your diet, some help to shed those few, nagging holiday pounds and others can bring out the skills of the most novice cooks and add some pizzazz to the doldrums of making dinner day in and day out. There’s such a wealth of knowledge and creativity available!

Or, perhaps this year your intention is to learn a new skill. For those looking for new hobbies, we have a generous amount of books sure to push you in the right direction. It’s never too early to read up on gardening—just imagine all those delicious veggies you can grow come spring (and the perfect deterrents for our animal friends.) There’s animal husbandry (I chuckle every time I read that) books—explaining how to raise chickens for eggs or meat, goats for milk. With homesteading becoming more popular and more necessary, this information is so important. We also have how-to-manuals for different art applications: if you’re into crocheting, candle making or painting, we have just the right books for you. Or if you want to brush up on your poker or bridge playing skills, we’ve got books for that.

Maybe you’re planning a summer vacation. Whether it’s to somewhere exotic, like Costa Rica, or closer to home, like the Adirondacks—we’ve got books on that. Or, if you’ve decided to revert to your faith—or try out a new one—we have so many interesting books on that topic, you’re bound to find something that brings you comfort and joy. While you are visiting the library, stop by the Children’s Floor to see the amazing art work created by Tri-Valley Elementary School sixth graders. TVCSD art teacher, Maureen Winter has arranged her students’ work beautifully along our windows. The artwork was part of the Tri-Valley Lions Club International Peace Poster Contest, with the theme, “Dare to Dream.” Local winner was sixth-grader, Brianna Mendez. You can see her work, along with those of her cohorts, during our regular business hours.

We want to give a big shout out to our four fabulous musicians who made *Sounds of the Season* a hit. Thank you to Mrs. Keira Weyant, Mr. Clarence Dow-Spielman, Mrs.



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“If it grows by day, have it cut & split by Knight”

Helen Miller and Mr. John Bernstein. We are so blessed to have such talented artists in our community; willing to share their gift with us and fellow patrons. It was an amazing way to bring in the holidays!

In other news:

Our children’s winter reading challenge has begun. This year, it will run from January 1 to February 29. Children are encouraged to participate and fill in the reading log and/or the bingo sheet, both of which are printable from our website or available for pick up at the children’s circulation desk. Those who complete the challenge will receive a book prize.

Adults (and children ten years of age and up) are encouraged to register for one or both of our upcoming planetary programs to be held Thursday, January 25 and Thursday, February 22, 6:00 to 7:00PM, weather permitting. Join local experts John Kocijanski and Irene Pease for an evening of exploration. The first night will cover Saturn. There will be a showing of the PBS Nova documentary on the planet as well as a Q & A session. Weather permitting; attendees will head outside to view this beautiful planet. The second workshop will follow the same structure, covering Jupiter.

Also, if you are in a reading slump and wondering what to read, there is the New York Times Best Sellers List icon on our website. By pushing on the icon, patrons will be brought to the most current list of best sellers. The list—which was first published on October 12, 1931—is broken down into many categories. You’ll be sure to find something that will meet your fancy.



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The Scene Too

— By Jane Harrison

No Column this week.

Monticello Kiwanis Spread Holiday Cheer

(From Pg. 1) The club and its members also contributed \$425 to United Way for Thanksgiving goodies and followed through in December with games and toys as well as a monetary donation to help United Way make the holiday season more enjoyable for children and families in the community. In addition, \$500 was presented to Federation for the Homeless to the delight and appreciation of Program Administrator Kathy Kreiter.

In the fall, representatives from Ride 2 Survive Sullivan County and Action Toward Independence gave presentations to the Kiwanis Club and well deserved donations were presented to both of these organizations.

An additional guest speaker was Regina McKenny Snead, Exec. Director of Arc Greater Hudson Valley, who gave a very informative and compassionate presentation on the services and programs they provide to children and adults with various degrees of disability in our community.

Monticello Kiwanis President Marvin Rappaport stated he is very proud of the club and its membership for their continual support of the needs of the community residents. The club meets the first Monday of the Month at Albella's Restaurant at 6:00 PM. For further information, visit Monticello NY Kiwanis Club Facebook Page.

Forest Playhouse Local Auditions!

The Forestburgh Playhouse is so excited to invite the incredible young local talent from our Sullivan Catskills and surrounding counties to the annual FORESTBURGH PLAYHOUSE LOCAL AUDITIONS!

Forestburgh, NY - January 2, 2024 - The Forestburgh Playhouse is thrilled to extend an open invitation to the remarkable young local talent of Sullivan Catskills and the surrounding counties for the highly anticipated FORESTBURGH PLAYHOUSE LOCAL AUDITIONS.

Experience the excitement of working alongside our talented professional performers and be a part of world-class entertainment on our main stage!

WHEN: February 11th, 2024, from 10 AM to 5 PM

WHERE: Seelig Theatre at SUNY Sullivan, 112 College Road, Loch Sheldrake, NY 12759

HOW TO SIGN UP: To participate, please email production@fbplayhouse.org with the subject line "Local Casting Signup." In your email, specify whether you are auditioning for "Willy Wonka" or "The Prom." If you possess dance skills and wish to audition for "The Prom," kindly indicate your interest in joining the dancing PromSemble. Further information regarding audition times and requirements will be provided upon confirmation.

WHAT SHOWS CAN I AUDITION FOR?

This year presents exciting opportunities for young artists in two spectacular mainstage productions:

ROALD DAHL'S WILLY WONKA THE MUSICAL

Ages 5-12

Seeking: The Playhouse is searching for talented young artists with singing abilities who are eager to have fun as members of the Wonka Factory Ensemble! Successful candidates will perform as Oompa Loompas and other magical characters in the production, participating in all the grand musical numbers. Singing and basic movement skills are required.

Audition Requirements: Auditioners should prepare a 16-bar selection (30-45 seconds) of their favorite song. If possible, please bring piano/sheet music for accompaniment. If sheet music is unavailable, no worries - just bring your favorite song to sing!

Rehearsals: Weekend rehearsals starting in late June. Morning and evening rehearsals closer to the opening day of July 11.

Performances: Thursdays and Saturdays at 11 AM, running until August 17th (12 performances in total). Cast members are encouraged to sign up for a minimum of 6 shows, with flexibility.

THE PROM! Broadway's Hit Musical Comedy!

Ages 13-17

Seeking: Talented teens to join THE PROMSEMBLE! The Promsemble will play featured high schoolers and ensemble members, participating in major production numbers alongside our professional cast. We are looking for singers who can move and dancers who can sing.

Audition Requirements: Prepare a 16-bar selection (30-45 seconds) of your favorite song and bring piano/sheet music. For those interested in dancing, a dance call will be scheduled. Please mention your interest in dancing in your email for scheduling purposes.

Rehearsals: Typically from 10 AM to 5 PM (lunch provided) on Tuesdays through Saturdays. There is a Monday tech rehearsal on July 15 from 7 PM to Midnight and a final dress rehearsal on July 16 from 12:30 PM to 5 PM (dinner provided).

Performances: Cast members are required to attend every performance. The show runs from July 16-28, with performances on Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8 PM, Wednesdays at 2 PM, and Sundays at 3 PM.

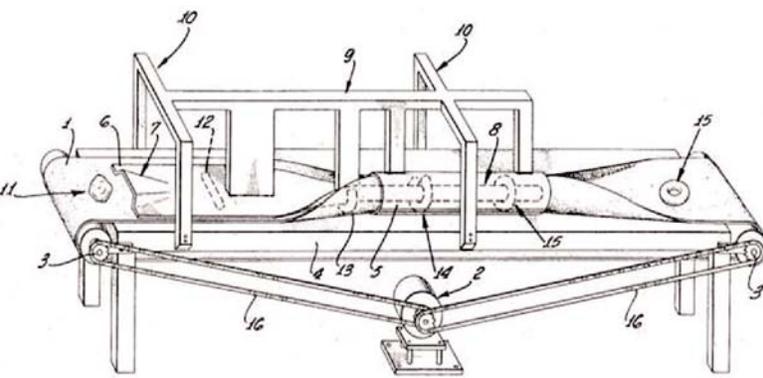
The Forestburgh Playhouse invites young, aspiring performers to showcase their talents and be part of these incredible productions, collaborating with our talented professional performers on the main stage.

ABOUT THE FORESTBURGH PLAYHOUSE

The Forestburgh Playhouse is the oldest, continuously running, professional summer theatre in New York State. Located in the Sullivan Catskills, the Playhouse was founded in 1947 by John Grahame and Alexander Maissel. Under the leadership of Producing Artistic Director Franklin Trapp, FBP's mission is to present high-quality, professional theatre, including musicals, plays, cabarets and theatre for young audiences; to provide arts education programming for local youth; to develop and launch the careers of young artists; and to foster the development of new works through an annual new works festival. FBP attracts over 30,000 patrons each summer and was one of the first venues in the U.S. in 2020 to return to live performance with its popular Under the Stars concert series. The Playhouse celebrated its 75th Anniversary in 2021.

Theatrical Arts at Forestburgh, Inc. d/b/a The Forestburgh Playhouse is a 501(c) (3) non-for-profit corporation dedicated to promoting the arts in Sullivan County, NY. Federal ID #46-4432375 NYS Charities #44-50-97 NYS Tax Exempt #259887

**See the Original
Bagel-Making Machine at
the County Museum on
January 7!
Frederick Cook Society Co-
Hosting Winter Bagel
Celebration**



Hurleyville, NY - Hurleyville's own Louis Wichinsky once adopted a 1980 Volkswagen Rabbit pickup truck to run on vegetable oil. Sometimes he'd even use soybean oil. (A red toggle switch on the dash changed the fuel over.)

But it was back in 1942, when he was stationed in London with the U.S. Army Air Force, that he hit upon what's considered his greatest invention. He was spending the Jewish holidays with two brothers who owned a bakery. One of them, Sam Wolinsky, put a challenge before him: "Louis, you Yanks can do anything. How come you can't build a bagel machine?"

Louis set to work proving to the world he could do it. And finally, after years of tinkering, he created a machine that turned out 600 dozen bagels an hour!

Now if you're wondering what happened to this remarkable machine, you are in luck - it is currently on display in Hurleyville at the Sullivan County Museum! And if you are wondering if it still makes bagels? Well, you'll just have to come to the Museum (265 Main Street) to find out!

In anticipation of National Bagel Day later in January, the Frederick Cook Society invites you to join them on Sunday, January 7, from 2-4 p.m., at the County Museum to "ring" in the new year with bagels, coffee and baked goods! You can tour the exhibitions and listen to live music with Little Sparrow, featuring special guests Henry Simon and Jeff Anderson.

Admission is free, though donations, as always, are welcome.

For more information, call 845-434-8044 or visit the Cook Society Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/317097986891247>.

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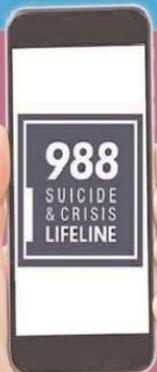
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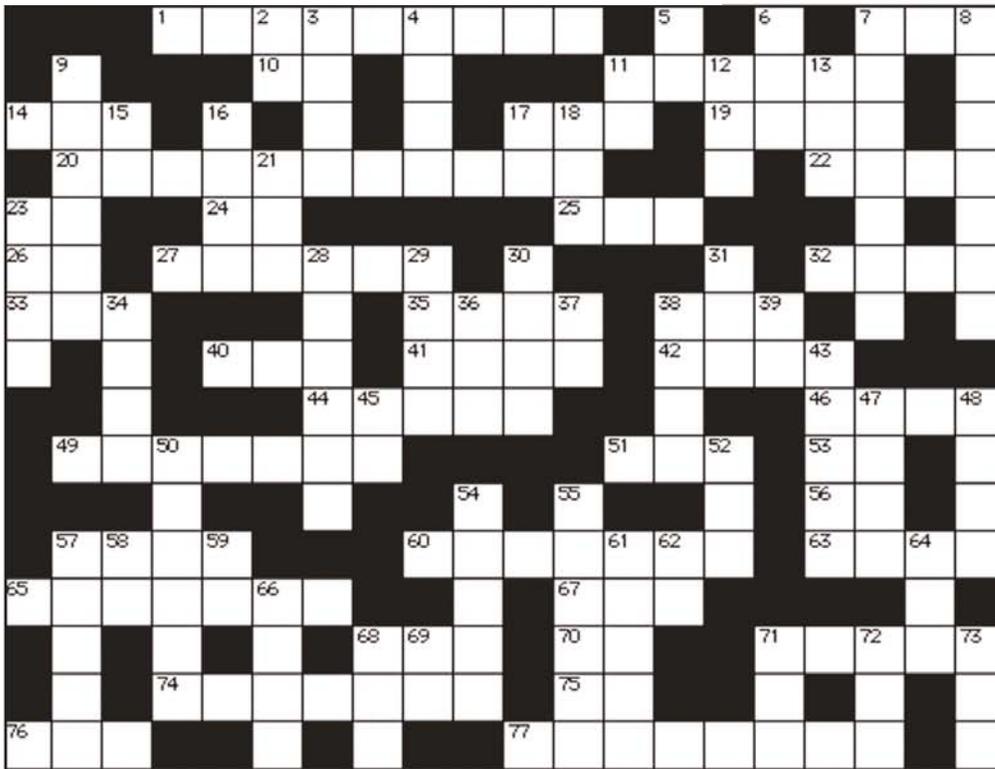
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ACROSS

- 1 Mountain range west of the Hudson River
- 7 Deoxyribonucleic acid
- 10 Exclamation of surprise
- 11 American tyrant flycatcher
- 14 Washington Irving's *Sketch Book* character who lived in the Catskills
- 17 Nocturnal flying mammal
- 19 Deep place in a river
- 20 Your father's mother
- 22 Encircle
- 23 An exclamation
- 24 Long Island
- 25 It is
- 26 Denoting a high performance car

- 27 Material object representing something abstract
- 32 Plant that belongs to the mint family
- 33 Sight organ
- 35 A fiery gemstone
- 38 Second day of the week (abbrev)
- 40 Rapid stream of liquid forced out of a small opening
- 41 Blood vessel
- 42 Irritates
- 44 Try to heal
- 46 Corona
- 49 Popular trend
- 51 Moist
- 53 Chem element
- 56 Ratio if the circumference of a circle to its diameter

- 57 Manage without something that one was accustomed to
- 60 Important person
- 63 13th century Icelandic book
- 65 Actor's clothing
- 67 Soil
- 68 Biography
- 70 Brit's way of saying 'thank you'
- 71 Tallest mountain in the Catskills
- 74 Hamlet at the bottom of Peekamoose Mountain
- 75 Expressing hesitation
- 76 Question

