



Ye Olde TOWNSMAN Valley



"The Best Journal Published by a Dam Site!"

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Mysterious Book Report John D. McKenna Pg 5 • *The Olive Jar* Carol La Monda Pg 6 • *The Scene Too* Jane Harrison Pg 11
Knarf's Classic Movie & Trivia Pg 60

Sullivan Medical Reserve Corps Earns \$5,000 Federal Grant

Liberty, NY - Sullivan County's newly recognized Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) just received word that it's one of only three New York-based MRCs to receive Federal funding in 2022.

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) this week announced the 2022 Medical Reserve Corps Operational Readiness Awards, of which Sullivan qualified to receive \$5,000. These awards, made possible through a cooperative agreement with the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response's Medical Reserve Corps Program Office, are intended to build the operational readiness capabilities of MRC units to meet the emergency preparedness and response needs of local, regional, and statewide stakeholders.

The MRC program was established to provide a way to recruit, train, and activate medical and public health professionals and other volunteers to respond to community health needs during disasters and other public health emergencies.

(Contd. Pg. 4)



Medical Reserve Corps volunteers worked side-by-side with Public Health Services staff during dozens of COVID-19 vaccination clinics, including this one at the Stroebele Center in Monticello.

UC Executive Pat Ryan Establishes COVID-19 Commemoration Commission

On the two-year anniversary of Ulster County's first confirmed case of COVID-19, County Executive Pat Ryan signed an Executive



Ulster County Executive Pat Ryan joined by COVID-19 Commemoration Commission members.

Order establishing a commission that will develop a monument honoring frontline workers who risked their lives throughout the pandemic, and memorializing those Ulster County residents whose lost their lives to COVID-19

The COVID-19 Commemoration Commission is an 22-member board which will be tasked with citing and curating a physical monument in Ulster County

KINGSTON, N.Y. - Ulster County Executive Pat Ryan announced today, on the two-year anniversary of the first confirmed case of COVID-19 in Ulster County, that he has signed an Executive Order establishing a commission to develop a memorial honoring those frontline workers who risked their lives

throughout the pandemic, and memorializing the lives of Ulster County residents lost to COVID-19. The COVID-19 Commemoration Commission is a 22-member board tasked with citing and curating a permanent monument in Ulster County to tell the story of the response and impact of the pandemic, and to highlight how the entire community rallied and supported each other during the course of this once-in-a-century pandemic. (Contd. Pg. 4)

YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN

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

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THE SCENE TOO - Jane Harrison

OLIVE JAR - Carol La Monda

MYSTERIOUS BOOK REPORT - John McKenna

FALLSBURG NEWS - Larry Schafman

MOVIE TRIVIA - Frank Comando a/k/a Knarf

COMMUNITY NEWS - Sheila Lashinsky

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

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Deadline for all submissions is 3:00 p.m. Friday for the following week's issue

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

More than ever, thank you for your continued support.

ON THE FRONT BURNER: "I (Jesus) have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in Me may not remain in darkness."

John 12:46

OBITUARY

Cathaline Howard of Liberty, New York passed away July 28th, 2021 at the age of 49. **Brett Howard** of Liberty, New York passed away on February 7th, 2022 at the age of 44. The loving couple passed from a trucking accident.

They are predeceased by their parents Matthew Howard, Ellen Bingham and Kenneth Bingham. By their sister Antoinette Combest and brothers Joseph Bingham, Kenneth Bingham JR and Brian McCormick.

They are survived by their mother Sandra Howard, daughter Lindsay Denman and her two children Hayden and Raegan, their son and his wife Coby Denman and Jamie, their Aunt Aranetta Wright, their sisters and their husbands and wives Shariee Howard, Kim Martin and her Husband Chris, Barbara Cannon and her husband Ralph Cannon, Peggy McCormick, Alvin Wright and his wife Stephanie, Tanya Wright, Mary Lowe and her husband Peter. Their nieces and nephews Cristal Cannon, Tamara, Alani and Tyson Wright, Randi Burger and her husband Dan and their children, Samantha Herring and her Husband Victor and their children, Kourtney-lyn Vrydaghs and her husband Mark, Elisabeth Illing and her husband Xavier and their children, Bryan Lowe, Laurie Morris and her wife Brittany and their Children, Joe Morris and his wife Julie and their children and Scott Morris and his wife Christy.

