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NYS Senator Metzger Spends a Day in Neversink



Senator Jen Metzger spends the day in Neversink with constituents. "I'm always grateful for the opportunity to hear your thoughts, answer questions, and bring your ideas back with me to Albany." (Contd. Pg. 9)

What a Beautiful Day!!!

Saturday, July 18, 2020 was a bright, beautiful day. Kiwanis of Woodridge was excited. We had planned this day, and postponed this day due to inclement weather twice before, but today it was happening!!

Cars lined up early. The Fallsburg Police Department accompanied us. Nine A.M. arrived and we were off..... a caravan of cars and Kiwanians making the rounds to honor our 2020 Senior Scholarship Recipients. One thousand dollars each to five very worthy graduating seniors. Check facsimiles to be presented. An exciting day for all concerned. Normally, we would host a Scholarship Dinner but that was impossible this year. (Contd. Pg. 10)



YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMANOFFICIAL NEWSPAPER FOR
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EDITOR: Linda Comando - 985-0501

NEVERSINK NEWS: Hulda Vernooy

THE SCENE TOO - Jane Harrison

OLIVE JAR - Carol La Monda

MYSTERIOUS BOOK REPORT - John McKenna

HER QUIRKY JOURNEY - Marilyn Borth

FALLSBURG NEWS - Larry Schafman

MOVIE TRIVIA - Frank Comando a/k/a Knarf

Email: tvtownsman@yahoo.com**Website: thetownsman.com**

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**POLICY ON SUBMISSIONS AND
LETTERS TO THE EDITORS:**

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 Telephone numbers will not be published.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

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

NO EXCEPTIONS. All press releases/article sent by email should be sent as **Microsoft Word Documents**. Photos or graphics must be in jpg format

More than ever, thank you for your support during these difficult times. Wishing everyone well.

ON THE FRONT BURNER: A man that beareth false witness against his neighbor is a maul, and a sword, and a sharp arrow. Proverbs 25:18

OBITUARIES

Donald E. Exner of Ellenville, NY, passed away on Saturday, July 25, 2020 at Achieve Nursing and Rehabilitation. He was 87 years old. Donald was born on June 26, 1933 in Ellenville, NY; he was the son of the late Richard and Jennie (Ellsworth) Exner.



Donald served his country in the United States Army during the Korean Conflict and was honorably discharged in 1954. Following his military discharge Donald worked at Marvin Mill Works. Shortly after he began his career with the NYS Board of Water Supply, retiring after 38 years. Donald was a lifetime member of the Ulster Heights Rod and Gun Club, a member of the American Legion Post # 111 and a member of the Ulster Heights United Methodist Church.

In addition to his parents, Donald was predeceased by his wife Rita M. Exner; his siblings, Ruth Bevier, Francis Exner and Richard Exner; and his great-grandchildren, Maxwell Allen and Stacey Lynn.

Donald is survived by his daughter, Linda Cole; his son, Timothy Exner and his wife Rosey; his brother, William Exner; his sisters-in-law, Helen Exner and Elma Sherman; his grandchildren, Matthew, Arthur and his wife Kim, Joseph and his wife Payton, Donald and his wife Alisha, Zecheriah and his wife Savannah and Stephanie and her husband Chris; great grandchildren, Kristen, Katlyn, Leila, Amayah and Theron, as well as numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Services for Donald will be held privately. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made in Donald's name to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 and/or the Ulster Heights United Methodist Church, 1264 Ulster Heights Rd., Ellenville, NY 12428.

**DAYS OF YORE...
Today's History****July 26, 1950**

Doris Misner won the freezer from National Foods in Liberty. It was a Philco 61 cu. ft. She brought it home on Saturday and stored it in Joseph Raffa's home here, not having electricity.

At the organizational meeting of the Tri-Valley School Board last Tuesday, Max Rubenzahl was re-elected president and Dr. Karl Messinger was elected vice-president. The other seven members of the nine-man board are Elmond Allison of Mutton Hill, Mrs. Albro Brown of Lackawack, Nile Everett of Sundown, Van Furman of Lows Corners, Meyer Groo of Big Hollow, Frank Smith of Lackawack Hill and Oland Erath of Unionville who replaces Ross Bonnell.

Supervisor Bruce Denman of Neversink declined the Republican Party nomination for Sheriff of Sullivan County before the July 21 deadline. Mr. Denman gave as his principal reason reluctance to leave his post as Neversink Town Supervisor in the middle of his term of office.

July 27, 1960

The marriage of Marion Houghtaling, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nial Houghtaling of Neversink Rd., and Gary Allan Wood, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lyman Wood of West Liberty St., took place on Sunday, June 17, 1960 at a vesper service in St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Liberty.

The newly formed Grahamsville Ambulance Squad expects to become operative in September or October as an auxiliary service of the in Grahamsville Fire Department.

Mrs. Minerva Coddington died Sunday at Cooperstown Hospital, Cooperstown. She was 100 years old. She was born in Sundown on August 10, 1859. She had lived in Ames, N.Y. for 40 years and was the widow of Jacob Coddington.

Mr. Walton Hamilton and Mr. Israel Slater have completed the job of placing new sills under of the Lows Corners Church.

Work is progressing satisfactorily on the Neversink Town Hall. Well's Well and Supply Co. of White Lake completed work on a deep well, drilling 230 feet and obtaining 8 gallons a minute.

(Contd. Pg. 3)

DAYS OF YORE...**Today's History** - (From Pg. 2)

The New York State Department of Education announced this week that Dale W. Ross of the Tri-Valley Central School was among the students of the State who qualified for a State scholarship for studies in engineering.

July 28, 1970

Miss Eileen Huffman became the bride of David C. Strafalace on July 18th at the of Church of the Immaculate Conception in of Woodbourne. The Rev. John J. Maher officiated. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herman L. Huffman of Neversink. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Dominic Strafalace of Pittsburgh, Penn.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Fuller of Grahamsville have announced the engagement of their daughter, Kathleen Linda, to John J. Donelli, the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Donelli of Grahamsville. Wedding plans are incomplete.

Mr. and Mrs. Warren Graham are the proud parents of a daughter, born at Hamilton Avenue past Hospital on Saturday, July 25. The Little Miss has been named Sherri Lyn. She weighed 6 lbs. 7 oz. Mr. and Mrs. Alton Knight are the maternal grandparents and Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Graham are the paternal grandparents.

Miss Deborah Fisher and Mr. Ira Rubenzahl fork, were united in marriage on Sunday, July 19th. : the Mrs. Rubenzahl, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Fisher of Brookline, Mass., is a June graduate of Boston University. Mr. Rubenzahl is the son of of Mr. and Mrs. George Rubenzahl of Neversink. He graduated from Princeton University and is presently working on his doctoral dissertation in physics at the Mass. Institute of Technology.

July 31, 1980

The anxiously awaited tennis courts and basketball courts, located at the Town of Neversink Town Park, are now open and available for use by the residents of the Town of Neversink.

Gregory Grey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert R. Grey of Grahamsville, is attending the Summer Computer Workshop at Hartwick College in Oneonta, N.Y.

Carlton W. Miller, 73, of Beaver Dam Rd. died Friday at Hamilton Ave. Hospital, Monticello. Mr. Miller, a retired truck driver, was born Oct. 31, 1906 in Divine Corners to Gideon and Christina Northrup Miller. He was married to the former Violet Irwin who survives him. He was a member of the Beaver Dam Club.

Mr. and Mr. Robert Mierop of Pond Rd. announce the engagement of their daughter, Roslyn, to James Ward, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Leslie Ward, Sr. of Apalachin, N.Y.

Dorothy McGuire and Paul Conklin were married June 14, 1980 in the United Methodist Church with the Rev. Glenn McCarty officiating. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John McGuire of Neversink. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe Conklin of Grahamsville.

Debra Rapenske and Timothy TerBush were married June 28, 1980 in St. Peter's Church with the Rev. Ed Rizzo officiating. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry G. Rapenske of Liberty. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald TerBush of Grahamsville.

Nature Column - Linda Comando

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

Mosses, Dinosaurs and Diapers???

Our 5 year old grandson just got back from vacationing with his family at a theme park that featured an Enchanted Forest. Being a big fan of fairies, gnomes, etc. when he visited us on Sunday, we took him for a walk in our back yard – our own enchanted forest filled with the magic of nature.

As we were walking back to the stream we spotted some green moss. It was perfect timing. A few small little pink moths flew away from the mossy mound. Well, he was convinced they were fairies!!

I explained that the moss has been growing for over 150 millions years on Earth. That was a bit out of his scope, but as soon as I fast-forwarded to when plant-eating dinosaurs feasted on the different mosses that filled the ancient swamps, I had his attention 100%! He began to imagine those huge hulk dinosaurs moving slowly through the mossy wetlands of the swamps munching on drippy moss waterweeds?

Moss (Musci, subclass of Bryophyta) originally came from water bound one-cell green algae. Leaving the water after millions of years, it scrambled up on dry land and survived! A miracle plant with no roots, no stem, no leaves! How did this happen?

Keeping to moist stream banks and splash zones of waterfalls, moss put out root-like hairs called rhizoids that anchored the plant and absorbed moisture.

Next, as moss advanced, cells that joined end to end developing a primitive stem that also supported tiny leaf-like tissues, only a single layer of cells thick. If this simple structure dried out, it easily soaked up twenty five times its own weight of rain or dew drops.

Moss accomplishes this by osmosis, a natural process whereby water is drawn through cell walls along the whole plant and refills storage cells. This is how moss regains its fresh green condition so quickly. Besides storing water, moss leaf cells also make plant food by photosynthesis.

Moss reproduces in a primitive two-step cycle: a green generation of two separate plant tissues, the protonema, a tiny green pancake from which grows the moss plant that we recognize; and the fruiting generation, a stalk rising out of this new moss plant with a capsule full of spores on top. When the capsule splits open, ripe spores are windblown to fertilize nearby female plants (sporophytes). Spores are so small that hundreds packed together look like a puff of dust, a miniature version of stepping on a puffball or mushroom.

Empty spore capsules remain on the moss and are the easiest way to identify these small plants. Mature capsules look like tiny tan footballs with a cap at one end. Some are pear shaped.

As we walked further into forest we found Pin Cushion moss, Star moss in plushy green mats and Sphagnum moss that covered some of the trees..

Because moss is so absorbent and contains a natural antiseptic, people have used it to dress wounds from 2000 B.C. until World War 1.

Europeans have burned peat moss to heat their homes for centuries.

Some American Indian tribes used moss to diaper their babies.

By the time we were done with our journey through the 'Enchanted Forest' in our back yard, our grandson was happy to know that it was moss that survived and not dinosaurs!

*Pin Cushion Moss**Sphagnum Moss**Star Moss***Household Hints:****Want Moss to Grow in Your Shade Garden?**

If you want to encourage moss to grow in your shady garden, pick some moss, put it in a blender with some milk, then spray the mixture on a rock, an old wooden chair, or whatever you would like to have moss covered. The milk provides the protein to encourage the moss spores to germinate and grow.

Sullivan 180 Trains New Community Health Champion Volunteers

Dedicated volunteers give their time and talent to improve health in the county, one degree at a time

[FERNDALE] - Sullivan 180, a non-profit organization born out of a grassroots effort to build a healthier Sullivan County, announces eleven new volunteers from different locations in Sullivan County have committed themselves to become certified "Community Health Champions" with the support of Sullivan 180. These Community Health Champions, after having completed a certified online training program, will now begin to serve as healthy living champions and coaches for friends, neighbors and colleagues who are ready to improve their health.

Community Health Champions are trained volunteers who work in their own neighborhoods, churches, and civic organizations offering peer health education, tips and motivation for those who want to take proactive steps in improving their health and lives. Sullivan 180 provides the certified training through Talence, a nationally recognized e-learning platform for healthier communities, in four core areas including health education and health coaching techniques.

Community Health Champions who have now completed their training and received their certificates are: Luisa Parker - Callicoon; Maura Caycho - SUNY Sullivan; Brittany Davis - Fallsburg SD; Veronica Sarrano - Fallsburg; Natalie Golonka - Callicoon Center; Roberta Chambers - Monticello; Kelsey Riley - Woodbourne; Jenny Sanchez - Sullivan 180; Ava Bridges - Callicoon Center; Amanda Dirig - Swan Lake; and Debbie Bertholf - Loch Sheldrake.

