

"The Best Journal Published by a Dam Site!"

VOL. 11 NO. 1 GRAHAMSVILLE, NY 12740 JANUARY 8, 2015 FIFTY CENTS

Political Slant Pg 12 • Local Weather Pg 8 • Mysterious Book Report John D. McKenna Pg 4 • The Olive Jar Carol La Monda Pg 6

### Camp: It's not just for Summer Anymore

Frost Valley YMCA held its annual Winter Overnight and Winter Day Camps last week; the latter of which gave kids from the surrounding community a fun, safe, and educational way to spend their time off.

"Day Camp is a great option for families because it provides kids with an opportunity to make new friends, learn new skills, and expand their horizons," says Katia Martin, Frost Valley's Community Programs Director. "For parents, it provides a worry-free option for family care - they know that here at Frost Valley, their kids and teens will receive nutritious meals, be safe, and of course, have lots of fun."



When students are home from school for winter break, a camp experience can ensure they'll do more than just get off the couch - they'll make friends, learn crafts, hike and play outdoors, and warm up with healthy meals.

"At this point, children have been in school for more than three months. School-break camps allow a week's worth of fresh air, physical fitness and a 100% break from screen time," Martin explains. "At the end of the week, they leave refreshed and rejuvenated as they prepare to head back to their classrooms."

Not only did Winter Day Camp provide free transportation and meals, but with the cool-yet-sunny days early in the week, campers were able to spend more time exploring nature. Guided hikes, outdoor games, and a ride on the Flying Squirrel (a high-ropes element that lifts harnessed riders and lets them float among the trees) were all a part of the outdoor activities. Inside, after warming up with a mug of hot cocoa, kids were able to participate in arts and crafts, archery, indoor-rock climbing, educational nature programs, and a talent show, among other fun activities.

Keep an eye out on FrostValley.org for upcoming Day Camp programs, including Spring Break, Summer, and Summer Equestrian Camps.

### Brittany Pennell invited by Down Under Sports to run in Australia in 2015

Brittany Pennell is a Freshman at the Tri Valley Central School, Grahamsville, NY. She has been on the Varsity Cross Country Team since the sixth grade.



Family, friends and supporters have watched her compete over the years and realize what talent she has.

In Brittany's career of cross country she has gone through 2 coaches. Her first coaches were Joe and Missy Iatauro. Her second coach is Tyler Eckhoff.

Since Brittany was a little girl she always had a dream one day she would go to the Olympics. That dream is becoming a reality.

Down Under Sports invited Brittany Pennell to represent the New York Cross Country Team in 2015 for their 27th annual tournament in the Gold Coast of Australia from June 30-July 12, 2015. Brittany will be running 2 races one would be the Gold Coast Marathon 5.7k challenge and the other an all American 5k race.

Brittany is honored to represent her community and state but also for her country.

A major source of funding comes through voluntary contributions of family, friends and businesses. Your sponsorship will be a very important part of fundraising for her. This donation will help fulfill her once in a lifetime opportunity. Brittany has to submit the money before June 1, 2015.

Brittany is the daughter of George Pennell of Loch Sheldrake and Susan Pennell of Grahamsville. Her parents are so proud of their daughter for her accomplishments. Brittany recently ran a 5k run/walk Columbus weekend for the Lucy race in Jamestown, NY. She was the first female to cross the finish line.

If you would like to donate or need more information, call Brittany Pennell at 845-985-7228 or contact Down Under Sports at 435-753-4732 or their website at [www.DownUnderSports.com](http://www.DownUnderSports.com).

### SYDA Foundation Makes a Donation of Toys and Games to Fallburg's Benjamin Cosor Elementary School



A donation to Fallsburg's Benjamin Cosor Elementary School of toys and games was presented by the SYDA Foundation. The donation occurred on December 12. In the photo left to right are Teacher's Assistant Darcy Spinelli, Kevin Meconi, who is General Manager of Shree Muktananda Ashram in South Fallsburg, and Debbie Jacobsen, Child Care Coordinator at the school. Mr. Meconi arranged the donation with the school nurse, Ms. Merrian Hobby.

### A look at Olive, before the reservoir

A new exhibit, "Watery Graves," opened December 6 at the Olive Free Library and Museum, 4033 Rte 28A, West Shokan, 12494. The exhibit focuses on how the Town of Olive looked before the Ashokan Reservoir, the claiming of property by the City, and the construction of the dam. The exhibit includes materials from the Ulster County Archives as well as original photographs and artifacts from the Library's and Town's collections. For hours and more information, visit the library's website.

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**YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN**

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER FOR

THE TOWN OF DENNING AND THE TOWN OF NEVERSINK  
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A ROUND ABOUT TRI-VALLEY: Carol Furman

DAYS OF 'YORE' - Barbara Slater

NEVER SINK NOTES - Hulda Vernooy

OLIVE JAR - Carol La Monda

POLITICAL SLANT - Frank Comando

MYSTERIOUS BOOK REPORT - John McKenna

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Email: [tvtownsman@yahoo.com](mailto:tvtownsman@yahoo.com)Website: [thetownsman.com](http://thetownsman.com)**POLICY ON SUBMISSIONS AND LETTERS TO THE EDITORS:**

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

**Opinions expressed in Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman belong to the writers and are not necessarily the viewpoint of Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman or its staff.**

**To renew or receive a new subscription** to the TOWNSMAN, please fill out the form below. Mail form to the address above or place in the TOWNSMAN drop box located on the porch of the First Aid Building in Grahamsville. Make checks payable to: *Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman*

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ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

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SUBSCRIPTIONS: **\$30.00 PER YEAR**

NEW \_\_\_\_\_ RENEWAL/DATE EXP. \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

**Subscription renewals must be received by the last Saturday of the month preceding subscription renewal date to avoid interruption of the paper or renewal notices.**

**A change of address must be received a month prior to change in order to make the necessary changes in our computer.** All changes of address, whether seasonal or permanent, are the responsibility of the subscriber.

**ADVERTISING DEADLINE: 3:00 P.M. FRIDAYS • FIRM -**  
Drop Box, FAX, Mail or Email

**WEEKLY ADVERTISING RATES**

Classified ads - \$6.00 for the first 20 words and 20 cents each additional word.

- 1" Boxed ad (1" x 3") - \$6.75 per week (\$2.25/ sq in)
- Business card ad (2" x 3") - \$13.50 per week (\$2.25/ sq in)
- (3" x 4") - \$27.00 per week (\$2.25/ sq in)
- (3" x 6") - \$40.50 (\$2.25/ sq in)
- (4" x 6") - \$54.00 (\$2.25/ sq in)
- 1/4 pg (5" x 7") - \$78.75 (\$2.25/ sq in)
- (6" x 8") - \$108.00 (\$2.25/ sq in)
- 1/2 pg (7" x 10") - \$157.50 (\$2.25/ sq in)
- (Full page - 10" x 14") - (\$2.25 sq in) \$315.00 B/W
- (Color ads) - (\$3.25 sq in) (Centerfold & pg 16 only)
- (Full back page - 10" x 14") - \$455.00 B/W
- (Full back page in Color - 10" x 14") - \$665.00

Rates are based on **Camera-ready copy**. A **Graphic Designer is available at \$35.00/hr.** Call or email us for more information. Guaranteed placement is available for a 25% surcharge on a first-come, first-serve basis on all pages except the front page, page 2 & page 3. **All advertising must be pre-paid** unless other arrangements have been made.

**All inserts/flyers must be pre-paid.** Please send the correct amount of money along with **1,500 copies** of your flyer. If the insert/flyer is printed only on one side, the rate is \$40.00 per week. If the insert/flyer is printed on both sides, the rate is \$60.00 per week. The customer must provide the correct number of pre-printed flyers and they must be in the office (drop box on the porch of the Grahamsville First Aid Building) no later than Friday 3:00 pm. If you wish *Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman* to print the flyers the charge for a one-sided flyer based on **1,500 copies (white paper)** \$95.00; (color paper) \$125.00. If both sides of the flyer are to be printed the charge based on **1,500 copies (white paper)** \$145.00; (color paper) \$175.00.

**Deadline for all submissions is 3:00 p.m. Friday.**

**NO EXCEPTIONS due to recent postal regulation changes. All fliers received after 3:00 pm on Friday will be inserted in the following week's edition.**

If you are submitting your advertising by email, our email address is: [tvtownsman@yahoo.com](mailto:tvtownsman@yahoo.com). If you do choose to send ad copy via the internet please send it in either PDF (Acrobat) files or high resolution JPG format. All press releases/articles should be sent as Microsoft Word Documents.

Have a question- please call: Linda Comando (845) 985-0501.

As always, thank you for your support.

Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman  
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<http://thetownsman.com>

**ON THE FRONT BURNER:** And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.  
Corinthians 13:13

**OBITUARY**

Paula Fiedler passed away peacefully on Wednesday, December 31, 2014, at the Sullivan County Adult Care Center in Liberty, New York, where she briefly resided. She was 90. Mrs. Fiedler was the daughter of the late Johann and Paula Perz Zurl, and was born in Gottschee, Yugoslavia. She immigrated to New York City in 1952 where she met her husband, Reinhold.

She was a homemaker and raised her family in Monroe, NY where she also worked as a bookkeeper. She moved to Earlsyville, VA in 1986 with her husband, and later resided in Grahamsville, NY to be closer to her family. Her husband of nearly 59 years, Reinhold, passed away in May 2013. Paula Fiedler enjoyed reading, gardening, drawing, knitting and dancing. She will be missed greatly by her family and friends.

Mrs. Fiedler is survived by a son, Walter Fiedler and his wife, Jeanne, of Grahamsville, NY; a daughter, Dorothy and her husband, Daniel Creighton of Staten Island, NY and two grown grandsons: Max Fiedler of Darby, MT and Robert Fiedler of Albany, NY. She is also survived by two brothers, Otto Zurl and Alfred Zurl of Graz, Austria, and many nieces and nephews.

At her request, there will be no viewing and her ashes will be handled privately by her family.

**Thank You-**

The family of Raymond Hornbeck would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, gifts of food and for remembering Raymond. A special Thank You to all the Hospice staff and Dr. Dinsmore for their care and help.

Elise Hornbeck and Family

**College News****John Monforte III Inducted into Phi Eta Sigma**

Congratulations to John Monforte III who in his fall 2014 semester was inducted into the prestigious Phi Eta Sigma, SUNY Delhi's four year honor society. John has been recognized for his outstanding academic work.

**Christina Alonso Participates in Leadership Conference**

OWINGS MILLS, MD The National Residence Hall Honorary (NRHH), sponsored a Leadership Conference at Stevenson University. Christina Alonso, was one of nearly forty students who participated in the event. Alonso was nominated, along with the other students, by Stevenson faculty and staff.

Stevenson's 3rd Annual NRHH Leadership Conference gave students an opportunity to look into their leadership skills, and connect with other students on campus.

Stevenson University is a coeducational, independent institution widely known for its unique synthesis of traditional liberal arts education and exceptional career preparation. The 4,200 students receive an innovative education from the six academic schools- Business and Leadership, Design, Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, Sciences, and Graduate and Professional Studies. Each student experiences individual attention from faculty members and extensive career preparation gained through real-world training. Two ideal locations just north of Baltimore, Maryland, in Stevenson and Owings Mills, make the University truly unique.

**DAYS OF YORE....****Today's History****January 5, 1955**

Mr. and Mrs. Oral Goode of Grahamsville announce the engagement of their daughter, JoAnn to Mr. William Ohnemus, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Ohnemus of Blue Hill. The wedding date was not given.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hornbeck of Grahamsville have announced the engagement of their daughter, Betty Lou to Larry Shaver, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Shaver of Turnwood. Miss Hornbeck is a student at Tri Valley School in Grahamsville. Mr. Shaver is a graduate of Cornell University

and he and his brother operate the Shaver farm.

Mr. and Mrs. John Brackman of Neversink are the parents of a baby girl, Linda Carol, born on December 29th at the Ellenville Veterans Memorial Hospital.

**January 6, 1965**

Miss Sharon VanKeuren, a student nurse at Roosevelt Hospital, New York City, spent a two weeks vacation here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson VanKeuren. Sharon was recently notified that she has been awarded the Helen Dunlap Scholarship from Roosevelt Hospital.

Miss Linda Strangeway has been accepted at the State University College at Oneonta. Miss Strangeway plans to major in home economics. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Strangeway.

**January 1, 1975**

Four Tri-Valley seniors have been awarded Regents scholarships as a result of their performance on the examination held this past fall. The high scorer for Tri-Valley was GERALYN MURRAY. GERALYN is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Murray of Ulster Heights. Other winners were Andrew Kremer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kremer of Claryville; Marcia Friedman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Friedman of Grahamsville; and William Kelly, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Kelly of Grahamsville.

**January 3, 1985**

Connie Van Wagner, formerly of Claryville, most recently of Arnold, Md., died suddenly on November 17, 1985 in Sarasota Memorial Hospital, Sarasota, Florida. Born Sept. 15, 1915 in Brooklyn, Connie was the widow of Wilson Van Wagner. Survivors include a sister, Marjorie Myers; a brother, Charles Speck; and a niece, all out of the area.