Brett and Cathy owned a trucking business and we're working for it at the time of their passing. They had many jobs before that but, they were living their dream.

They were both hard working, loving parents, grandparents, sister, brother, Aunt, Uncle, and friends to anyone who they crossed path with. They both loved to travel and if they were not on the road traveling they were at a Yankee, Jets or Cowboys game or doing something with their grandchildren. They would give anyone the shirt off of their back. They were inseparable. The love they had will always be remembered.

They both have many accomplishments in life Cathy earned an act of heroism award when she saved two deaf people from a home that was on fire, she graduated college, she was an amazing mother and outstanding mema. Brett went to college where he played football, he earned a certificate for being a security guard he was a phenomenal father and the coolest papa ever. Together they started a business in the midst of the pandemic and were going strong. They have accomplished so many things in life most of which they did side by side.

They will both forever be missed and loved deeply.

The family would like for you to share any memories you have had with them may it be a picture or a story via email to howardhaul@yahoo.com

A celebration of life will be held for both of them July 23rd, 2022 11:00AM at the Neversink Firehouse 7486 State Route 55, Neversink, NY 12765. A private family service will be held during the celebration. Everyone is asked to please wear a sports team jersey.

THANK YOU

The family of Marie Dean wishes to express their heartfelt thanks for the sympathy, love and support extended to our family during our time of loss.

Mike, Lorraine, Penny, Gary and Chris

DAYS OF YORE...**Today's History****March 12, 1952**

Mr. Floyd G. Murray of Grand Gorge has announced the engagement of his daughter, Miss Dorothy Nora Murray, to Mr. Raymond Muthig, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Muthig of Parksville. No date has been set for the wedding.

Excavating the surge chamber at Lows Corners started this week with the Cabot Construction Co. of Kingston doing the work. Preliminary work such as building a road over Rocky Hill to the site above the tunnel outlet and clearing and leveling the ground, has been going on for some time.

March 14, 1962

The first formal induction ceremony of the Ronech Chapter of the National Honor Society was held last week at Tri Valley Central School. New members inducted into the society were: Joan Huffman and Donald LaPolt as active members Karen Brown, Merleen Currey and Joel Rubenzahl as probationary members.

The long awaited rededication ceremony of the local Methodist Church took place on Sunday morning, the 11th. Bishop and Mrs. Lloyd C. Wicks were guests with Bishop preaching the sermon, "The Earth is the Lord's and fullness thereof." The President of the Board of Trustees, Earl Sheeley, presented the church building for rededication to the Bishop. Other trustees, the stewards and the building committee assisted in the act of rededication. (Contd. Pg. 3)

DAYS OF YORE.....

Today's History

March 14, 1962

A very quiet wedding took place at the Lows Corners Baptist Church on Saturday, March 10th at 5:00 p.m. when Mr. Frank E. Low of Grahamsville and Mrs. Yolinda Rossi of Jackson Heights, Queens were united in marriage by Rev. Carlsen. After a brief honeymoon the newly married couple will make their home in Grahamsville.

March 22, 1972

Mrs. Joan Greenhall, a graduate of Tri-Valley School, has recently published an article in The Quarter Horse Journal, March 1972. The article, entitled "Horses, Parents and the Handicapped Child", describes Mrs. Greenhall's lifelong love of horses and her unique experiences in dealing with a personal handicap.

Services were held Monday for Mrs. Catherine L. Robinson, 48, or Wawarsing who died Thursday in Kingston City Hospital after a long illness. She was born Oct. 15 1923 in Ellenville to Oscar and Ellen M. Brown. She was married Dec. 31, 1946 to Virgil L. Robinson. She was a member of the Ellenville Reformed Church.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Tom Henderson who are the parents of a baby girl born at Kingston City Hospital on Friday.

March 22, 1979

Elyse Hornbeck, Howard and Isabelle "O'Bernstein" dressed in colonial garb and played with the fife and drum corps that marched with the County Caravan group along 5th Avenue on Saturday in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Manhattan. The Finns also marched on the 16th when they honored St. Urho, the man, according to legend rid Finland of a plague of grasshoppers. The color worn for St. Urho's Day is purple!