- 77 Form of commercial activity

DOWN

- 2 In the direction of
- 3 Fake
- 4 Indonesian decorated fabric
- 5 Antigen occurring in red blood cells
- 6 Chief Executive Officer
- 7 Please greatly
- 8 Mountains that formed the Northern Appalachians
- 9 Ten times eight
- 11 Pint (abbrev)
- 12 German grandfather
- 13 Marsh Relations
- 16 Exclusively
- 17 Exist
- 18 Expression of human creative skill
- 21 Muted
- 23 African

- 28 Sub-structure
- 29 Intense feeling of affection
- 30 Food used to lure fish
- 31 Rocky peak
- 34 Island known as Napoleon's place of exile
- 36 Edible legume
- 37 Natural logarithm
- 38 5, 280 feet
- 39 Natural Killer cells
- 43 Specific form of something
- 45 Registered Nurse
- 47 Dry
- 48 Black and white whale
- 50 Social standing of someone
- 52 Adjective denoting something already mentioned
- 54 Used to separate hours from minutes

- 55 Join securely
- 57 Forest
- 58 Einsteinium (element)
- 59 Thirtieth letter of the Greek alphabet
- 61 Group that makes decisions
- 64 Political action

- 66 Long growth of hair on a horse
- 68 Square or rectangular container

- 69 Isotopic Weight
- 71 Past tense of sit
- 72 Frozen over
- 73 Gnome

Old-Fashioned Catskill Mountain Chicken 'n Dumplings

- 1 large broiler-fryer chicken, cut up
 - 2 celery ribs, sliced
 - 4 carrots, peeled and sliced
 - 1 medium onion, diced
 - 2 tablespoons dried parsley
 - 3 teaspoons chicken bouillon granules
 - 1 1/2 teaspoons salt
 - 1/2- teaspoon pepper
 - 9 cups of water
- DUMPLINGS**
- 2 cups flour
 - 4 teaspoons baking powder
 - 1 teaspoon salt
 - 3/4 cup milk
 - 4 tablespoons oil

Soup: Combine chicken, celery, carrots, onion, chicken broth, parsley, chicken bouillon granules, salt and pepper in a large pan or dutch oven; add enough water to cover chicken. Bring to a boil; reduce heat, cover and simmer for 2 hours or until chicken is done. Remove chicken and let stand until cool enough to handle. Remove skin from chicken and tear meat away from bones. Return meat to soup; discard skin and bones. Add more salt and pepper to taste, if desired. Return soup to a simmer.

Dumplings: In a mixing bowl, combine dumpling ingredients and mix well to form a stiff dough. Drop by tablespoonfuls into simmering soup. Cover and simmer for 15 to 20 minutes. Serve immediately.

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Town of Neversink Parks and Recreation
Ice Skating Rink
has opened for the Season



ICE RINK HOURS
2023-24 Season

(effective 12/17/23)

Wednesday

7pm-9pm

Thursday

7pm-9pm

Saturday

1pm-3pm

Sunday

1pm-4pm

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



Daniel Pierce Library

PBS Nova Documentary Saturn



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

(For adults and students ten and up)

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

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

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



Daniel Pierce Library

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To register go to:

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LEGALS/PUBLIC NOTICES**Notice of Neversink Fire District 4
Organizational Meeting**

Neversink Fire District
PO Box 394
Neversink, NY 12754

Please take notice that the Annual Organizational Meeting for the Neversink Fire District will be held on the Fourth of January, 2024 at 6:00 PM at Neversink Fire District located at 7486 State Route 55 in Neversink, NY 12765. This meeting will be open to the public. This notice is given to the media pursuant to the provisions of Section 94 of the Public Officers Law of the State of New York. The purpose of this Organizational Meeting is to determine salaries, establish policies and procedures, as well as handle any other matter that comes before the Board.

Board of Commissioners of Neversink Fire District

Dana M. Vogler
District Secretary
Neversink Fire District

12/21; 12/29; 1/4

**Sullivan County Sheriff Warns
of Payroll Scam**

Sullivan County Sheriff Mike Schiff is warning municipalities, school districts and any businesses that use direct deposit to beware of a scam that is currently being attempted in the area. The scam starts when a payroll clerk receives an email, supposedly from an employee, asking the clerk to update their direct deposit information. The email provides a new bank account number and other information for the employee's salary to be deposited into. If the change is actually made, the employee's next paycheck gets deposited into the scammer's account and the money is gone. "This scam can also be accomplished by fax if the company uses a payroll change form", said the Sheriff. "Payroll clerks should have a way to double check any direct deposit change requests and make sure that the actual employee is the one making the request", he said.

**Town of Fallsburg Bids
Farewell to a
Transformative Era**

The Town of Fallsburg bids farewell to a transformative era as Supervisor Kathy Rappaport, the first female Hispanic supervisor, concludes her final days in office. Supervisor Rappaport has been a beacon of dedication and inclusivity, leaving an indelible mark on the community during her tenure. Joined by Dr. Sean Wall-Carty, Deputy Town Supervisor. They presented as a symbol of appreciation, keys to the Town of Fallsburg to some outstanding community members, recognizing their unwavering commitment to Fallsburg's prosperity.

Among the honored recipients are individuals from The Arc Greater Hudson Valley, including Robert Ladenhauf, Lara Biella, Christopher Meyer, John Paxton, Jeremy Knapp, Ashley Friedel, and Executive Director Regina McKenny-Snead. Their tireless efforts have significantly contributed to the betterment of our community. Additionally, keys to the town were presented to community members Ellen Bresky, from the Food Bank of the Hudson Valley Perishable Product Manager Amy Robillard, and Sullivan County Head Start Executive Director Bertha Williams for their exceptional contributions to the town's growth and well-being.

**Tri-Valley CSD
Board Meetings:**

1) Board Policy Committee Meeting
Thursday, January 4, 2024
5:30 p.m.

Secondary School Library Lower Level Media Center

2) Regular Meeting #13
Thursday, January 4, 2024

Meeting Opening Call to Order - 6:30 p.m.
Secondary School Library Lower Level
Proposed Executive Session - 6:30 p.m.
Secondary School Library Upper Level
Regular Meeting #13 Resumes - 7:00 p.m.
Secondary School Library Lower Level

Regular Meeting #13 will be on
Tri-Valley's YouTube LIVE Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkI224vKQ8nAWhR6NVao24w/live>

Finally, a special tribute was extended to Chief Simmie Williams, who retires as of June 6, 2024, after an exemplary 32 years of service. Chief Williams leaves behind a legacy of commitment, leadership, and a safer community.

Supervisor Kathy Rappaport and Deputy Supervisor Dr. Sean Wall-Carty expressed their gratitude for the remarkable service of these individuals and encourages them and others to continue in leading the community into a bright and inclusive future.

**Yes, Virginia, We Recycle
Christmas Trees!
Retire Your Tree for Free at
Any Sullivan County
Transfer Station**

Monticello, NY - The Sullivan County Department of Solid Waste & Recycling is accepting retired Christmas trees at no charge from Sullivan County residents, businesses and visitors at the end of this Holiday season.

"For individuals with access to backyards and open spaces, strategically-placed, spent Christmas trees offer welcome cover during the winter months for birds and wildlife," noted Recycling Coordinator Kassie Thelman. "Residents, businesses and visitors with limited access to open space, however, are encouraged to take their trees to any Sullivan County Recycling & Transfer Station for FREE disposal."

Sullivan County employees will chip the trees to incorporate them for use as mulch in County parks, landscaping and beautification projects. Repurposing wood chips helps to conserve natural resources and enhance the appearance of the County.

For additional information about waste reduction strategies, reuse and recycling, please contact the Sullivan County Department of Solid Waste & Recycling at 845-807-0290. Check out online Materials Management resources at sullivan-ny.us/Departments/SolidWasteRecycling.

The Department of Solid Waste & Recycling is also on Facebook! Like us at www.facebook.com/sullivancountycycle.

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



Go on the Sullivan County Website at
www.sullivanny.us or search
[sullivancountydmscheduling](https://www.sullivanny.us/sullivancountydmscheduling)
to make an appointment.

Now conveniently doing business at 9 locations:

Grahamsville - 273 Main Street, Grahamsville, NY (rotating schedule)

Jeffersonville - 19 Legion Street, Jeffersonville, NY (rotating schedule)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

For further information please call: 845-794-3872

Tai Chi for Arthritis & Falls Prevention

LIBERTY, NY - Tai Chi is an ancient Chinese practice that combines slow and gentle movements with deep breathing. By learning to balance one's mental and physical energy, Tai Chi helps to increase strength, prevent the risk of falls, and helps deal with stress. In the spring of 2024, Caregiver Resource Center Program Coordinator Nancy McGraw will bring back the Tai Chi for Arthritis & Fall Prevention program as an eight-week series for residents in Sullivan County.

This is a one-hour class which will take place twice per week, every Tuesday and Friday beginning January 30th and ending Friday, March 22nd. This 8-week series will cover gentle Tai Chi exercises designed and evidenced to improve participants' strength, flexibility, balance, overall health, and to help them prevent falls! Participants should note that this program is free for those who want to purchase the affiliated educational book! For all others, a \$10.00 fee will be collected at the beginning of the course and reimbursed to those who complete the 8-week program without missing more than 3 sessions.

Class size is limited. To register, participants can go online to <https://tinyurl.com/3s4uhzc9>, scan the QR code found on the Tai Chi flyer, or email sullivancrc@cornell.edu. More information can be found at <http://sullivanccce.org/events>. Those with related questions can email sullivan@cornell.edu or call 845-292-6180.

The Caregiver Resource Center is a co-partnered program between Cornell Cooperative Extension and Office for the Aging of Sullivan County and is supported by a grant from the NYS Office for the Aging's Caregiver Program. Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan County provides equal program and employment opportunities. The public can contact the office to request accommodations.

DEC Files Draft Regulations to Reduce Hydrofluorocarbons and Sulfur Hexafluoride Emissions

Annual Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report Tracks Statewide Emissions Trends

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos today announced three actions to support the State's ongoing efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions as required by the 2019 Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (Climate Act). DEC is filing draft regulations to reduce emissions of two potent greenhouse gases, hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) and sulfur hexafluoride (SF6). In addition, DEC released the 2023 annual "Statewide Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report," which tracks trends of these and other emissions as part of the state's implementation of the Climate Act.

"New York State continues to advance efforts to help reduce climate-altering greenhouse gas emissions and bolster community resilience," Commissioner Seggos said. "HFCs, SF6, and other greenhouse gases are accelerating the costly economic, public health, and environmental impacts of climate change in New York State and across the globe. The draft regulations filed today help bring New York closer to realizing the Climate Act's ambitious emission reduction requirements."

HFCs are extremely potent greenhouse gases (GHGs) often used in refrigeration and cooling that have hundreds to thousands of times higher global warming potential than natural refrigerants. DEC filed proposed amendments to 6 NYCRR Part 494, to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions from refrigerants, foams, and aerosol propellants. The draft regulation includes prohibitions, reporting, and other requirements regarding the sale, use, and supply of HFCs and new products and systems that contain HFCs to help achieve the required statewide greenhouse gas emission limits.

SF6 is the most potent greenhouse gas and in New York State is used in electric power transmission and distribution equipment. DEC also filed a new draft regulation, 6 NYCRR Part 495, which includes a program to phase down the use of SF6 in gas-insulated equipment (GIE) used by the electricity sector. The proposed regulation includes a phase out of the installation of new SF6 GIE, an emissions limit for GIE owners, limitations on the use of SF6, and reporting requirements for certain users and suppliers of SF6 and other fluorinated greenhouse gases.

The draft regulations would implement recommendations from the Climate Action Council's Scoping Plan to help meet the statewide emissions limits of the Climate Act. In addition, as estimated by DEC's Value of Carbon Guidance under the Climate Act, both HFCs and SF6 are among the highest value in terms of the cost in dollars of each additional ton of emissions. The draft regulations will help guide a statewide transition away from HFCs and SF6 while informing policy development and programming.

The draft regulations will be published in the State Register and available for public comment on Jan. 10, 2024 on the Climate Change Regulatory Revisions webpage. DEC is holding public hearings on the proposed regulations on March 13, 2024 for HFCs/Part 494 and March 14, 2024, for SF6/Part 495. The public comment deadline for HFCs/Part 494 will be March 19, 2024, and for SF6/Part 495 will be March 21, 2024.

DEC's 2023 Statewide Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report describes statewide GHG emissions from 1990 to 2021, expressed in tons of carbon dioxide equivalents, from all sources in the state. Release of the report prior to the end of the year marks a milestone in implementation of the Climate Act by measuring the annual progress in reducing GHG emissions and providing information on trends in GHG emissions across various economic sectors. The report also provides more detailed information about sources of GHG emissions and emission factors associated with different types of fuels.

The comprehensive report utilizes best available science and data to describe GHG emissions statewide, including those from electricity, industry, and agriculture. As required by the Climate Act, the Statewide GHG Emissions Report uses the 20-year Global Warming Potential metric for providing GHG emissions, and tracks greenhouse gas emissions directly within New York State, as well as those associated with the generation of imported electricity and the extraction and transmission of fossil fuels imported into the state. The 2023 report also describes the emission contributions of the state's forests and natural lands that will help the state reach its goal of net-zero emissions by 2050.

The annual emission totals provided will help track progress to achieve emissions limits as codified in DEC's Part 496 regulation adopted in 2020. Overall, the 2023 report shows statewide GHG emissions reductions from 1990 levels through 2021. It also reflects broader trends, including GHG emission reductions from 2019 to 2021 following the impact of the COVID-19 global pandemic on emissions, which was most profound in 2020.

The report is available on DEC's website. The complete, detailed dataset of emissions totals used to inform the report is available via Open NY. (Contd. Pg. 25)

ST. MARK'S UMC
68 Clinton St
Napanoch NY

INDOOR YARD and CLOTHING SALE

Will be opened every Friday from 10 - 3

Something for Everyone!



COLONIAL FAMILY of FUNERAL HOMES

**PRE-PLANNING, FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICES
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<http://www.colonialfamilyfuneralhomes.com>

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

**Sundown United Methodist Church
Covered Dish Supper
5:30 pm
Jan 6, 2024**

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

Sundown United Methodist Church Hall

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

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

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

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

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

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

Daily Mass Schedule: Monday, Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday
Mass at 8:30AM.

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

Grahamsville United Methodist Church

Wishing you all a Happy and Healthy New Year!