William N. Meyer of Groo Rd., Grahamsville, a retired technician who worked 36 years for the N.Y. Telephone Co., died suddenly on Sunday, Dec. 23, 1984 at home. Survivors include his wife, Evelyn at home; his mother of Huntington; three daughters; two grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

**Statement by A.G. Schneiderman on the Passing of Former Governor Mario Cuomo**

NEW YORK - Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman today released the following statement on the passing of former Governor Mario M. Cuomo.

"Today is a sad day for all New Yorkers. In addition to being one of our state's truly great governors, he was an inspiration for generations of New Yorkers who answered the call to service in response to his vision of fairness and equality for all of us. I would not be involved in New York politics were it not for Mario Cuomo. He is, and will always remain, one of my heroes. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends. I hope that they will take comfort in the fact that he will be missed and mourned by millions, including the countless New Yorkers whose lives he forever bettered."

**Gillibrand Statement on Passing of Former NY Governor Mario Cuomo**

NEW YORK, NY - U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand released the following statement today on the passing of former New York Governor Mario Cuomo:

"I am deeply saddened to learn about the passing of former Governor Mario Cuomo. His outstanding service to our state and his commitment to the ideals that founded our nation inspired a new generation to devote their lives to public service.

"I learned from Governor Cuomo's example, and his extraordinary legacy will continue to guide my own work on behalf of New Yorkers. I will always be grateful for his wisdom and generosity.

"Governor Cuomo will be remembered as one of the great, inspirational leaders of our time. My thoughts and prayers are with the entire Cuomo family."

**A Round About Tri-Valley**  
-Carol Furman

Condolences to the family and friends of Kurt Bertholf, a 1991 Tri-Valley graduate, who died in a car accident on December 18th. Kurt was 41 years old and a longtime employee at the Liberty Trading Post.

Get well wishes to Frank Comando who is a patient at Kingston Hospital.

Congratulations to Mary Knox of Neversink on the birth of a new grandchild. Mary's daughter, Jill, gave birth to a little girl in early December.

Congratulations to Tri-Valley athletes Jared James and Justin Swarhout who were named to the Section IX All-Star, All League Class C/D football team. Justin was also named to the Section IX All Section C/D team.

Have you heard that a Williamsburg, Brooklyn Company has purchased The New Age Health Farm and Spa in Neversink for \$1.7 million? Plans for the property are unclear.

Thirteen Sullivan County fall athletic teams received awards for achieving a cumulative GPA of 90 or above. Leading the way was the Tri-Valley Girls' X-country team with a GPA of 94.89. Way to go, girls!

Neil VanHouten, son of Brian and Suzann VanHouten of Hurleyville, has been promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel in the US Air Force. Neil, a 1995 Tri-Valley graduate, has served in the military for 15 years and is stationed at Kirtland Air Force Base in NM. Neil and his wife, Mary, have two children.

Peter Pezzella, who grew up in Lows Corners, passed away on December 11th at this home in Rock Hill. Pete was 74 years old. Condolences to his family and friends.

Congratulations to Ms. Tinelli's 2nd grade class and Mrs. Neidert's 1st grade class who had their anti-bullying posters published in the December 23rd issue of the *Democrat*. TV has adopted a bullying prevention program.

Richard Strangeway, TVCS agricultural teacher who retired in 1979 after 28 years of service, was presented with the 2014 National Agricultural Educators Lifetime Achievement Award. Dick currently resides in Gary, NC. Kaylie Ackerley, 2008 Tri-Valley graduate, accepted the award on Dick's behalf. Congratulations, Mr. Strangeway!

Glenn Hill of Grahamsville is "seeing clearly" following eye surgery.

Wow! Have you seen Minarsky's home on the Woodbourne Road at night with all of its lights? Nice job!

Thoughts and prayers should go out to the Bonnell Family of Grahamsville at this time.

**Words of Wisdom:** One kind word can warm three months of winter.

**Education Grant Applications Available**

Grant applications and guidelines for Watershed Education programs and projects in the Catskill-Delaware Watershed and in NYC are available online. Schools and non-profit organizations are welcome to apply for funds to reach school-age children, teachers and adult audiences. Deadline for submission is February 2, 2015. Call Education Coordinator Diane Galusha to discuss requirements and project ideas. 845-586-1400, ext. 306.

**Learn to Identify Wild Mushrooms with Nathaniel Whitmore**

LIBERTY, NY-A unique and useful class on Wild Mushroom Identification is offered on Tuesday, January 13, 2015 by Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan County (CCESC) Master Gardener Volunteer program. This special opportunity will be held from 5:30 to 7:30 pm at the CCESC Gerald J. Skoda Extension Education Center on 64 Ferndale-Loomis Road in Liberty.

Nathaniel Whitmore, of Delaware Highlands Mushroom Society, will help participants to develop an understanding of the basics of mushroom identification, including the various categories of mushrooms, mushroom anatomy, and other relevant information.

Nathaniel harvests many mushrooms for food, medicine, and utility. He leads educational walks throughout the area and serves as an expert in the field for events like the Upper Delaware BioBlitz.

Cost is \$25.00 per person or \$20.00 for CCESC

enrollees. Anyone can enroll for an annual fee of \$25.00 per household. Space is limited and pre-registration with payment is required in advance. Seats are only guaranteed with payment. Registration and more information can be obtained by calling CCESC at 845-292-6180 or emailing Susan Dollard, Master Gardener Program Coordinator, at [smd243@cornell.edu](mailto:smd243@cornell.edu).

**AARP Driver Safety Program**

AARP Driver Safety Program will be held at South Fallsburg Senior Center Laurel Avenue, South Fallsburg, New York on Saturday, January 17, 2015 from 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM. PLEASE ARRIVE AT 8:45 AM/ NO WALK-INS

To Register - Call Sonny Smith at 434-8922 (Leave Message). PLEASE CALL AFTER 9:00 AM IN THE MORNING.

Sonny Smith, an AARP-Certified Instructor, will give this course in one full day session, which will consist of a lecture, discussion and video presentations. Participants will receive a certificate which entitles them to apply for a discount on their automobile insurance.

For information, phone Sonny Smith at 434-8922 (Leave Message). PLEASE CALL AFTER 9:00 AM IN THE MORNING.

The fee is \$20 for AARP members and \$25 for non-members as of 1/1/2014; make checks payable to AARP, and mail to Sonny Smith. Please enclose your phone number with payment. Classes are limited to 35, so apply early.

This course is instructed by a Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) volunteer and is sponsored by the Sullivan County Office for the Aging & RSVP.

**Community Radio Station WJFF Radio Catskill Launches The Kingfisher Project**

Jeffersonville, NY - Community radio station WJFF Radio Catskill is launching a series of programs concerning the local effects of the heroin and narcotics epidemic. The Kingfisher Project is a public affairs radio series that will address the devastation caused by heroin and other drug abuse in Sullivan and Wayne counties. The series kicks off with an hour-long special Monday, January 12.

The Kingfisher Project is named for an injured bird rescued by Rebecca Pisall. A former Sullivan West student and resident of North Branch, Rebecca was 20 when she was shot and killed this past June as a result of her addiction to heroin. Before she died, Rebecca told the story of rescuing the kingfisher in an essay about the value of all life. WJFF is collaborating Julie Pisall, Rebecca's mother, on the Kingfisher Project in an effort to prevent further tragedies through the broadcast of information and the stories of people's lives.

The Kingfisher Project: Chapter One - "It's Not Who You Think It Is" will debut on WJFF during Making Waves, 8 p.m. on January 12. A repeat of the show will air 3p.m. Sunday, Jan. 18. The series will continue in coming months with additional features and regular update segments. Episodes will be available at no charge for streaming, download or podcast on WJFF's Audio Archive located online at [www.wjffradio.org](http://www.wjffradio.org)

"We want to try to connect people with others and with the help they might need, whether they are addicted or are family members or friends," says Julie Pisall. "Sometimes getting just a little bit of help can give some hope -- and that is often what people need."

Project volunteers believe the most powerful radio segments will come from those affected by the heroin and narcotics epidemic and by those who care deeply about it.

"Our community is still waking up to the extent of this epidemic," adds WJFF Program Director Jason Dole. "WJFF's goal with the Kingfisher Project is to continue raising that awareness. We're going to tell the stories of local folks and follow the many ways the community is responding."

Volunteers who are willing to help produce segments, conduct research are welcome. Contact the project at [kingfisherwjff@gmail.com](mailto:kingfisherwjff@gmail.com). Information is also available on the web at [the-kingfisherproject.wordpress.com](http://the-kingfisherproject.wordpress.com).

WJFF, Radio Catskill, is a hydro-powered volunteer-driven public radio station based in Jeffersonville, NY and with a satellite studio in Honesdale, PA. Its contingent of more than 100 volunteers provide listeners with a mix of both locally and nationally produced programming on the air at 90.5 FM and streamed live and archived at [www.wjffradio.org](http://www.wjffradio.org).

**Nature Column - Linda Comando**

*A tribute to the memory of all of the Townsman ladies that we have lost and loved so much... Peggy DeWire, Avril Pappa, Joan Hall, Polly Hill and Joyce Lockhart.*

**Fire and Ice**

The icy chill of winter was interrupted a for a few minutes when a blaze of red appeared at our bird feeder at the beginning of this week.

We have a red male cardinal that makes it a habit to visit our birdfeeder each evening just before dusk. This past week with the background of snow, it definitely was a scene that should be on next year's Christmas card!

Male cardinals are brilliant red all over, with a reddish bill and black face immediately around the



bill. Females are pale brown overall with warm reddish tinges in the wings, tail, and crest and have the same black face and red-orange bill.

Cardinals are active songbirds and sing a variety of different melodies.

Males can be aggressive when defending their territory, and they frequently attack other males who intrude. This tendency sometimes leads cardinals to fly into glass windows, when they charge an "intruding bird" that is really their own reflection.

Because cardinals don't migrate and they don't molt into a dull plumage, they are still very vibrant and attractive during winter.

Cardinals tend to sit low in shrubs and trees or forage on or near the ground, often in pairs. They are common at bird feeders but may be inconspicuous away from them, at least until you learn their loud, metallic chirping notes.

Typically pairs remain together the whole year. In winter the bond is not as definitive. Pairs often stay mated until one dies at which time the surviving mate will look for another partner.

The breeding season can run from March to as late as September. The female will lay 2-5 eggs that are buff-white with dark marks. The female is the only one to incubate the eggs. The males duty during this time is to feed her on the nest and protect their territory from intruders.

The female will incubate the eggs for 12- 13 days. When the eggs hatch, both will feed the young. The young leave the nest in 9-11 days after hatching. Often the young are unable to fly much the first day or two after fledging.

Each season the pair will attempt to raise two broods. A new nest will be constructed for second broods by the female. The male continues to feed the first set of young for up to two weeks after leaving the nest. During this time the female will be incubating her second clutch.

This will keep the male busy by continuing to feed the female, the first brood, and still protecting their territory.

Any males born this season will initially look like the female but by winter they will have the more pronounced black mask, crest, and red feathers of adult males.

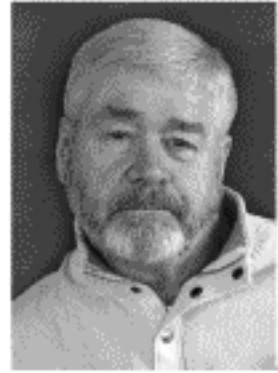
During the winter, Cardinals eat seeds and berries and like to perch while eating at bird feeders. If you want to attract cardinals to your birdfeeder, their favorite seed types are, Black-oil Sunflower seed and Safflower seed.

You're likely to notice that these are often the first birds to the feeders in the morning and the last birds to eat in the evening. We usually catch them when they visit our birdfeeder just before dusk while it is still light enough to appreciate their beautiful red plumage.

**Household Hints**

**Remove candle wax**

Candles are great for creating a romantic mood, but the mood can quickly sour if you wind up getting melted candle wax on your fine wood furniture. To remove it, first soften the wax using a blow-dryer on its hottest setting and blot up as much as you can with paper towels. Then remove what's left by rubbing with a cloth soaked in a solution made of equal parts white vinegar and water. Wipe clean with a soft, absorbent cloth.



## The Girl On The Train

Mysterious Book Report No 175 by John Dwaine McKenna

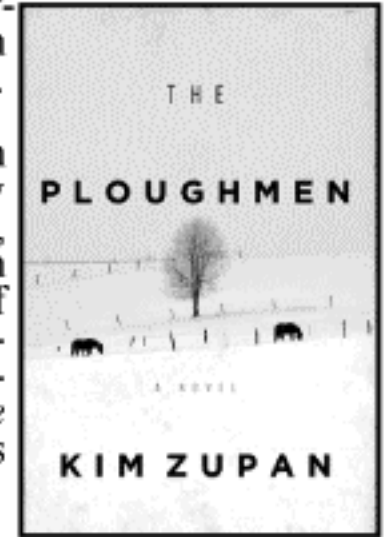
This is part two of the Mountains and Plains Booksellers Association 2014 Trade show edition, featuring the most talked about and highly regarded novels of the season.