March 18, 1982

Ruth O. Black of Woodbourne, a 40-year area resident, died unexpectedly Sunday, March 14, 1982 at Community General Hospital, Harris. She was 63. The daughter of the late John and Betty Wolff, Sr. she was born July 22, 1918 in New York City. Survivors include her husband, John W. Black, Sr. at home; two sons, John W. Black, Jr. of Woodbourne and Craig Black of Grahamsville; a daughter, Carole Leslie Black of Woodbourne and a brother and sister.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Van Wagner of Woodbourne are the proud parents of a baby girl, Kelly Jean born Wednesday, March 10th and weighing 6 lbs. 8 1/2 oz. Maternal grandparents are the Don Smiths of Connecticut. Paternal grandparents are the proud grandpa and grandpa who gave this news flash, Floyd and Gladys Van Wagner of Sundown.

Household Hint:

Clean your iron's soleplate

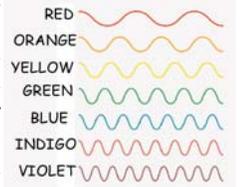
Nature Column - A tribute to the memory of all of the Townsman Ladies that we have loved so much and lost... Peggy DeWire, Avril Pappa, Joan Hall, Polly Hill, Joyce Lockhart, Jean Helthaler, Karen Curry, Barbara Slater and Shirley Davis.

There is a Story at the End of Every Rainbow

Leprechauns, shamrocks, and the pot of gold at the end of a rainbow are all images that come to mind this week as we celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Even if there is not pot of gold at the end of a rainbow, most people would agree; a rainbow is a beautiful sight!

Did you ever wonder how these beautiful arcs of color form in the sky? Sunlight is considered white light, only a part of which can be seen by the human eye. White light is actually made up of all the colors of the rainbow blended together.

The scientist Sir Isaac Newton identified the colors of the visible light spectrum that make up white light. Light travels in waves that have both a wavelength and frequency. Wavelength is the distance between the crests of the waves. Frequency is a measure of the number of wave crests that pass a stationary point each second. Longer wave lengths have a lower frequency. Shorter wave lengths have a higher frequency. Each color in the visible light spectrum has a different wave length



Everyone enjoys the vision of a rainbow glimmering against a dark stormy sky as sunlight falling on clear drops of rain gets broken into the rainbow of colors we see. This is the same process causes white light to be broken into colors by a clear glass prism or a diamond.

As sunshine breaks through the clouds and beams towards the raindrops, some of the light encounters the raindrops and bends in a process called refraction. When the light refracts, the process causes the sunlight to separate into different wavelengths that correspond to different colors: red and orange correspond to longer wavelengths, while blue and purple correspond to shorter wavelengths.

The refracted light waves then bounce or reflect off of the circular edge of the raindrop, and then they refract again as they exit the raindrop and travel through the air.

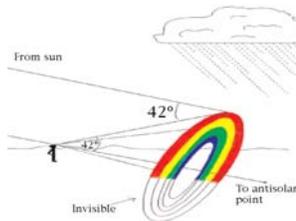
In a drop of water light is mostly reflected at an angle of 42 degrees. If you imagine how light, given the shape of the Sun, will be reflected somewhere at an angle of 42 degrees, the visual result is a spherical arc that soars all across the sky in what appears to be a colorful arc spanning the entire Earth, from end to end. Even though rainbows appear as arcs in the sky, they are actually full circles of light. Because we view them from the ground, we only see half circles

The birth of each rainbow begins with millions of tiny rain droplets. The rain droplets serve as a type of reflector of light. White light enters one individual rain droplet and exits as one specific color of the spectrum. Without millions of rain droplets, a rainbow would not occur. If you only had a few rain droplets you would only see a few colors. This is typically why rainbow appear after a rain storm.

There you have it, magic revealed as science in disguise! It is to remember, these miracles of the sky only appear after the storm. A rainbow is a promise that gives us hope

" May God give you...
For every storm, a rainbow,
For every tear, a smile,
For every care, a promise,
And a blessing in each trial.
For every problem life sends,
A faithful friend to share,
For every sigh, a sweet song,
And an answer for each prayer."

~ Old Irish Blessing



UC Executive Pat Ryan Establishes COVID-19 Commemoration Commission

(From Pg. 1) “Through the darkness of the pandemic, we witnessed countless moments of heroism, compassion, and service throughout our community. The COVID-19 Commemoration Commission will both highlight the service of our community members - from our doctors and nurses, to our teachers, to our first responders, and beyond - who rose to the challenge and risked their lives to protect us, as well as memorialize the hundreds of lives we tragically lost,” Ulster County Executive Pat Ryan said. “On the second anniversary of the COVID-19 pandemic arriving in Ulster County, and as we shift to managing COVID-19 in an endemic mode, it’s time to show our appreciation and support of the frontline workers who risked their lives to keep us all safe during these incredibly challenging times. I’m excited to see what this Commission will develop, drawing upon the talents of our rich arts community, to commemorate the impacts that COVID-19 has had in Ulster County.”