Current Community Health Champions include: Shanita Artson - Monticello; Kiin D'Astri - Monticello; Dawn D'Auria - Frost Valley YMCA; Karen Ellsweig - Forestburgh; Christina Haff - Youngsville; Margaret Helthaler - Grahamsville; Pamela Jones - SUNY Sullivan; Lori Karadontes - Bethel; Sam Kovalyov - Livingston Manor; Wendy Notice - Monticello; Adele Novick - Woodridge; Carol Park - Roscoe; Jessi-Ann Rosenbaum - Monticello; Angelee Santillo - Hurleyville; Tialisa Whipple - Woodbourne; and Mike Weddle - Monticello.

Sullivan 180's mission is to build a healthy, vibrant Sullivan County where everyone has a sense of purpose, connection to family and community and access to fresh foods and an active lifestyle. For more information or if you are interested in becoming a Community Health Champion or volunteering, please visit our website at Sullivan180.org or contact us at (845)295-2680 or via Email to info@sullivan180.org.

You Can Apply for Public Assistance Online

Liberty, NY - Public Assistance (PA) applicants now have an additional option for applying for initial eligibility for PA.

The E-2921 application form can be filled out at <https://mybenefits.ny.gov>, or applicants can also apply by filing a paper version of the 2921 application and mailing it in to the Sullivan County Department of Family Services (DFS) at 16 Community Lane, Liberty, NY 12754, or dropping it off at one of the DFS drop boxes located at the DFS office or the Sullivan County Career Center at 50 North Street, Monticello.

Once an online application is submitted, it is routed to the DFS, and applicants will receive a call from a DFS worker to

review it and conduct an eligibility interview within 24-72 hours.

There is no change to existing electronic applications for the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or (Medical Assistance) MA cases.

Emergency situations should still be handled by stopping by or calling the DFS office at 845-292-0100.

Sullivan County Accepting Agricultural District Applications

Monticello, NY - For a 30-day window beginning August 1 and ending August 31, 2020, Sullivan County is accepting applications from property owners seeking to be included in New York State Agricultural Districts 1 and 4.

State Agricultural Districts are geographic areas that consist predominantly of viable agricultural land. Agricultural operations within the districts are afforded benefits and protections to promote the continuation of farming and the preservation of agricultural land. These benefits include protection of farm operations from unreasonably restrictive local laws, limitations on assessments for newly formed benefit districts, and notification to local governments of projects that could adversely affect farmland.

There are two New York State Agricultural Districts in Sullivan County. Agricultural District 1 encompasses towns in northern and western Sullivan County, and Agricultural District 4 covers the County's eastern and southern towns.

For parcels to be included in an Ag District, they must be predominantly viable agricultural land. New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets Law defines "viable agricultural land" as land highly suitable for agricultural production and which will continue to be economically feasible for such use if real property taxes, farm use restrictions and speculative activities are limited to levels approximating those in commercial agricultural areas not influenced by the proximity of non-agricultural development.

During this 30-day window, property owners may request the addition of their land into an Agricultural District. Applications are available by calling Melinda Meddaugh at Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan County at 845-292-6180 x116, or by emailing her at mm2592@cornell.edu.

Applications will be reviewed by the Sullivan County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board, who will then make recommendations to the County Legislature regarding property to be added to the districts this year. The County Legislature will hold a public hearing and then vote on the approval of each recommended addition.

Subsequent to County approval, an updated district map with a report showing the new parcels for inclusion in the districts will be submitted to the State Department of Agriculture and Markets for State approval. Upon approval by Agriculture and Markets, each property owner will be notified by mail, and the real property tax records for each parcel will be updated. Applicants will receive notification by the winter.

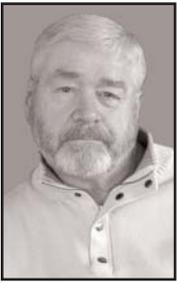
More information on the benefits of agricultural districts, as well as access to maps of Sullivan County's agricultural districts, is available on the Sullivan County website at:

<http://www.sullivanny.us/Departments/PlanningEnvironmental/AgriculturalDistricts>

Clean Hands

Mysterious Book Report No. 411

by John Dwaine McKenna



High finance, billion dollar banks and a Wall Street law firm on the brink of disaster . . . combined with a talented fixer, a determined, urbane and experienced warrior woman known for her smooth style, velvet touch and iron fist . . . and you'll have just a few of the elements of a recent thriller entitled: *Clean Hands*, (Grove Atlantic, \$26.00, 277 pages, ISBN 978-0-8021-2953-6) by Patrick Hoffman.

Big mergers between mega corporations involve billions of dollars in cash, accounts receivable and debt. They're full of big risks, big paydays and big problems, that, once completed successfully, are cause for big celebrations as well as big congratulations. It's when things go wrong, right in the midst of negotiations however, that the crying starts and the heartache begins. It's when the recriminations, finger-pointing, denials and calls go out for "lawyers, guns and money." It's also where the pulse-pounding *Clean Hands* begins.

The mega-merger between two multi-billion dollar banks has collapsed and a lawsuit has been filed, followed by an even larger counter claim. It's the most high-stakes lawsuit the prominent Wall Street law firm has ever filed in its entire history and survival – as well as the personal wealth of the partners – hangs in the balance. A successful outcome is the only possible option. So, when a junior associate loses his cellphone with a significant number of the firm's secret case files on it, panic sets in at the highest levels. Senior partner Elizabeth Carlyle, the lead lawyer, is under extreme duress to get the phone back . . . or else. The threat of ruination is imminent, should the pilfered iPhone fall into the wrong hands. Ms. Carlyle needs help, and deniability, as fast as she can get it. She calls an ex-CIA officer named Valencia Walker, a "high-priced fixer," whose clients include governments, corporations and millionaire tycoons, all handled with the utmost discretion. She retrieves the phone, but finds that it's been copied, and now the law firm is being blackmailed. Negative stories start to run in the press, a lawyer appears to have killed himself, and rumors begin to swirl about dark, and even darker deeds.

This fast-paced, electrifying thriller has it all: gangsters, hit men, shady lawyers, backstabbers, sneaky government agents, corruption in high places, super-patriots and enough bad-assery to fill up a ten-wheel dump truck. It'll keep you enthralled all afternoon during these hot August days of COVID-19 induced shut-in and strife. Be well. Stay well. Enjoy this awesome new author and remember . . .

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Johndwainemckenna.com or Mysteriousbookreport.com

Patrick Hoffman has worked for over a decade as a private investigator, and as an investigator for the San Francisco public defenders office. During his time at the public defenders office he worked in the homicide unit, where he was the investigator in numerous murder trials that resulted in not guilty verdicts.

Prior to working as an investigator, Hoffman drove a taxi in San Francisco. He was born in San Francisco, but raised in Colorado. He graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Film Studies from the University of Colorado, Boulder.

Hoffman has recently moved to Brooklyn. He's a New York State licensed private investigator and he has started his own private investigation firm specializing in criminal defense and civil rights cases.

His first novel, *The White Van* was short-listed for a CWA Ian Fleming Steel Dagger award, and listed as one of the ten best mysteries of 2014 by the Wall Street Journal, a best book of the year by the San Francisco Chronicle, and one of the 22 best literary debuts by BuzzFeed. His second novel, *Every Man a Menace* was released in October, 2016, and was also listed as top ten thriller of the year by the Wall Street Journal.

Interview With The Author: Patrick Hoffman

by John Dwaine McKenna

Hi everybody the MBR was fortunate enough to snag an interview with one of the best new young guns in thriller fiction, Patrick Hoffman. He graciously took time out from the hectic schedule to share his insights and unique techniques with us in one of the most interesting interviews we've done to date. So, with out further delay, here's Patrick Hoffman, who's first question is: *What do you write about?*

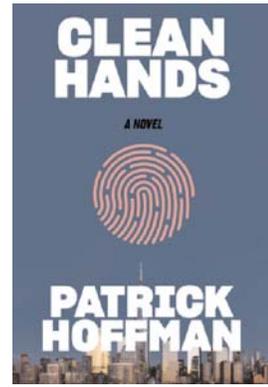
My second book is called, *Every Man a Menace*. That's what I write about. The fact that all people are horrible and nobody can be trusted! Just kidding. But I do like to write thrillers and you need bad people for thrillers. That being said, my real mission is to make you care about my bad people. To make you understand them. I guess that's what I really write about.

Where do you write?

Haha! Lately, I've been writing in my car. I have two children and we're all home together so I need an escape, but the truth is I love writing in the car. I wrote most of my first book, *The White Van*, in a white van on my lunch breaks. I like to drive somewhere with a view! But now it's too hot to work in the car so I have to go to a rented office. As soon as it cools down, I'll be back in the car. I like that it's ritualistic, too. I sit down in the car, and I'm like, Okay, I'm here to write: Go! Also, no internet connection is a great thing!

Do you plot or outline?

I don't really plot the books out. I just follow the story where it takes me. I'd love to, but when I try to think that way my mind turns into crickets. Total silence. I need to be in the story to do it. I start with some kind of inciting incident and then try to figure out what happened. In my new book, *Clean Hands*, the incident is a lawyer's stolen cell phone with important documents on it. That begged the question: What was in those documents? Who would want to steal them? Why? Who would the law firm hire to get them back? How much chaos would ensue? (Contd. Pg. 7)



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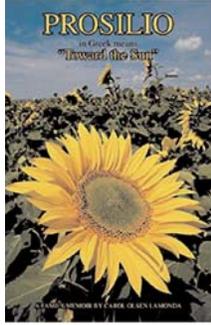
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The FamilyMemoir, PROSILIO...

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



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Pandemic Fashion

Masks have become the required fashion accessory. In the beginning of the pandemic, medical masks were so scarce that an order on-line limited the number, doubled the price, and promised delivery no time soon. Ladies, and men, took to their sewing machines and created pleated or fitted masks precariously held on your face by "make-do" elastic which became even scarcer than the paper face masks.

Now every fashion retailer has a line of designer masks which may range from \$6.00 to \$30.00. Even Vera Bradley has a line with her Vera signature. Some advertise sports fans or political affiliation. Some have cute dog and cat faces which make you look goofy. Who could have predicted such a fashion rage?



Wearing a mask has altered ladies fashion by making lipstick a thing of the past. Do you know what happens when you wear a nice red lipstick and then talk in a face mask? You wind up looking like Ronald McDonald in a kissing booth at the county fare. Earrings too are not compatible with face masks. They get caught in the elastic ear loops or ties. Besides, with your ears sticking out prominently from the side of your face, the earrings hang by your cheek.

Perfume can be eliminated also. "My Sin" or "Chanel No. 5" tends to conflict with EAU De Sanitizer. Also, forget nail polish. Washing my hands a dozen times a day wears off a manicure in a day instead of a week or two.

I chuckled to myself as I walked into my local bank with bandana, sun glasses, and a note stating how I wanted my check cashed since it is hard to speak or hear someone with a mask muffling speech. There was a time that alarms would ring.

Masks are the first thing we tend to notice nowadays. "Nice Mask" is as common a greeting as "Good Morning." They also tend to say something about your relationships. Now when I see some man in a wilted paper mask, I tend to peg him as a single dude with no wife/mother/girlfriend to provide him with a proper face covering. The more "macho" male tends to the cowboy bandanas or motorcycle neck gaiters.

Masks may be here for awhile, and they should be laundered after each wearing, so a varied mask wardrobe is our latest way to accessorize.

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Interview With The Author: Patrick Hoffman
 (From Pg. 4)

Do you read your reviews? How do you deal with negative reviews?
 I do tend to read my reviews. I really wish I wouldn't. They can get in my head. I have stopped reading the Amazon and Goodreads reviews. Those can be especially painful to read. I cleanse myself by reading the bad Amazon reviews for books I love, like Sarah Waters, The Paying Guest. Some people gave that book 1 star. Some people are absolutely insane!

What's your advice for aspiring writers?
 I had an artist friend give me some advice when I really got started. I told him I always felt inspired and good when I started writing fiction, but then that feeling would inevitably go away and I'd feel bad and fraudulent. He told me to see the bad feeling as a good sign, to embrace it, and keep going. That's the advice I needed to hear. Writing doesn't always have to feel good. In fact, it often won't. The key is to get your words every day!