*The Ploughmen* is a remarkable work that will resonate with readers on several levels: its unique storyline, rich characterizations, linguistics, lyricism and the author's professed and obvious love of the land. The story takes place in Montana, where the author was born and raised, where he still lives and teaches at the University of Montana in Missoula. Making the novel all the more interesting is the fact that it's author Kim Zupan's first work of fiction . . .

*The Ploughmen*, (Henry Holt, \$26.00, 256 pages, ISBN 978-0-8050-9951-5) is a story of the relationship between two men: John Gload, a seventy-seven year old career criminal, a remorseless serial killer who's in jail awaiting trial and a young deputy sheriff named Valentine Millimaki, assigned to guard him. Gload is a stone-cold killer who suffers from insomnia, and he and Millimaki, prompted by the sheriff to get the details of Gload's other crimes, talk through the night. Incredibly, Gload has never been convicted, even though the authorities have known of his criminal behavior, because they can't prove he's guilty. The Sheriff's hopes to close out a few of his open, unsolved murder cases, but Millimaki, can't seem to get anything of substance from the wily old man. As the nights go on, a complex relationship develops while the two men talk the time away and reveal more of their personal lives. The one thing they have in common is a love of the land, and a childhood spent on the farm. The writing is stunning, and the story is complex as well as compelling. *The Ploughmen* has all the makings of a classic . . . it's a novel for the ages. If this is Mr. Zupan's first, I can hardly wait to see what he writes next. Bravo! It's a five star effort as far as I'm concerned.

Like the review? The greatest compliment you can give is to share it with others on Facebook and follow us on Goodreads.

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### Letter from Senator Bonacic

Dear Constituents:

As we welcome the New Year, I just wanted to touch base to let you know that a number of new laws will be taking effect on January 1, 2015. These include:

**Hire a Veteran Tax Credit** - Starting next year, businesses can receive a tax credit for hiring and employing a qualified veteran. The credit is equal to 10 percent of the total amount of wages paid to the qualified veteran during their first full year of employment. If the veteran is disabled, the credit amount is increased to 15 percent. The credit is capped at \$5,000 per veteran or \$15,000 per disabled veteran. Any unused credit may be carried forward to the following three years.

**Homeless Veteran Assistance Fund** - A new law was approved that creates a fund to assist homeless veterans with housing and housing-related expenses. A new dedicated tax check-off will enable New Yorkers to make contributions in any dollar amount when filing their personal income taxes. (Chapter 428)

**Protecting Minors From Identity Theft** - In 2015, credit agencies will be required to place a credit-record freeze on the account of a minor when requested by a parent or guardian. This will protect children from identity theft and stop thieves from being able to use stolen information to apply for government benefits, open bank and credit cards, apply for loans or rent a place to live. (Chapter 441)

**Protecting People in Adult Homes** - This new law requires adult care facilities and assisted living residences to perform criminal background checks on prospective direct care staff for nursing homes and home care agencies. (Chapter 94)

**Workers with Disabilities Tax Credit Program** - Beginning January 1, a tax incentive will be available to business owners who employ individuals with developmental disabilities. The credit equals 15 percent of the wages for qualified full-time employees who work at least 30 hours per week, and 10 percent for qualified part-time employees who work at least eight hours per week; each employee must have worked at least six months. (Chapter 59)

**Music and Theatrical Production Tax Credit** - As of January 1, 2015, a new tax credit will encourage touring musical and theatrical productions in upstate New York theaters, enhancing investment in upstate cities, creating jobs, and stimulating the economy. Eligible production companies can claim a tax credit equal to 25 percent of certain costs, up to \$4 million per year. This tax credit was included in the 2014-15 state budget.

**Long Term Health Care Insurance** - In 2010, the Legislature enacted a law that allows end-of-life care for people in nursing homes to be financed using accelerated payments from life insurance. Starting January 1, 2015, the measure will be expanded to allow for this type of financing to be used for people receiving end-of-life care in hospice, adult day care services, palliative care or by a long-term home health care provider. In addition,

the law establishes a public awareness program to encourage individuals to purchase life insurance and/or long-term care insurance. Encouraging more people to finance their own long-term care will reduce future Medicaid expenditures, as well as provide greater peace-of-mind for families dealing with end-of-life care for loved ones. (Chapter 465)

**Corporate Tax Reform** - In 2015, tax reform measures included in the 2014-15 state budget will save businesses \$205 million this year and \$501 million annually by Senate Fiscal Year 2018-19, when the reforms are fully phased in. This encourages companies to capitalize on New York's highly educated and creative workforce and robust technology infrastructure without increasing their tax burden.

It's been a very productive year in the State Legislature, and I'm looking forward to an even more productive 2015 Legislative Session. For more information on these important new measures, please feel free to contact my office at 845-344-3311.

I wish you all a very Happy New Year.  
Sincerely,

JOHN J. BONACIC  
State Senator

### Local Veterans: Now Able to Be Transported

**LIBERTY** - On December 18th, the Auto Body Class at the Career & Technical Education Center at Sullivan BOCES unveiled a refurbished van to the Sullivan County Veterans Coalition and those who worked hard to make transportation options for local veterans a reality.

"Currently the Veterans' Administration provides transportation to our vets from two pick up points within Sullivan County. For some of our vets, getting to the pickup points is impossible," explained Jack Bodolosky, Secretary for the Coalition. "The van will be used to help vets get to doctor appointments or other appointments or just to get out for the day. We have so many vets in our adult care and rehabilitation centers, that just giving them the opportunity to get out for the day to enjoy a meal or run an errand is giving the gift of freedom and mobility."

Thanks to Albee Bockman, owner of MobileMedic EMS this initiative was able to come to fruition. Bockman first heard of the initiative from his employee Ian Cooperstein. Without hesitation, Bockman offered to donate an out of service 2000 Ford E350 ambulance. The van was unused and in rough shape, but ideal for what was needed - a wheelchair lift, seating for eight or room for three wheelchairs. "As an Air Force veteran, anything I can do to help, I am more than happy to do. I think it's wonderful that it will be put to use in service of our local veterans," stated Bockman.

The project began a year ago, when members of the Sullivan County Veterans Coalition and Christine Schiff, a veteran's rights advocate and Aide to U.S. Senator Chris Gibson, approached Sullivan BOCES' Auto Body Instructor Fred Muller to refurbish the van to transport veterans. Muller was glad to take on the project knowing that it would provide a great service for our veterans. Working on projects of this nature was nothing unusual to BOCES. Last year, Muller and his class worked with Marine Staff Sergeant Julius Leonard "Sarge" to refurbish a veter-

an's tribute car, for the Veterans Parade in New York City. According to Muller, "The van presented a number of challenges for my students. We were on a strict deadline, so it gave us the challenge of budgeting time, solving problems, sticking to a deadline and working as a team - all important life skills."

For the students, the van was a labor of love and learning. Since the van was in rough shape they worked hard on the inside and outside of the van to prep it for finishing. Once the parts were fabricated and the van was painted, the students finished it with custom-made vinyl lettering and the Veterans Coalition's logo, which has the quote 'All Gave Some, Some Gave All'. "Learning what that saying truly means, 'All gave some, some gave all' really moved me," said Daphnie Dalman, Fallsburg High School student.

According to Howie Goldsmith, Chairman of the Veterans Coalition, the van will be financed mainly through private donations and sponsorships. Sponsors will have the opportunity to advertise on the van and provide in-kind and cash donations.

"We are so grateful to so many people throughout all of Sullivan County who helped make this van a reality," said Goldsmith. "The amazing kids at BOCES and their teacher Fred Muller, Mike's Tires, who donated the tires, obviously MobileMedic and Albee Bockman who donated the van, Robert Green Chevrolet, who were the first to show support for the project, 3-M for donating the vinyl lettering material, and the County, which has agreed to help with maintenance. Phil Valone of Rolling V has come on board to help train our all-volunteer driving staff on how to drive a large vehicle and on how to operate the lift. The entire community truly contributed to this project."

At the unveiling, the true bond of our veterans was revealed when Randy Peers, Officer At-Large of the Coalition, gave his lapel pin to student speaker, Jacob Krentz (Sullivan West CSD). When asked why, Peers stated, "I thought that if anyone deserved my pin, it would be someone who did something for veterans. Jacob also mentioned that his father served in the 101st Airborne Division in Korea - I served in the 101st Airborne Division in Vietnam." After graduation, Jacob Krentz plans on going into the Air Force as a combat medic.

To all of the Veterans who have served our Nation - Thank you.

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## The Olive Jar - By Carol LaMonda

### January and February

January is named after the Roman god Janus who had two faces; one faced the future and one the past. He is also known as the god of doors. It is a very appropriate way to look at the New Year. The television commentators and journalists are looking at "The Year in Review" at the same time as pundits are making projections for the stock market and political directions.

It is also the time we review the year that ends, for me earlier than most since I rarely stay up to watch the ball come down at Times' Square in Manhattan. With modesty, I can say that the next year starts with or without me, and I prefer to face New Year's Day rested and not hung-over.

January is the time we do a human self-assessment. How can we make the new year a better one? It is a time that gym memberships and weight-loss programs soar. We resolve to lose weight, exercise more and rid ourselves of bad habits. Rarely do our good resolutions make it to the beginning of February.

I know one couple that decided to make New Year's Resolutions for each other instead of for themselves. After seeing them go through a nasty divorce, I can surely say that is not a good idea. We tend to recognize shortcomings in others that we may not see in our mental mirror.

Ironically, the month of February comes from the Roman festival of purification called Februa where people were ritually washed. There is a Roman god Februus who was named in honor of the ceremony, not celebrated in it. Perhaps it was because humans failed to achieve any of those January good intentions that they needed to be purified the following month.

Our winter months were named after Roman gods while the Anglo-Saxons referred to February in a more "down to earth" way. Literally, they referred to the soil and crops that grew in that soil. February was known as 'Solmoneth' meaning "mud month" and 'Kale-monath' named after cabbage and kale.

So, January represents our intentions to be more "god-like" while February reminds us of our baser, earthly mortality.

Perhaps these winter months were what Lewis Carroll has the Walrus say to the Carpenter:

"The time has come," the Walrus said,  
"To talk of many things:  
Of shoes--and ships--and sealing-wax--  
Of cabbages--and kings--  
And why the sea is boiling hot--  
And whether pigs have wings."

### A Year Of Conversations and Partnerships

(KINGSTON, NY) From day one, Ulster County Legislative Chairman John Parete dismissed partisan politics as usual and focused on partnerships. "Let's put it this way" Parete said, "It is about having conversations." At the end of the year, these productive partnerships were Chairman Parete's number one accomplishment.

"Chairman Parete has been a fair leader for the Ulster County Legislature," noted Minority Whip Mary Beth Maio. "It has been a pleasure to bring the minority caucus to the table when he leads the conversations."

Chairman Parete's emphasis on consensus building was embraced by many of his fellow legislators and opened the door to begin their own conversations in committee. While this often sparked debate, the sponsors of these initiatives found the dialogue ultimately improved their proposed laws and developed other important initiatives. Some of these include:

- A local requirement for accurate roadside gas pricing signs initiated by Legislative Vice Chairman David Donaldson and Legislator Donald Gregorius.

- A sustainable energy loan program initiated by Legislators Manna Jo Greene and Tracey Bartels.

- An Ulster County Trail Policy brought forth by Legislator Lynn Archer.

- Improvements to the Legislative website with a focus on a County Legislature accountable to the people. "Folks can track individual votes, identify sponsors and co-sponsors of specific legislation," Parete noted "and even view their elected official's attendance at meetings."

- Chairman Parete sponsored a supplemental information requirement for certain County contracts utilizing County taxpayer dollars.

- After a three-year delay, the Legislature completed the appointments to a Climate Smart Committee and finalized its commitment to a lead role in addressing climate change, energy reduction and sustainability.

- In conjunction with SUNY Ulster and the Comptroller's Office, a survey was established to determine the reasons students attend Community College in other counties in order to address the adverse imbalance in the chargeback program and develop policies, programs and capital projects moving forward.

- Economic development was the focus for Vice Chairman Donaldson's conversation to bring back the Railroad Advisory Committee and ensure a real dialogue about the future of rails with trails for Ulster County in an effort to explore innovative means in which the railroad corridor could be utilized to enhance economic development in Ulster County.

- Initiated by the Energy and Environment Committee a Solid Waste Disposal Improvement Commission was established to begin work in 2015 focused on reducing the use of taxpayer funds for solid waste disposal and developing a management plan for the future of solid waste disposal in Ulster County by the end of next year.

- Chairman Parete's conversations emphasizing the needs of the first responder community lead to the creation of an EMS Advisory Board sponsored by Legislators TJ Briggs, Carl Belfiglio, Craig Lopez and Mary Wawro. Discussions will continue to address what can be done to bring 21st Century emergency response to Ulster County.

- A dialogue started by Chairman Parete about the -calating epidemic of Heroin and Opioid abuse and overdose resulted in a partnership with Legislators Carl Belfiglio

and Mary Wawro and the establishment of the Ulster Coalition Against Narcotics (UCAN).

-A policy was developed to ensure the Legislature received periodic progress reports on contract negotiations by Minority Leader Kenneth Ronk.

"Some people believe that governing through consensus is unattainable until they actually begin to listen to one another", stated Minority Leader Ken Ronk. "Through bi-partisanship, cooperation and compromise, the final product is often better than intended."