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

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

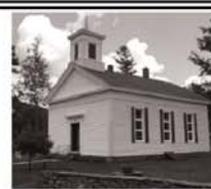
The Bible Study continues every Tuesday at 7 pm.
If you are interested in joining the Bible Study, please feel free to contact the Pastor, Seung Jin Hong. 845-985-2283

Grahamsville Reformed Church

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

Claryville Reformed Church

Claryville Road
Claryville, NY 12725
845-985-2041



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

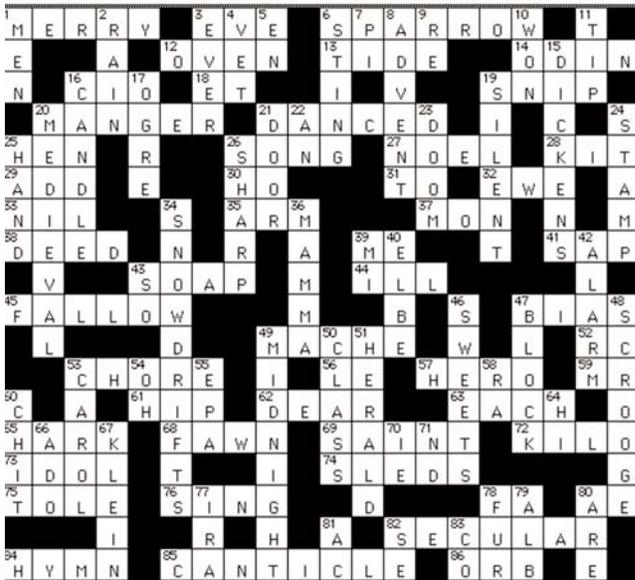
Loucks Funeral Home
Geoff and Heather Hazzard
"Celebrating Life, One Family at a Time"

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

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

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

Ans to last week's Crossword



**GRAHAMSVILLE
UMC THRIFT MINISTRY**

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

The Grahamsville UMC Mission Team

<https://grahamsvilleUMC.org>

GrahamsvilleUMC@gmail.com—Seung Jin Hong, Pastor

**Sundown
United Methodist Church
Covered Dish Supper**

Saturday,

**January 6, 2024 5:30 pm
at the Church Hall**

**Check out the tables with Yard Sale
items available for sale**

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

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

Also
WANTED
People to
play cards

SUUJI WA TANSU NI KAGIRU
answer

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

**Action Toward Independence
is offering a six-week course
in Anger Management
beginning on January 18**

Do you have trouble controlling your temper?
Are you emotionally and physically bothered by little things that happen during the day?

Do you sometimes feel out of control?

We can help. **Action Toward Independence** is offering a six-week course in **Anger Management** beginning on January 18. It will be facilitated by Veteran Peer Advocate Matt Kleman and Program Manager Shawn Comfort.

Call 845-794-4228 or email ati@atitoday.org to register today, and begin the journey of taking control.

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

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

- 1/3/23 Town of Neversink Planning Board Meeting
 1/4/24 Town of Neversink Organizational Board Meeting 7:00 pm
 1/6/24 **Sundown UMC Covered Dish Supper** 5:30 Church Hall
 1/16/24 Town of Neversink Zoning Board Meeting 7:30 pm

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

Please remember to send us your **Events Calendar for 2024**
 so that we may continue to post your meetings and events
 throughout the coming year.

You may email them to: tvtownsman@yahoo.com or
 USPS Mail - The Townsman, PO Box 232, Grahamsville, NY 12740

TOWN OF OLIVE MEETINGS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

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

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

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

**Ulster County Legislature Weekly
 Calendar Update
 for the Week Of
 January 1 - January 5, 2024**

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

Monday, January 1

- o New Year's Day - County Offices Closed

Tuesday, January 2

- o No Meetings

Wednesday, January 3

- o 6:00 PM - Ulster County Human Rights Commission, in the Restorative Justice and Community Empowerment Center, 733 Broadway, Kingston; & Nassau County Public Library, Fernandina Beach Branch, 25 4th Street, Fernandina Beach, Florida 32034

- o 7:00 PM - Ulster County Planning Board, in Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston

Thursday, January 4

- o 6:00 PM - Caucuses: Democrats, in Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston; Republicans, in the KL Binder Library, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston

- o 6:30 PM - Organizational Meeting of the Ulster County Legislature, in Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston, and via Livestream at <https://livestream.com/accounts/1512750/events/1824203>

Friday, January 5

- o 9:00 AM - Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency Reform Committee, in the KL Binder Library, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston

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

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

1" Boxed ad (1"x3")-

\$6.00 per week

Business card ad (2" x 3")

- \$12.00 per week

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

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

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

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

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

Full Page - 8" x 10" -

\$100.00 per week

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

•• Full Page Flyer for
 Local Municipalities
 and Organizations -

one time fee- \$20.00

(once the flyer is inserted
 we will publish it each week
 through the week of the event)

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

**Low Rates
 High Visibility!**

DEC Files Draft Regulations to Reduce Hydrofluorocarbons and Sulfur Hexafluoride Emissions

(From Pg. 21) The 2019 Climate Act requires the State to achieve a carbon-free electricity system by 2040 and reduce greenhouse gas emissions 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 and 85 percent by 2050, setting a standard for states and the nation to expedite the transition to a clean energy economy. The law drives investment in clean energy solutions such as wind, solar, energy efficiency and energy storage and requires that 35 percent, with at least 40 percent, of the clean energy investments benefit disadvantaged and low-to-moderate income communities across New York State.

The issuance of the annual report and draft regulations are the latest of many regulatory and policy steps taken to implement the Climate Act, including the pre-proposal of a Cap-and-Invest Program to achieve a declining cap on emissions, the finalization of disadvantaged communities criteria by New York's Climate Justice Working Group, and the finalization of Commissioner's Policy 49, "Climate Change and DEC Action," and Division of Air Resources Policy 21, "CLCPA and Air Permit Applications," last year.

In 2022, Governor Hochul announced finalized regulations that require significant reductions in methane and other harmful emissions from any oil and natural gas infrastructure, reducing methane emissions by more than 14,000 metric tons per year and volatile organic compound emissions by more than 2,000 tons per year. Additional steps to implement the Climate Act include adopting limits on the statewide emissions of greenhouse gases of 40 percent by 2030 and 85 percent by 2050, the Advanced Clean Car and Clean Truck regulations to accelerate the transition to zero-emission vehicles, and completing the Value of Carbon guidance and updates, as well as DEC's well plugging programs to address climate change by locating abandoned oil and gas wells, among other measures.

State Press Release on Child Care Funding

The Child Care Capital Program (CCCP) will award grants ranging from \$500,000 to \$1.5 million to eligible child care providers to expand existing child care centers or build new ones. The program will be overseen by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) and administered by the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY). Funding will be split 60 percent for the downstate region (which includes New York City; Long Island; and Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster and Westchester counties) and 40 percent for the rest of the state.

The CCCP will provide reimbursement grants for the design, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, equipment and other capital assets for existing or proposed state-licensed, not-for-profit or for-profit child day care centers and registered school-age child care programs. The facility must be intended to be used as a child care program for at least eight years. Projects must be shovel-ready, demonstrate the ability to be licensed and fully operational within six months of completing construction and worth at least \$500,000.

In order to apply for CCCP grant, applicants must first prequalify through New York State Grants Gateway. Final applications will be accepted through March 31, 2024. Awards will be announced on or after July 15, 2024.

For more information on the Child Care Capital Program, applicants with questions regarding New York State Grants Gateway and prequalification or registration may email GrantsReform@its.ny.gov or call (518) 474-5595. OCFS and DASNY will host an informational webinar about the CCCP on January 24, 2024, and potential applicants are strongly encouraged to attend. More information will also be available on the Child Care Services page of the OCFS website.

New York State is also making \$25 million available for the Child Care Creation and Expansion Tax Credit each year for two years - \$50 million in total - to be administered through the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) and the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance (DTF).

Under the new tax credit program, businesses with a location in New York State that provide new licensed or registered child day care seats for the infants or toddlers of their employees, either directly or through a third-party, can apply for the credit. To be eligible, they must also limit costs to their employees for child care expenses.

The application to receive tax credits for child care seats created in 2023 opens January 1, 2024, and closes January 31, 2024.

For more information on the Child Care Creation and Expansion Tax Credit, visit the website of the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) or the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance (DTF).

LETTER TO THE EDITOR: College Football In Disarray

As a Penn Stater, class of 1963, I was disappointed with the loss to Mississippi in the Peach Bowl, and I was irate with the key Penn State football players who sat out the game. Four of them signed up for the NFL draft and one entered the transfer portal.

These players enjoyed full scholarships during their years at Penn State and were held in high regard as potential graduates.

The current transfer portal system has created the "Wild West" of college football. Players can transfer during the election period, and conceivably transfer schools four times during their college years. This adds tremendous instability to football programs and adversely impacts student-athletes education.

The four Penn State football players who sat out the bowl game for fear of being injured and losing out on NFL contracts let down the school, the alumni, and themselves, but most of all they let down their teammates, so called "brothers", who relied on them to be there. The dropouts deserted the team. Note: I watched almost all of the bowl games, and there were no injuries that would have impacted future contracts.

College football players should be required to finish the season, including bowl games. Their football scholarships for a given year should stipulate playing in bowl games.

Donald Moskowitz
Londonderry NH
Penn State University
Class of 1963

“TRIVIA FOR A CAUSE”

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

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

Doors Open at 12:30 P.M.

Casa Mia Restaurant

205 Main St., Hurleyville, NY 12747

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

Advance reservations required!

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

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

Raffles and 50/50 tickets extra.

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

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

For questions or further info, please contact:

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

=====

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

Names attending: _____

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

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

DEP is Top Taxpayer in Ulster, Putnam, Delaware, and Schoharie Counties

Paid \$165 million in property and school taxes across nine Hudson Valley and Catskill counties in 2023; was second highest taxpayer in Westchester

\$105 million went directly to public schools throughout the watershed region

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) today announced it paid \$165 million in local village, town, city, county and school taxes throughout 2023 across nine Hudson Valley and Catskill counties covering the water supply system that serves nearly half of the state's population. With this year's payments, DEP remains a top taxpayer throughout many municipalities and schools in and near the watershed region, paying taxes on the full-assessed value of land, structures, easements, and most water supply infrastructure across the approximately 230,000 acres owned or controlled by New York City for the water supply system.

"While delivering the highest quality water possible to half the State's population, DEP is also proud to help support our neighbors and host communities who make it possible," said DEP Commissioner Rohit T. Aggarwala. "From economic development incentives to watershed protection programs and full local property taxes, DEP directly infuses hundreds of millions of dollars to local communities each year throughout the water supply region."

DEP pays property and school taxes at full assessed value on all land, reservoirs, dams and structures across the approximately 230,000 acres it owns or controls throughout the 2,000-square-mile watershed in the Hudson Valley and Catskills, including the tens of thousands of acres open to the public for recreational purposes such as hiking, fishing, hunting and boating, as well as on property used for agricultural purposes. Piping and aqueducts used to convey water are tax exempt. Taxes are paid on all properties originally acquired to build the 19 upstate reservoirs and three controlled lakes between the mid-19th and mid-20th centuries (about 78,000 acres), and all land and assets acquired since to operate the supply system and as buffer land to help protect water quality (approximately 156,000 acres).

In 2023, DEP was among the top taxpayers in numerous municipalities and school districts across the watershed region. DEP paid more county government property taxes than any other property owner in Ulster, Delaware, Putnam and Schoharie counties, and was the second highest in Westchester County.

Of the total \$165 million in taxes DEP paid, more than \$105 million went directly to public schools throughout the nine-county region. For example, in Delaware County DEP taxes made up about a third of the total tax levy for the Deposit Central School District and two-thirds of the Downsville Central School District, with significant payments to others throughout the county. In Sullivan County, DEP covered more than half of the entire tax levy for the Tri-Valley Central School District (which spans into part of southwestern Ulster County). In Schoharie County, DEP taxes made up half the total tax levy for the Gilboa-Conesville Central School District. In Ulster County, DEP taxes covered more than a third of the Ellenville Central School District tax levy and close to 20 percent of the Onteora Central School District's total levy. In Westchester County schools, DEP taxes made up more than 20 percent of the Valhalla Union Free School District's total tax levy, more than 30 percent of the Pocantico Hills Central School District levy, 10 percent of the North Salem Central School District Levy, and made significant payments to others throughout the county. In Putnam County, DEP paid more than 5 percent of the total tax levies in each the Mahopac, Carmel and Brewster central school districts.

DEP also has an authorized head count of more than 1,000 employees throughout the upstate watershed and water supply system.

"Most of those employees call the water supply region home, with many who raise families, shop, own homes, pay taxes and educate their children in the myriad communities we work hand-in-hand with to deliver the best quality water possible," said DEP Deputy Commissioner Paul V. Rush of the Bureau of Water Supply.

DEP's 2023 local property and school tax payments break down as follows:

Delaware County

On 1,224 parcels, DEP paid \$6,472,930 in county property taxes and \$12,213,348 in school taxes.

Town of Colchester - On 36 parcels, DEP paid \$1,904,610 in town property taxes.

Town of Deposit - On 1 parcel, DEP paid \$642,585 in town property taxes.

Town of Tompkins - On 68 parcels, DEP paid \$557,547 in town property taxes.

Town of Middletown - On 177 parcels, DEP paid \$462,280 in town property taxes.

Town of Roxbury - On 208 parcels, DEP paid \$391,587 in town property taxes.

Town of Andes - On 188 parcels, DEP paid \$374,587 in town property taxes.

Town of Walton - On 71 parcels, DEP paid \$80,161 in town property taxes.

Town of Delhi - On 95 parcels, DEP paid \$89,493 in town property taxes.

Town of Bovina - On 50 parcels, DEP paid \$65,201 in town property taxes.

Town of Hamden - On 86 parcels, DEP paid \$33,665 in town property taxes.

Town of Kortright - On 59 parcels, DEP paid \$32,039 in town property taxes.

Town of Stamford - On 103 parcels, DEP paid \$29,215 in town property taxes.

Town of Meredith - On 42 parcels, DEP paid \$22,279 in town property taxes.

Town of Masonville - On 14 parcels, DEP paid \$11,369 in town property taxes.

Town of Franklin - On 18 parcels, DEP paid \$10,524 in town property taxes.

Town of Harpersfield - On 7 parcels, DEP paid \$2,218 in town property taxes.