Do you like writing in the first or third person?
 All of my first three books have been in the third person, but I really would love to write one in the first. Sometimes when I'm feeling stuck, I'll switch to the first person and then go back later and edit it and change it. I think that's a nice little trick. It's also strangely easier to do than you might think.

Does luck play into success?
 Luck definitely plays into it. Luck and timing. I met my agent - who I LOVE - in a tiny town in Upstate New York on the day I finished writing my first book. Can you imagine being any luckier? I owe my whole career to her. I've had a lot of luck in other ways, too. But I don't want to jinx myself, so I'm going to go knock on some wood, burn some sage, and throw some salt over my shoulder.

Thanks Patrick for sharing your thoughts with us today all our readers and fans enjoy this section of the Mysterious Book Report . Please let us know about your next project, we'd love to get together again.

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Retired Sullivan County Justice Frank J. La Buda Visits Woodbourne Shul



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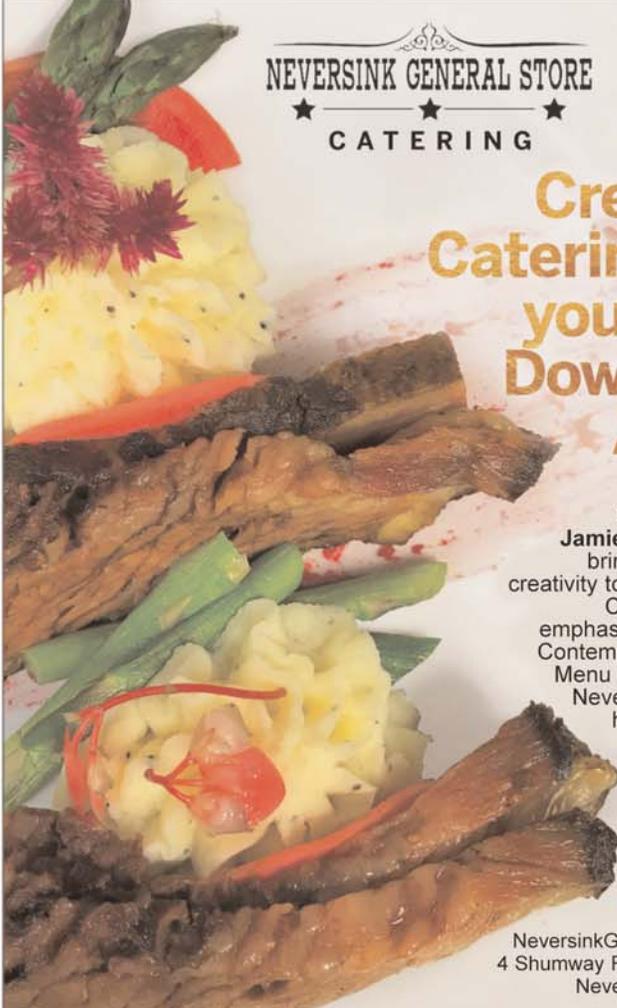
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Recently Frank J. LaBuda, a retired New York Supreme Court Judge in Sullivan County visited the Woodbourne Shul and spent time with friends of the Rebbe (Rabbi Jungreis M Niklesburg).



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The members of the congregation were pleased to have the Judge as their guest and noted his kindness to all humanity.

"That's what the Woodbourne Shul is all about - prayer, food unity - Kiddish hasham."



NYS Senator Metzger Spends a Day in Neversink

(From Pg. 1) NYS Senator Metzger thanked all who came out to enjoy the beautiful day with her in Neversink, and she expressed her sincere gratitude to Mark and Cristina at The Neversink General Store for providing the perfect outdoor venue for a community chat and the most delicious BBQ (served outside every weekend)!





Why wear a mask?

Out of respect.
 When you wear a mask you are saying, I respect my neighbors.
 When you wear a mask you are saying, I respect nurses and doctors.
 When you wear a mask you are saying, I respect other people.
 We all need to show respect to one another in difficult times.
 Wearing a face covering is a small inconvenience to protect others. We have gotten through this crisis by standing together and doing the right thing. The right thing - the respectful thing - is to wear a mask.

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What a Beautiful Day!!!

(From Pg. 1)
 We decided this would be a fun replacement upon a suggestion from our President, Dr. Sean Wall-Carty, who was kind enough to donate the check facsimiles.
 First stop: David Parsons in Woodbourne. What a beautiful thank you speech he gave.....very impressive!!! He will be studying pharmacology at SUNY Buffalo. He will make a fantastic pharmacist!
 Next stop: Faith Colombo in South Fallsburg. Faith will be attending SUNY Sullivan in furtherance of her goal of becoming a Physical Therapist. We wish her all the best!
 Next stop: Amanda Zeno in Woodridge. We were all so excited to see her looking so well and planning for a future in Biomedical Engineering. She will begin her studies at Marist College. How Exciting!!
 Next stop: Sadia AboHussien in Woodridge. Communications will be her major at Emerson College. We look forward to hearing about all her future successes!!
 Last but not least: Tulsi Patel in Woodridge. Tulsi has enrolled in SUNY Binghamton majoring in Biology with the goal of working in the oral medicine field. We know she will accomplish anything she sets her mind to.
 Neighbors and passers-by came out and stopped to applaud the seniors. It was truly inspiring. We thank everyone who came out to honor these deserving, hard-working students. What a beautiful day!!!



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Kingston Annual 2020 Exhibition and Arts Competition

ASK is proud to partner with Kingston Midtown Arts District (MAD) for the Kingston Annual 2020, a new exhibition and arts competition.
 Curated by Julie Hedrick, The Kingston Annual will highlight the exciting and emerging artists living and working in Kingston and the Mid-Hudson region. Awards will be given for first (\$500), second (\$250) and third (\$150) places.
 Works will be exhibited at the ASK galleries at 97 Broadway in Kingston (if the COVID-19 situation permits) and simultaneously in an online gallery. Both galleries will premiere in September 2020.
 Please submit your work for consideration by July 31, 2020!
 More details and entry form here
<http://kingstonannual.art/application/>

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The Scene Too

- Jane Harrison

I'm happy to let everyone know that the enormous asteroid has passed by the earth without crashing into it and making squishy stuff of us all.

And my bad luck with anything electrical or technological seems to have abated (one hopes) since nothing has blown up, stopped working, broken or found itself missing a vital piece for almost a week now.

And even though I still do not have the computer that I ordered, I have learned to fancy dance to get things done, a skill that may at some other time serve me well.

And a flat tire notwithstanding, I made it out to the DANCING CAT DISTILLERY in Bethel on Saturday afternoon. The music was outside, it was socially distanced with tables not only on the deck but into the grass. Every table was filled and so was the parking lot. One would initially think it's summer and this is something to do with the cautious reopening. But to even my surprise, the majority of this audience was there because of THE JOHNNY JULES BAND.

Yes, I know and yes, I went to see them again. And yes, they



never disappoint. And by the scope of their audience on Saturday, I'm not the only one who is never disappointed. Many were people from the city, who got their first taste of the band last year because of the 50th Anniversary of Woodstock and sought them out, where they were performing and showed up. It's gratifying to see my friend doing so well in these still uncertain times.

They were joined by owner and very talented STACY COHEN, who is always excellent, on backup vocals and by a young woman who was introduced simply as "Max" who can really play that ukelele of hers on two of the Dylan tunes, and a very fine guitarist added to the dynamics of the group.

There was only one thing that bothered me. (Contd. Pg. 12)

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-Marilyn Borth

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4 Tips for Beating These Dark Times in the USA

The world is facing unprecedented issues- and the US is certainly no exception. Actually, our problems go beyond just the pandemic itself. Sure, the cases and deaths from the pandemic here are exponentially rising while other countries are decreasing. But, on top of that, our political and social strife worsen every day. Our passport is nearly worthless in that we are banned from visa-free international travel in nearly all other countries.

On the world stage, we simply aren't looking too good.

So, what can we as US citizens do to improve our current situation – or, rather, situations?

1. Listen to others

I don't mean listen to the same people or news programs you listen to every day. Open up your ears and mind to other people. Yes, I mean talking to those from opposing sides of the political divide. Talk to minorities and/or people from various backgrounds. Have conversations that you normally wouldn't have. Education is key, especially in political and social times such as these. But, of course, keep a cool head about it and listen- don't just talk or wait to talk!

2. Educate yourself!

On the "education" note, why not pick up a book and read about some issues that are currently plaguing (sorry about that horrible pun) our society? Documentaries are valuable education tools and are so easy to watch! But, reading legitimate articles from a legitimate source (FaceBook does not fall in that category) is advantageous as well. It really makes a vast difference in your quality of life and relationships when you know and source facts rather than opinions of others.

3. Wear a mask

I know you hear this all the time. It's a redundant statement at this point. I get it. But, please, for the sake of yourself, your family, your friends, everyone around you- wear a mask. It truly isn't too much to ask or do. I mean, look at all the other countries in the world. They've been so good at wearing masks (along with social distancing, going out only when necessary, etc.) and they all seem to be improving!

4. Stay positive!

The most important point- stay optimistic and positive! We will get out of this if we all work together rather than apart. If we all come together as a society and set aside our biases and opinions, we can conquer our issues in no-time!

Stay safe, happy, and healthy, friends!

The Scene Too

(From Pg. 11) I come to place not only to support the groups but to support the venue by buying both food and drink, which I have done long before this pandemic. Maybe it was the time of day, I don't know. But it seemed that to get either, one had to go into the Distillery. I've been in the Distillery to see BARRY SCHEINFELD and the Jazz great AL DEFINO perform together and it's not that big. That wasn't the problem. The problem was that it seemed that those coming out were not wearing masks or carrying them. Did I go in to check this out definitively? No, I didn't. But I will do so within the next week or so and find out. We need to know the layout of the land if we wish to go out safely.

I now have to ask a favor of all of you. Please say a prayer for a good friend who must have a heart operation this coming week. He will in the hospital by the time you read this. I do not have permission to give you his name but I'm sure many of you already know who I'm talking about.

Stay well, stay strong.
Until next time...

A Message from Music on Market!

We have exciting news for Music on Market! Virtual concerts will begin Thursday, July 23, 2020. The concerts will be in a series of three every Thursday. Our first series will be all classical on July 23, July 30, and August 6 all at 7:30 PM. To view please visit the Music Institute of Sullivan and Ulster Counties or the Music on Market Concert Series Facebook pages to view the livestream.

Performers include David Fiedler, violin, Anastasia Solberg, viola, and Anik Oulianine, cello. Concerts will feature compositions by Mozart, Schubert, Villa Lobos, Clarke, and more.

The concerts are free; donations are accepted and welcome. Please join us!

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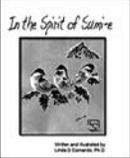
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Ulster County Announces Movie Night

Ulster County Executive Ryan announces two months of free film screenings at Tech City premiering July 31

KINGSTON, NY - Ulster County Executive Pat Ryan announced today during his Facebook live briefing that Ulster County will host a summer movie series for eight weeks, beginning July 31, 2020 and concluding September 26. The series, "UC Movie Nights" will be presented free of charge to Ulster County residents and is made possible by generous donations from nine community organizations, as well as a partnership with the Ulster County Regional Chamber of Commerce Foundation and Radio Kingston.

"I am so proud that we are able to provide our community with a free, safe and fun opportunity that the whole family can enjoy during these challenging times," County Executive Patrick Ryan said. "I want to thank the generous individuals and organizations who have helped make this possible and I look forward to attending a show with my family as well."

Ulster County Movie Nights will be located at the Tech City parking lot at 300 Enterprise Drive, Kingston. The lot will open at 8:30 p.m. and the movies will begin at 9:00 p.m. Movies will be projected on a screen at the site, and sound will be broadcast on FM radio with the assistance of Radio Kingston.

To abide by social distancing precautions, all attendees will be required to stay near their vehicles and no alcohol will be allowed on the site.

Films are subject to weather and attendance is limited to a maximum of 200 cars. Visit <http://ucmovienights.com> for required pre-registration and additional information.

"Ulster Savings is more than just banking! We are so excited to join this effort in providing free socially distanced community entertainment," said John Finch, Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer at Ulster Savings Bank.