“The pandemic changed forever the understanding of the definition of an essential worker,” Ulster County Chairwoman Tracey Bartels said. “Grocery store clerks, bus drivers, food delivery gig workers, emergency responders, doctors and nurses stand side-by-side as everyday heroes. I am grateful for the opportunity to join my colleagues on the COVID-19 Commemoration Commission in this important work to acknowledge those whose tireless efforts place the needs of others first in service to our community and to remember those we lost.”

“I am looking forward to working with the members of the COVID-19 Commemoration Commission to honor those who faithfully served the residents of Ulster County throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, and to pay tribute to those we lost to this terrible virus,” Ulster County Minority Leader Ken Ronk said. “I am proud to join County Executive Ryan and my colleagues in the legislature to partner on this important remembrance for the people of Ulster County.”

“Nurses cried, Nurses died. But when the challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic was the greatest, the Nurses of Ulster County fought on. They fought often without proper protection. They fought despite being understaffed. They fought to protect our families, our community and our city. And they fought with courage above and beyond any standards of duty, most often with direct risk to their own lives constantly on their minds and the lives of their own families in turn,” Representative of New York State Nurses Association Estela Aquino-Woych, RN-BC, said.

“When COVID hit, the educators in Ulster County met your children where they were, zooming early in the morning, during the day, in the evening. We ran our afterschool groups to meet your students’ needs. We ran food drives, delivered books, learned how to teach in a whole new environment. We welcomed our students back with open arms, warm eyes and smiles and, most importantly, with the joyous energy of being back in the classroom teaching,” Representative of NYSUT Melissa Servant said. “We are honored to be in the company of first responders: nurses, healthcare workers, and all of those on the front line of fighting COVID. Our students are our future, and we will always stand on the frontline for them.”

The COVID-19 Commemoration Commission members are:

- o Ulster County Legislature Chairwoman Tracey Bartels
- o President of the Ulster Police Chiefs Association Kyle Berardi
- o President of CSEA Unit 8950 Tina Buono
- o Representative of APWU (American Postal Workers Union), Diana Cline
- o President of the Ulster Fire Chiefs Association, Chief John Heppner

- o Superintendent of Ulster BOCES Dr. Charles Khoury
- o Representative of Teamsters Union 445, Dan Maldonado
- o President of the EMS Association John Mathiasen
- o Assistant Store Manager at Adams Fairacre Farms, Patrick Paulson
- o Representative of Communication Workers of America (CWA) Local 1120, Rob Pinto
- o Ulster County Clerk Nina Postupack
- o President of the United Way of Ulster County Stacey Rein
- o Representative of Kingston Interfaith Council, Rabbi Yael Roemer
- o Ulster County Legislature Minority Leader Ken Ronk
- o Representative of North Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters, Matt Ross
- o Representative of NYSUT, Melissa Servant
- o Representative of Hudson Valley Building Trades, Rich Whitney
- o Vice President of Medical Services and Regional Medical Director for Mid-Hudson Valley at The Institute for Family Health Dr. Walter Woodley
- o Representative of New York State Nurses Association, Estela Woych-Aquino
- o Representative of SEIU Local 1199
- o Representative of Ulster County Association of Town Supervisors & Mayors
- o Representative of UFCW Local 1262

There is currently no permanent COVID-19 memorial in the United States, and Ulster County’s plans include a focus on the COVID response by labor, medical professionals and other frontline workers while paying tribute to the lives lost to the illness.

The COVID-19 Commemoration Commission will hold its first meeting next month, with a timeline for project completion, pending Legislative budget approval, in 2023.

Sullivan Medical Reserve Corps Earns \$5,000 Federal Grant

(From Pg. 1) The Sullivan County MRC has been assisting at COVID-19 vaccination clinics, delivering supplies where needed, and providing critical education to the public.