Town of Hancock - On 1 parcel, DEP paid \$740 in town property taxes. (Contd. Pg. 28)

DEP is Top Taxpayer in Ulster, Putnam, Delaware, and Schoharie Counties

(From Pg. 27)

Dutchess County

On 39 parcels, DEP paid \$50,243 in county property taxes and \$465,765 in school taxes.

Town of East Fishkill - On 32 parcels, DEP paid \$69,291 in town property taxes.

Town of Wappinger - On 4 parcels, DEP paid \$6,256 in town property taxes.

Town of Beekman - On 1 parcel, DEP paid \$1,555 in town property taxes.

Town of Fishkill - On 2 parcels, DEP paid \$982 in town property taxes.

Greene County

On 452 parcels, DEP paid \$519,394 in county property taxes and \$1,218,627 in school taxes.

Town of Hunter - On 80 parcels, DEP paid \$160,841 in town property taxes.

Town of Windham - On 120 parcels, DEP paid \$71,388 in town property taxes.

Town of Jewett - On 66 parcels, DEP paid \$61,333 in town property taxes.

Town of Lexington - On 58 parcels, DEP paid \$62,359 in town property taxes.

Town of Prattsville -- On 47 parcels, DEP paid \$74,419 in town property taxes.

Town of Ashland -- On 54 parcels, DEP paid \$54,462 in town property taxes.

Town of Halcott - On 27 parcels, DEP paid \$19,874 in town property taxes.

Sullivan County

On 131 parcels, DEP paid \$4,545,463 in county property taxes and \$11,110,872 in school taxes.

Town of Neversink - On 117 parcels, DEP paid \$3,660,455 in town property taxes.

Town of Fallsburg - On 11 parcels, DEP paid \$9,948 in town property taxes.

Town of Rockland - On 3 parcels, DEP paid \$1,371 in town property taxes.

Ulster County

On 556 parcels, DEP paid \$4,023,772 in county property taxes and \$18,150,709 in school taxes.

Town of Wawarsing - On 80 parcels, DEP paid \$2,623,151 in town property taxes.

Town of Olive - On 142 parcels, DEP paid \$1,961,298 in town property taxes.

Town of Hurley - On 26 parcels, DEP paid \$655,723 in town property taxes.

Town of Shandaken - On 88 parcels, DEP paid \$508,027 in town property taxes.

Town of Marbletown - On 11 parcels, DEP paid \$105,270 in town property taxes.

Town of Woodstock - On 108 parcels, DEP paid \$93,885 in town property taxes.

City of Kingston - On 3 parcels, DEP paid \$73,724 in city property taxes.

Town of Denning - On 74 parcels, DEP paid \$46,833 in town property taxes.

Town of Shawangunk - On 1 parcel, DEP paid \$6,800 in town property taxes.

Town of Gardiner - On 1 parcel, DEP paid \$2,041 in town property taxes.

Town of New Paltz - On 2 parcels, DEP paid \$6,798 in town

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Please call for availability first

property taxes.

Town of Hardenburgh - On 15 parcels, DEP paid \$7,790 in town property taxes.

Town of Rochester - On 2 parcels, DEP paid \$445 in town property taxes.

Town of Plattekill - On 2 parcels, DEP paid \$682 in town property taxes.

Town of Kingston - On 1 parcel, DEP paid \$1,045 in town property taxes.

Orange County

On 21 parcels, DEP paid \$12,972 in county property taxes and \$91,661 in school taxes.

Town of New Windsor - On 4 parcels, DEP paid \$14,265 in town property taxes.

Town of Newburgh - On 10 parcels, DEP paid \$7,905 in town property taxes.

Town of Montgomery - On 5 parcels, DEP paid \$1,676 in town property taxes.

Town of Cornwall - On 2 parcels, DEP paid \$550 in town property taxes.

Putnam County

On 486 parcels, DEP paid \$2,046,350 in county property taxes and \$17,457,522 in school taxes.

Town of Carmel - On 130 parcels, DEP paid \$2,079,152 in town property taxes.

Town of Southeast - On 27 parcels, DEP paid \$803,677 in town property taxes.

Town of Kent - On 296 parcels, DEP paid \$939,647 in town property taxes.

Town of Putnam Valley - On 12 parcels, DEP paid \$34,126 in town property taxes.

Town of Philipstown - On 21 parcels, DEP paid \$21,547 in town property taxes.

Schoharie County

On 100 parcels, DEP paid \$2,729,013 in county property taxes and \$3,372,293 in school taxes.

Town of Gilboa -- On 31 parcels, DEP paid \$959,173 in town property taxes.

Town of Conesville -- On 61 parcels, DEP paid \$49,009 in town property taxes.

Town of Jefferson -- On 8 parcels, DEP paid \$9,502 in town property taxes. (Contd. Pg. 29)

DEP is Top Taxpayer in Ulster, Putnam, Delaware, and Schoharie Counties

(From Pg. 28)

Westchester County

On 502 parcels, DEP paid \$7,191,811 in county property taxes and \$41,389,530 in school taxes.

Town of Mount Pleasant - On 39 parcels, DEP paid \$5,412,513 in town property taxes.

Town of North Castle - On 56 parcels, DEP paid \$2,054,285 in town property taxes.

Town of Cortlandt - On 29 parcels, DEP paid \$1,365,205 in town property taxes.

Town of North Salem - On 24 parcels, DEP paid \$789,862 in town property taxes.

Town of Yonkers, City - On 16 parcels, DEP paid \$125,929 in town property taxes.

Town of Bedford - On 37 parcels, DEP paid \$547,209 in town property taxes.

Town of Somers - On 21 parcels, DEP paid \$283,320 in town property taxes.

Town of Yorktown - On 180 parcels, DEP paid \$162,171 in town property taxes.

Town of Greenburgh - On 25 parcels, DEP paid \$287,536 in town property taxes.

Town of Lewisboro - On 28 parcels, DEP paid \$113,331 in town property taxes.

Town of Harrison - On 10 parcels, DEP paid \$185,836 in town property taxes.

Town of New Castle - On 31 parcels, DEP paid \$55,047 in town property taxes.

Town of Pound Ridge - On 3 parcels, DEP paid \$5,865 in town property taxes.

Town of Ossining - On 3 parcels, DEP paid \$3,206 in town property taxes.

School District School Tax

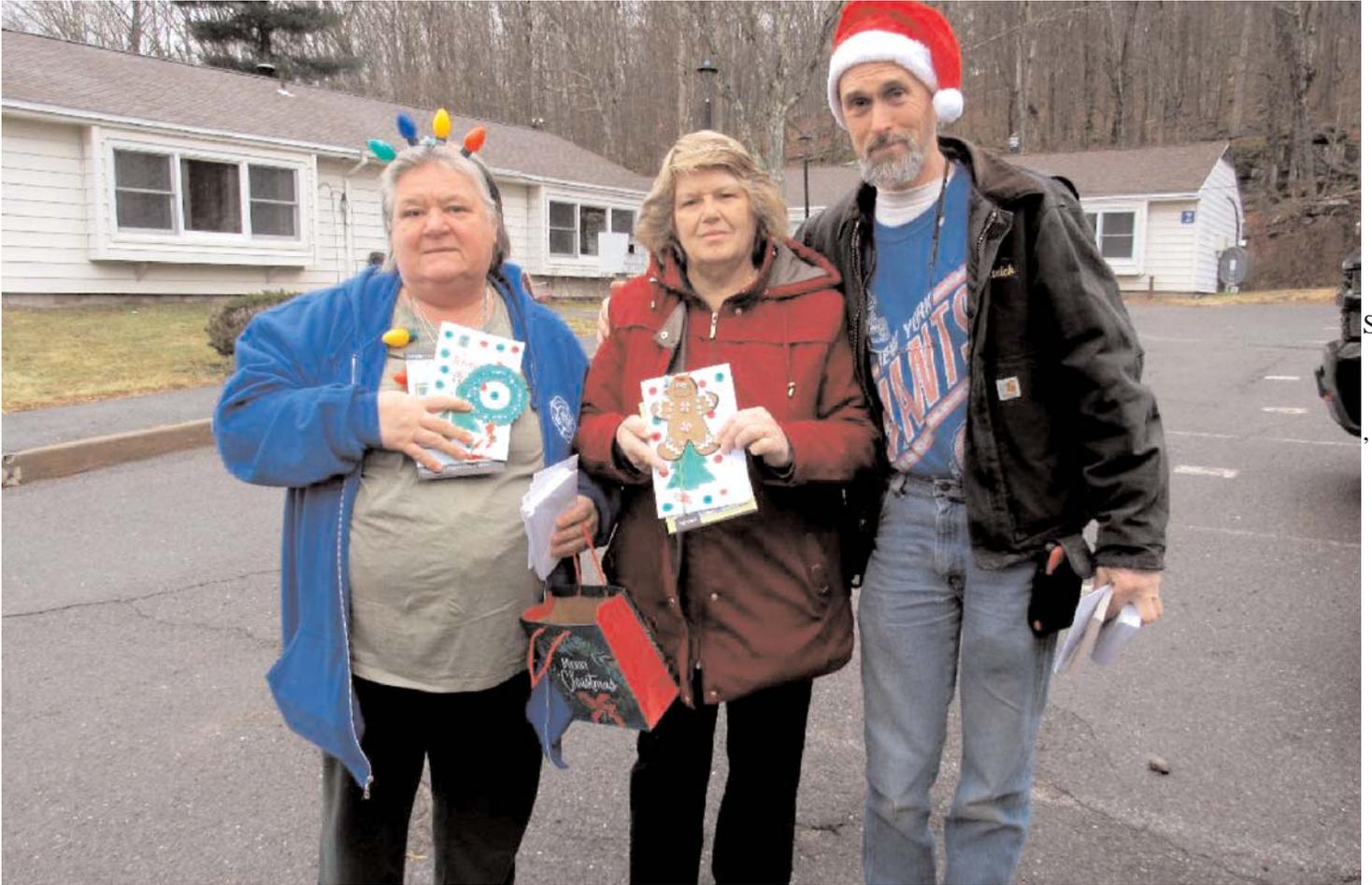
Andes Central School District	\$631,730.41
Ardley Union Free School District	\$26,868.54
Arlington Central School District	\$16,418.04
Beacon City School District	\$18,218.52
Bedford Central School District	\$105,757.02
Brewster Central School District	\$6,107,646.90
Briarcliff Manor Union Free School District	\$8,576.16
Byram Hills Central School District	\$2,141,975.00
Carmel Central School District	\$5,507,405.48
Chappaqua Central School District	\$210,432.96
Cornwall Central School District	\$2,698.85
Croton-Harmon Union Free School District	\$7,240,813.11
Delaware Academy Central School District at Delhi	\$387,261.38
Deposit Central School District	\$2,796,173.41
Downsville Central School District	\$5,704,757.03
Edgemont School District	\$106,634.07
Ellenville Central School District	\$8,982,319.80
Elmsford Union Free School District	\$75,588.36
Franklin Central School District	\$6,656.97
Garrison Union Free School District	\$24,086.46
Gilboa-Conesville Central School District	\$3,494,117.91
Greenburgh Central School District	\$95,302.25
Haldane Central School District	\$41,625.96

Hancock Central School District	\$1,570.83
Harrison Central School District	\$419,710.32
Hastings-on-Hudson Union Free School District	\$2,331.62
Hendrick Hudson School District	\$541.40
Hunter-Tannersville Central School District	\$746,591.19
Jefferson Central School District	\$19,687.26
Katonah-Lewisboro Union Free School District	\$2,453,529.54
Kingston City School District	\$167,911.91
Lakeland Central School District	\$58,564.73
Liberty Central School District	\$2,584.86
Livingston Manor Central School District	\$6,724.63
Mahopac Central School District	\$5,199,454.53
Margaretville Central School District	\$922,299.51
Marlboro Central School District	\$24,700.34
Mount Pleasant Central School District	\$1,985,520.82
New Paltz Central School District	\$14,572.43
Newburgh Enlarged City School District	\$27,028.43
North Salem Central School District	\$4,127,778.39
Onteora Central School District	\$8,206,106.34
Ossining Union Free School District	\$19,241.59
Pleasantville Union Free School District	\$125,332.04
Pocantico Hills Central School District	\$7,786,506.93
Putnam Valley Central School District	\$39,343.32
Rondout Valley Central School District	\$587,930.04
Roscoe Central School District	\$821.81
Roxbury Central School District	\$782,238.71
Sidney Central School District	\$17,745.27
Somers Central School District	\$1,946,892.03
South Kortright Central School District	\$174,690.19
Stamford Central School District	\$36,791.23
Tarrytown (Public Schools of)	\$24,510.57
Tri-Valley Central School District	\$11,238,401.76
Valhalla Union Free School District	\$10,104,351.81
Valley Central School District	\$12,093.45
Walkkill Central School District	\$50,432.68
Walton Central School District	\$753,679.30
Wappingers Central School District	\$5,397.52
Washingtonville Central School District	\$25,139.99
Windham-Ashland-Jewett Central School District	\$332,052.08
Yonkers Public Schools	\$2,564,019.67
Yorktown Central School District	\$722,441.82

About the NYC Department of Environmental Protection

DEP manages New York City's water supply, providing approximately 1 billion gallons of high-quality drinking water each day to nearly 10 million residents, including 8.8 million in New York City and a million more in Westchester, Putnam, Orange, and Ulster counties. The water is delivered from a watershed that extends more than 125 miles from the city, comprising 19 reservoirs and three controlled lakes. Approximately 7,000 miles of water mains, tunnels and aqueducts bring water to homes and businesses throughout the five boroughs, and 7,500 miles of sewer lines and 96 pump stations take wastewater to 14 in-city treatment plants. DEP also protects the health and safety of New Yorkers by enforcing the Air and Noise Codes and asbestos rules. DEP has a robust capital program, with a planned \$31 billion in investments over the next 10 years. For more information, visit nyc.gov/dep, like us on Facebook, or follow us on X, formerly known as Twitter.

Woodridge Kiwanians Deliver Holiday Cheer!



Kiwanis of Woodridge members Kathy Helms, Debbie Jacobsen, and Patrick Smith prepare to hand out Holiday Cards and gifts.)

Saturday, December 24th was a bit dreary, weather-wise, but there was warmth in the air all around as the Kiwanis of Woodridge members delivered holiday cards and small gifts to seniors and others in the Village of Woodridge.

Kiwanians prepared cards wishing everyone a joyous holiday season, and Jill Weiner's class at Liberty Central School made hand-crafted cards and ornaments to hand out as well.