"Good health also means keeping a positive mindset by engaging in things you enjoy, so this socially distant summer series is a great way to safely get outdoors while following physical distancing guidelines," said Marina Ballantine, Public and Community Affairs associate with Nuvance Health.

"WMCHealth and HealthAlliance Hospitals are proud to be a major sponsor of Ulster County's 'UC Movie Nights' movie series at Tech City," said Michael Doyle, MD, Executive Director and Chief Medical Officer of HealthAlliance of the Hudson Valley. "This is a safe and fun activity for families and individuals to enjoy during these unprecedented times."

Additional event sponsors include Adams Fairacre Farms, Cross Point Fellowship, Timely Signs, Colonial Subaru of Kingston, Ryan & Ryan Insurance Brokers and Erie Insurance, Target, Best Buy, and Stewarts.

UC Movie Nights Schedule:

Friday, July 31: *Star Wars, Episode VII: The Last Jedi*, 2017
 Saturday, August 1: *Star Wars, Episode IX: The Rise of Skywalker*, 2019
 Friday August 7, 2020: *Mamma Mia!* 2008
 Saturday, August 8: *Toy Story 4*
 Friday, August 14: *The Lion King*
 Saturday, August 15: *Frozen II*, 2019
 Friday August 21: *Playing with Fire*, 2019

Saturday August 22: *Fast & Furious presents: Hobbs and Shaw* 2019

Friday, September 4: *Godzilla: King of the Monsters*, 2019

Saturday, September 5: *Aladdin*, 2019

Saturday, September 12, (Double Feature): *Back to the Future*, 1985 / *Hidden Figures*, 2016

Saturday, September 19: *Downton Abbey*, 2019

Saturday, September 26, (Double Feature): *A Beautiful Day in The Neighborhood*, 2019 / *Little Women*, 2019

FCSD Welcomes Dr. Sally Sharkey

At a special Board of Education Meeting on July 24, 2020, the BOE appointed Dr. Sally Sharkey as the new Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction for the Fallsburg Central School District.

Superintendent Dr. Ivan Katz introduced Dr. Sharkey to the



staff via e-mail on July 27. He praised her as a dedicated educator with vast experience in the field of education. She started her career as a teacher in Menands, New York. While teaching in Menands, she also served as Board of Education President in her local school district.

Dr. Sharkey served as Superintendent of Schools for the Cairo Durham School District for seven years. As a school leader, Dr. Sharkey championed the Greene County school board association in creating shared services to help address the financial challenges that rural districts face.

For her commitment to education in a special time of need, Dr. Sharkey and her team received a legislative commendation for delivering food and supplies to isolated locations in a nearby community when it was devastated by hurricane Irene. This experience will be of great value to the District during the current pandemic. She has served on the New York State Commissioner's Advisory Board and also chaired and worked on legislative committees. Dr. Sharkey's legislative committee work includes advocating for school districts to improve opportunities for students and staff.

Dr. Sharkey has also worked as a human resource director and was an adjunct professor for St. Leo University, teaching graduate educational leadership courses in school law and school and community partnerships. Dr. Katz closed his introduction by asking the staff to join him in welcoming Dr. Sally Sharkey to the Fallsburg Central School District.

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Message to Young People from Governor Cuomo

I have a message for young people: This is not the time to fight for your right to party. We are seeing a statistically significant increase in the COVID infection rate in 21- to 30-year-olds. Remember: Young people can get seriously sick and some will die from the virus. Young people can bring it home and give it to others inadvertently. To deliver the message, we launched a social and PSA campaign to communicate the hard facts to young people. If you treat COVID lightly, you may not live to regret it. Watch the ad go to:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_PSvyr8xJEO

Good Day Readers,

Two SCCO performers traveled to California recently just as New York implemented new quarantine rules. As a result, the dates for the "SCCO - House Party" must be changed. All information in the previous article is the same, except for the dates.

Bill James
SCCO Publicity

Sullivan County Chamber Orchestra: "SCCO House Party"

(Monticello, NY) The Sullivan County Chamber Orchestra (SCCO) will present a week-long series of live stream events entitled, "SCCO - House Party." SCCO Artistic Director Andrew Trombley said, "Concert halls are quiet and orchestras are not performing. Musicians thrive off of live performances. But until we can all return to our halls and venues safely we'll need to find alternative solutions. "SCCO - House Party" is one of those solutions. Over the course of one week SCCO will perform for 5 days live-streamed from our home to yours performing masterworks by living, forgotten, and beloved composers concluding with the "Four Seasons of Sullivan County" Virtual Launch Party."

These one hour virtual performances begin with three concerts entitled "Everyday SCCO" streaming from the Suzanne Stanway Arts Haven at 13 St. John Street in Monticello, NY. The dates are Monday August 10th, Tuesday August 11th and Wednesday August 12th at 8 PM.

These three performances entitled Part I: The More Music You Know will feature selections by past and current composers from historically marginalized groups. Monday: Black composers, Tuesday: Women composers and Wednesday: Latinx composers. A portion of funding raised will be donated to organizations that advocate for and promote representation of marginalized groups in the arts.

A "Porch Concert" (weather permitting) entitled Part II: Schubert, Price and More... takes place on Friday, August 14th at 7:30 PM. Patrons who are interested in hearing a bit of live music are encouraged to drive by the Suzanne Stanway Arts Haven at 13 St. John Street to stop for a listen. Friday's program will be repeated on Saturday, August 15th. SCCO performers will move inside for a live-stream "Home Concert" at 7:30 PM in order to reach as many people as possible near and far.

On Sunday, August 16th from 4:00 to 5:00 PM, SCCO will host an hour-long performance entitled Part III: Four Seasons of Sullivan County Virtual Launch Party for their new Compact Disc. Viewers will be encouraged to ask questions about the artistic process or the music itself. Composer Nancy Wegrzyn, artist Laurie Kilgore, and recording engineer Peter Weitzner will join the conversation as well. SCCO musicians will play live music, share a clip from the premiere of this amazing work and share a track from the CD.

For more information and to sign up for the SCCO e-mail list please contact Marina Lombardi at marina@nesincultural-arts.org or 845-798-9006. The Sullivan County Chamber Orchestra is a Nesin Cultural Arts sponsored project. Visit this Facebook page for links to view the events: Sullivan County Chamber Orchestra. SCCO is funded in part by grants from the New York State Council on the Arts.

LEGALS/PUBLIC NOTICES

Please Take Notice:

The Town of Denning Town Board in an effort, to be in accordance with, the Executive Order No. 202.4 issued by Governor Andrew Cuomo on March 7th, 2020, and which has been extended, has decided to RESCHEDULE the previously scheduled Town Board meeting, to be held on Tuesday, August 4th, 2020 at the Denning Town Hall, to be held, in conjunction with the Town Business Meeting which will be held on Tuesday, August 11th, 2020, at 6 pm.

The Meeting will be open to the Public, per Gov. Cuomo's Executive Order, no more than four people may be in attendance, seating will be on a first come, first seated basis.

Please email any questions or comments pertaining to agenda items, only, to townclerk@denning.us, which must be received by Monday, August 10th, 2020 at 12 noon for inclusion.

By Order of the Denning Town Board
Joy Monforte, RMC, T.C.
July 27th, 2020.

7/30

The Neversink Fire District will be having a meeting on 7/30/2020 at 6:00pm to discuss related business.

Open to the Public. Must follow Covid-19 Guidelines to attend.

Thank you
NFD Board of Commissioners

7/30

35th Annual Giant Pumpkin Party Cancelled

It is with great sadness that the Daniel Pierce Library announces that the 35th Annual Giant Pumpkin Party has been cancelled. With Covid-19 still affecting the U.S. and the current guidelines set for large gatherings, we have made the very difficult decision to cancel the Pumpkin Party. We are looking forward to next year's Pumpkin Party bringing lots of fun events, contests, and of course donuts!!!!

DMV Appointments Can Be Scheduled Online at Sullivan County Website

For Sullivan County Residents Only at This Time

Monticello, NY - Responding to public demand, the local Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) office will now be accepting appointments for Sullivan County residents via an online scheduling system.

"We know how challenging and frustrating it's been trying to get someone on the phone to schedule an in-person appointment at DMV," acknowledged Sullivan County Clerk Russell Reeves, who oversees the local DMV office. "Bear in mind that three months of the DMV being closed to the public has created a backlog of thousands of transactions for our County of 75,000-plus residents, resulting in over 800 phone calls per day to the DMV office. So we have transitioned to online scheduling of appointments, and based on the heavy use of it already, the option is proving very convenient."

To register for an appointment, visit <http://www.sullivanny.us/Departments/Clerk/DMV> and click on the

"Schedule DMV Appointment" button. You'll then be presented with options to make an appointment for Registration of a Vehicle, Boat, Trailer or Recreational Vehicle (single or double registration), a License Renewal (CDL or Standard), a Permit Test, a CDL Test, or Reciprocity (changing an out-of-state license to a NY license).

"Please be advised we are only scheduling 90 days out at this time. If you do not see an appointment slot open, you will have to check back the following day," Reeves noted. "The DMV will continue to take mail-in registration renewals and standard license/ID renewals. Drop boxes are available at the Sullivan County Government Center at the back and main entrances for plate surrenders, license and registration renewals."

The phone number (845-794-3872) remains active for general information questions, but due to high demand, you may have to call multiple times before a live operator is available to assist. Messages cannot be left at that number.

UC Legislature Protects Hallowed Right of Effective Counsel for the Poor

KINGSTON, NY- In regards to the confirmation of Ms. Lauren Sheeley as the Ulster County Public Defender, Chairman David Donaldson states, "We commend Ms. Sheeley for the great work she has done throughout her career and thank her for her interest in the position."

"However, during the Legislature's thoughtful and considered review of Ms. Sheeley's relevant qualifications," Chairman Donaldson shares, "it became clear to the majority of the Legislative members that she did not possess the qualifications and experience needed to be Ulster County Public Defender."

"The Ulster County Public Defender provides front line defense to the most vulnerable individuals in our county," says Chairman Donaldson. "It is crucial that the individual in this position possesses the experience to not only render excellent legal representation in criminal law but also undertake the considerable administrative duties that come with it."

Legislator Walter, Chairwoman of Law Enforcement and Public Safety shares, "The Public Defender is the first responder charged to protect these individuals when they are brought to trial and must be skilled and confident to do so and, secondly, this person should be a prominent advocate for justice equity. My No vote tonight was a vote in favor of a process that ensures we achieve both of these goals."

Legislator Lynn Archer, Chairwoman, Ways and Means states, I am especially concerned with the more serious felonies like homicide, obstruction of justice, assault, possession and/or sales of a controlled substance. Criminal cases with a weak defense could result in a wrongful conviction causing a devastating impact on a person's life. The Ulster County Public Defender needs to be able to step into a criminal trial on day one if required. These are skills that take years to develop.

"I would like to add my concern over the hiring process," says Legislator Archer. "Despite what the Charter says, there is a right way to have done this. This was not considered, which I believe resulted in a candidate being presented to us with a critical gap in experience."

Chairman Donaldson states, "The services provided by the Public Defender are unique in government as the Public Defender and the lawyers in the office owe their fiduciary duty to their individual clients, not to the county that funds the office. It is, therefore, essential to have the selection process be independent of the very county charged by law with their prosecution."

"As the County moves ahead in its search for a new Public Defender," says Chairman Donaldson, "I would hope to work with the County Executive in developing a non-partisan, merit-based procedure which ensures the selection of a person with the best available legal and administrative talent, regardless of a political party affiliation, contributions or other irrelevant criteria."



CURBSIDE PICK UP HOURS

Monday - 10:30 - 1:30
 Tuesday - 10:00 - 6:00
 Wednesday - 10:00 - 4:30
 Thursday - 10:00 - 6:00
 Friday - 10:00 - 4:30



LIMITED HOURS FOR ESSENTIAL SERVICES

Monday - 11:00 - 1:00
 Tuesday - Friday - 11:00 - 4:00



ESSENTIAL SERVICES

To maintain social distancing, we will only be offering copying, scanning, printing and browsing. Please follow signs throughout the building.

WE'RE OPEN!

LIMITED HOURS & SERVICES



Here's what you need to know.



FINES WAIVED

All library check outs will be fine free until September 7th.