Just since January of this year, 51 MRC volunteers with Public Health Services have given 183 volunteer hours at 18 community COVID-19 vaccination clinics. Some handled paperwork, others directed participants to the correct location, and those licensed as LPNs, EMTs, RNs or MDs took on medical duties, including administering vaccines (of which Public Health has delivered 17,477 doses since beginning these clinics in 2021).

“They were incredibly helpful with our mass vaccination clinics throughout the pandemic,” Public Health Director Nancy McGraw affirmed, “and we will continue to rely on our MRC volunteers to step up to the plate anytime and anywhere they’re needed. We’ve already scheduled trainings and are exploring additional unique MRC volunteer opportunities for area residents to benefit our communities throughout Sullivan County.”

Nationally, MRC volunteers contributed approximately 840,000 hours of service, resulting in a workforce savings of nearly \$24 million. Currently, the MRC reports approximately 3 million volunteer hours to support COVID-19 local response efforts, and the numbers continue to grow.

Sullivan’s MRC - which officially formed in October of last year - joins Putnam and Schuyler counties’ MRCs in receiving funding from the Federal level.

For more information or to join the MRC, visit <https://sullivanny.us/Departments/Publichealth/clinicvolunteer> or email MRC Coordinator Shannon Hornbeck at VolunteerMRC@sullivanny.us.

The Texas Job

Mysterious Book Report No. 481 by John Dwaine Mc Kenna



As *The Texas Job*, (Poisoned Pen, PB, \$15.99, 416 pages, ISBN 978-1-4642-1570-4), by Dallas journalist and Spur Award-winning author Reavis Z. Wortham begins, it's 1931. The Great Depression is in full swing and one of the greatest oil discoveries in American history has just been made in the northeast corner of the state, as a young Ranger named Tom Bell trails a vicious killer up from the Rio Grande Valley to the East Texas boomtown of Pine Top . . . which sits smack-dab atop the middle of a gigantic lake of

underground crude oil. And like boomtowns everywhere, there's honest hard-workers, some hard-drinkers, and a few hard cases, all of whom are intent on making money the easy way . . . by stealing it.

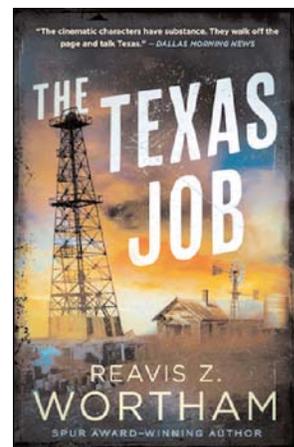
The place is so out of control and crime-laden, that Bell discovers the body of a murdered woman at the edge of town before he even gets there. He reports the crime and the ambush that followed to the local sheriff . . . a man named Dobbs, who takes down the details and tells Bell he'll look into it "When he has time," as he's too busy with all the policing he's already doing in the rapidly growing town. It's left up to Ranger Bell alone to capture or kill the elusive fugitive and murderer named Clete Ferras, who always seems to be one jump ahead of the law. But the deeper he dives into the criminal underbelly of Pine Top, the more corruption, treachery and murder Bell finds, as he fights increasingly worse gangsters in a desperate fight for survival. Tom Bell, is an all-American, old-fashioned hero that action and adventure enthusiasts will identify with and root for to the last page of this kinetic novel. Then, they'll be howling for more adventures of the iconic young Texas Ranger named Tom Bell!!

*** * * CHECK OUT OUR NEW INTERVIEW WITH THE AUTHOR * * ***

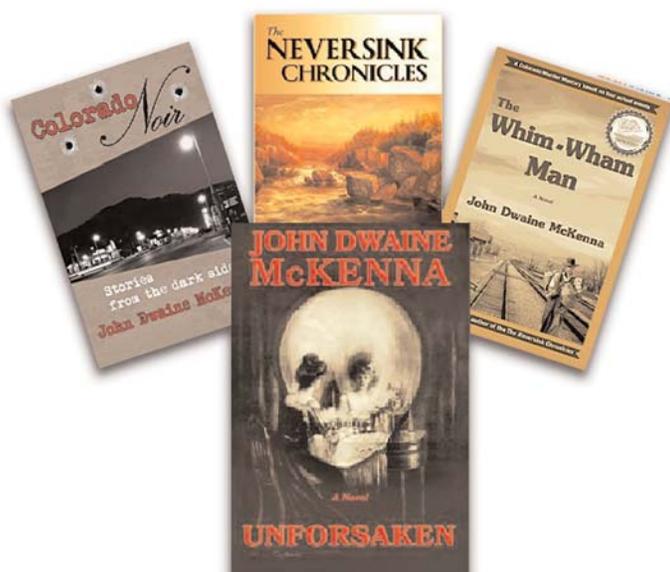
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Interview With The Author: Reavis Wortham by John Dwaine McKenna