Through the same commitment to consensus, the Legislature reevaluated appointments on the Ulster County Industrial Development Agency (IDA) Board. "From the beginning, Chairman Parete provided our Committee the authority to shepherd this key economic development discussion through the committee system," commented Economic Development, Tourism, Housing, Planning, and Transit Committee Chairman and Majority Whip Thomas Briggs. "As a sitting Board Member to the Industrial Development Agency, I understand the importance of these appointments and the role of the Legislature to make sound decisions regarding our County's economic opportunities."

Throughout 2014, the Legislative conversations centered on information, not only to educate but to ensure informed decisions about public policy through continued and open communication with the County Executive.

Chairman Parete emphasized the oversight responsibilities of the Legislature to scrutinize the performance and outcomes of County programs. He believes in the adage "trust but verify" to insure that programs under the new Charter form of government deliver services as promised and in the best interest of Ulster County's taxpayers. Public Works and Capital Projects Committee Chairman Dean Fabiano concurred and appropriately slowed the process for approving some contracts, including the STRIVE project, until adequate and detailed supporting information was provided to his committee and the Legislature.

Efforts to build consensus sometimes vaulted initiatives from debate directly to enacted policy. The completion of the takeover of the Safety Net program, assuming the financial responsibility for county run election costs, one additional year of stable tuition at SUNY Ulster and developing alternative fuel capital projects were conversations that initiated with the Legislative leadership and were eventually included in the 2015 County Budget.

"We were successful at keeping SUNY Ulster tuition costs from yet another increase", stated Legislative Programs, Education and Community Services Chairman and Legislative Vice Chairman Dave Donaldson. "It is the students and families of Ulster County that are the winners when we can come together to meet the community college's needs while not overly taxing the students."

Chairman Parete recognized that making responsible fiscal decisions through management of the county budget is one of the most important roles of the Legislature. His early decision to increase the membership of the Ways and Means committee to eight and to name Legislator Gerentine as Chairman of the Committee has been effectual. Legislator Gerentine collaborated with the independent budget consultants and his committee to move money to the county's contingency account. "It's smart financial decisions like that born of conversations and collaborations that continue to benefit Ulster County's taxpayers," Parete said.

While vigilantly working to insure no increases in property tax, the Legislature continued to support vital public-private partnerships ensuring Ulster County residents benefit from these important programs and

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jobs. Great organizations like Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), Cornell Cooperative Extension Association, AWARENESS Inc. Program, Ulster County Community Action, Mid-Hudson Library System, UPAC, Arts Mid-Hudson Inc., continue to provide a myriad of programs, services on a daily basis.

Chairman Parete also used his position to recognize "good people doing good work". One way Parete thanks County workers is to give away his designated "Chairman" parking spot in the parking lot to a different County employee picked at random. Eighteen winners have been chosen thus far. One winner described the parking spot lottery as "a classy act," and wrote "I don't know if you realize for a period of two weeks, the winner becomes the building celebrity."

Recognition of Ulster County talent was the impetus of the 2015 County Directory Cover Photo Contest. "I am overwhelmed and touched by the response and quality of photos submitted for this contest," said Legislative Chairman John Parete at the celebration sponsored by Frank Guido's Little Italy to announce the contest winner. Coleman High School Junior Andrew Davis from Stone Ridge took home the honor as the 2015 Directory Cover Photographer.

"Our work, the people's work, never ends", concluded Chairman Parete. "The bipartisanship of the last year has been encouraging. When we partner as a County, as citizens and elected officials, to re-invest in our seniors, invest in our youth, and allow public-private partnerships to grow, I am confident that together we will leave the future with a strong basis from which continued growth and conversations can occur. I look forward to continuing to chat with the good people of Ulster County on what makes our communities great and what they think could make it better." Items to expect next year from Legislative Chairman Parete include conversations around village taxes, charter reforms, term limits, campaign finance, special benefit assessment districts, and the County's housing needs.

### Olive Free Library Director's Message

We are kicking off a Thursday night movie series. If you have ideas for a film series, or specific movies you would like us to screen, please let us know so we can schedule them.

Our history exhibit opening was a highlight of December. Many folks came in to learn about the history of the Town of Olive from artifacts in our collection and from the Ulster County Archives, expertly presented courtesy of the Office of the County Clerk. The exhibit will be up through 2015 if you did not have a chance to come to the opening.



Pictured above at the ribbon-cutting ceremony are from left to right: Donald Bishop; Congressman Chris Gibson; Exhibit Curator, Rejoice Scherry; Town of Olive Board Member, James Sofranko; Katie Scott-Childress; and Nina Postupack, Ulster County Clerk.

Our short, quick, survey of the community is continuing until January 10. If you have not had a chance, please take a moment to fill it out.

We are seeking volunteers to help with our book sale. We can use both regular volunteers, and volunteers for a large book fair event. If you have some time and love books, please contact the library.

Happy New Year!

--Katie

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**The Family Memoir, PROSILIO...**  
... in Greek means "Toward the Sun," was written by Carol Olsen LaMonda. Carol writes the column "The Olive Jar" for *Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman*. This local author has been busy guesting at book clubs who have chosen this local memoir as their book choice. As summer approaches, the story of a carefree vacation in the Catskills should be added to your summer "must-read" list. The memoir 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 [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) or [barnesandnoble.com](http://barnesandnoble.com) and type in *Prosilio* in the search to order your copy of *Prosilio*

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**Sewer extensions underway in Pine Hill**

Work began this fall on a \$2 million sewer line extension in Pine Hill, Town of Shandaken. Another 25 homes and businesses currently served by on-site septic systems will be added to the collection system for the Pine Hill Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), owned and operated by the NYC DEP. Hubbell Inc. is the contractor on the project, which is concentrated along NYS Route 28 and is expected to be completed late next year.

Meanwhile, in Tannersville, 22 more structures are being connected to the City-owned Tannersville WWTP in an extension of that sewer district. The project began last April and is nearly done, with buildings expected to be connected in the spring. Evergreen Mountain Contracting of Westkill is the contractor on the \$1.2 million job. The project involves installation of 2,500 linear feet of sewer mains along Hill, Division and First Streets, Chestnut Drive and Showers Road.

Another City-funded sewer extension project will get underway in the spring in Margaretville.

**Waiting for the sun in Hobart**

The sun will soon power the Hobart Wastewater Treatment Plant, part of an effort by the Village of Hobart to cut its energy costs. Solar arrays have been installed at the fire hall/community center, the business center and the WWTP in a \$160/month lease arrangement with Solar Liberty. The water treatment plant will be next. "It's too early to say what we'll save," says Andrew Flach, economic develop-

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ment chairman for the village. "Worst case scenario we'll break even or save money." The WWTP will be upgraded to allow it to accept wastewater from 38 buildings in South Kortright which is being connected to the nearby village's collection system through the CWC's Community Wastewater Management Program. Bids totaling \$3,554,300 for the South Kortright work and plant upgrade were recently accepted by the Stamford Town Board.

**Workshops for New Homeowners**

Is homeownership right for you? RUPCO's HomeOwnership Center released its 2015 schedule for first-time homebuyer workshops. If you are considering a house purchase in 2015, attend a one-hour orientation at The Kirkland, 2 Main Street, Kingston, at 6 p.m. on January 21, February 11 and 23, March 11 and 23. Register online or call (845) 331-2140, ext. 220 for more information.

Two additional three-hour classes prepare you for the home purchase process. Many grants are available to cover expenses associated with down payments, closing costs, and post-closing rehabilitation. For example, RUPCO is also administering \$350,000 in funding on behalf of the City of Kingston for first-time homebuyers within the City limits. City of Kingston Mayor Shayne Gallo made the announcement earlier this month.

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4. Apple Crisp (need we say more)
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**“Flux” Exhibition Kicks Off CAS 2015 Season**

The Catskill Art Society will present “Flux,” an exhibition of photography and installation art by Claire Breidenbach, Christopher Manning, and Cathleen Parra at the CAS Arts Center at 48 Main Street, Livingston Manor, NY from January 17 through February 15.

Nothing is constant but change. Everything in our world, our relationships, our bodies, and our culture is continually shifting. Sometimes it is subtle evolution; sometimes it is sudden, stark, even dangerous. But flux is undeniably our state of being.

This exhibition combines the photography and installation artwork of three brilliant emerging talents in a striking and often unexpected blend. Elements of the familiar, embedded in swaths of light and shadow, draw us into abstract dimensions of expression that cry out to be experienced. See how the newest generation of visual artists explore texture and form by transforming the space at the CAS Arts Center.

Claire Breidenbach is from upstate New York, born in 1991. Breidenbach predominantly works in three-dimensional forms with various materials such as wood, metal, fabric, and plaster. She completed her BFA with honors at the School of Visual Arts in 2012. She currently lives and works in New York City where she continues to unfold her abstract aesthetic.

Christopher Manning, born in 1983, a Masters of Fine Arts from SUNY New Paltz and a Bachelors of Fine Arts from Manhattanville College. His work has been exhibited at Exit Art, NY; Dorsky Curatorial Projects, LIC, NY; Lift Trucks Projects, NY; The Auction Project, Miami; CODA Gallery, PDX; Samuel Dorsky Museum, NY; Manhattanville College; Iona College; The Susan D. Goodman Collection, among others. He has been featured in The New York Times; The Queens Chronicle and Kolaj Magazine.

Cathleen Parra is a twenty-four year old photographer living in Jersey City, NJ. She has studied photography at Parsons The New School for Design and New Jersey City University. Over the last five years, she has exhibited work throughout the United States in New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, New Jersey, Florida, and Texas. More recently, she had her first exhibit overseas as part

of the “Now You See It. Now You Don't” group show at Terrace Studio and Gallery in London. Cathleen was been selected as the October 2014 Arts Guild New Jersey Artist of the Month for her recent ongoing project “Childhood Series,” which has just made its way back from the “10” exhibit at the Chicago Center for Photography.

Gallery hours at the CAS Arts Center are Thursdays - Saturdays 11am-6pm, Sundays 11am-3pm, and Mondays 11am-6pm. The CAS Arts Center is wheelchair accessible.

**Saturday, January 17, 2015 - Artist Talk and Opening Reception**

CAS will host an Artist Talk on Saturday, January 17 at 2pm, followed immediately by a free Opening Reception from 3-5pm. All are welcome and light refreshments will be served.

**Saturday, February 7, 2015 - Public Tour Series**

CAS will lead a free public tour of this exhibition on Saturday, February 7 at 2pm. Participants of all ages are encouraged to drop in to make observations, ask questions, and experience the exhibit in a group environment, with an informed guide on hand to lead with behind-the-scenes information. Tours last about 45 minutes. No reservations are required, but large groups are encouraged to call 845-436-4227 for booking.

**About the Catskill Art Society**

The Catskill Art Society is a non-profit cultivating public interest, participation, and enjoyment of the arts. Through its multi-arts center, CAS explores contemporary art practices and facilitates creative and professional development for established and emerging artists. Located in Livingston Manor, the renovated 4,500+ square foot facility includes a designated fine arts gallery, a large multi-purpose space, a pottery studio, a painting studio, and a digital arts lab. For more information, please visit [www.catskillartsociety.org](http://www.catskillartsociety.org).

Funding for CAS is provided in part by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

**Belleayre Music Festival Recieves Economic Development Grant**

Highmount, NY - The Belleayre Conservatory Inc., the non-profit that presents the Belleayre Music Festival, is pleased to have received a \$30,000 grant as part of New York's Regional Economic Development Council competitive granting process (Mid-Hudson Region). The funds will be directed towards helping the conservatory market more effectively, particularly in the New York City Metro area.

The Belleayre Music Festival is entering its 24th year of presenting a variety of acts throughout the summer from July 4 to Labor Day. Developed as an economic driver for this segment of the Route 28 corridor, the Music Festival has been a tremendous artistic success. Highlights include artists such as Ray Charles, k. d. lang, James Blunt, the Doobie Brothers and Buddy Guy. The Catskill Jazz Series has featured all the greats of the jazz world including Wynton and Branford Marsalis, Chick Corea, Pat Metheny, John Scofield, and so many more. The 2015 season promises to be the best yet.

Belleayre Mountain, operated by the Olympic Regional Development Authority, and the Belleayre Music Festival are located in the heart of New York's Catskill Mountain region. The ski resort is located just off Route 28 and is 37 miles west of Thruway Exit 19 at Kingston; 55 miles southeast of Oneonta on Route 28; 40 miles from the Route 17 exit at Roscoe; and 95 miles southwest of Albany and just two hours north of NYC.

Any questions can be directed to Kerry Farrell, Managing Director, at [kerry@belleayremusic.org](mailto:kerry@belleayremusic.org). Additional information can also be found at [www.belleayremusic.org](http://www.belleayremusic.org)

**Leslie Gerber Announces Mezzaluna Writers Night will be Continuing in a New Location**

I am very happy to announce to everyone that the Mezzaluna Writers Night will be continuing in a new location: New World Home Cooking.