LIMITED COMPUTER USE

Computers have been spaced 6 feet apart. Please call to make an appointment. Usage will be limited to 30 minute sessions.



BOOK DROP RETURNS

Please continue to return all library materials through our book drop ONLY.

Have questions? Reach us at 845-985-7233 or email us at dpl@rcls.org.



Daniel Pierce Library

328 Main Street | P.O. Box 268
 Grahamsville, New York 12740-0268 | 845-985-7233
<http://www.danielpiercelibrary.org>

5th Annual

Wings & Wheels for Warriors



**Dash Plaques for first
150 Vehicles Registered!
6 Categories!
Over 50 Trophies!**

Saturday, August 29th 2020

Rain or Shine

9am to 3pm

Judging begins at 11am

Joseph Y. Resnick Airport

199 Airport Road

Ellenville, NY 12428

Benefiting the Disabled American Veterans

Family Fun • Plane Rides • Food

DJ Brian • Kid's Choice Award

*Proudly
Hosted By:*



FOR UPDATES PLEASE VISIT: www.facebook.com/WingsnWheelsforWarriors

The participant cost for this event is \$10 in advance or \$15 on the day of the show. If you wish to pre-register please fill in the form below and mail it to our office along with a check or money order **written to Disabled American Veterans**

Thank you for your support, we look forward to seeing you there!

Name: _____
 Email: _____
 Club Affil (if any): _____
 Address: _____
 City, St, Zip: _____
 Phone: _____

Vehicle Type (Please Circle One):
 Car Truck Bike Jeep Plane Tractor
 Vehicle Year: _____
 Vehicle Make: _____
 Vehicle Model: _____
 Applicants Signature: _____

Upon signing this form, the applicant agrees to release Sprague & Killeen, Inc. and anyone connected with this show, from any and all known and/or unknown damages, injury, losses, judgements, and/or claims that may be suffered by the entrant to his/her person or property. The applicant assumes full responsibility for his/her vehicle.

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

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

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

**Sundown United
Methodist Church**

**Covered Dish
Supper**

5:30 pm

To be
Announced

*Sundown
United Methodist
Church Hall*

**Grahamsville
United
Methodist
Church**

**Saturday
Thrift Sale**

9:00 am
to 12 noon
To be
Announced

Thrift Sale

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

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ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL MISSION

The Little Church with the Big Heart

**Sunday, 8 am Service of
Holy Communion, except:**

**Second Saturday of each month,
12:00 noon**

Music by Fred VanWagner
Coffee hour follows service

All are welcome!

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

**CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

(Embraces Fallsburg, Neversink, Sundown and Ulster Heights)
6317 Rte. 42, Woodbourne, NY

Weekend Mass schedule:

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

Daily Mass Schedule: Monday morning 8:50 am; Tuesday morning 8:50 am; Wednesday morning No Mass; Thursday afternoon 5:45 pm; Friday morning 8:50 am and Saturday morning 8:50 am.

Saturday afternoon confessions: 3:45 to 4:15 pm

Rev. Ignas Dhas MMI, Administrator
(845) 434-7643



Sundown United Methodist Church

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

Grahamsville United Methodist Church

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

Regular Office Hours

Wednesday 9 am - Noon
Friday 3 pm to 6 pm

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

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

Grahamsville Reformed Church

*The Church with
a friendly welcome*

Pastor Kenneth Ronk

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

**Claryville Reformed
Church**

Claryville Road
Claryville, NY 12725
845-985-2041

Worship Services @ 10:00 am

Church Hall available for rent
Call - 845-985-2041 for information



Loucks Funeral Home

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

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St. Augustine's Chapel

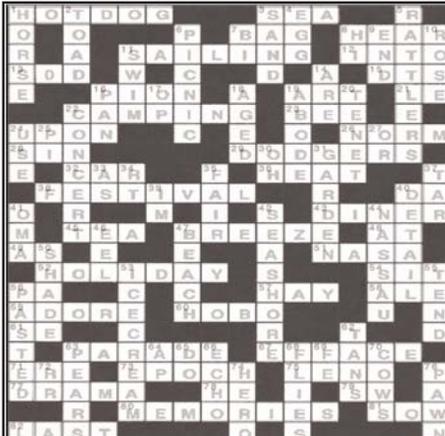
Watson Hollow Rd. • West Shokan, NY
Sunday Mass - 9:30 am
Holy Days 5:30 pm

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

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

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

Ans to last week's Crossword



Ashokan-Pepacton Watershed Chapter of Trout Unlimited Memorandum

The NYS DEC is sending out a message regarding trout fishing during the dry, hot summer... by NOAA's account perhaps the hottest summer on record yet. Please read, share with other anglers, and give serious consideration to the important message below. It's being distributed by the Ashokan-Pepacton Watershed Chapter of Trout Unlimited as a participant in DEC's angler/public outreach efforts.



Also garbage left behind, in wilderness places, seems to be a growing issue this year, especially with so many folks impacted by the coronavirus. The photo below was recently taken along the upper Rondout Creek.

To see a recent video, please go to: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AShO_NeQ22k&feature=youtu.be

All Aboard! **Cancelled until further notice**

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

Also **WANTED** People to play cards

SUUJI WA TANSU NI KAGIRU
 answer

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

Department of Environmental Conservation

CATCH AND RELEASE ANGLERS

HELP NEW YORK'S TROUT AND SALMON

BEAT THE SUMMER HEAT

Trout and salmon are coldwater species and experience physical stress when stream temperatures climb above 70°F. Taking the following precautions can help protect New York's trout and salmon resources:

Avoid catch-and-release fishing for heat-stressed trout.
 Trout already weakened by heat stress are at risk of death no matter how carefully they are handled.

Don't disturb trout where they have gathered in unusually high numbers.
 It is likely that these fish are recovering from heat stress in a pocket of cold water.

Go to Plan B!
 Consider fishing waters less likely to get too warm or fishing for a more heat-tolerant species, like smallmouth bass.

Fish Early.
 Stream temperatures are at their coolest in the early morning.

ARTISTS • CRAFTERS
 Need a website?
 Call us at 845-985-0501
 email: tvtownsmen@yahoo.com
 or visit our Virtual Mall gnohome.net

UC Executive Ryan Calls for Federal Coronavirus Assistance

KINGSTON, N.Y. - County Executive Ryan during his live Facebook briefing today called on Senate leadership to include federal assistance for local governments. While the House passed significant aid for state and local governments in the HEROES Act, which would provide direct relief for counties, there is growing concern that the Senate coronavirus relief bill may not include critical support for state and local governments. In April, County Executive Ryan wrote for the Times Union about the importance of much-needed federal relief for counties who are on the frontlines of the pandemic.

"Across the United States, counties are serving as the first line of response to the COVID-19 epidemic," Ulster County Executive Pat Ryan said. "A failure to act by the United States Senate would devastate local governments across the country as they continue to fight daily to save lives on the frontlines of this pandemic."

County Executive Ryan also reminded residents that the COVID-19 Rent Relief Program is now open.

To qualify for rental assistance, residents must meet all the following eligibility criteria:

Be a renter with a primary residence in New York; Lost income due to COVID-19 crisis during the period April 1, 2020 to July 31, 2020; Household does not currently receive a housing subsidy that covering housing costs that exceed 30 percent of their income; Before March 1, 2020 and at the time of application, household income must be below 80 percent area median income (see table below); families with extremely low income will be prioritized; and Before March 1, 2020 and at the time of application, households must be "rent burdened," or pay more than 30 percent of their gross monthly income for rent.

Households with at least one household member with U.S. Citizenship or eligible immigration status qualify for the subsidy.

Residents may apply for one month or up to four months of assistance during this period; the one-time subsidy is paid directly to the applicant's landlord. To be eligible, applicants must verify income, including wages, any cash assistance, child support, Social Security payments, rental payments, unemployment benefits and the like.

Eligible applicants must apply through the NYS COVID Rent Relief website. New York State will establish a call center to answer residents' questions at 1-833-499-0318.

Rental Assistance Available for

Apartment rental; Rent for a single-family home; Manufactured home rental; and Manufactured home lot rental.

There are currently 121 active cases of COVID-19 in Ulster County and 90 fatalities.

For additional information about COVID-19, please visit: <https://ulstercountyny.gov/coronavirus> • Ulster County COVID-19 Hotline: 845-443-8888 • NYS Coronavirus Information Hotline: 888-364-3065

Gunther and Metzger Bill Delivering Relief for NYS Farmers Affected by COVID-19 Passes Both Houses of the State Legislature

Albany, NY...Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther (AD-100) and Senator Jen Metzger (SD-42) this week passed a bill (A10464/S8464A) to ensure farmers negatively affected by COVID-19 do not lose their agricultural property tax assessments. As farms have seen higher costs to comply with pandemic safety regulations and supply chains have been disrupted leading to lower sales, many farms may not be able to meet the current gross revenue requirements to maintain their agricultural property tax break. Currently, agricultural operations are required to have at least \$10,000 in gross sales over two years for farms over seven acres in

size and \$50,000 in gross sales for those under seven acres. The Gunther-Metzger bill provides that farms that met the requirement before the pandemic hit would continue to receive the assessment despite the potential reduction in sales.

"New York State needs to be doing everything it can to support our farmers. We've all seen the stories- farmers having to dump their product because distribution channels were disrupted due to COVID," said Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther. "Farmers have had a difficult enough time during this pandemic, we shouldn't be increasing their property taxes on top of everything else."

"Our family farms have been hit hard during this pandemic, and face great uncertainty about what this year will bring in terms of sales," said Senator Jen Metzger, who serves as Chair of the State Senate's Agriculture Committee. "This bill provides assurance that farms can hold on to their agricultural property tax assessment even if gross sales fall short during this challenging time. Our farms are critical to New York's economic recovery and food security, and this bill will help to keep our farmers on their land."

Many dairy farms, in particular, were forced to dump their milk earlier this year due to disruptions in the marketplace. In April, Senator Metzger sent a letter to U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue urging the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to swiftly aid New York's dairy farms, which have been severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The joint letter with the State Senate's Rural Resources Commission, signed by six Senators, requests that the USDA immediately direct to the New York dairy industry a portion of the \$9.5 billion set aside for agriculture in the \$2.2 trillion federal relief package, known as the CARES Act, which was signed into law on March 27.

New York Farm Bureau President David Fisher said, "The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted every farm in the state in different ways. It has been especially challenging with the loss of markets and disruptions in the food supply chain. The legislation passed today with the support of Senator Metzger and Assembly Member Gunther will assist farms that struggled to meet income requirements necessary to maintain their agricultural assessment. The program is a valuable tool for farmers to help rein in rising property taxes, and we appreciate the legislative support to help farms through these challenging times."

Greater Catskills Young Farmers Coalition President Bari Ziegler said, "At the center of the matrix of collapses in wholesale and restaurant accounts, diminished access to regional abattoirs, labor shortages, and shortcomings of federal relief programs in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, are BIPOC, young, small-scale, speciality or diversified farmers. Commonly, many of these farmers directly nourish their respective communities and contribute to their local economies while implementing conservation best management practices to steward the land and contribute to the public good via supporting a myriad of ecosystem services. By reducing the sales threshold required for an agricultural assessment, NYS acknowledges the hardship of these resilient farmers, helps keep land in agriculture, and supports keeping farmers on the land. This is crucial for food security, local economic stimulation, and climate change mitigation in the State. Provided this, as a young farmer and representative of the Greater Catskills Young Farmers Coalition, I support Senate Bill S8464A."

Jen Metzger represents the 42nd Senate District, which includes all of Sullivan County and parts of Delaware, Orange, and Ulster Counties. Senator Metzger serves as Chair of the Agriculture Committee and sits on the Environmental Conservation, Education, Health, Energy and Telecommunications, Local Government, Women's Issues, Domestic Animal Welfare, and Legislative Commission on Rural Resources Committees.

Aileen Gunther represents the 100th Assembly District, which includes parts of Sullivan and Orange Counties. Assemblywoman Gunther serves as Chair of the Mental Hygiene Committee and sits on the Agriculture, Environmental Conservation, Health, and Racing & Wagering Committees.

Ulster County Legislature Seeking Public Comment on Sale or Transfer of Former Jail Property at Golden Hill



KINGSTON, NY— The Ulster County Legislature scheduled a public hearing to discuss the potential transfer a portion of the former county jail property at Golden Hill to a private developer for an affordable housing project.