With the help of his nice publicist, Mandy Chahal, we were fortunate to have the following Q & A with Mr. Wortham. What follows is one of the most interesting, comprehensive and down-to-earth interviews we've ever done. Pay attention . . . this is a master wordsmith sharing his knowledge and techniques with all of us. It's better than a whole year's worth of overpriced MFA classes! Here's Reavis:

Where do you write?

Anywhere I can get still, and I do that whenever I can find five minutes, or several hours. I've written in all rooms of my house, in hotel rooms, in deer blinds while hunting, in the truck at stop lights, or waiting for my Bride who has to "run into the store for a couple of things," and once in the back of an SUV on my way to participate in a SWAT arrest.

(Contd. Pg. 13)



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DEC Reminds New Yorkers the Annual Residential Brush Burning Prohibition Starts March 16

Spring Burn Ban Reduces Wildfire Risks, Protects Lives and Property

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos today announced the annual statewide ban prohibiting residential brush burning will begin March 16 and run through May 14. Since 2009, DEC has enforced the annual brush burning ban to prevent wildfires and protect communities during heightened conditions for wildfires each spring.

"The start of spring in New York comes with an increased risk of wildfires," Commissioner Seggos said. "Starting March 16 and ending May 14, New York State prohibits residential brush burning to protect our communities and our natural resources. Since 2009, New York's burn ban has reduced the number of wildfires in our communities and we're looking forward to continuing that trend in 2022."

Even though some areas of the state remain blanketed in snow, warming temperatures can quickly cause wildfire conditions to arise. Open burning of debris is the single-largest cause of spring wildfires in New York State. When temperatures warm and the past fall's debris and leaves dry out, wildfires can start and spread easily, further fueled by winds and a lack of green vegetation. Each year, DEC Forest Rangers extinguish dozens of wildfires that burn hundreds of acres. In addition, local fire departments, many of which are

staffed by volunteers, all too often have to leave their jobs and families to respond to wildfires caused by illegal debris fires. DEC will post the Fire Danger Map for the 2022 fire season on DEC's website once there is a moderate risk anywhere in New York.

New York first enacted strict restrictions on open burning in 2009 to help prevent wildfires and reduce air pollution. The regulations allow residential brush fires in towns with fewer than 20,000 residents during most of the year, but prohibit such burning in spring when most wildfires occur.

Backyard fire pits and campfires less than three feet in height and four feet in length, width, or diameter are allowed. Small cooking fires are allowed. Only charcoal or dry, clean, untreated, or unpainted wood can be burned. People should never leave these fires unattended and must extinguish them. Burning garbage or leaves is prohibited year-round. For more information about fire safety and prevention, go to DEC's FIREWISE New York webpage.

Some towns, primarily in and around the Adirondack and Catskill parks, are designated "fire towns." Open burning is prohibited year-round in these municipalities unless an individual or group has a permit from DEC. To find out whether a municipality is a designated fire town or to obtain a permit, contact the appropriate DEC regional office. A list of regional offices is available on DEC's website.

Forest Rangers, DEC Environmental Conservation Police Officers (ECOs), and local authorities enforce the burn ban. Violators of the State's open burning regulation are subject to criminal and civil enforcement actions, with a minimum fine of \$500 for a first offense. To report environmental law violations, call 1-833-RANGERS, or report online on DEC's website

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SCDW Casting call!

The Sullivan county Dramatic Workshop is excited to offer auditions for its 2022 musical presentation: Disney's "Little Mermaid, the Musical" book by Doug Wright, music by Alan Menken, lyrics by Howard Ashman and Glenn Slater.

Based on one of Hans Christian Andersen's most beloved stories and the classic animated film, Disney's The Little Mermaid is a hauntingly beautiful story for the ages. With incomparable music, this fishy fable will capture your heart with its irresistible songs including "Under the Sea," "Kiss the Girl," and "Part of Your World."