As most of you know by now, the valiant effort to save Café Mezzaluna was not successful. The restaura-

# Weather FORECAST

SUNRISE: 7:27 AM SUNSET: 4:38 PM  
AVERAGE HIGH: 33°F AVERAGE LOW: 18°F

**THURSDAY**  
  
HIGH: 13°F LOW: 13°F

**FRIDAY**  
  
HIGH: 22°F LOW: 9°F

**SATURDAY**  
  
HIGH: 22°F LOW: 17°F

**SUNDAY**  
  
HIGH: 29°F LOW: 16°F

**MONDAY**  
  
HIGH: 27°F LOW: 18°F

**TUESDAY**  
  
HIGH: 32°F LOW: 17°F

rant is now permanently closed.

Thanks to the enthusiastic cooperation of Ric Orlando and Liz Corrado, New World Home Cooking will be the new home of what will now be called New World Writers Night. For the time being we will retain our schedule of meeting on the second Friday of every month, at 7 p.m. It may not be possible for the staff to take dinner orders after 7, so if you're planning to have dinner there (and who wouldn't want to?), please arrange to arrive early enough to get your order in. New World also has a full bar, and serves coffee and desserts. We will have the use of the back room, reserved for special events, so it will be a relatively quiet and isolated space, ideal for our readings.

We will be starting the new series with a spectacular event on January 9: the return of J.J. Clarke. Many of you will remember James's annual features for many years at the Woodstock Poetry Society. He gave his only reading over the past decade at Mezzaluna three years ago. He is looking forward to coming out in public again, and I am thrilled to have him with us. James is one of our area's greatest poets and a reader of amazing power. This is a don't-miss event!



## Governor Cuomo Announces Completion of Nearly \$500,000 in Access Upgrades, Opening the State's Great Outdoors to More Visitors

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today announced four new outdoor access projects are now complete and open for public use. These projects, which are part of the Governor's multi-faceted effort to create 50 access sites across the State, are designed to expand recreational opportunities for New Yorkers, and continue to boost tourism. The latest projects total a \$428,660 investment in the State's outdoor destinations through the NY Works Program.

"New York is home to some of the finest outdoor recreation areas in the world, and these upgrades will make the sites more accessible to visitors," Governor Cuomo said. "These NY Works projects continue to showcase New York's beauty while offering a wide variety of activities that people of all ages and interests can enjoy."

DEC Commissioner Joe Martens said, "Governor Cuomo continues to show a major commitment to opening up New York lands to people with all abilities, whether you're a hunter, angler, boater or nature observer. There is something for everybody out there, and we want to welcome New York residents and visitors to these outdoor destinations."

Governor Cuomo continues to position New York as a recreation destination. This year's state budget included \$6 million in NY Works funding to support the creation of 50 new land and water access projects connecting hunters, anglers, bird watchers and others to more than 380,000 acres of existing state and easement lands that have previously been underutilized. To date, construction has started on all 50 sites, with nearly 20 of them complete.

The new outdoor access projects include:

### Huckleberry Ridge State Forest and Shawangunk Ridge, Orange County: \$200,000

Located just north of Port Jervis along the Interstate 84 corridor, the Huckleberry Ridge State Forest offers opportunities for hunting, trapping, hiking, mountain biking and wildlife observation. This funding enabled DEC to complete the construction of four parking lots that provide access to more than 1,450 acres of state forest lands on the Shawangunk Ridge in the towns of Greenville and Deerpark, Orange County. The new parking lots are located on Old Greenville Turnpike, Route 6, Greenville Turnpike and Raymond Drive. The new Greenville Turnpike parking lot provides direct access to the Shawangunk Ridge Trail, a long-distance trail running along the Shawangunk Ridge from Port Jervis to Minniwaska State Park, traversing the length of the Huckleberry Ridge State Forest. Kiosks with information and trail maps are now installed at each of the new parking lots.

### Black River Wild Forest, Mill Creek Road Project, Town of Ohio, Herkimer County: \$130,000

This area is a prime destination for deer hunting in the fall, as well as camping, biking, canoeing, kayaking and hiking year round. The funding enabled DEC to repair the first two miles of gravel forest access roadway in the 127,135-acre Black River Wild Forest, a popular recreation destination. Mill Creek Road, leading into the Wild Forest, is the eastward extension of Bear Creek Road which starts in the community of Woodgate on State Highway 28. The road had become un-drivable to the majority of the public due to its poor condition, and foot travel became the preferred mode of access to places like Gull Lake and Chub Pond. This funding improved driving conditions along the road, which is also a convenient point to access a number of longer hiking trails to Woodhull Lake and North Lake and leads into the snowmobile trail network in the winter months.

In addition, DEC completed work to maintain a few existing campsites along Mill Creek Road and constructed a small parking lot near the Gull Lake Trail, making it a short one mile hike to Gull Lake. DEC will work with the Adirondack Park Agency to designate additional campsites along the road.

To check out other accessible recreation features of Black River Wild Forest visit: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/75310.html>.

### Spicer Creek Wildlife Management Area Access Project, Town of Grand Island, Erie County: \$81,500

Waterfowl hunting and waterbird observation have a long and rich history on the Niagara Frontier of Western New York. A second accessible hunting blind/observation deck was developed on Spicer Creek Wildlife Management Area in the Town of Grand Island in Erie County thanks to this funding. The project involved developing a 1,300-foot accessible trail to the shoreline blind on the Niagara River and will provide waterfowl hunting and wildlife observation opportunities for the **public to enjoy**.

### Colliersville Boat Launch, Town of Milford, Otsego County: \$17,160

The Colliersville Boat Launch Site in the Town of Milford, easily accessible on NYS Route 7, east of Oneonta, now has a canoe/kayak slide and stairs to access the Susquehanna River thanks to this funding. In combination with the existing Emmons Boat Launch Site, located about three miles downriver, this location is ideal for a family paddling outing. The general area is also very popular with families attending local baseball camps and the Baseball Hall of Fame during the summer.

For more information on these access projects, visit <http://www.dec.ny.gov>.

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### SULLIVAN RENAISSANCE INTRO

**Learn How to Get a Beautification Grant in 2015**  
[LIBERTY] - Communities, organizations and volunteers interested in learning about the 2015 Sullivan Renaissance grant program are invited to an "Introduction to Sullivan Renaissance" seminar on Wednesday, January 7 beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the CVI Center in Liberty.

This seminar will be helpful to groups and individuals participating for the first time, as well as for those returning to do a new project. Information about the Sullivan Renaissance En Español program and bilingual translation will be offered.

The evening will focus on community beautification and maintenance grants, but also provide an overview of other grant programs, including: business facades, technical assistance, community development, environmental initiatives, school & youth initiatives

This seminar will review basic requirements of Sullivan Renaissance, including how to apply for a grant, program deadlines, technical assistance, youth involvement and other information. Staff will meet directly with potential applicants to discuss project ideas and review paperwork.

Refreshments will be served.

Community beautification and maintenance applications for 2015 are available now from the Sullivan Renaissance web site in a portable document format (PDF) with fillable form fields. Applications can be completed electronically and e-mailed to Sullivan Renaissance (along with required documentation) or printed and mailed by the appropriate deadlines.

Beautification and maintenance grant applications are being accepted now and must be received by Wednesday, March 18, 2015. Some Sullivan Renaissance grant programs have different deadlines, including: interns, environmental and seasonal grants; and scholarships.

If requested, Sullivan Renaissance representatives will visit communities at their convenience to explain the program, review the garden design plans and assist with the application process.

To register for the seminar or for more information, visit [www.sullivanrenaissance.org](http://www.sullivanrenaissance.org) or call 845-295-2445.

Sullivan Renaissance is a beautification and community development program principally funded by the Gerry Foundation.

## Assembly Insurance Chair Cahill holds Joint Hearing on Proposed Changes to the Worker's Compensation Fee Schedule

(Albany, NY) - Assemblymember Kevin A. Cahill (D - Ulster, Dutchess) co-hosted a public hearing today with Carl Heastie, Chair of the Standing Committee on Labor to examine the proposed changes to the New York State Workers' Compensation fee schedule and the potential impacts these modifications may have upon the no-fault automobile insurance system. The Committees heard extensive testimony on the ability of providers to continue their participation within the workers' compensation systems if reimbursement rates are reduced for specialty medical services and the resulting concerns for lack of accessible and quality care for those injured in the workplace and in automobile accidents. Witnesses included Mary Beth Woods, Acting Executive Director of the New York State Workers' Compensation Board, New York State AFL-CIO, Public Employees Federation, the Medical Society of the State of New York, the New York State Trial Lawyers Association, the New York Insurance Association, as well as practitioners and representatives of orthopedists, chiropractors, radiologists and other targeted care providers.

"The rate-setting mechanism for the reimbursement of medical provider fees in no-fault and workers' compensation is tremendously important to ensuring robust provider participation and adequate access to the highest quality treatment for patients," said Chairman Cahill. "The testimony exposed a number of very real issues that will impact the timely delivery of health services, and thus the rights of injured workers and those who are hurt in car accidents. The proposed changes to the fee schedule do not sufficiently reflect the true costs to treat injuries within the workers' compensation and no fault systems and there is a very strong likelihood that large numbers of providers will exit the system."

"We have an obligation to make sure that the workers compensation system continues to make injured workers their top priority," said Assemblymember Carl Heastie, Chair of the Standing Committee on Labor (D - Bronx). "When a worker is hurt on the job the workers compensation system should help get them back to work as soon as possible by providing quality care."

"During my time in office I have personally seen the ugly result of inadequate care to injured workers," said Assemblymember N. Nick Perry (D - Kings County). "Implementing a fee schedule that will make it more difficult for the best healthcare practitioners to participate in the program is detrimental not only to the workers who depend on the system to receive high-quality healthcare to allow them to recover, but also to our economy. There is need for further study and review."

"Injured workers deserve high-quality medical care, but the Workers' Compensation Board's proposal to move to a so-called "resource-based relative value scale" (RBRVS) payment model for physicians could dramatically reduce the number of skilled doctors willing to treat workers hurt on the job," said Michael Levine, President of the New York State Trial Lawyers Association. "This proposal has been tried before, and the results are alarming: after Texas moved to an RBRVS payment system, that state saw a 75% decrease in the number of neurologists treating Workers' Compensation patients. The Workers'

Compensation Board must reject any proposal that would keep New Yorkers hurt on the job from receiving the care they need."

"We commend the Board for their efforts to re-engineer New York's often criticized Workers' Compensation program to retain and bring new physicians into the program," said Dr. Robert Goldberg, past-President and Board of Trustee Member of the Medical Society of the State of New York. "While we strongly agree with one goal of the "Discussion Document" proposal to increase payments for some physicians to counterbalance the significant paperwork and administrative hassles, we are also strongly concerned about the impact on access to care for injured workers as a result of the huge cuts many specialist physicians would face. We look forward to working with the Board to address these concerns so we can assure access to timely quality medical care from across the primary and specialty care spectrum".

Mario Cilento, President of the New York State AFL-CIO, said, "The primary purpose of the Workers' Compensation system is to provide the most timely, effective and appropriate care to injured workers; Labor has grave concerns that the proposed changes to the fee schedule may very well jeopardize that objective. Further, for any such changes to have even a chance of success, they must be the result of a thoughtful discussion and negotiation amongst all the stakeholders, including injured workers, labor, providers, attorneys, carriers and the Legislature."

"While the proposed fee schedule may work well in Medicare, it fails to take into account the added costs of providing treatment in no-fault and workers' compensation settings, which is why I remain unconvinced that this new fee schedule will do more good than bad for injured workers and auto accident victims," added Assemblyman Cahill. "I urge the Workers' Compensation Board to reconsider their proposal, keeping the needs and rights of no-fault and workers' compensation patients more firmly in mind going forward."

Chairman Cahill will continue working with his colleagues in the legislature and all stakeholders over the coming months to carefully review the proposed changes to the workers' compensation fee schedule and ensure an agreement is reached that satisfies workers, no-fault victims, providers, insurers and all interested parties.

## Preserving Medicaid Cap Tops List of Counties' Legislative Priorities

The New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) has released its 2015 Legislative Platform.

The Legislative Program was developed by county delegates, and reflects the need for specific state or federal action. These priority issues have a direct impact on local governments, our businesses and the New Yorkers who live in our communities. NYSAC is urging the Governor and State Legislature to support these initiatives.

Key Priorities for NYS Counties in 2015:

1. Continue Efforts to lower local Medicaid expenses
2. Restore historic 50/50 state/county share for cost of the safety net program
3. Avoid measures that shift costs to local governments and property taxpayers
4. Fully fund any expansion of current mandated programs or public policy reforms that are expected to raise local costs, such as indigent defense and changes to the age of criminal responsibility

5. Enact an omnibus sales tax rate renewal bill and honor home rule requests

Further details on the platform and issue areas can be accessed at [www.nysac.org/legislativeaction/NYSACLegislativePlatform2015.php](http://www.nysac.org/legislativeaction/NYSACLegislativePlatform2015.php).

"As we enter 2015, county leaders are calling on the state to continue their commitment to provide mandate relief and to help ease the burden on local taxpayers," said NYSAC President Anthony Picente, Oneida County Executive.

In 2015 NYSAC will celebrate its 90th anniversary. The association will continue its mission to represent New York's counties at the state and national level to promote the services counties provide, forge partnerships, and work to improve the future for New Yorkers, our communities, and the businesses that keep our economy running.