Several ideas have been floated for the prime hilltop property with sweeping views of Ulster County including business incubators, offices, hotels and condos but earlier this year the legislature endorsed an aggressive and proactive approach to addressing affordable housing issues. In May, the Legislature unanimously approved Resolution No. 179 directing the County Executive to examine the use of existing county owned lands to support the development of affordable mixed-income housing.

“This is a great first step in a process that can truly improve the lives of people in Ulster County” said Legislator John Parete.

A transfer under the under Section 1411 of the Not-For-Profit Corporation Law of the State of New York (the “LDC Act”) requires a public hearing and a finding by the County that the lands are no longer required for use by the County. If the Legislature decides to proceed after the public hearing, the lands could be transferred to a local development corporation under the LDC Act.

The County has site concepts from at least 5 qualified developers for affordable mix-income housing development for the former jail property and the public hearing will allow the county to consider the county’s housing needs in making a decision on which plan and developer to work with.

Legislative Chairman David Donaldson sees great potential for a community housing project that includes affordable housing.

“The Legislature has been working on many fronts during this pandemic and this may be an opportunity to address housing and other socioeconomic issues facing Ulster County,” said Donaldson.

Legislator Brian Cahill, Chair of the Legislature’s Economic Development, Tourism, Housing, Planning and Transit committee agrees.

“Re-purposing the site of the former County Jail is a win/win for residents and the county. Using an unused, dormant piece of property that has the necessary infrastructure in place to help with our ever-increasing housing needs is the right use for this property. We are committed to doing what we can to increase the housing stock for the County, this is another step in that direction,” Cahill said.

The public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at 6:20 PM.

Major Development Planned for SC Airport

White Lake, NY - Sullivan County just inked a \$365,000 agreement with a development firm to construct the largest hangar yet built at the Sullivan County International Airport near White Lake.

District 7 Legislator Joe Perrello, who chairs the Legislature's Public Works Committee, made the initial contact with the interested developer and led the effort to strike a deal with long-lasting impacts.

“This deal finally delivers on years of promises to make our Airport a hub of economic development, and it positions us to attract more such development in the future,” says Perrello. “Especially now, when COVID-19 has hit us so hard, we have to be tightly focused on bringing in badly needed revenue, and this lease does that. I thank my fellow legislators for their support and for sharing my vision for an Airport that we can be proud of.”

The agreement allows Sullivan County International Airport Partners Ltd., a New Windsor-based real estate developer, to build a two-story, 18,000-square-foot airplane hangar on vacant land near the Airport's terminal building, in exchange for a land lease of \$9,000 a year, rising 2% annually thereafter for a total of 30 years. The company will also pay \$550 a month in maintenance fees and has the option to build two more hangars - one 40,000 square feet, the other 50,000 - if this venture proves successful.

The initial hangar's construction will employ 12-18 full-time workers, with operations commencing with 7 permanent employees, rising to as many as 32 in the first year, according to Jon Mende, CEO of Skyways, the operator who will lease the building from the developer when complete. Skyways operates aviation service bases out of airports in Morristown, NJ, Huron, SD, and Van Nuys, CA.

“We're planning on building a world-class hangar complex and jet maintenance facility in Sullivan County,” affirms Mende, who envisions the company's headquarters relocating here. “It's a great location, close to New York City, with amenities like the casino and waterpark close by.”

“Skyways will provide aircraft sales, maintenance, and hangar storage, with room for up to 4 jet aircraft in the initial hangar, which means we'll collect further income from fuel purchases and landing fees,” says Legislature Chairman Rob Doherty. “The business will also create new jobs, not counting construction. I see this as a turning point for the Airport, eventually transitioning it to a long-sought hub of commercial activity.”

“I want to thank the Town of Bethel and Supervisor Dan Sturm for his assistance in getting this deal done.”

Metzger Bill Forgiving \$1.9 Million in Penalties to Monticello School District Passes Senate

Albany, NY...The Senate last week passed Senator Jen Metzger's bill (S7370) forgiving the Monticello Central School District for \$1.9 million in penalties for the late filing of capital reports many years ago. The bill, which also passed the Assembly, retroactively validates Monticello's reports as being timely filed. The State Legislature passed this same bill last year, along with another bill sponsored by Metzger and Assemblymember Aileen Gunther (AD-100) to forgive building aid penalties for the Roscoe School District. The Governor signed the Roscoe bill last year but vetoed the Monticello bill. (Contd. Pg. 26)

**PLEASE CONTACT A MEMBER OF EACH ORGANIZATION TO MAKE CERTAIN OF CHANGES AND CANCELLATIONS
DUE TO COVID-19**

Many organization and municipalities are now using the internet to conduct meetings and to communicate with their members and the community. We welcome all organizations and municipalities who will be utilizing the internet to do so and to submit their contact information (URL) and we will post the information on our Calendar of Events.

Send your information to: tvtownsman@yahoo.com

Town of Denning - <http://www.denning.us>

Town of Neversink - <https://townofneversink.org>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

7/30/2020 Neversink Fire District Meeting - 6:00 pm (See Pg. 17 Legals for details)
8/16/2020 Claryville Fire Department **** All You can Eat Pancake Breakfast** 7am -12 noon
8/19/2020 Neversink-Rondout Antique Machinery Association Meeting - 7:30 pm
8/29/2020 Claryville Fire Department ****Annual Craft and Vendor Fair** 10 am- 4 pm

**** We will be following the CDC guidelines for Covid-19! Please remember that we will be doing everything possible to keep all of our members and customers safe and healthy**

Save the Date!

Due to the COVID 19 restrictions and concerns we had to make the difficult decision to postpone **Matthew Bertholf's Memorial Horseshoe Tournament** until next year. It has been **rescheduled for Sunday, July 11, 2021** and will be held at the Neversink Fire Department's Pavilion. Next year will be the **10th anniversary** of this tournament. Looking forward to seeing you then!!! Our 2020 scholarship recipients are Logan Cossack and Michael Babcock.

2020 Virtual Catskills Youth Climate Summit Thursdays, **Oct. 1, 15, 29; Nov. 12, 2020** via Zoom 3:30-5:00 pm Free for students grades 7-12 + advisor. If you have further questions or want to sign up, please contact Jeanne Darling (jmd30@cornell.edu) or call 607-865-6531.

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.

COVID-19 ONLINE BEREAVEMENT GROUP

This on-line support group is new and is for those who have lost a loved one to Covid-19.

The link below goes to our page with all information.

Go to:

<https://hospiceforange.com/grief-symptoms-can-be-heightened-during-this-current-community-health-crisis/>

Tri-Valley Elementary School

WANTED:

Local establishments to display student KINDNESS artwork

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

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

**Time and the Valleys Museum
Searching for a Picture**

The Time and the Valleys Museum exhibit committee is searching for a photo of Helen Aldrich. If anyone has one please contact Phyllis Coombe at: phyllisncoombe@hvc.rr.com or 845-985-7530 and she will help to arrange to get the pictures.

**Claryville Volunteer Fire Department
Seeking Help to Celebrate
65th Anniversary**

Claryville Volunteer Fire Department will be celebrating its 65th Anniversary. They are asking anyone who may have pictures of the Fire Department if they could borrow them to make copies for this celebration.

Please contact Jean Keesler at jkeesler1@yahoo.com or 845-985-7879.

**Time and the Valleys
One Room School Project**

Question??

Does anyone in the community have info about a possible Beaver Dam or Curry school? If so would you please share with our researchers? 845-985-7012

The Staff is also looking forward to hearing from community families whose ancestors might have experienced schooling at one room schools. We are specifically looking for the following pre 1920 items: lunch pails or boxes; children's clothing and toys; two 48 star flags; ice skates; bikes; pictures or other memorabilia of former schools.

DEC Commemorates 30th Anniversary of Americans with Disabilities Act Improvements at State Facilities and Lands Statewide to Enhance Access

New York State is National Leader on Disability Rights and Commits to Continuing to Improve Recreational Opportunities for All

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos today renewed DEC's commitment to improving access to lands and waters across the state and commemorated the upcoming 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the first comprehensive law guaranteeing equal rights to people with disabilities. The ADA and DEC's accessibility efforts are succeeding to help people with disabilities fully participate in and enjoy the benefits of DEC's facilities, services, programs, and activities.

"The outdoors are for everyone to enjoy," said Commissioner Seggos. "While we've made great strides in accessibility in the last three decades, there is more work to be done. For us, it's not just about being in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, we want to continue leading as an example for states around the country to follow."

The ADA prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in all areas of public life. Enacted on July 26, 1990, the ADA for the first time provided broad civil rights for people with disabilities by setting minimum standards for accessibility for alterations and new construction of all facilities providing public accommodations by state and local governments as well as the business sector. The Act also requires entities providing public accommodations to plan for and initiate the removal of barriers in existing buildings to facilitate the accessibility of their programming.

DEC is committed to increasing the range of accessible opportunities available for people to fish, boat, hunt, canoe, picnic, horseback ride, hike, and camp. This is achieved in a variety of ways, including through physical design, alternative forms of communication, inclusive programs, and individual accommodation. Many of DEC's recent actions are also consistent with the Governor's 2018 Executive Order to make New York the first age-friendly state in the country. The state's focus is on inclusion, as opposed to creating separate programs. Access Programs and Services

Among the offerings currently available are the New York State Access Pass, which is administered by the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) and is available to New York State residents with disabilities for free or discounted use of State Parks, historic sites, and recreational facilities. The Access Pass is accepted at DEC campgrounds and day use areas. Information about DEC campgrounds, boat launches, and public areas across the state with accessible features including picnic areas, developed and primitive campsites, fishing platforms, boating boarding piers, cartop launches, wildlife viewing platforms, and beach access points can be found on the DEC website.

Service animals are welcome at all DEC sites. DEC also administers the Motorized Access Program for People with Disabilities (MAPPWD) to allow a permitted vehicle to travel beyond the reach of certain public roads to areas where others must hike or bike. The permit provides access for those who seek solitude, connection to nature, undisturbed wildlife habitat, and inclusion with fellow sportspeople. Special permits and licenses for hunting and fishing are also available to people with disabilities. Information about this suite of opportunities and more can be found on DEC's Accessible Recreation web page and ADA_Accessibility Coordinators are available to answer questions and facilitate recreation on DEC lands and waters.

Many Recreational Opportunities Available

As even more people enjoy the outdoors during the pandemic, DEC is making every effort to make sure there are places near communities across the state with mobility features that improve accessibility to people with disabilities. Under Governor Cuomo's Adventure NY initiative, DEC is making strategic investments to expand access to healthy, active, outdoor recreation; connect more New Yorkers and visitors to nature and the outdoors; protect natural resources; and boost local economies. Ulster and Sullivan County includes:

Kenneth L. Wilson Day Use Area, Ulster County: Recently constructed features in the Kenneth Wilson Day Use Area include a fishing pier and canoe/kayak launch with accessible amenities. In addition, the site offers a picnic area with a fire pit, grills and a quarter-mile trail over a bridge and through the woods to an 80-foot wildlife viewing platform along the shore of the Little Beaverkill.

Mongaup Valley Wildlife Management Area, Sullivan County: There are two eagle-viewing blinds designed to be accessible to people with disabilities—one is the newly designated Dr. Ted Kerpez Memorial Eagle Viewing Blind that was recently completed and is open for people of all ages and abilities to enjoy. It provides an ideal location for the public to view wintering eagles in a shelter that minimizes any disturbance to wildlife. The eagle viewing blind is located on Route 43 facing the Mongaup_Falls Reservoir.

Bashakill Wildlife Management Area Duck Blind, Sullivan County: A waterfowl hunting/wildlife observation blind designed to promote accessibility was constructed at Bashakill Wildlife Management Area in 2018. The blind is accessed from the western parking area on Haven Road via a 600-foot wide, graded trail. The blind faces north and provides an expansive view of the northern half of the Bashakill's wetland habitat. This 3,107-acre Wildlife Management Area (WMA) contains the largest freshwater wetland in southeastern New York.

The DEC website makes it easy to find accessible recreation destinations. Fishing access for anglers with disabilities are broken down into every area of the state. This is also where to find the application to apply for a permit to use a motorized vehicle on specified trails and request the use of a power-driven mobility device on DEC lands.