It was truly a fun and heartwarming event and everyone, Kiwanians and recipients alike, had a wonderful time

Ulster County Executive Jen Metzger Sworn in for First Full Four-Year Term

KINGSTON, NY - Yesterday, on December 28, 2023, Ulster County Executive Jen Metzger took the oath of office for her first full four-year term in a small ceremony with family in attendance, held in the Chambers of the County Legislature in the County Office Building. The esteemed and long-time Ulster County Clerk, Nina Postupack, administered the oath.

County Executive Metzger expressed her gratitude for the opportunity to continue serving the people of Ulster County, and looks forward to working with the new Legislature on priority issues, including housing, workforce development, climate change, and mental health, among others.

"I am deeply honored and grateful to the people of Ulster County for entrusting me with the responsibility of serving as County Executive for a full four-year term," said Ulster County Executive Jen Metzger. "I look forward to continuing our collective work to build a sustainable, resilient, thriving Ulster County that leaves no one behind."

Hygiene Drive



**SULLIVAN CATSKILLS
FOOD SECURITY
— COALITION —**

HELP PROVIDE HEALTH AND HYGIENE PRODUCTS FOR OUR NEIGHBORS!

Items collected will be distributed to food pantries throughout Sullivan County.

Items must be dropped off at a participating location by January 17, 2024. Look for a Donation Box at the following locations:

- Action Toward Independence, 309 E Broadway, Monticello, NY
- Callicoon Farmers' Market, A Dorrer Dr, Callicoon, NY
- Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan County, 64 Ferndale Loomis Rd., Liberty, NY
- CVI Building, One Cablevision Center Dr, Liberty, NY
- Kauneonga Post Office, 3584 State Rte 55, Kauneonga Lake, NY
- St. John's Episcopal Church, 15 St John St, Monticello, NY
- Sullivan County Government Center, 100 North St, Monticello, NY
- The Tavern at the Arnold House, 839 Shandalee Rd, Livingston Manor, NY

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT MONICA PONCE-AGREDANO AT

**845-292-6180 ext.112
or
mp2255@cornell.edu**

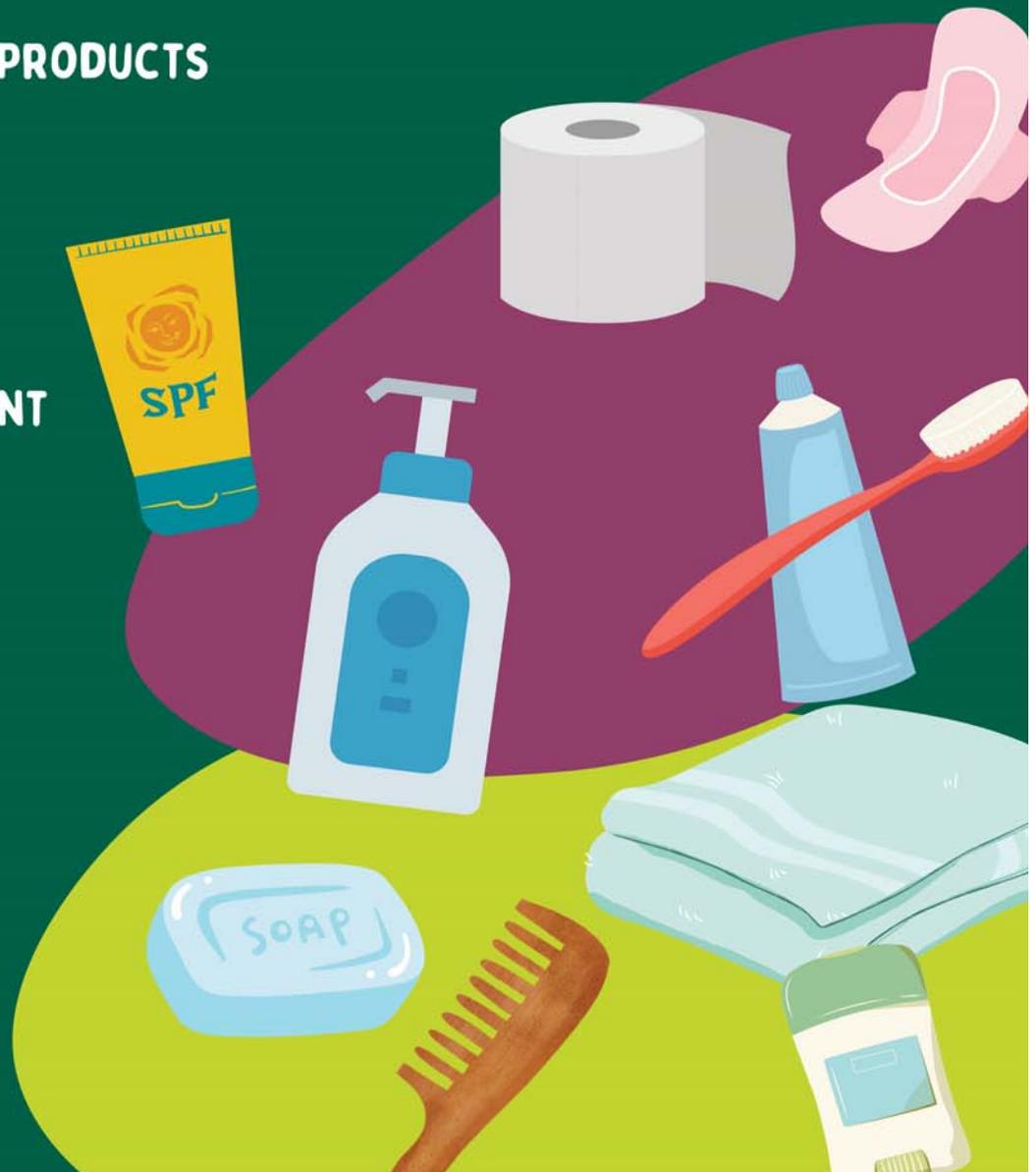


*The County Wide Hygiene Supply Drive is sponsored by the Sullivan Catskills Food Security Coalition. The Sullivan Catskills Food Security Coalition is a group of organizations that came together in 2021 with the mission to improve food access through collaboration, innovation, and advocacy. For more information on the coalition visit our website at www.scfoodsecuritycoalition.org

HYGIENE ITEMS WE ACCEPT

***ALL AGES, TRAVEL SIZE & FULL SIZE, NEW, UNUSED, UNEXPIRED ONLY**

- TOOTHBRUSHES
- TOOTHPASTE
- SOAP
- SHAMPOO & CONDITIONER (FOR ALL HAIR TYPES)
- CURL-HYDRATING AND CONDITIONING CREAMS, SPRAYS AND OILS
- HAIR TREATMENTS (HOT OIL TREATMENTS) AND HAIR BUTTERS
- DEODORANT
- TOILET PAPER
- FEMININE HYGIENE PRODUCTS
- RAZORS
- SHAVING CREAM
- BABY WIPES
- DIAPERS
- LAUNDRY DETERGENT
- LOTION
- SUNSCREEN
- MOUTHWASH
- DENTAL FLOSS
- COMBS/BRUSHES
- SUNSCREEN
- Q-TIPS
- BATH TOWELS
- WASH CLOTHS
- HAND SANITIZER



Governor Hochul Announces More than \$200 Million for Summer Meals to Feed 2 Million Low-income Children in New York

*New York State Will
Participate In Federal
"Summer EBT" Program
To Provide Food Benefits To
Eligible Students During
The Summer Months*

*Summer EBT Will Help
Low-Income Families
Provide Healthy,
Nutritious Meals for
Children When Schools
Are on Summer Break*

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced more than \$200 million for summer meals for approximately 2 million low-income school-aged children in New York. Following Governor Hochul's decision to opt New York into the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer Program for Children (Summer EBT), more than \$200 million in federal funding will be allocated to New York.

"Our kids need healthy, nutritious food to grow and thrive," Governor Hochul said. "This new federal funding will be a critical lifeline for families struggling to make ends meet."

The program is aimed at reducing hunger and food insecurity among children who are unable to access free and reduced-price school meals during the summertime. Eligible families with school-age children will receive \$120 per child during the summer months. Approximately 2 million New York children are expected to qualify. More information on eligibility and benefit issuance will be available in the coming months.

Governor Hochul has committed to covering 50 percent of the administrative costs of operating the program, as required by the federal government. USDA will cover the other half.

Research has shown that providing families with summer food benefits reduces childhood hunger while promoting better nutrition. A demonstration project tested by the U.S. Department of Agriculture during the pandemic found that Summer EBT decreased the number of kids with very low food security by one-third.

Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer said, "No child should have to worry about having access to healthy, nutritious meals when school is out of session for the summer. We know that hunger never takes a vacation, and thanks to the Summer EBT initiative, over 2 million children across New York who rely on school meals during the year will get the assistance they need while on summer break. I am proud to help deliver this more than \$200 million in federal funding to ensure our low-income families have access to healthy food year-around, and I commend Governor Hochul for her commitment to combatting food insecurity in communities across the Empire State."

New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance Acting Commissioner Barbara C. Guinn said, "We are grateful to Governor Hochul for recognizing the importance of our agency operating Summer EBT. This program will help us ensure that students whose families rely on school meals during the year can continue to access healthy foods when school is out of session for the summer by simply using an EBT card to purchase food."



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impact on someone's
path to recovery!

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Governor Hochul Announces New York National Guard Leads Nation in Recruiting and Retention

New York Army National Guard Exceeds 107 Percent Strength with Over 11,100 Soldiers Assigned

New York Number One in Quality Strength; Soldiers Attending their Required Military Training

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced that the New York Army National Guard was first in the nation in recruiting and retaining soldiers for the federal Fiscal Year 2023. The New York National Guard achieved a score of 118.12 percent for the 12 months from October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023, according to a year-end analysis of each state's recruiting and retention success. The score is based on the number of enlisted soldiers, the number of new officers and warrant officers who joined, and the number of soldiers who reenlisted as a percentage of each state's total Army Guard strength. A score of 100 percent means the state met its recruiting goals. Scores above 100 percent indicate a state exceeded those recruiting goals.

"The New York National Guard has proven time and time again that when they are needed in times of crisis they will be there with the resources and the power to keep their communities safe," Governor Hochul said. "Their strength, recruiting and retention show impressive leadership and dedication, an organization like no other. Congratulations and thank you to all who serve their fellow New Yorkers - we are grateful for your work."

Governor Hochul today met with New York National Guard leadership and greeted recruiters and new recruits of the National Guard to congratulate them. This was the third time that New York was rated best in recruiting among the states with "large" Army National Guard contingents and the second time the New York Army National Guard Recruiting and Retention Battalion has been rated best in the nation, according to Lt. Col. Josh Heimroth, the commander of New York's recruiting force.

At the beginning of fiscal year 2023, the NYNG authorized a strength of 10,209 Soldiers and had 10,706 personnel assigned. The NYNG finished the fiscal year with 10,969 Soldiers in the ranks. This reflects an increase of 270 soldiers, 760 soldiers above the authorized strength for the NYNG. During this same year the NYNG recruited 1,594 Soldiers, with 1,521 new enlisted Soldiers and 73 officers who were not previously in the ranks.

Another 1,731 Soldiers chose to reenlist in the NYNG during the year, while 1,235 Soldiers left the force. All these gains and relatively few losses resulted in New York finishing first in overall recruiting achievement for 2023.

Adjutant General of the New York National Guard Major General Ray Shields said, "We just had the best year for our retention mission that we have ever had. Our soldier-first strategy is now showing results and our recruiting and retention teams are performing at an exceptionally high performing level of effort and achievement."

Success in recruiting and retention also led to the Army Guard ranking New York as the number one state for Army

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Guard "Strength Health" in 2023. The combination of assigned strength, recruiting efforts, and moving Soldiers who missed drills out of the ranks without delay resulted in this designation for fiscal year 2023. This recruiting success has also allowed New York to add a division artillery headquarters and a finance battalion headquarters to the New York Army Guard force structure.

Statewide Deployment

Throughout the COVID pandemic the NYNG was deployed throughout New York, providing more than 1.8 million workdays over a 27-month period. Additionally, since September of 2022, the NYNG has been responding to the Asylum Seeker support mission where our service members have assisted New York City and Western New York with 612,000 workdays to date.

Nationwide Deployment

In June, Governor Hochul deployed the New York Air National Guard's 106th Rescue Wing to assist the United States Coast Guard search and rescue operation for a missing submersible which had been exploring the wreckage of the Titanic. NYNG Soldiers are also currently deployed in Arizona at the Southern Border.

Global Deployment

NYNG Soldiers have been deployed in Europe to support training for the Ukrainian Armed Forces, Africa, and other overseas missions throughout 2023.

The NYNG is also continuing to strengthen ties with foreign militaries. The NYNG and the Danish military command responsible for patrolling Greenland plan to start conducting joint training, key leader discussions, and exchange observers in 2024 and 2025. A Statement of Intent outlining the partnership arrangement was signed during a November 7 meeting between Major General Ray Shields and Major General Søren Andersen, commander of the Danish Joint Arctic Command, at New York National Guard headquarters in Latham.



ANGER MANAGEMENT

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

Join us for this six-week course, which will provide you with effective tools for managing your anger. Learn how to identify anger re-activators and gain valuable tips to help you stay calm and in control.

For more information

and to register :

845-794-4228

www.atitoday.org

ati@atitoday.org



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Daniel Pierce Library



WINTER READING BINGO

JAN – FEB 2024



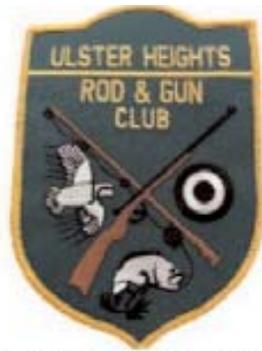
Get 5 in a row – up, down, across or diagonal – to win!
Return this sheet to the library when you complete BINGO to receive a prize!

Children of All Ages

- | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|--|--|---|
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| Recommend a book to a friend | Check out a picture book | Read a new author | Visit the library's website | Read book 1 of a series |
| Work on our library puzzle | Read a book with a blue cover | Sign up for a DPL library card. Free space if you have a card. | Read a book under 200 pages | Checkout a cookbook |
| Read a book from the year you were born | Recommend the library to a friend | Read a book with pictures | Read a book with "winter" in the title | A book less than 150 pages |
| Read a book suggested by a friend | Read a graphic novel | Read a book that has won an award | Use our catalog and place a book on hold | Read a book with an animal on the cover |

Get your reading logs and bingo sheets here!