"Ninety years ago, NYSAC was formed to educate, inform and unite local officials from across the state. In 2015 we will again come together in the best interest of all counties, upstate and downstate, rural and urban, large and small," said NYSAC Executive Director Stephen Acquario. "These legislative proposals represent priorities at the regional government level. We are a diverse state, but many of our concerns are the same, and we are all working on behalf of the New Yorkers in our communities."

Priority issue areas for the association include Medicaid and Human Services, Judicial, Public Safety, Children and Families, Public Employee Relations, Economic Development, Gaming, Public Health and Mental Health, Transportation, Agriculture, the Environment, and Energy, and Telecommunications.

County officials from throughout the state will soon convene in Albany for the Association of Counties' Legislative Conference, taking place February 2-4. During this event, hundreds of county leaders will join together to voice their commitment to NYSAC's legislative priorities for the year.

## Cuomo Congratulates NY Farmers on All-time High in Sales -Continues efforts to open new markets for State's growing agricultural economy

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today announced that farmers in New York set a sales record in 2013, with \$5.68 billion in cash receipts-more than \$1 billion more than just three years earlier. According to newly-released federal data, the cash receipts, which are defined as the gross income from sales of crops, livestock, and other products, have from 2011 to 2013 been the highest on record.

"New York produces some of the best produce and agricultural products in the world and this administration has made it a priority to help promote this industry, cut red tape and lower costs to help it grow," Governor Cuomo said. "The proof of this success is in the numbers and I congratulate the farmers and producers for their hard work day in and day out and for making New York proud."

The Governor has made the development of the state's agricultural economy a top priority since taking office, creating new marketplaces for agricultural producers, developing new opportunities for producers to market their products through the Taste NY program, and most recently trying to facilitate the connection between upstate agricultural producers and downstate consumers.

Farm Income:  
2010: \$4,644,950,000  
2011: \$5,437,633,000  
2012: \$5,471,639,000

2013: \$5,677,561,000

State Agriculture Commissioner Richard A. Ball said, "Since day one, Governor Cuomo has stressed the importance of agriculture to the fabric of New York's economy and the results for our state's farm economy speak for themselves. Nationwide, New York is looked upon as a leader in agricultural policy and the Governor deserves much credit for this. In just four years, he has eased regulations to help our state's dairy herd expand, capped agricultural land assessments at two percent per year, addressed the need to combat food deserts in urban areas, and opened new marketing opportunities through the Taste NY program. New York is most definitely a state of opportunity for agriculture, and I believe the best is yet to come."

Much has also happened within the state's booming craft beverage industry since two industry summits were held. The Craft New York Act became law, providing New York beverage producers with greater opportunities to market their products and increase sales. Taste NY was also created, and in a short amount of time has become one of the most effective marketing programs in New York State history. The Administration's efforts on behalf of the beverage industry reached their high point in October 2014, when Wine Enthusiast Magazine named New York its "Wine Region of the Year," citing the quality of wines, tremendous growth of the industry, and greatly improved business climate, particularly over the last four years with Governor Cuomo's support.

The first-ever Farm to Table Upstate-Downstate Agriculture Summit, held just a few weeks ago, brought forth a number of new initiatives designed to better connect the upstate agricultural sector with downstate consumers. A new Buy NY initiative was introduced, which will help increase New York State agricultural purchases among state agencies and other institutions. The Administration also committed to the development of a Regional Food Wholesale Farmers' Market, which will increase access for metropolitan markets for agricultural producers, while helping to increase access to fresh, healthy foods in urban areas.

According to a study conducted by Cornell Professor Todd Schmit, New York's agricultural sector has a strong multiplier effect on the state's economy. For every dollar spent in agricultural output, an additional \$.43 is generated for non-agricultural industries. In addition, every new job created within agriculture leads to the creation of .80 non-agricultural jobs.

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## UC Executive Mike P. Hein Letter to NYS Gaming Commission/Gaming Location Board

Mark D. Gearan  
Chairman, New York State Gaming Commission  
One Broadway Center  
Schenectady, New York 12305

Kevin S. Law  
Chairman, Gaming Facility Location Board  
One Broadway Center  
Schenectady, New York 12305

Gentlemen:

I write regarding the recent announcement by the Gaming Facility Location Board to recommend issuing three out of the four authorized gaming facility licenses.

First, I want to commend the Board for conducting an exhaustive analysis and weighing the inherent benefits of each application.

Recently, there has been a call to issue a new Request for Applications to seek a qualified applicant to submit a new bid for the remaining gaming facility license; I support this request. However, it is my strong belief, motivated by legislative intent and fairness, that the new round of applications includes the Catskills/Hudson Valley Region, not just the Eastern Southern Tier/Finger Lakes Region.

Voters approved casinos in Upstate New York due to the potential economic benefits for communities that needed it the most. The Catskills, with the golden age of the 1950's and 1960's gone and its tourist resorts long since shuttered, falls squarely within the intent of the gaming legislation. Additionally, the thoughtful decision to allow renovation of existing resorts instead of requiring only new construction gives further evidence of the designation of the Catskills as the premier targeted region for destination gaming.

In determining to recommend only one license to the Catskills/Hudson Valley Region the Board properly concluded that locating a gaming facility in Orange County would "cannibalize" gaming in the rest of the region and create an isolating barrier to Upstate for those traveling from New York City. The potential of a casino in Orange County posed many pitfalls, including hampering the financing and ultimate success of other casinos in the region, which the Board correctly pointed out.

As real and daunting as these concerns were in Orange County they do not exist in Ulster County. In fact, now that the Board has chosen to recommend the Montreign Casino in Sullivan County, attention should be given to the complementary effects of siting a Casino in Ulster County. Visiting either the Nevele or the Montreign invites visitors into the heart of the Catskills and travelers would once again experience the Catskills as a world-class destination with diverse attractions. This gaming hub would create a gateway to all of Upstate New York.

This mutually beneficial, symbiotic relationship between resorts is not based in untested theory but rather in reality; between the 1950's and 1970's there were dozens of resorts in the Catskills that drew thousands of visitors each year. The presence of the Concord, Grossinger's or Kutcher's did not harm the Nevele, Tamarack Lodge or the Granit; in fact, it was the presence of so many resorts and choices that made the region a world-class vacation destination. Competition in the Catskills was not a detriment but rather fostered broad commercial success among a network of resorts. That success can be experienced again in the Catskills and a new age of tourism can once again be the driving economic factor in an area very much in need of jobs and sustainability.

Therefore, I respectfully request that the Gaming Facility Location Board revisit its decision regarding the fourth gaming license and issue a new Request for Applications to include the Catskills/Hudson Valley Region.

Very truly yours,

Michael P. Hein  
Ulster County Executive

cc: Governor Andrew Cuomo  
Ulster County Legislators  
Town of Wawarsing Supervisor Leonard Distel  
Village of Ellenville Mayor Jeffrey Kaplan

## Governors Support Legislative Efforts to Ensure Transparency at Port Authority

Governor Andrew Cuomo and Governor Chris Christie accepted the comprehensive and wholesale changes recommended by the Bi-State Special Panel on the Future of the Port Authority. At its core these changes call for restructuring the agency's overall operations, including reorganizing the leadership of the Board of Commissioners and the executive management of the Port Authority with the creation of a single Chief Executive Officer and the modification of the Chairperson's role. The reorganization accepted by the Governors will also return the Port Authority fully to its original mission - developing and maintaining the world's largest transportation system and infrastructure.

The structural reorganization of the Authority will create clear lines of responsibility and accountability that start with its leadership. A single Chief Executive Officer -- to be hired as expeditiously as possible based on a national search directed by the Board of Commissioners -- will replace the Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director. The current Chair and Vice-Chair roles will be modified in one of two ways. Either the Chair and the Vice Chair positions will be replaced with two Co-Chairs, one recommended

by each Governor, for election by the Board of Commissioners, or the chairmanship will be rotated between the two states on an annual basis. Either approach promotes a long-term balance between the policy interests of the respective states, and present a more equitable model to the public stakeholders of the Authority. The CEO and either Co-Chairs or rotating Chair and Vice-Chair will constitute the Office of the Chair, a senior operations committee.

Organizational changes to the Agency to demand increased accountability is only part of the Special Panel's recommendations to maintain trust with the public it serves. Governors Cuomo and Christie are embracing initiatives to increase transparency of the Port Authority's deliberations and operations.

Additionally, Governors Cuomo and Christie accept and endorse the transparency legislation, Senate Bill No. 2183 (First Reprint), and S6718C/A8785C, but with some sensible changes to eliminate confusion that would be caused by the bill as currently drafted. The recommended changes will make it easier for individuals pursuing public records under the law. The Governors continue to embrace the previously announced Freedom of Information policy, which ensures access to the Port Authority's records under both States' laws, and the recent practice of strictly limiting the use of executive sessions for Board deliberations and using public meetings when-

ever possible. Additionally, the Port Authority has been instructed to prepare a revised Code of Conduct to drive a renewed focus on ethics and compliance throughout the agency, and the Governors are calling for the creation of a Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer position to ensure the highest ethical conduct.

"In May, Governor Christie and I ordered a broad review and evaluation of the Port Authority's structure, management, operations, and governance to find ways for the Port to better serve both states and improve as a global transportation and commerce hub," Governor Cuomo said. "The recommendations put forward by the bi-state panel include important reforms to address the Port's inefficient and outdated governing structure and will help bring new transparency and effectiveness to the agency as it approaches its tenth decade of service. I am pleased by the work and recommendations issued by the bi-state panel, and look forward to a new era for the Port Authority."

"These changes reflect the need for a profound and necessary reimagining of the Port Authority governing structure, operations, and transparency in its oversight of the world's largest transportation and commerce network," said Governor Chris Christie. "Governor Cuomo and I have remained advocates for reform at the Port Authority and are encouraged by these recommendations from the bi-state panel."

Comprehensive and Sweeping Changes To Be Enacted:

- o Governors Cuomo and Christie are requesting each and every Commissioner to tender an offer of resignation to be considered by their respective Governor
- o Creating a single Chief Executive Officer to replace the Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director
- o Modifying the Chairperson's role with the creation of Co-Chairs or a rotating chairmanship between the two states on an annual basis
- o Creating a Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer
- o Reforming the Port Authority's public-records and ethics guidelines, fully consistent with each state's open public records laws
- o Adopting a new Mission Statement to refocus the authority on its original core mission of developing and overseeing regional transportation infrastructure
- o Reinstating the Port Authority's regional leadership role by initiating a comprehensive planning effort in 2015 with a strategic vision focused on expanding and developing new regional transportation capacity. (Contd. Pg. 15)

## POLITICAL SLANT

-Frank Comando

MARIO M. CUOMO

(June 15, 1932- January 1, 2015)

The family of former Governor Mario M. Cuomo announced that the Governor passed away from natural causes due to heart failure this evening at home with his loving family at his side.

He was 82 years of age.

The Fifty Second Governor of New York State, Governor Mario Cuomo served as New York's Chief Executive from 1983 through 1994. He was credited with simultaneously improving the business environment of New York and the quality of life for its citizens, despite a national recession at the time.

Governor Cuomo presented eleven consecutive balanced budgets, reduced taxes, and implemented comprehensive governmental ethics and fiscal reforms. From the time Cuomo took office, New York experienced an increase of hundreds of thousands of jobs and tens of thousands of businesses.

Proclaiming the Decade of the Child, Mario Cuomo ushered in a multi-faceted effort to improve the lives of all New York's children. His administration became the first in the country to develop an Energy Plan and to sign into law controls on acid rain among many undertakings.

Prior to his election as governor in 1983, Governor Cuomo served in the public and private practice of law for 18 years, simultaneously teaching as an adjunct professor for more than ten years at The St. John's School of Law.

Mario Cuomo first gained public recognition for his resolution of the Forest Hills housing controversy in 1972. He was appointed to serve as the Secretary of State of New York in 1975 and in 1978 he was elected as Lieutenant Governor. He later received national attention for his 1984 Keynote Address at the Democratic National Convention in San Francisco.

2014 marked 60 years of marriage to first lady Matilda Raffa Cuomo, a graduate of The St. John's University Teacher's College. The Governor is survived by his children, Margaret (Howard Maier), Andrew (Sandra Lee), Maria (Kenneth Cole), Madeline (Brian O'Donoghue), Christopher (Cristina Cuomo), as well as 14 grandchildren: Christina Cuomo Perpignano,

Marianna Cuomo Maier, Cara Kennedy Cuomo, Mariah Kennedy Cuomo, Michaela Kennedy Cuomo, Emily Cole, Amanda Cole, Katherine Cole, Samantha O'Donoghue, Kristin O'Donoghue, Tess O'Donoghue, Bella Cuomo, Mario Cuomo, and Carolina Regina Cuomo.

Our family, having shared a fond relationship with former Governor Mario Cuomo sends our sincere sympathy to the Cuomo family at this time.

**Give a Fin**

RUPCO's Emergency Assistance Fund helps over 100 families each year by transitioning homeless families, mostly staying in motels and shelters, back into the community. In September 2014, RUPCO lost this important funding resource from NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance. However, Emergency Assistance demand remains high. RUPCO receives 10-15 requests each week for help with one-month back-rent and security deposit assistance to help homeless people move out of emergency housing sites. Since October, United Way and Bruderhof Communities have generously provided some support to bridge the winter months in Ulster County. You can help too by making a \$5 donation online today. If 100 of us "Give a Fin," we can help at least one family establish a stable home address in 2015. Ulster County's Average Median Income, currently \$21,400 for a family of four.