DEC reminds all visitors that the agency is here to help. Anyone who needs modifications to DEC policies, practices, or procedures in order to participate in a program or activity, should communicate with DEC staff. Any questions relating to the provision of accommodation should be directed to DEC ADA Coordinators.

During the State's ongoing response to COVID-19, New Yorkers across the state want and need to get outside for a nature break, which is good for physical and mental health. Before heading out, take the PLAY SMART * PLAY SAFE * PLAY LOCAL pledge, and promise to use common sense to protect yourself and others when enjoying the outdoors. The new campaign encourages all New Yorkers to recreate safely, responsibly, and locally this summer and to always treat fellow outdoor adventurers with respect.

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo has made New York a national leader on disability rights by promoting key policies and initiatives including the state's comprehensive Olmstead Implementation Plan (PDF) to serve individuals with disabilities in the most integrated settings. Executive Order 136 established the New York Employment First Initiative to increase employment opportunities for people with disabilities, and the creation of the Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs which protects the safety and civil rights of New Yorkers. Just this week, the Governor also launched a new I Love NY accessibility hub detailing the many opportunities for travelers with accessibility needs.

Metzger Bill Forging \$1.9 Million in Penalties to Monticello School District Passes Senate

(From Pg. 23) The Monticello School District received a partial amnesty back in 2012, but the remaining \$1.9 million penalty is onerous and excessive, according to the Senator. Noting that over 70 percent of Monticello students qualify for free and reduced lunch, Senator Metzger said, "this is a district that cannot afford to give up a single dollar in penalties."

"I was pleased that the Governor signed the bill last year for the Roscoe School District, but it is vital that he does the same for Monticello, especially given the pandemic and economic downturn," said Senator Metzger (SD-42). "I strongly urge the Governor to sign this bill into law, and bring needed relief to overburdened taxpayers and much-needed resources to the district's children and teachers."

Monticello has a high-needs population in a rural setting. It already faces the heavy burdens of limited state aid and tax revenues, lower enrollment, and a diminished tax base. Senator Metzger's bill argues that the district's children do not deserve to have a clerical error negatively impact their educational programming.

"Such an arbitrary, disproportionate penalty would have been unfathomable for our students and taxpayers alike, particularly in this current financial climate," Monticello Board of Education President Lori Orestano-James said. "We are exceedingly grateful for Senator Metzger's tireless advocacy on this matter, and we thank her, as well as Assemblywoman Gunther and all of their colleagues, for their unwavering support of education."

NYC DEP Announces Upcoming Field Work for Ashokan Century Program Temporary Closure of Some Recreation Areas

DEP to start subsurface analyses for future upgrades to dam and dikes at Ashokan Reservoir

Drilling and excavating will require temporary closures at the Ashokan Promenade and Ashokan Rail Trail to ensure safety of public and workers

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) today announced that field work will begin next month to support future upgrades to the dam and dikes that impound water at Ashokan Reservoir. The work will focus on gathering soil and bedrock samples that are needed for the engineering and design of upgrades at each structure. The subsurface investigations are connected to the Ashokan Century Program, a comprehensive, multi-year capital program to upgrade the dam, dikes, chambers and other infrastructure at Ashokan Reservoir. The program - which comprises the largest public works project in the Catskills in more than 50 years - was announced in 2017.

"The bedrock and soil samples DEP will collect through the end of the year are essential as our team begins to design upgrades for each of the structures that form Ashokan Reservoir," DEP Commissioner Vincent Sapienza said. "Drilling and excavating to collect that data will require temporary closures at some recreation areas to ensure the safety of the public and our workers. I want to thank our watershed neighbors in advance for their patience, and for helping DEP get this project started safely and successfully."

The subsurface investigations will begin in early August. The work includes drilling at each of the structures to collect soil and bedrock information from deep below the surface. DEP will also use an excavator at some locations to dig temporary test pits where roadway or drainage upgrades are anticipated. Each of the

excavated areas will be refilled on the same day, and seeded. Work at each location will only happen during normal business hours, Monday through Friday.

During the summer and fall, the field work will require temporary shutdowns of certain portions of the Ashokan Promenade and the Ashokan Rail Trail. The following is a description and estimated schedule for the work.

Work at the Ashokan Promenade

The Ashokan Promenade is a paved walkway atop the Olivebridge Dam, West Dike and Middle Dike on the south side of Ashokan Reservoir. The walkway is accessed through two parking lots off Route 28A.

DEP will conduct subsurface investigations at these structures in August, September, and early October. Field work will also be performed at East Dike during that time, where there is no public access. Work in the public access areas will be performed by a drill rig to gather soil and rock samples - known as geotechnical borings - from deep within each of the structures. Work areas around the drill rigs will be approximately 10 feet wide and 50 feet long. They will be surrounded by fencing and a visual barrier to protect the safety of workers and the public.

The westernmost portion of the Ashokan Promenade, which sits atop Olivebridge Dam, will be closed Monday through Friday for approximately seven weeks while DEP performs the work. The dam will be closed during the week from late August until early October. That portion of the promenade will re-open each Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday. DEP must close Olivebridge Dam because it is too narrow to safely route visitors around the worksite.

The easternmost stretch of the Ashokan Promenade will remain open while workers perform the geotechnical borings. On that portion of the walkway, which is wider, DEP will set up a safe work zone and direct visitors around it. Work on that part of the walkway will begin during the first week of August.

Work near the Ashokan Rail Trail

The Ashokan Rail Trail is an 11.5-mile-long trail that occupies a former railroad corridor on the north side of Ashokan Reservoir. That side of the reservoir includes three impoundments - West Hurley Dike, Woodstock Dike and Glenford Dike. A parking lot for the Ashokan Rail Trail is located alongside Woodstock Dike, and the trail itself runs atop Glenford Dike for approximately one-half mile.

DEP will perform subsurface investigations at West Hurley Dike and Woodstock Dike in late September and October. This work will not require the Ashokan Rail Trail to be closed. However, because the work at Woodstock Dike is adjacent to a rail-trail parking lot, the work area will be cordoned off with fencing and visual barriers. Rail trail visitors are reminded that Woodstock Dike is not open to the public, except for fishermen who have their boats stored on two peninsulas near the dike.

DEP will perform subsurface investigations at Glenford Dike in early November. That portion of the Ashokan Rail Trail will be closed Monday through Friday for approximately 2-3 weeks to ensure the safety of workers and the public. That stretch of the trail will be re-opened each Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday. The work at Glenford Dike was specifically scheduled after peak foliage season to accommodate visitors at the trail.

In August, DEP will also gather subsurface information for the foundation of a new storage building near the Ben Nesin Office Building on Route 28A. These borings will take one week to complete and will happen in an area that is not accessible to the general public. (Contd. Pg. 27)

NYC DEP Announces Upcoming Field Work for Ashokan Century Program Temporary Closure of Some Recreation Areas

(From Pg. 26)

The Ashokan Century Program

The Ashokan Century Program is a comprehensive set of projects to upgrade practically all the infrastructure at Ashokan Reservoir, including the dam, dikes, chambers, spillway and the Dividing Weir Bridge. DEP has committed approximately \$750 million to the program thus far. Some of the earliest work is expected to begin in 2023, and the program is expected to stretch well into the 2030s.

The Ashokan Century Program is part of DEP's continuing efforts to upgrade dams and other key facilities that provide 1.1 billion gallons of drinking water every day to more than 9 million New Yorkers. That effort began nearly three decades ago. Beginning in the 1990s, DEP rehabilitated a number of dams that are part of its Croton Water Supply System in Putnam and Westchester counties. In 2014, DEP completed the \$138 million full-scale rehabilitation of Gilboa Dam at Schoharie Reservoir.

About 40 percent of New York City's drinking water passes through Ashokan Reservoir each day. It impounds 125 billion gallons of water at full capacity. The reservoir collects rainwater and melting snow from a 255-square-mile watershed that includes part of 11 towns in Ulster, Greene and Delaware counties. The reservoir conveys that drinking water to New York City through the 92-mile-long **Catskill Aqueduct**.

DEP manages New York City's water supply, providing more than 1 billion gallons of high-quality water each day to more than 9.6 million New Yorkers. This includes more than 70 upstate communities and institutions in Ulster, Orange, Putnam and Westchester counties who consume an average of 110 million total gallons of drinking water daily from New York City's water supply system. This water comes from the Catskill, Delaware, and Croton watersheds that extend more than 125 miles from the City, and the system comprises 19 reservoirs, three controlled lakes, and numerous tunnels and aqueducts. DEP has nearly 6,000 employees, including almost 1,000 scientists, engineers, surveyors, watershed maintainers and other professionals in the watershed. In addition to its \$70 million payroll and \$168.9 million in annual taxes paid in upstate counties, DEP has invested more than \$1.7 billion in watershed protection programs-including partnership organizations such as the Catskill Watershed Corporation and the Watershed Agricultural Council-that support sustainable farming practices, environmentally sensitive economic development, and local economic opportunity. In addition, DEP has a robust capital program with \$20.1 billion in investments planned over the next decade that will create up to 3,000 construction-related jobs per year. For more information, visit nyc.gov/dep, like us on Facebook at [facebook.com/nycwater](https://www.facebook.com/nycwater), or follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/nycwater.

News from The Catskill Fly Fishing Center and Museum

How can we increase effectiveness while social distancing?

We are brainstorming different ways for everyone to enjoy the museum this Summer & Fall. Protecting your health and ours is a priority for us.

Keeping this in mind, we have started the revitalization of the trail system at CFFCM! These trails will allow our visitors to appreciate the spacious grounds in addition to our indoor exhibits. Stay tuned for updates on how you or a loved one can be a lasting part of the new trail system.

Join our virtual Catskill Rodmakers Gathering!

This year our Catskill Rodmakers Gathering will be a virtual event. We will be filming our programs and putting them online for people to view along with a Live Q&A with our speakers on September 12. An online auction + raffle entry will also take place for the chance to win a 7'6" , 4 wt. quadrate bamboo rod.

To register, go to:

<https://cffcm.rallyup.com/catskillrodmakeerseven>

One of the last interviews with legendary Lefty Kreh before he died about learning to handle a fly rod, his experiences in the outdoors and his favorite spot on the Potomac River.

To Listen go to:

<https://www.baltimoresun.com/opinion/columnists/dan-rodricks/bs-roughly-speaking-lefty-kreh-20180316-htmlstory.html>

The Catskills Mountains is the birthplace of American dry fly fishing. From it's pristine, protected waters to it's abundant wildlife and unique bug life, fly fishermen from around the world come to fish on the famed Beaverkill, Upper Delaware, Neversink and Willowemoc rivers, and many legendary fly fishermen have made their home in the peaceful mountains just two hours north of New York City.

If you haven't already seen it, this is a beautiful video made in 2016 by our Board President Peter Crosby & The Catskill Brewery that highlights our very own Catskills Mountains, the birthplace of American dry fly fishing. Go to: <https://vimeo.com/169278790>

The Fly Fishing Center and Museum is this year celebrating it's 35th anniversary, and continues to be a focal point for the community in preserving the tradition and history of the sport, as well as bringing in and encouraging a new generation of fly fishermen. To learn more, and pledge to support the museum, please visit cffcm.com.

This film was proudly sponsored by the Catskill Brewery (catskillbrewery.com); Filmed and Edited by Peter Crosby; Produced by Kevin Joseph and Randy Lewis; A Bullrush Films Production (bullrushfilms.com)

DEC Releases PSA to Remind Outdoor Adventurers to Play Smart * Play Safe * Play Local While Keeping Natural Areas Litter-Free

In response to increased litter left behind by visitors to New York's natural areas, the State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) today released a new PSA to remind outdoor adventurers to follow the principles of Leave No Trace. The PSA features images of trash in the Catskills and the Adirondacks with a reminder that litter is not only unsightly, but can be deadly to New York's wildlife. Visit DEC's YouTube channel to view the PSA.

DEC is encouraging visitors to the State's natural areas and facilities to keep New York's environment clean by following the principals of Leave No Trace; Carry out what you carry in and don't leave trash, food, or gear behind. Earlier this summer, DEC and the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (State Parks) launched the PLAY SMART * PLAY SAFE * PLAY LOCAL Campaign to encourage all New Yorkers to recreate safely, responsibly, and locally this summer and to always treat fellow outdoor adventurers with respect.