<https://danielpiercelibrary.org/Pages/Index/228365/winter-reading-challenge>



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WINNER WILL BE CONTACTED BY PHONE WHEN TICKET SALES HAVE RUN OUT

DEC Encourages Volunteer Campground Ambassadors to Sign Up for 2024 Camping Season

State Encourages New York's Outdoor Adventurers to become Campground Ambassadors

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) today announced the start of the 2024 application period for the Campground Ambassador program, which helps connect New Yorkers and visitors with the outdoors. Like other campground host programs, volunteer Campground Ambassadors assist DEC staff in welcoming and assisting the millions of visitors to State campgrounds in the Adirondack and Catskill Parks each year. DEC encourages New Yorkers who are passionate about camping and the outdoors to help introduce new campers to DEC facilities and outdoor recreation.

“By introducing new visitors to DEC campgrounds, State lands, and sites and offering fun and exciting programming for campers, DEC’s Campground Ambassador program is inspiring the next generation of outdoor adventurers and environmental stewards,” Commissioner Basil Seggos said. “During the 2023 season, Campground Ambassadors helped DEC enhance the visitor experience at our facilities with fun, educational, and meaningful programming opportunities. I encourage New Yorkers with a passion for camping and the outdoors to join the DEC team as we connect visitors to nature for generations to come.”

DEC operates 51 campgrounds and four day-use areas in the Adirondack and Catskill Forest Preserves. The camping season runs through the summer months; some facilities remain open during fall foliage and hunting seasons.

Campground Ambassadors serve two weeks during the DEC’s core camping season (July through Labor Day). Ambassadors also aid in connecting campers and day users to nature via environmentally themed activities and programming. In consideration for services provided, DEC provides a campsite for the duration of the Ambassador’s stay at one of the following participating locations:

Catskills

- Kenneth L. Wilson Campground & Day Use Area
- Little Pond Campground & Day Use Area
- North South Lake Campground & Day Use Area

Adirondacks

- Ausable Point Campground & Day Use Area
- Buck Pond Campground & Day Use Area
- Cranberry Lake Campground & Day Use Area
- Fish Creek Pond Campground & Day Use Area

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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

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

- Frontier Town Campground, Equestrian & Day Use Area
- Lewey Lake Campground & Day Use Area
- Luzerne Campground & Day Use Area
- Meacham Lake Campground & Day Use Area
- Moffitt Beach Campground & Day Use Area
- Nicks Lake Campground & Day Use Area
- Northampton Beach Campground & Day Use Area
- Rogers Rock Campground & Day Use Area

Apply for the 2024 program via the on-line form. Applications must be received by Feb. 1, 2024. To view volunteer criteria and the full details of the program, visit DEC’s website or call 518-457-2500 x1.

For more information on DEC-operated campgrounds, including a list of campgrounds and schedules, visit DEC’s website and go to the Camping link under the Things To Do section, or call DEC’s Bureau of Recreation at 518-457-2500. To make reservations at any of these camping facilities, call ReserveAmerica at 1-800-456-CAMP (2267) or visit the ReserveAmerica website.

Spring 2024 Special Topics Course: Creating & Activating Public Spaces



Are you interested in parks or public spaces? Want to know how these places can improve the health of your community? Looking to explore more of Sullivan County?

Consider taking HUM1350 this spring, which will introduce students to the importance of public spaces for community health and wellness; careers and opportunities associated with caring for public spaces, facilities and grounds, parks and main streets; an understanding of the effort to engage citizens in creating public spaces.

HUM1350 • 3 Credits
Tuesdays 1 PM - 3:40 PM
Main Campus, G120
 Instructor: Shannan Cilento, AICP
 Community Development &
 Communications Manager, Sullivan 180

To register or for more details, scan the QR code.






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STATION 65**

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845-985-7270

E-MAIL Claryvillefd@gmail.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/claryvillevolunteerfd

Please be advised that due to the cost of the rising food prices, we need to increase the prices of our monthly Pancake Breakfasts for 2024 year. *****This will go into effect at the February 18th breakfast.*****

The new 2024 prices will be:

Adults: \$13

Senior Citizens (age 65 +) : \$11

Children ages 5-11: \$5

Children under 5 yrs: Free

Take-outs: \$13

We are sorry for any inconveniences! Thank you for your continued support of our Volunteer Fire Department!

Sincerely,

The members of the Claryville Volunteer Fire Department

2023 – 2024
- WOODSTOCK FARM FESTIVAL -
WINTER MARKET

OVERLOOK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
233 TINKER STREET

SATURDAYS, 10 – 2

EVERY OTHER WEEK
JANUARY 6 – MARCH 16



Claryville Fire Dept.

1500 Denning Road Claryville, NY 12725

All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast



Sunday, January 14th

Serving 8:00 until 12 Noon

Adults: \$11

Children Ages 5-11: \$5

Under 5 Yrs. Free

Take-outs are available 985-7270

\$50 from the Breakfast Is Donated to the Claryville Reformed Church Food
Pantry



Sundown
United
Methodist
Church



January 6, 2023

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)

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Assemblyman Brian Maher Announces \$75,000 Grant to Benefit Walden VFW Post

Assemblyman Brian Maher (R, C-Walden) announced today, in the heart of the holiday season, that his office has secured a \$75,000 grant that will benefit Walden VFW Post 2946 for the purpose of addressing significant infrastructure needs that have threatened to close the longtime veterans establishment over the past year. The Community Resiliency, Economic Sustainability, and Technology Program (“CREST”) grant will be used to rehabilitate the longtime VFW Post, including but not limited to, a roof replacement project, according to a letter from the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY), addressed to Commander Dave Penney. There will be a formal check presentation ceremony this Friday, December 22nd at 6 p.m. at the site of the Walden VFW Post - 4 Oak Street, Walden. This will take place at the VFW regularly scheduled weekly community dinner. Representatives of Walden, Assemblyman Brian Maher and member of the VFW will be in attendance.

“Over the past several years, like many other VFWs and American Legions, our post has gone through some tough financial times,” said Walden VFW Post 2946 Commander Dave Penney. “We met with Assemblyman Maher several months ago as we were continuing our fundraising efforts to save the Post and make sure it remained open to serve our veterans and the greater Walden community. We explained to Assemblyman Maher that we had to address major infrastructure needs but didn’t have enough in our annual operating budget to take on such a large project and previous grant applications had been denied. Without an influx in fundraising or a grant we may not have been able to keep our doors open for much longer. The news of receiving this grant could not have come at a better time and we look forward to providing all of the paperwork necessary to receive the funding and keep our Post open.”

“When I met with Dave and he explained to me the dire situation that the Walden VFW Post was in, we began brainstorming on how my office could help,” said NYS Assemblyman Brian Maher. “First, we had a few vendors give us quotes to ensure we were prepared when certain grants presented themselves. My office submitted this project as part of the NYS Assembly Republican Minority Conference capital improvement program and we were so pleased to receive notification this week that the grant was awarded. By bringing back home our state taxpayer dollars in this way, we are making sure that this funding is spent on something that truly will make an impact on our community, especially our veterans.”

There will be a formal check presentation ceremony in the coming weeks which will detail the entire project that will be funded, as well as several community partners that will help to address the long-term infrastructure issues that the Post will now be able to address.

With this funding finally addressing capital improvements, the Post can now put all of their focus into its ongoing efforts to recruit, retain and enhance programs to serve veterans. Assemblyman Maher and his team will work with Commander Penney and the Walden VFW to make sure they are given support throughout the paperwork filing process, which can be arduous.

“I will never forget where I come from,” continued Maher. “I am a Waldenite through and through and as a Naval Reservist I will always fight to ensure our veterans and active service military personnel have the support they need.”

Maher Urges Hochul To Sign Biomarker Legislation

Assemblyman Brian Maher (R,C-Walden) is urging Gov. Hochul to sign a bill that would require state-regulated health insurance plans, including Medicaid, to cover biomarker testing when supported by medical and scientific evidence.

Biomarker testing has become a revolutionary part of cancer care and determining the best treatment for other serious and life-threatening conditions, such as rheumatoid arthritis, preeclampsia, and Parkinson’s. Despite the proven benefits, many insurers fail to keep pace with innovations and advancements in biomarker testing. As a result, patients must decide whether to eat the cost or forego the life-saving testing, which has disproportionately impacted people of color, individuals with lower incomes, and rural communities.

“I am personally invested in this bill being signed into law, as I lost my grandmother Lucille Spina before I was born because early detection was not readily available,” said Maher. “However, my Aunt Rosa Garcia is a cancer survivor. My aunt and many others benefited from early detection and are alive today because of it. We have the opportunity to help countless others by signing this bill into law.”

“Biomarker testing saved my life twice,” said Tonya Addy, Orange County resident and cancer survivor. “As a survivor and a member of the American Cancer Society team, I have seen the remarkable evolution in care for patients. Biomarker testing helps pinpoint exactly how best to treat each cancer. It saves money and alleviates unnecessary treatment. Gov. Hochul, please sign this bill.”

The bill received an overwhelming amount of bipartisan support when introduced in the Senate and Assembly in June, it now awaits a decision from the Governor. The American Cancer Society, the New York NAACP, the ALS Association and more than 65 other organizations have expressed their support for this bill, along with twelve states that have enacted similar legislation. Maher and other supporters are urging Hochul to sign this bill to help save thousands of lives.

FEMA has released the results of the 2023 National Household Survey on Disaster Preparedness

Results from the 2023 National Household Survey on Disaster Preparedness

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Since 2013, FEMA has conducted the National Household Survey on Disaster Preparedness. This survey of people from across the United States gauges the nation's disaster preparedness actions, attitudes, and motivations. The 2023 survey conducted from February 1 through March 14, 2023 included over 7,600 responses. Results from the 2023 survey indicate that slightly more than half (51%) of Americans believe they are prepared for a disaster and 57% took three or more actions to prepare for a disaster within the last year. The most common actions people took to prepare for a disaster were assembling or updating disaster supplies (48%) and making a plan (37%); the least common actions were planning with neighbors (12%) and getting involved in their community (14%).

Key Findings and Opportunities from the 2023 Survey

There were big shifts in the way people prepared for disasters in 2023 compared to the year before. There was a large increase in the percentage of people who assembled or updated supplies (from 33% in 2022 to 48% in 2023), but there was a large decrease in the percentage of people who signed up for alerts and warnings (from 46% in 2022 to 36% in 2023). Emergency managers should remind people that there is more to preparedness than just assembling supplies. When meeting with your community, help people sign up for alerts and warnings right in the moment. Walk them through the process of signing up to receive local alerts while you have their direct attention, so they don't have to remember to do it themselves later on. Only 50% of people believed that taking steps to prepare for a disaster would help them in getting through a disaster and were confident in their ability to take those steps to prepare. To increase preparedness efficacy, trusted local and community messengers should provide outcome testimonials to demonstrate the value of preparing for a disaster, especially for groups with lower rates of preparedness efficacy.

There was a strong association between having awareness of how to prepare for disasters and taking action to prepare. 89% of people had read, seen or heard information in the last year about how to get better prepared for a disaster. People who had received information about how to prepare were five times as likely to take at least three preparedness actions compared to people who had not received preparedness information. Emergency managers should focus their preparedness outreach efforts on communities with lower awareness of preparedness information because the payoff could be big. Provide tips and strategies for preparing based on a community's specific needs, challenges, and environment. Leverage FEMA's preparedness resources from Ready.gov.

There was a disconnect between the 60+ community's perceived preparedness and their preparedness actions. People who were 60 years old and older were about as likely as people between the ages of 18 and 59 to feel prepared for a disaster (52% and 51% respectively). However, people ages 60 and older were less likely to have taken many preparedness actions compared to people between the ages of 18 and 59. To increase the preparedness of the 60+ community, emergency managers should develop preparedness program-

ming and materials that take into consideration the unique challenges facing older adults and empower them to prepare.

Cost barriers may prevent people who are socioeconomically disadvantaged from taking important preparedness actions. They were less likely than those who are not socioeconomically disadvantaged to have taken higher-cost preparedness actions but were about as likely to have taken low- or no-cost preparedness actions. Emergency managers should leverage community resources to help those who are socioeconomically disadvantaged overcome the cost barriers to close the gap in taking higher-cost preparedness actions.

People living in areas at higher risk of flood and wildfire impacts had lower levels of risk perception for those hazards. Only 43% of people reported that riverine flooding was 'likely' or 'very likely' to impact them, despite living in areas that are at higher risk of experiencing the impacts of riverine flooding. For higher risk wildfire areas, only 49% perceived their risk of being impacted by wildfires. However, hurricane risk perception (96%) was much higher for people at higher risk of experiencing hurricane impacts. Emergency managers should apply the tools and messaging techniques that effectively communicate risk for hurricanes to build a similar culture of risk perception for floods and wildfires in communities at greatest risk.

Help Older Adults Prepare for Disasters

On June 8, 2023, FEMA Director Criswell announced the 2023 National Preparedness Month campaign would focus on preparing older adults for disasters. The 2023 National Household Survey on Disaster Preparedness provides preparedness data about older adults that emergency managers can use to strengthen their own community's efforts to help older adults prepare.

Preparedness actions, factors that influence disaster preparedness and perceived preparedness for a disaster in people 60+ and 18-59.

Comparison of the Preparedness of People 60 Years and Older to People Younger Than 60

The 2023 National Household Survey on Disaster Preparedness includes similar preparedness data for many other groups as well, including:

- People with disabilities
- Not primarily English-speaking households
- People who identify as LGBTQ+
- People with faith-based beliefs
- People who are socioeconomically disadvantaged
- People living in rural areas
- People of Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin
- People of different racial identities

What's Next?

Download the summary results of the 2023 National Household Survey on Disaster Preparedness. <https://fema-community-files.s3.amazonaws.com/2023-National-Household-Survey.pdf>

Explore data insights from past surveys along with actionable preparedness information by reviewing FEMA's Data Digests of past National Household Surveys on Disaster Preparedness.

Download and review summary findings, datasets of results, and questionnaires for past National Household Surveys on Disaster Preparedness from OpenFEMA.

Learn more about FEMA's preparedness research at fema.gov.

Disaster preparedness is a whole community effort. FEMA welcomes opportunities to collaborate and wants to hear about your research and your preparedness initiatives. Tell us what you've learned from your own preparedness research and let us know how you used this survey data! Email us at FEMA-prepare@fema.dhs.gov.