**UC Legislator Calls For Equity And Accountability In School Funding**

(KINGSTON, NY) It took a 2007 Federal lawsuit to ensure equity in New York State school aid funding to local districts. Over the course of the past six years, Ulster County school districts received close to \$26 million or at least they would have, had the State actually implemented the promised foundation aid. Instead, the foundation aid was frozen as part of the State's budget process. "Ulster County tax payers have been paying more and more to ensure education for all," stated Ulster County Legislator David Donaldson, serving the City of Kingston. "Yet, the State has balanced its budget without paying its promised share. The State leadership has to stop talking about supporting the future of our State and actually pay for what they promised."

Over a billion dollars are being given to serve the 3% of student population that attend Charter Schools in New York State for 2014. \$54 million is estimated by a Center for Popular Democracy's report to be

lost because of charter school fraud and abuse in 2014 alone. Only eighteen of the sixty-two counties in New York State have a charter school. Ulster County has no charter schools.

"I am all for helping parents to ensure their children receive the quality education they deserve," continued Legislator Donaldson. "That quality education starts with the public education system that serves 85% of New York State's children. Until the State leaders provide the funding that will address the educational gaps in public education and ensure the oversight and accountability of private charter school education, no taxpayer dollars - whether State or local taxes - should be spent on privately run schools that are not held to the same standards or expectations as the public school system."

Legislator Donaldson has submitted Resolution No. 9 of 2015 for consideration of the Ulster County Legislature at their January 9, 2015 session.

**Operation Write Home Brings a New Meaning to the Holidays at BOCES**

LIBERTY: Over the holidays, under the guidance of Social Worker, Laura White-Henderson, 35 students from Sullivan BOCES wrote letters and created 65 holiday cards for our nation's armed forces as part of Operation Write Home.

Operation Write Home is an initiative that supports our nation's armed forces by sending handmade blank greeting cards to write home on, as well as "AnyHero" cards of gratitude to encourage them. Our soldiers receive these cards every 6-8 weeks filled with positive words of support and encouragement from adults and children across the country.

The lessons learned through the project represented the true meaning of the holidays. Each student expressed their understanding of how they can make a difference in someone's life that they may never meet through kindness and giving.

The students are currently waiting to hear back from the soldiers who have received their cards.

For more information, visit us at [scooces.org](http://scooces.org). For program updates like us on Facebook at Sullivan County BOCES and follow us on Twitter.

**Workshops for New Homeowners**

Is homeownership right for you? RUPCO's HomeOwnership Center released its 2015 schedule for first-time homebuyer workshops. If you are considering a house purchase in 2015, attend a one-hour orientation at The Kirkland, 2 Main Street, Kingston, at 6 p.m. on January 5 and 21, February 11 and 23, March 11 and 23. Register online here or call (845) 331-2140, ext. 220 for more information.

Two additional three-hour classes prepare you for the home purchase process. Many grants are available to cover expenses associated with down payments, closing costs, and post-closing rehabilitation. For example, RUPCO is also administering \$350,000 in funding on behalf of the City of Kingston for first-time homebuyers within the City limits. City of Kingston Mayor Shayne Gallo made the announcement earlier this month.

**TIME & THE VALLEYS MUSEUM**  
GRAHAMSVILLE, NY

Saturday & Sunday, noon to 4 p.m. through Thanksgiving  
Three floors of exhibitions, Local History Resource Center and a Museum Shop

Time and the Valleys Museum has copies of every *Townsmen* printed since the beginning (1947) classified by year for anyone to research.

985-7700  
[timeandthevalleysmuseum.org](http://timeandthevalleysmuseum.org)

**CrossWay Assembly of God**

Service Times  
Sunday School 9:30 am  
Sunday Worship Service/

**Ismael Berrios**  
Lead Pastor

P. O. Box 480  
507 Hasbrouck Drive  
Woodbourne, NY 12788  
845-434-8263

Children's Church 10:30 am  
Monday Night Home  
Bible Study 7 pm  
Tuesday Night Youth Home  
Bible Study 7 pm  
Friday Youth Night 7 pm

Email: [crosswayaog@aol.com](mailto:crosswayaog@aol.com)  
[www.crosswayaog.com](http://www.crosswayaog.com)

**Sundown United Methodist Church**  
Peekamoose Rd., Sundown  
Sunday Worship Service - 8:30 a.m.  
Sunday School - after worship (9:40 a.m.)  
Wednesday Bible Study - 6:45 p.m.  
Pastor: Rev. Peggy Ann Sauerhoff  
845-985-2283  
e-mail: [Sundownumc@gmail.com](mailto:Sundownumc@gmail.com)

**Grahamsville United Methodist Church**  
Rte. 55, Grahamsville  
Sunday Worship Service - 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday School for grades k-7 - 10:30 a.m.  
Mid-week Bible Study opportunities available!  
For information contact Rev. Peggy Ann Sauerhoff 845-985-2283  
e-mail: [Grahamsvilleumc@gmail.com](mailto:Grahamsvilleumc@gmail.com)

**Loucks Funeral Home**  
**Geoff and Heather Hazzard & Anthony Perito**  
79 North Main Street  
Ellenville, New York  
(845) 647-4343

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**ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL MISSION**  
The Little Church with the Big Heart  
**Sunday, 8:15 am Service of Holy Communion**  
Music by Susan and Fred Van Wagner  
Coffee hour follows service  
All are welcome!

5277 State Rt. 42  
South Fallsburg  
845-436-7539  
[www.standrewsepiscopalmission.org](http://www.standrewsepiscopalmission.org)

**Claryville Reformed Church**

Claryville Road  
Claryville, NY 12725  
845-985-2041

Bible Class 9:00 am  
Worship Services @ 10:00 am  
**Rev. Paul Nulton**  
John Bult, Organist

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

Weekend Mass schedule:  
Saturday afternoon: 5:00.  
Sunday morning: 9:00 am and 11:30 am  
Holy days of obligation: as announced in church bulletin.

Daily Mass schedule:  
Monday afternoon 5:45 (Holy Rosary at 5:30); Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday mornings: (includes Morning Prayer)- 8:30 am (starting Sept. 3 - 8:50 am.)  
Saturday afternoon confessions: 4 to 4:45.

Rev. John J. Lynch, Ph.D., Pastor. 434-7643.

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**Sundown Methodist Church**

Wishes you a Blessed and Happy New Year

**Grahamsville United Methodist Church**

Wishes all a Very Blessed New Year

**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. George W. Hommel, Pastor**

**Grahamsville Reformed Church**  
Sunday School 9:30 A.M.  
Worship Service 9:30 A.M.  
Rev. Paul Z. Ruter, Pastor  
845-985-7480

**PUBLIC NOTICES/LEGALS:**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT,** the following policy for use of the Town Transfer Station will be in effect for the year 2015

**HOURS OF OPERATION:**

Wednesday 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM

Saturday 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

(Excluding Holidays. Changes in the Hours of Operation will be posted as necessary)

**ALLOWABLE USERS:**

Residents of the Town of Neversink

Commercial Businesses Located in the Town of Neversink

Not For Profit Organizations Located in the Town of Neversink.

**ALLOWABLE USE:**

The following items generated within the Town of Neversink will be accepted at the Transfer Station:

- Solid Waste - Coupon Books \$20.00
- C D (Construction Demolition Debris) Coupon Books \$30.00
- Tires - Price varies by size
- Refrigerators & Air Conditioners - Freon Removal Fee \$15.00
- Television Set (all display types) - 3 Solid Waste Coupons each
- Computer/Monitors & Laptops - 3 Solid Waste Coupons each
- Miscellaneous Electronics - no charge
- Fluorescent Lamps (Bulbs) - 1 Solid Waste Coupon each
- Recyclables, Scrap Metal - Free

**ANNUAL PERMIT:**

Allowable users must obtain an Annual Permit from the Town Clerk's Office. A Permit must be obtained for each individual residence and business. If two residences, two businesses or a residence and business are located on the same parcel, each must have its own annual permit. Proof of residency is required before a permit will be issued.

The Permit will serve as Proof of Residency in the Town of Neversink. The Permit would need to be shown upon the request a Transfer Station Attendant. In addition to being used for I.D. purposes, the Permit will be punched for the two free floating loads, Spring/Fall Cleanup if held and the free tire disposal program. To continue to keep our fees low, the Town asks that no items are brought into the Transfer Station from locations outside the Town of Neversink.

**FEES FOR ANNUAL PERMIT:**

- Permit Card: \$10.00 Check or cash at Town Hall only.
- Replacement Permit Card: 2.00 Check or cash at Town Hall only.

**TRANSFER STATION COUPONS:**

- **SW (Solid Waste):** \$20.00 per Booklet of 15 coupons - individual coupons are not sold. A 30 gallon bag of garbage will require 1 coupon. Coupons may be purchased at Town Hall or at the Transfer Station by check.
- **CD (Construction & Demolition Debris):** \$30.00 per Booklet - purchased at the Town Hall ONLY. (Payable by check or cash). Each coupon is valued at \$2.00. Individual Coupons are not sold. A list of costs of individual items such as furniture, carpeting, etc. is available at the Town Hall. CD disposal can also be paid for at the Transfer Station by check.
- **TIRES:** Rims must be removed. 19 inches or smaller are \$5.00. 20 inches and over are \$22.00. There will be an extra \$3.00 charge per tire for tires brought to the Transfer Station on rims. Payment at the Transfer Station by check only.
- **FREE TIRE PROGRAM:** Each permit holder is entitled to dispose of 4 tires at no charge. Tires must be off the rims. No large equipment tires will be accepted for the free tire program.
- **REFRIGERATORS, FREEZERS, AIR CONDITIONERS & DEHUMIDIFIERS:** There will be a \$15.00 Freon removal fee when disposing of these items. This fee can be paid at the Town Hall or at the Transfer Station by check.
- **RECYCLE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS FREE OF CHARGE:** Bottles, Tin Cans, Plastics, Aluminum Cans, Cardboard, Newspapers, Mixed Paper, Scrap Metal, Used Motor Oil and Used Clothing. There are also bins for Deposit Bottles; the proceeds will go to various civic causes. All items must be clean.

**USING THE TRANSFER STATION:**

Persons entering the Transfer Station must show the Annual Permit Card to attendant BEFORE depositing items. Attendants will answer any questions with regard to fees and disposal of items.

1/8/15

**TAX COLLECTOR'S NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF TAX ROLL AND WARRANT**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that I, Joy Monforte, Tax Collector for the Town of Denning, Ulster County, State of New York, have received the tax roll and warrant for the collection of taxes within the Town of Denning for the year 2015.

Taxes will be collected at the Denning Town Hall, 1567 Denning Road, Claryville, N.Y. 12725 on Monday thru Thursday from 8:30 A.M. to 3:30 P.M., and at the Catskill Hudson Bank, 279 Main Street, Grahamsville, N.Y. 12740 and by mail to the Town of Denning P.O. Box 277, Claryville, N.Y. 12725.

Taxes will also be collected on Saturday, January 31st, 2014 from 10 P.M. to 2 P.M. at the Denning Town Hall.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE as pursuant to Ulster County Law No. 8 of 2012 an insert has been provided describing each Unfunded Mandate required by New York State.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that taxes may be paid on or before the 31st day of January without interest. On all taxes received after such date there shall be added interest of one percent of the amount of the unpaid taxes for each month or fraction thereof until taxes are paid or until the return of unpaid taxes to the Ulster County Department of Finance pursuant to law.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that pursuant to the provisions of law, the tax roll for the Town of Denning will be returned to the Ulster County Finance Commissioner on the date of expiration of the Collector's Warrant for 2015.

Joy Monforte  
Tax Collector  
Town of Denning

December 31, 2014

**Open Letter to the Residents of the Claryville Fire District in response to Letter of Joy Monforte in December 18, 2014 Townsman**

The sole purpose of the memorial banner that belongs to the Claryville Volunteer Fire Department is used to honor current and past members of the Claryville Fire Department that have passed on and have going to the next life. It is not and never has been used for non-members of the fire department. The banner was not put up for Jean Switzler by the members of the fire department because Jean was never a member of the Fire Department, her husband Warren was. Joy, before you put letters in the paper you should consult with someone who has knowledge of the subject you wish to write about. Jean was appointed to the Board of Commissioners to fill the vacated spot left by her husband Warren when his work caused him to leave the area. She then ran unopposed to fill out his remaining term and then ran unopposed for a second term herself. She was secretary for the district during this time and did a very good job. She was never the Treasurer for the district. She served on the Board during my tenure on the Board. She chose not to run again after two terms. The Fire Department has nothing but respect for her service. It seems that some how you have the magic ability to know how our members felt about Jean without even approaching the department to ask. Printing falsehoods is how rumors and bad feelings are started. Lately there seems to have been a rash of this happening.

Should anyone want to find out anything about the fire department, one only needs to contact us and ask and you will get the correct information.