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 Don 845-807-1036

ANSWER TO KNARF'S MOVIE TRIVIA

Ans
 1. Judy Garland
 2. Fred Astaire

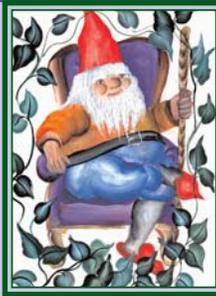
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Knarf's Classic Movie & Trivia

TCM @ 8:00 PM WEDNESDAY AUGUST 5, 2020
 HONORING MUSICALS IN FILM

HIT THE DECK

DIRECTED BY ROY ROLAND AND STARRING; JANE POWELL,
 TONY MARTIN, DEBBIE REYNOLDS, WALTER PIDGEON, VIC
 DAMONE, GENE RAYMOND, ANN MILLER AND RUSS TABLYN



This show busines romantic love story is based on the stage musical that opened in N.Y.C. on April 25, 1927 which was based on the 1922 stage play "Shore Leave" by Hubert Osborne. This film was shot in Cinema Scope. Although the film featured some songs from the stage musical, the plot was different. Musical standards fea-

tured in the film include "Sometimes I'm Happy" and "Hallelujah." Rated, TV-G, 112 minutes: CC

AT 10:00 PM WEDNESDAY EVENING

**AUGUST 5, 2020 ON TCM
 ON THE TOWN**

1949 · 1hr 38min · Musical/Romance
 Starring Gene Kelly, Frank Sinatra, Betty Garrett, Ann Miller and Vera-Ellen, singing and dancong at it's best. I wanted to jump up out of my chair and join the song and dance. The three dimensional depth of the characters, and how they are presented makes you really get to know their their pains, and pleasures. An excellent cast.

Lucy Schmeeler a short, acid-tongued character, practically steals the show. Played by comedienne Alice Pearce, she built her reputation in Broadway musicals.

(Contd. Pg. 27)



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Knarf's Classic Movie & Trivia (From Pg. 28)



Her first screen appearance was as Lucy Schmeeler, the girl with a really bad sneeze. and a great soundtrack. Music by Leonard Bernstein and Roger Edens.

**AT 2:00 AM EARLY THURSDAY MORNING
AUGUST 6, 2020 ON TCM
EASTER PARADE**



A girl is engaged to the local rich man, but meanwhile she has dreams about the legendary pirate Macoco, a traveling singer who falls in love with her and to impress her he poses as the pirate. **Director: Vincente Minnelli. Stars: Judy Garland, Gene Kelly, and Walter Slezak.** The parade takes place on Easter Sunday celebrated, and inspired by the annual event of the Christian Celebration of Jesus the Christ's Resurrection in New York City, where people strolled down Fifth Avenue displaying their new hats (some very outrageous) and their Easter finery, July 8, 1948. The song "Easter Parade" was first sung in Irving Berlin's 1933 Broadway revue "As Thousands Cheer" by Marilyn Miller and Clifton Webb.

Quiz:

1. Who played Hanna Brown?
2. Who played Don Hewes?

ON AMAZON PRIME THREE OF THE TOP GROSSING MOTION PICTURES OF 2020

1. **Bad Boys for Life (2020) rated R | 124 min | Action, Comedy, Crime.**



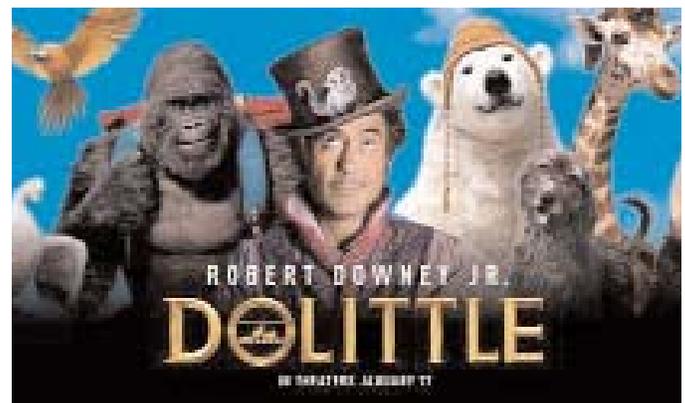
Miami detectives Mike Lowrey and Marcus Burnett must face off against a mother-and-son pair of drug lords who wreak vengeful havoc on their city. **Directors: Adil El Arbi, Bilall Fallah. Stars: Will Smith, Martin Lawrence, Vanessa Hudgens and Alexander Ludwig. Gross: \$204.42M** Watch on Prime Video/rent/buy from \$2.99

2. **Sonic the Hedgehog (2020) PG • 99 min • Action, Adventure, Comedy**

After discovering a small, blue, fast hedgehog, a small-town police officer must help him defeat an evil genius who wants to do experiments on him. **Director: Jeff Fowler. Stars: Ben Schwartz, James Marsden, Jim Carrey, Tika Sumpter. Gross: \$146.07M.** Watch on Prime Video rent/buy from \$4.99



3. **Dolittle (2020) PG • 101 min • Adventure, Comedy, Family.**



A physician who can talk to animals embarks on an adventure to find a legendary island with a young apprentice and a crew of strange pets. **Director: Stephen Gaghan. Stars: Robert Downey Jr., Antonio Banderas, Michael Sheen, Jim Broadbent. Gross: \$77.05M.** Watch on Prime Video rent/buy from \$5.99

All photos courtesy of Bing free IMAGES

**Stay safe and stay well,
Knarf Odnamoc
Gnomz**

Late News!

Tremper Mountain Fire Tower Reopens to Visitors

July 27, 2020 - MT.TREMPER, NY -- The Catskill Center is happy to announce that the Tremper Mountain Fire Tower in Mt. Tremper, NY has reopened its top cab for visitors. Earlier in the season the tower had remained closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In light of the ongoing concerns, the tower has been reopened in a cautious way with multiple new safety measures in place. To protect other hikers, visitors are required to wear a face mask when climbing on the tower, to use hand sanitizer before and after climbing on the tower, and only members of the same party should climb together.

The tower is not yet being currently staffed by Catskill Fire Tower Project volunteers from the Catskill Center. Therefore when visiting, hikers will be able to climb the tower and enter the cab on their own. We are kindly asking that visitors to the tower not try to open the fire tower windows as they are in fragile condition and will be replaced soon.

“While this isn’t our traditional type of opening with the Catskill Fire Tower Project at a fire tower, we are excited to offer the public a chance to enjoy the Tremper Mountain Fire Tower,” said Jeff Senterman, Executive Director of the Catskill Center. “These towers are some of the most scenic and popular destinations in the Park and now the public will have the opportunity to once again enjoy the towers before our volunteers return to the tower.”

Built in 1917, the 47-foot steel tower once used for forest fire surveillance offers a beautiful and unique view that is fondly known as being in “the teacup of the Catskills.” With some of the higher elevation mountains surrounding you and a “spout” that leads the eye to the Ashokan Reservoir and the Hudson River Valley, the view from Tremper Fire Tower is a great thing to experience.

A strenuous hike can take you to the summit of Tremper Mountain and to the fire tower. There are two main trailheads that can take you to the top. From the western side trailhead on Old Route 28 in Mt. Tremper, NY the hike is 6.10 miles out and back with about 1967’ of elevation gain. From the eastern side in Willow, NY on Jessop Road, the trail is 7.6 miles roundtrip with 1633’ of elevation gain. For both hikes, it is suggested that hikers have the 10 essentials with them to prepare for a few hours out in the backcountry:

(http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/lands_forests_pdf/hikesmartnessentials.pdf).

The Catskill Center expects that their volunteers from the Catskill Center’s Catskill Fire Tower Project will begin to staff the tower later in the season. When volunteers arrive, they will be on hand to greet hikers.

The five backcountry Catskill Park Fire Towers are owned and maintained by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) with support from the Catskill Center. A sixth Catskill Park Fire Tower is now located on the grounds of the Catskills Visitor Center (catskillsvisitorcenter.org), having opened in the Fall of 2019. You can learn more about the Fire Towers of the Catskill Park on the Catskill Center’s website at <http://catskillcenter.org/fire-tower-project>.

The volunteer program at the Tremper Mountain Fire Tower is a part of Catskill Center’s Catskill Fire Tower Project. A program that began in the 1990s to restore and maintain the 5 original historic Catskill Fire Towers. The Catskill Fire Tower Project keeps towers staffed (presently only Hunter and Balsam Lake Mountains due to COVID-19) on weekends and holidays from May through October. Volunteers greet and speak with visitors to the Catskill Park; providing regional and historical information, and encouraging best hiking practices to protect and preserve the Park. As a member-supported

effort, the Catskill Fire Tower Project relies on donations and membership contributions to the Catskill Center. To support the Catskill Fire Tower Project, make a donation and become a member of the Catskill Center at <http://catskillcenter.org/membership>.

NOW TRENDING... TOP EVENTS FOR AUGUST in Ulster County

PLEASE NOTE: Calendar listings are based on information received prior to publication. With increased postponements due to the uncertainty of COVID-19 (coronavirus), you may want to contact the event sponsors in advance.

July 15-Aug. 9: 18th Annual Saugerties (virtual), potters, photographers Go to: <http://saugertiesarttour.org>

July 29-Aug. 2: HITS Horse Shows in August (virtual): Olympic-level equestrian show jumping. HITS-on-the-Hudson VI: NY Horse & Pony Show: July 29-Aug. 2. HITS-on-the-Hudson VII: Aug. 26-30. No spectators. Watch events online at <https://www.showhorse.tv/pages/discover/d/videos>. HITS-on-the-Hudson, 454 Washington Avenue Extension, Saugerties. 845-246-5515; <http://hitsshows.com>

Aug 1 - 4-H “Drive-thru Safari:” Come with your family, relax in your car, drive through our animal famously delicious 4-H milkshakes. Everyone will remain in their cars to ensure safety. orders. Noon-4 p.m. Free admission. Proceeds from milkshake sales benefit the Ulster both days have inclement weather the event will be canceled. Hosted by Cornell Cooperative Fairgrounds. 249 Libertyville Road, New Paltz. 845-340-3990; <http://ulster.cce.cornell.edu>

Aug 1 -Artists On The Street: Historic Huguenot Street is excited to announce the return of “Artists On The Street: A Plein Air Event.” This year’s event will span the 10-acre National Historic Landmark District and will feature over a dozen local artists. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Historic Huguenot Street, 81 Huguenot St., New Paltz. 845-255-1660; <http://huguenotstreet.org>

Aug. 4-9: 133rd Ulster County Fair, New Paltz – CANCELED (134th Ulster County Fair will be held Aug. 3-8, 2021)

Aug. 7-Sept 6: “William Shakespeare’s Long Lost First Play (abridged):” Presented by Woodstock Shakespeare Festival in its 25th season. Friday, Saturday, Sunday at 5:30 p.m. Bring blankets and chairs. Picnics welcome. Admission free. Suggested donation \$10. 45 Comeau Drive, Woodstock. 845-247-4007; <http://birdonacliff.org>

Aug. 8: 21st Annual Blueberry Festival, Ellenville – CANCELED (The Blueberry Festival will be held Aug. 14, 2021)

Aug. 16: Farm Fest at Oz Farm: Live Music. Whole smoked pig, hay smoked salmon, corn, watermelon and more. Beer truck, wine and full bar. Events for children. \$5 entry tickets; purchase in person at Dutch, Windmill Wine & Spirits or online at dutchchalehouse.com/tickets. Oz Farm, 280 Malden Turnpike, Saugerties. info@destinationsaugerties.org; <http://destination-saugerties.org>

Aug. 29: 11th Annual Phoenicia International Festival of the Voice: This year’s live opera staging will be a drive-in performance of Puccini’s Tosca. The audience will drive right into parking slots, sound will be provided two ways and the audience will relax and enjoy the show. Both the venue and the technology ensure that audience members stay safe in their cars while musicians and staff “socially distance” themselves onstage or behind it. Cast: Joyce El-Khoury as Tosca, Dimitri Pittas as her lover, Mario Cavaradossi, and bass-baritone Kyle Albertson as Baron Scarpia. Tech City, 300 Enterprise Drive, Kingston. 845-688-3291; <http://phoeniciavoicfest.org>