To get updates about how the whole community is working together to promote and sustain a prepared nation, sign up for the FEMA Individual and Community Preparedness Newsletter. <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDHSFEMA/subscriber/new?preferences=true#tab1>

Governor Hochul Announces New, Streamlined Application for Individuals Seeking Help from the State with Crime-related Expenses

New York State Office of Victim Services Revamps Compensation Application to Eliminate Questions, Simplify Language and Reduce its Length to Help Ensure a More User-Friendly Process

Eligible Individuals Can Receive Help with Medical and Counseling Bills, Funeral and Burial Expenses and Reimbursement of Lost Wages, Among other Financial Assistance

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced the availability of a new, streamlined application for individuals seeking help from the state with crime-related expenses. The New York State Office of Victim Services has revamped its application to eliminate questions, simplify language and reduce its length to help ensure a more user-friendly process. OVS provides a critical financial safety net for individuals with no other resources to pay for expenses they incurred as a result of being victimized, such as medical and counseling bills, funeral and burial costs, and reimbursement of lost wages, among other financial assistance.

“New York has a long history of ensuring that individuals and families who have been harmed as a result of a crime can have access to support, services and financial help they need,” Governor Hochul said. “That commitment would not be possible but for the work done by the Office of Victim Services’ staff, and victim assistance professionals who have dedicated their careers to serving individuals who have experienced unspeakable loss, trauma and pain. I am incredibly grateful for their work, which makes a difference in so many lives across New York State.”

“Those who are victims of a crime shouldn’t have to worry about the financial cost of the recovery process,” said Lieutenant Governor Antonio Delgado. “The Office of Victim Services is breaking down barriers and ensuring those impacted by crime have access to the resources and services they need to heal and move forward. We will ensure New Yorkers receive the support they deserve.”

Office of Victim Services Director Elizabeth Cronin said, “My team at the Office of Victim Services is always looking for ways in which we can streamline and improve our processes, so they are victim- and survivor-centered, and trauma informed. We received excellent feedback from victim advocates and service providers who play a critical role in helping individuals apply for assistance and this shortened application is a result of the coordination between them and OVS staff. I thank them for their insights and their commitment to providing the highest quality of services to victims and survivors of crime.”

While the Office of Victim Services has modified its application as necessary to address amendments to state laws that outline eligibility for financial assistance, these represent the most significant changes to the document in decades. Individuals, service providers and victim advocates had expressed concerns about the document’s length and some invasive questions, which sometimes deterred individuals from applying for help. The redesigned application provides the information necessary for the Office of Victim Services to assign claims to staff members, who then obtain any additional documents to make decisions as

needed, depending on the type of help sought. The application now has five pages instead of nine, and the number of questions has been cut in half to seven from 14.

During the state’s 2022-23 fiscal year, the Office of Victim Services provided \$14.6 million to victims and survivors of crime and their family members for medical and counseling bills; occupational and vocational rehabilitation; lost wages and support; funeral and burial expenses; costs associated with court and medical transportation, security devices, moving, and crime scene cleanup; and replacement or repair of essential personal property. New York is the only state in the country with no cap on medical and counseling expenses; state law limits other types of reimbursement or compensation. OVS also directly reimbursed medical providers nearly \$2 million for forensic rape exams during FY23. All reimbursement and compensation for crime-related costs are paid by fines, fees and surcharges paid by certain individuals convicted in state or federal court, not federal or state tax dollars.

Earlier this month, Governor Hochul signed legislation (S.214A/A.2105A) to expand eligibility to victim compensation funds for victims and survivors of crime. The law removes the requirement that victims provide documentation from law enforcement to be eligible for compensation and applies to crimes occurring on or after Dec. 31, 2025. The effective date provides the Office of Victim Services adequate time to prepare for the implementation of this and other significant changes included in the law.

The updated compensation application is another example of the Office of Victim Services’ efforts to improve access, expand eligibility for financial assistance and build capacity among services providers through professional training and technical assistance. In recent years, OVS has:

- o Launched OVS Resource Connect, an online platform that allows individuals to find help and resources by using everyday language to search for support for a specific concern or need, by zip code. OVS Resource Connect then generates a list of programs that can provide services to meet their needs.
- o Advanced and supported a variety of legislation that upon enactment has expanded access and eligibility to compensation, including allowing victims of hate crimes, unlawful dissemination or publication of an intimate image, and first-degree and second-degree reckless endangerment to receive compensation for lost earnings, crime scene cleanup costs, counseling and other expenses not covered by insurance, even if they are not injured.
- o Increased compensation for essential personal property lost or damaged from \$500 to \$2,500; increased emergency awards for funeral expenses to up to \$3,000; and expanded access to compensation for individuals who were victims of hate crimes but did not sustain any physical injuries.

The Office of Victim Services also funds and supports 239 community-based programs across the state that provide that provide essential services, such as crisis counseling, support groups, case management, emergency shelter, civil legal help, and relocation assistance, among other assistance, to victims and survivors, loved ones, and communities. These programs provide services at no cost and regardless of whether an individual has reported the crime to police. More than 80 percent of claims for financial help are filed by staff from these programs. Follow the Office of Victim Services on X (formerly Twitter) and Facebook.



ELEMENTARY SOCIAL SKILLS

Registration is open for Grades K-5.

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

- Manners
- Listening
- Hygiene
- Emotions

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

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

Visit our website at

atitoday.org



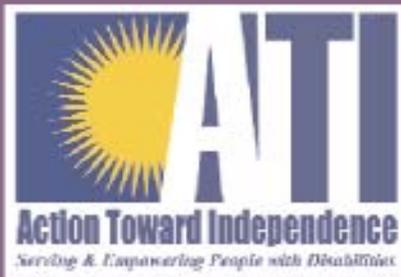
SCAN ME!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Family Peer Advocate

(845) 794-4228

info@atitoday.org



Middle School Social Skills



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

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

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

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

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

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atitoday.org



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SAVE A LIFE! DONATE! SHARE OUR STORY!



NICK NEEDS KIDNEY -TYPE 0 (IN SOME CASES TYPE A BLOOD COULD WORK)

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

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

More about our warrior Nick....

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

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

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

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

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



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PFC JOSEPH P. DWYER VETERANS
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**STARTS JANUARY
2024!**

Are You Ready?



Life Skills Group

WORK READINESS EDITION

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

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

309 East Broadway

Monticello, NY 12701

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

(845) 794-4228

info@atitoday.org



SCAN ME!

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

Visit our website at

atitoday.org





I hope that your holiday season has been joyous and restful, and spent surrounded by loved ones. To everyone across NY-18 celebrating this past week - Merry Christmas and Happy Kwanzaa! As we wrap up 2023, I wanted to send another update on how I've been fighting for you down in D.C. and across the Hudson Valley.

MY STATEMENT ON THE ISRAEL-HAMAS WAR, AND MY CALL FOR A LASTING PEACE

As we watch the violence continue in both Israel and Gaza with heavy hearts, I can't help but think about the horrors I witnessed during my time serving this country in combat. Innocent Iraqi families ripped apart. Five fellow soldiers instantly killed in a roadside bomb. A decade plus of bloodshed, with almost nothing but pain and suffering to show for it.

War brings out the worst of humanity - making the urgent pursuit of peace both necessary and incredibly difficult to achieve.

The recent 7-day pause showed that a cessation to the violence in Israel and Gaza is possible. Now we must redouble our efforts to achieve a permanent and mutual peace, predicated upon the following:

The safe return of all hostages

All perpetrators of rape and sexual violence brought to justice

The surrender of Hamas

Commitment to a new Palestinian government in Gaza dedicated to the well-being and prosperity of the Palestinian people

Recognition by Israel and the new Palestinian government that each has the right to its own state, and a genuine commitment by both to pursue a two-state solution

An end to settler violence in the West Bank, with those responsible held accountable

A significant increase in humanitarian aid to Gaza

If you truly believe, like I do, that Israel has the right to exist and defend itself AND that the Palestinian people deserve to have their own state, I urge you to join me in this call for lasting security, dignity, and peace.

MOURNING THE HAGGAIS

This past week, we received the devastating news that Judih Weinstein Haggai, a native of Goshen, and her husband, Gadi, were killed in Hamas' terrorist attacks on October 7th. Our hearts are with Judih and Gadi's entire family.

The Haggais were teachers, artists, and peace-loving people, killed only for being Jewish.

We will continue our fight to bring their bodies home so that they may be properly laid to rest and mourned.

SUPPORTING MY FRIENDS IN LABOR

Last week, I met with members and leaders from 15 unions from across the Hudson Valley to discuss our joint priorities heading into 2024 and how I delivered for them in 2023 - like cosponsoring the PRO Act to ensure the right to organize and signing a letter calling for the manufacturing investments from the CHIPS Act to go to quality, high-wage union jobs.

Unions are the backbone of the Hudson Valley economy, and I'm working every day to deliver the wages and organizing rights they've more than earned.

FIGHTING FOR CLEAN WATER

This December marked the 49th anniversary of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

I celebrated by introducing the PFAS Action Act to establish a standard for PFAS in drinking water.

I will keep fighting for the clean drinking water every Hudson Valley family deserves.

MAKING AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE MORE ACCESSIBLE

The enrollment period for New York State's Health Insurance Marketplace is now open and will be through the month of January 2024.

Learn more about affordable health insurance options and sign up at <https://nystateofhealth.ny.gov>.

If you need assistance navigating your options and ensuring you can access one of these affordable plans, contact my office here or by calling (845) 443-2930.

HELPING YOU ACCESS FEDERAL BENEFITS

With programs that Hudson Valley families rely on, like Social Security, WIC, and Medicare under constant attacks, I'm fighting every day to protect the benefits you've earned, and that means making them as accessible as possible!

If you need help navigating programs like Social Security or Medicare, reach out to my team here on my website or by calling (845) 443-2930. Here's how we helped one of our neighbors recently:

SECURING FUNDING FOR OUR COMMUNITIES TO THRIVE

This year, I delivered a \$21.7 million RAISE grant to revitalize Kingston's waterfront.

The application period for FY 2024 RAISE grants is now open! Learn more about RAISE grants here or contact my office for assistance at 845-443-2930 or here on my website.

GRANTS CORNER APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR:

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

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

The USDA's Patrick Leahy Farm to School Grant Program is designed to increase the availability of local foods in schools and help connect students to the sources of their food through education, taste tests, school gardens, field trips, and local food sourcing for school meals. (Contd. Pg 54)



(From Pg. 53)

Grants can launch new farm to school programs or expand existing efforts. The deadline to submit applications is January 12, 2024. Learn more about the Seeding Success Webinar Series is hosted by the Patrick Leahy Farm to School program that provides technical assistance to support Farm to School grantees to develop, expand, and maintain robust farm to school projects here .

New York was awarded \$13.5 million from the Inflation Reduction Act's Federal Urban and Community Forestry Program. This grant program is designed to increase equitable access to trees and green spaces in urban and community forests to support building a clean energy economy, advance environmental justice, and create economic opportunity.

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All projects must take place in disadvantaged communities as identified by any of three Federal and State tools listed in the Request for Applications (RFA). The deadline to submit applications is Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2024. Learn more here .

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

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

New York State recently announced more than \$60 million in capital grant funding will be available to nonprofit human services organizations through the Nonprofit Infrastructure Capital Investment Program to support the delivery of critical services to New Yorkers. Eligible non-

profit organizations that provide direct programs and services to New Yorkers may receive grants ranging from \$50,000 to \$500,000 for the completion of small- and large-scale construction projects. Learn more here.

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

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

I look forward to hearing from you soon!

Sincerely,
Patrick K. Ryan
Member of Congress
New York's 18th District
<https://patryan.house.gov/>



With Border Crossings Reaching New Records, Rep. Marc Molinaro Will Participate In Fact-Finding Trip At Southern Border Hotspot

Eagle Pass, TX - U.S. Rep. Marc Molinaro (NY-19) is participating in a fact-finding trip at Eagle Pass, Texas, where hundreds of thousands of migrants have crossed illegally into the United States. This trip comes as border officials say they have processed over 300,000 migrants in December, the highest monthly tally on record.

During the trip, Rep. Molinaro will visit migrant crossing hotspots and speak with Customs and Border Protection (CBP) agents.

Background:

Over 100,000 illegal immigrants are currently in New York City, with more arriving each day. To alleviate the strain the migrant crisis has had, NYC has been bussing migrants to communities across Upstate New York, including in New York's 19th Congressional District. Counties like Broome County have responded by declaring states of emergency to stop NYC from sending migrants.

In Congress, Rep. Molinaro voted to pass a border security and immigration reform bill, joined Congressmen Pat Ryan and Mike Lawler in calling for the President to declare a Federal State of Emergency, and authored and passed bipartisan legislation to prevent Governor Hochul from transforming K-12 schools into migrant shelters.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service

3rd Annual Sullivan County Youth Summit
for 11th and 12th Graders



Featuring returning
motivational speaker
Duncan Kirkwood



Registration opens
November 1, 2023
www.Sullivan180.org

January 12, 2024

9am-2pm

Hurleyville Performing
Arts Centre

“Faith is taking the first step even when
you don’t see the whole staircase.”
— Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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

309 E Broadway Suite A

Monticello, NY 12701



secure our Borders, and lower prices for hardworking families.

As one of the top agriculture and dairy districts in the Northeast, this spring, I embarked on a district wide Farm Bill Listening Tour to hear directly from constituents about issues impacting the agriculture industry in our District. I am dedicated to advocating for our community in Washington to unleash the full potential of our rural communities and give farmers and producers the opportunities they need to succeed.

<https://tenney.house.gov/media/press-releases/congress-woman-tenney-kick-farm-bill-listening-tour-next-week>



Thank You, 2023!

As we kick off 2024, I am humbled to have served the sprawling New York's 24th Congressional District for an entire year now, advocating on your behalf, returning over \$13,000,000+ in benefits back to our community, and working to restore transparency and accountability in Congress.

Earlier this year, we surpassed a huge milestone of explaining over 500 votes in detail, at:

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

providing our community with in-depth background on each bill and unique insights into how they may impact the 24th District. I am currently the only representative who does, reiterating my deep commitment to providing transparency and accessibility in everything I do on behalf of NY-24.

I am incredibly honored to have introduced multiple pieces of legislation on our community's behalf to defend our Second Amendment Rights, support our nation's brave law enforcement officers, stand up for Veterans,

I would be remiss if I did not mention the ongoing geopolitical struggles in our world and the heinous attack on Israel on October 7th, resulting in the deadliest day for the Jewish people since the Holocaust. We continue to see the total depravity and inhumanity of Palestinian terrorism as these attacks on Israel persist, and Hamas continues to hold innocent civilians as hostages in heinous conditions. Today and every day, the United States must stand with Israel as it pursues justice for the innocent Israeli and American citizens harmed by terrorism.