Glenn Vandenberg, Chief CVFD and Former Chairman of the Claryville Fire District

ED Notes: *Opinions expressed in Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman belong to the writers and are not necessarily the viewpoint of Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman or its staff.*

While Glenn Vandenberg may have cleared up a misunderstanding, "the sole purpose of the memorial banner that belongs to the Claryville Volunteer Fire Department is used to honor current and past members of the Claryville Fire Department that have passed on and have going to the next life," it was quite evident that Joy Monforte, like many others who knew Jean Switzler felt she did deserve some recognition for her years of service. Perhaps the members of the Claryville Fire Department published a memorial tribute in the local paper stating her accomplishments, as mentioned by Chief Vandenberg, it would have served as a small and kind tribute to Jean rather than the discourse that has been created.

I am sure members of the Claryville Fire Department are aware that the *Townsman* publishes breakfasts and other activities on a complimentary basis. We do this gladly, as it benefits the entire community. We certainly would be more than happy to post a memorial tribute for Jean from the members of the Claryville Fire Department in the same fashion. It is still not too late to do this.

**Winter Fun at the Ethelbert B. Crawford Public Library**

If you're in grades 7-12 and like to read and compete, join our Battle of the Books team. Come to an information meeting on Friday January 16 at 5:00 to find out what Battle of the Books is all about.

There will be a Teen Advisory Group meeting on Wednesday, January 14 at 6:00 p.m. Earn community service and be an important part of the library. Don't forget our free teen movies, which are the first Saturday of each month at 2:30 p.m.

Storytimes for toddlers will be on Mondays at 10:00 a.m. starting January 5, and preschoolers on Fridays at 10:00 a.m. starting January 9. Bilingual Spanish/ English storytimes will be January 8 and 22 at 10:00 a.m. You can also come by every Saturday at 2:30 p.m. stop in to see a movie on our big screen.

All library programs are free and open to the public. For up to date information on programs, 'like' the library on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, or visit our website ([www.ebcrawfordlibrary.org](http://www.ebcrawfordlibrary.org)). You can also give us a call at 845-794-4660.

**Town of Neversink Parks & Recreation Department**  
[www.townofneversink.org](http://www.townofneversink.org)  
 Call for info: (845) 985-2262 extension 312

**LOOK FOR NEW EVENTS CALENDAR AND UPDATES FOR 2015 in The Townsman**

Thank you **Jamie Brooks** and the **Town of Neversink** and all the **volunteers** for all the fun and opportunities you have offered us in the past.

Looking forward to this year's events!  
**FREE FUN every FRIDAY** afternoon 1-4 pm in the upstairs meeting room in the Neversink Town Hall.



**Daniel Pierce Library** hours of operation beginning September 1, 2011.  
 Tuesday: 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
 Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
 Thursday: 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
 Friday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
 Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
 Sunday and Monday: Closed  
 If you have any questions, please call the library at 985-7233.

The Library Board of Trustees meets at 7:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month. On occasion, a meeting date is changed. Please call ahead to confirm.

**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.

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

**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 for card games

**Governors Support Legislative Efforts to Ensure Transparency at Port Authority** (From Pg. 12)

- Investing in the region's airports in a manner that ensures that these vital facilities are equipped to serve as the gateway to the region for travelers and goods from around the world
- Prudently divesting existing real estate holdings and restricting future real estate investments to those integral to the Authority's core transportation mission
- Pursuing the construction of a new Port

SUUJI WA TANSU NI KAGIRU

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

1/7/15 Town of Neversink Board Meeting - Organizational  
 1/14/15 Town of Neversink Town Board Meeting  
 1/19/15 - Town of Neversink Holiday - Martin Luther King Jr. Day

**REMINDER: To all municipalities and volunteer organizations in the Tri-Valley area to please send us your Annual Calendar of Events to be posted in the Townsman's Calendar of Events.**

*Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman* is available at the following retail stores and restaurants:

- VALERO MINI MALL (Loch Sheldrake) • SC COMMUNITY COLLEGE
- WOODBOURNE - CITGO STATION • MO'S GAS STATION • P.D. SMITH ENTERPRISE
- LIBERTY - LIBERTY FITNESS • CHARLIE'S PIZZA • AGWAY (Liberty)
- LIBERTY SHOPRITE • ELLENVILLE SHOPRITE • SULLIVAN COUNTY COMM COLLEGE LIBRARY
- JAMES NAPANOCH GROCERY
- DR. LONSTEIN'S OFFICE
- MATTHEW'S PHARMACY
- EWCOO
- ELLENVILLE CITGO
- ELLENVILLE REG HOSPITAL
- NAPANOCH APPLIANCE

SUNDOWN CAMP & BAIT SHOP  
 GRAHAMSVILLE DELI  
 EUREKA MARKET & CAFE  
 CANNIE D'S  
 BLUE HILL LODGE  
 PETER'S MARKET

**LOCATIONS in the TOWN OF OLIVE & SHANDAKEN**  
 Joma Cafe (West Shokan) • Boiceville IGA • Boiceville Florist • Snyder's  
 Phoenicia Gas Station • Phoenicia Pharmacy • Phoenicia Deli • Mama's Boy • Brio's  
 Phoenicia Library • Emerson Resort • Phoenicia Diner • Esopus Deli • Snyder's • JOMA Cafe • Shokan Citgo

**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.

Authority Bus Terminal to meet the increasing requirements of this vital element of the Trans-Hudson transportation network  
 o Modernizing Port Commerce facilities to increase their efficiency and maximize the potential of the ports as the premier portal for cargo entering the United States  
 o Seeking an improved operating model for the PATH rail system, including potentially partnering with a third-party operator, to enhance the PATH's operational performance and reduce its financial deficit

As part of their actions today, Governors Cuomo and Christie are seeking to enact bi-state legislation consistent with the Special Panel's Report. To that end, the Governors are acting uniformly on the pending Port Authority legislation of both states.

Both Governors embrace the spirit and intent of the extensive reforms contained in the omnibus pending legislation, Senate Bill No. 2181 in New Jersey and A3944C/S7721 in New York. However, to more fully execute on reform in every area of Port Authority operations, management, and transparency, they are asking their respective Legislatures to review the extensive analysis and insights contained in the Special Panel's report to guide the crafting of broader and more comprehensive reform legislation. Therefore, while neither Governor is approving the legislation as passed, they are urging their respective Legislatures and the Port Authority to work with them to implement the broad reforms package recommended by the Special Panel, recommendations which will mark a new beginning and form a basis for meaningful reform for decades to follow.

**Assembly Insurance Chair Cahill Holds Joint Hearing on Proposed Changes to the Workers' Compensation Fee Schedule**

(Albany, NY) - Assemblymember Kevin A. Cahill (D - Ulster, Dutchess) co-hosted a public hearing with Carl Heastie, Chair of the Standing Committee on Labor to examine the proposed changes to the New York State Workers' Compensation fee schedule and the potential impacts these modifications may have upon the no-fault automobile insurance system. The Committees heard extensive testimony on the ability of providers to continue their participation within the workers' compensation systems if reimbursement rates are reduced for specialty medical services and the resulting concerns for lack of accessible and quality care for those injured in the workplace and in automobile accidents. Witnesses included Mary Beth Woods, Acting Executive Director of the New York State Workers' Compensation Board, New York State AFL-CIO, Public Employees Federation, the Medical Society of the State of New York, the New York State Trial Lawyers Association, the New York Insurance Association, as well as practitioners and representatives of orthopedists, chiropractors, radiologists and other targeted care providers.

"The rate-setting mechanism for the reimbursement of medical provider fees in no-fault and workers' compensation is tremendously important to ensuring robust provider participation and adequate access to the highest quality treatment for patients," said Chairman Cahill.

"The testimony exposed a number of very real issues that will impact the timely delivery of health services, and thus the rights of injured workers and those who are hurt in car accidents. The proposed changes to the fee schedule do not sufficiently reflect the true costs to treat injuries within the workers' compensation and no fault systems and there is a very strong likelihood that large numbers of providers will exit the system."

"We have an obligation to make sure that the workers compensation system continues to make injured workers their top priority," said Assemblymember Carl Heastie, Chair of the Standing Committee on Labor (D - Bronx). "When a worker is hurt on the job the workers compensation system should help get them back to work as soon as possible by providing quality care."

"During my time in office I have personally seen the ugly result of inadequate care to injured workers," said Assemblymember N. Nick Perry (D - Kings County). "Implementing a fee schedule that will make it more difficult for the best healthcare practitioners to participate in the program is detrimental not only to the workers who depend on the system to receive high-quality healthcare to allow them to recover, but also to our economy. There is need for further study and review."

"Injured workers deserve high-quality medical care, but the Workers' Compensation Board's proposal to move to a so-called "resource-based relative value scale" (RBRVS) payment model for physicians could dramatically reduce the number of skilled doctors willing to treat workers hurt on the job," said Michael Levine, President of the New York State Trial Lawyers Association. "This proposal has been tried before, and the results are alarming: after Texas moved to an RBRVS payment system, that state saw a 75% decrease in the number of neurologists treating Workers' Compensation patients. The Workers' Compensation Board must reject any proposal that would keep New Yorkers hurt on the job from receiving the care they need."

"We commend the Board for their efforts to re-engineer New York's often criticized Workers Compensation program to retain and bring new physicians into the program," said Dr. Robert Goldberg, past-President and Board of Trustee Member of the Medical Society of the State of New York. "While we strongly agree with one goal of the "Discussion Document" proposal to increase payments for some physicians to counterbalance the significant paperwork and administrative hassles, we are also strongly concerned about the impact on access to care for injured workers as a result of the huge cuts many specialist physicians would face. We look forward to working with the Board to address these concerns so we can assure access to timely quality medical care from across the primary and specialty care spectrum".

Mario Cilento, President of the New York State AFL-CIO, said, "The primary purpose of the Workers' Compensation system is to provide the most timely, effective and appropriate care to injured workers; Labor has grave concerns that the proposed changes to the fee schedule may very well jeopardize that objective. Further, for any such changes to have even a chance of success, they must be the result of a thoughtful discussion and negotiation amongst all the stakeholders, including injured workers, labor, providers, attorneys, carriers and the Legislature."

"While the proposed fee schedule may work well in Medicare, it fails to take into account the added costs of providing treatment in no-fault and workers' compensation settings, which is why I remain unconvinced that this new fee schedule will do more good than bad for injured workers and auto accident victims," added Assemblyman Cahill. "I urge the Workers' Compensation Board to reconsider their proposal, keeping the needs and rights of no-fault and workers' compensation patients more firmly in mind going forward." Chairman Cahill will continue working with his colleagues in the legislature and all stakeholders over the coming months to carefully review the proposed changes to the workers' compensation fee schedule and ensure an agreement is reached that satisfies workers, no-fault victims, providers, insurers and all interested parties.



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Knarf's "Classic Movie Trivia

THE LAST OF THE MOHICANS (1936)



Now that the hustle of the busy holidays is behind us and you are planning to spend Saturday afternoon at home, The Last of the Mohicans will be on TCM at 12:15 pm.

The Last of the Mohicans takes place in 1757 during the French and Indian War. British Colonel Munro and his daughters, Alice and Cora, are stationed in upstate near Albany, New York. Major Duncan Hayward, who is in love with Alice, arrives with orders to march against the French, but Magua, an Indian Army scout who is actually a French spy, sabotages the march and kidnaps Alice, Cora and Duncan.

The movie is directed by George B. Seits and stars Hugh Bucklar as Colonel Munro. His daughters, Alic and Cora are played by Binnie Barns and Heather Angel. Henry Wilcoxon plays the role of Major Duncan Hayward. Bruce Cabot stars in the role of Magua, the Indian Army scout.

The Last of the Mohicans is an historical novel by James Fenimore Cooper and the novel has been one of the "most popular novels in English" since its publication and it remains "widely read in American literature courses"

1. What is the name of the Fort where Colonel Munro is stationed?

What's Going On In The Gnome Neighborhood This Week?

FROST VALLEY

Jan 13-16 - Presidents' Day Family Weekend: Cross-country ski trails, ice skating rink, snow tube run & snowshoe trails. Ice fishing, broomball, guided nature hikes, climbing gym, archery range, arts & crafts programs. Lodging is free. Frost Valley YMCA, 2000 Frost Valley Road, Claryville. To make reservations: 985-2291; info@frostvalley.org; frostvalley.org

Winter Events in Ulster County

January 10- Hudson Valley Rail Trail WinterFest: Family-friendly fun event featuring chili contest, hay wagon rides, chainsaw expo, kid's activities tent, food & drink, toasted marshmallows & roasted chestnuts, gift shop, bonfire. 11am-2pm. \$2/pp; age 6 & under free. Hudson Valley Rail Trail Depot, 101 New Paltz Rd., Highland. Hudsonvalleyrailtrail.net; 691-9911

January 18- 18th Annual Shandaken Primitive Biathlon: Annual winter sporting event with competition in 4 age groups. Prizes. 9am-noon. Upper Esopus Fish & Game Club, Little Peck Hollow Rd. (off County Rt. 47), Oliverea. Info or to register: Paul, 246-3954; Vince, 688-5560; Ed, 339-3449; shandakenprimitivebiathlon.com

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L. Ft. William Henry

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ANSWER TO KNARF'S MOVIE TRIVIA

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