As we enter 2024, I am filled with gratitude for the accomplishments we have achieved together. As we reflect on the challenges we've overcome, let us also embrace the opportunities that lie ahead in 2024.

I am optimistic about the possibilities that await us in the new year, and I am honored to serve you as we embark on this journey into the future -wishing everyone a joyous end to the year and a hopeful start to 2024 -the year of NY-24!

Governor Hochul Unveils Second Proposal of 2024 State of the State: The “Back to Basics” Plan to Improve Reading Proficiency

Governor Kathy Hochul unveiled her Back to Basics plan to improve reading proficiency in New York as a part of her 2024 State of the State. To transition New York to reading instruction that teaches students the foundational skills they need to become proficient readers, Governor Hochul will introduce legislation that ensures evidence-based best practices are used throughout New York. The Governor will also propose \$10 million in state investments to train 20,000 teachers in Science of Reading instructional best practices, and announced an expansion of SUNY and CUNY's microcredentialing programs for teachers focused on the Science of Reading, to ensure our current and future teachers seeking advanced education are best prepared.

“Reading is the foundation of our education system, but New York State is currently not meeting basic reading proficiency levels,” Governor Hochul said. “We cannot continue to allow our kids to fall further behind by utilizing outdated and discredited approaches to reading comprehension. Our Back to Basics initiative will reset how schools approach reading, returning to scientifically proven techniques. Along with investments in teacher training programs, we are tackling this issue head on to make sure our teachers and kids are set up for success.”

The ability to read by third grade is an important indicator of a student's future success. Students who do not achieve proficiency by the end of third grade are four times more likely to drop out of school, with dropout rates even more pronounced for students of color and students from disadvantaged backgrounds. Additionally, failure to ensure reading proficiency at an early age has a cascading effect, potentially derailing a student's academic trajectory, impacting future earning potential, health, and wellbeing. Recognizing the urgent need to improve reading proficiency and ensure student success, more than 30 states have transitioned to a 'back-to-basics' approach.

As a part of her 2024 State of the State, Governor Hochul is announcing several initiatives to get New York kids back on track.

Governor Hochul's Back to Basics reading plan takes statewide action to ensure that every school district utilizes instructional best practices grounded in the Science of Reading. Governor Hochul will seek passage this year of legislation to require that the State Education Department (SED) promulgate instructional best practices in reading instruction, and that school districts adopt those practices. This approach includes

teaching phonemic awareness, phonics, decoding, vocabulary, and comprehension. By September of 2025, all school districts will need to certify with SED that their curriculum, instructional strategies, and teacher professional development align with all elements of the instructional best practices.

Governor Hochul also announced \$10 million for teacher training programs to ensure teachers are prepared to utilize evidence-based standards in the classroom. The New York State United Teachers and the United Federation Teachers have already begun training thousands of teachers in the Science of Reading, and this funding would support the training of 20,000 additional teachers and elementary school teaching assistants.

To prepare New York's current and future teachers seeking advanced education, Governor Hochul's Back to Basics plan also includes enhancing and expanding the SUNY and CUNY Microcredential Program for Teachers focused on the Science of Reading.

UC Executive Jen Metzger Sends Letter to Governor Hochul, WMC Health Urging Prevention of Service Cuts at HealthAlliance Hospital

KINGSTON, NY - On Wednesday, Ulster County Executive Jen Metzger sent an urgent letter to Governor Kathy Hochul expressing deep concern about the potential cuts to services at HealthAlliance Hospital in Kingston by WMCHHealth Network. The letter calls for swift action and collaboration between the State and WMCHHealth to resolve the hospital's 2024 budget gap and ensure the continuation of all hospital services for Ulster County's more than 183,000 residents.

In the letter, Executive Metzger highlights the importance of the partnership between the State and Westchester Medical, which brought about the formation of HealthAlliance Hospital through the merger of Kingston Hospital and Benedictine Hospital. She emphasizes that the community is at risk of suffering severe consequences if an agreement on financial assistance is not reached promptly.

WMCHHealth has indicated its intent to cut hospital services without additional support from New York State towards the hospital's Financial Stabilization Plan. The list of services at risk includes stroke intervention services, labor and delivery, partial hospitalization for mental health, and the planned 20-bed inpatient mental healthcare unit - services that are vital to the health and well-being of the Kingston and Ulster County communities.

In the letter, Executive Metzger shares a personal story about her sister, underscoring the life-saving impact of mental health services provided by the hospital. She highlights the lack of realistic alternatives for residents, especially those in the northern half of Ulster County who would have to travel a significant distance for services at WMCHHealth's Poughkeepsie hospital, Mid-Hudson Regional, along with the many city residents who rely on public transit.

The letter also draws attention to how the proposed cuts to hospital mental health services would directly conflict with Governor Hochul's goals to expand mental health services across the state. Executive Metzger urges the Governor to stand with Ulster County and reject any cuts in services, and encourages both New York State and WMCHHealth to find a resolution that ensures the long-term financial sustainability of HealthAlliance Kingston.

Furthermore, Executive Metzger proposes that any financial agreement with HealthAlliance should include safeguards to claw back funds in the event of reductions in existing or planned hospital service

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In Search of the Goddess

Submissions due January 25

[CLICK HERE](#) for submission guidelines

<https://www.olivefreelibrary.org/call-for-art/>

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Grahamsville, NY

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

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

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$25 \$22.50	Name: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Double	\$40 \$36	Address: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$50 \$45	City: _____ State & Zip: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$100 \$90	Phone: _____ e-mail: _____
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Thank you for supporting local history and the Museum.



BONUS - Free Art Catalogue!

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 -
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Substance Use -
Physical/Mental/Sexual Health -
and more!

Text "Start" to:
845-637-9486

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



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



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Alyssa Wowk
(845) 645-6544

awowk@chowc.net

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All adults welcome!



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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.

VOICESUNITED4CHANGE'S VIRTUAL

YOUTH SUPPORT GROUP



JOIN US!

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

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

EVERY 1ST & 3RD

WEDNESDAY

@ 6:30 PM





VOICESUNITED4CHANGE'S VIRTUAL

PARENT SUPPORT GROUP



JOIN US!

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

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

EVERY 2ND & 4TH

WEDNESDAY

@ 6:30 PM







JOIN US FOR A
FAMILY FUN DAY
ICE OR NO ICE

THE JARED PROYECT MEMORIAL ICE FISHING CONTEST

Saturday, January 20, 2024

SILVER LAKE AT KRIEGER PARK
WOODRIDGE, NY 12789

REGISTRATION: 8AM
ICE FISHING CONTEST: 9AM-1PM
AWARDS: 1PM

WARM UP WITH A
CHILI LUNCHEON @

The Woodridge
Fire Department
2pm-5pm

Salad, Chili, Rice, Corn bread, Desserts

Contact:

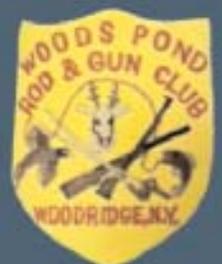
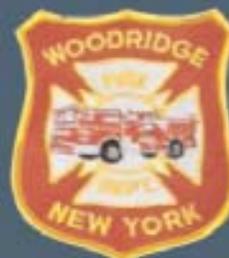
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**SATURDAY
JAN. 20, 2024**



2PM-5PM

**WOODRIDGE FIRE DEPARTMENT - SOCIAL HALL
2 GREEN AVE
WOODRIDGE, NY 12789**

**DONATIONS ACCEPTED
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50/50

**ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO JARED'S DAUGHTER,
JOCELYN PROYECT'S FUTURE FUND.**



Daniel Pierce Library

PBS Nova Documentary Jupiter



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

(For adults and students ten and up)

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

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

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

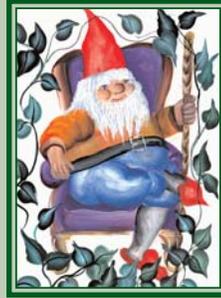


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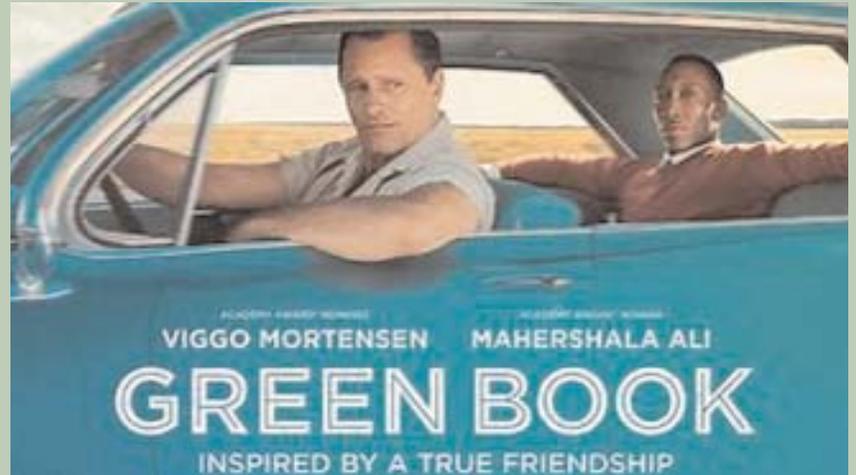
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(845) 985-7411**“KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE &
TRIVIA”****Streaming
now on YouTube
Netflix & Amazon Prime****GREEN BOOK**

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



At a time when the world is in turmoil we look toward peace. This is a true story of love and understanding in every day lives. “Green Book” is one of the best motion pictures for all of our seven and a half billion people in the world. It promotes the spirit of love as it teaches honesty, integrity, understanding of others and respect for others while standing up to the bullies of the world.

The film is about part of the life of **Dr. Donald Walbridge Shirley (January 29, 1927 – April 6, 2013)** who was an American classical and jazz pianist and composer.

In 1962 and Dr. Don Shirley, an African-American pianist, is going on tour in the Deep South. In need of a driver, he hires Tony Lip, an Italian-American who works as a bouncer. Armed only with the *Negro Motorist Green Book*, an essential guide for safe travel for people of color during the Jim Crow era. The unlikely pair develop an understanding for one another and a surprising bond.

Dr. Don Shirley, recorded many albums for Cadence Records during the 1950s and 1960s, experimenting with jazz with a classical influence. Shirley wrote organ symphonies, piano concerti, a cello concerto, three string quartets, a one-act opera, works for organ, piano and violin, a symphonic tone poem based on the 1939 novel *Finnegans Wake* by James Joyce, and a set of *Variations* on the 1858 opera *Orpheus in the Underworld*.

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

(Contd. Pg. 67)

Answer to last week's Trivia Question: *Tara***This weeks' Trivia question:** Who plays *Sophie's* tempse-tuous lover in *Sophie's Choice*?

Sell your handcrafted items
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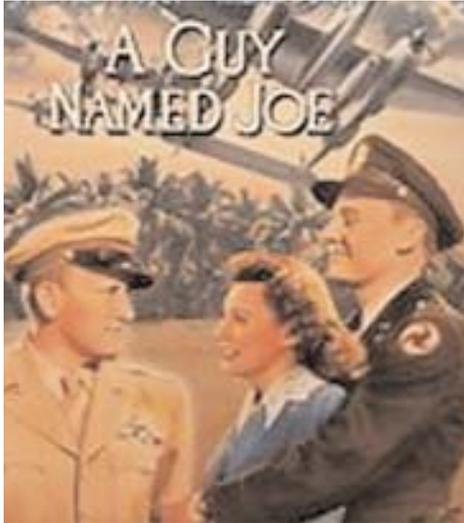
Send an email to:
gnomehomeinc@yahoo.com**... or if you just want
to have some
'gnome made' fun..**

Visit the gnome's
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*(From Pg. 66)***KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE #1**

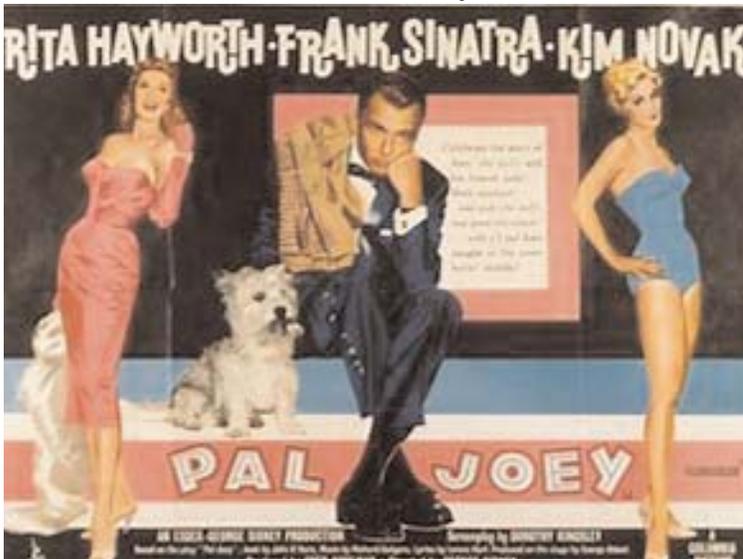
**Streaming
now on YouTube
Netflix & Amazon Prime**

A Guy Named Joe**(2h | Romance | TV-G1943)**

When adventurous World War II bomber pilot Pete Sandidge dies in an aerial attack on an enemy ship, he becomes an angel, and learns new lessons of life, death and love.

Directed by Victor Fleming.

Starring Spencer Tracy, Irene Dunne, Van Johnson, Ward Bond, James Gleason

KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE #2**ON TCM WEDNESDAY****JANUARY 20, 2021 @ 4:15 pm****Pal Joey****(1957 1h 51m | Comedy | TV-14)**

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

KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE #3

**Streaming
now on YouTube
Netflix & Amazon Prime**

Mighty Joe Young**(1949) 1h 34m | Drama | TV-G**

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

KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE #4

**Streaming
now on YouTube
Netflix & Amazon Prime**

SEVEN DAYS IN MAY

At the height of the cold war, a weakened President and a popular four-star general face off in a battle for control of the US government. After President Jordan Lyman successfully negotiated an arms deal and negotiated a controversial peace treaty, military aide Martin Casey stumbles across a plot by his boss to overthrow the U.S. President Lyman.

Casey's dilemma: Follow orders and remain silent, or betray his boss. Directed by John Frankenheimer. Starring Burt Lancaster, Kirk Douglas, Fredric March, Ava Gardner, Edmond O'Brien, Martin Balsam and Andrew Duggan.

Stay safe, May God Bless

**Knarf Odnamoε
Gnomε**