SCDW is looking forward to bringing this masterpiece to life this summer at the Rivoli Theatre in South Fallsburg. Show dates are August 12, 13, 19 & 20 at 8:00PM and August 14 & 21 at 2:00PM.

Auditions will take place at the Fallsburg Senior Center (behind the Rivoli Theatre) in South Fallsburg on March 18, 19 and 21 from 5:30PM to 9:00PM.

Please come prepared to sing a song from the show. Seeking men, women. Teens and children - all ethnicities - for the following characters:

Ariel - female, 18 - 25; Prince Eric - male - 18 - 25; Grimsby - male - age 50-60; Flounder - age 18-24; Scuttle - age 20-27; King Triton - male - age 55-65; Sebastian - male - age 21-27; and Ursula - female age 55-60; Plus assorted sea creatures, merpeople, sailors, gulls, mails & Princesses - male and female- ages 8-65

Please contact Director Dawn Perneszi for further information: nyx6117@yahoo.com

SCChamber Orchestra Quartet: Ladies Night

(Monticello, NY) Since 1995, March has been designated in the U.S. as "Women's History Month." The Sullivan County Chamber Orchestra (SCCO) celebrates by performing chamber music from three amazing composers. The program includes: String Quartet in Eb Major by Fanny Mendelssohn-Hensel (Felix Mendelssohn's sister), String Quartet in B minor by



From the left" Akiko Hosoi, Andrew Trombley, Adrienne Harmon, Luke Krafka and Chiu Chen Liu perform the Sullivan County Chamber Orchestra's Holiday Family Concert at the Hurleyville Performing Arts Center in December of 202

Teresa Carreño and String Quartet in C minor by Ethel Smyth. Mendelssohn, Carreño and Smyth were highly regarded for their talents as performers, but rarely acknowledged by the masses for their abilities as composers. Their music rivaled their male counterparts. But it wasn't until very recently that there has been a revival of their sound. SCCO Artistic Director Andrew Trombley says, "Their individual styles and sounds are so unique compared to their contemporaries. Each of their sounds is reflective of their remarkable careers, relationships,



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and personalities. We are thrilled to bring these extraordinary works to the stage for you all to enjoy."

Performing at Ladies Night will be: Akiko Hosoi - violin, Adrienne Harmon - violin, Chiu Chen Liu - viola and Kirsten Jermé - cello. The performances are Saturday, April 2nd at 6 PM at the Hurleyville

Performing Arts Centre in Hurleyville, NY and Sunday, April 3rd at 2 PM in the Krause Recital Hall at the Delaware Valley Arts Alliance (DVAA) in Narrowsburg, NY. Tickets for April 2nd (adults \$25, students \$10) may be purchased at hurleyvilleartscentre.org. Masks required. Advanced ticket purchase is encouraged. However, tickets will be available at the door until capacity is met. Please call (845) 985-4722 with any inquiries. Tickets for April 3rd are free as part of the DVAA's Salon

Series. Advanced registration for the event is required at delawarevalleyartsalliance.org. Limited seating, masks and proof of vaccination or negative COVID test are required. Please call (845) 252-7576 with any inquiries.

SCCO is a Nesin Cultural Arts (NCA) supported project. This program is made possible in part by funding from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathleen Courtney Hochul and the NY State Legislature. Additional funding is from the M&T Bank Charitable Foundation.

Sullivan Catskills... So Unexpected

Raise your hand if you could use a little extra sunshine! With Daylight Saving Time we gained an extra hour of daylight. Come on up and enjoy it with some fun, adventure, good food, and hand-crafted beverages in our Sullivan Catskills.

Get the weekend started at Resorts World Catskills' Doubletop, where the entertainment gets underway on Friday nights. Double your fun on Saturday nights. In between you can try your hand at the table games or take a chance on the slots.

Bring your family, bring some friends, and have some fun at the Villa Roma Resort and Conference. It's not too late to schedule a Girlfriend's Getaway at Yo! Health Resort. After all it is Women's History Month.

For more accommodations and last-week-of-winter specials, have a look here to find the perfect sleepover option at:

<https://sullivancatskills.com/sc-stay/>

Like the outdoors? Get outdoors and see our beautiful landscape. Head out for a stroll down the Hurleyville Rail Trail and cap off the day with some retail therapy in town.

There are plenty more opportunities for hiking and shopping in every corner of the Sullivan Catskills.

In your travels –south from Bloomingburg to the north in Roscoe and the many points in between –be on the lookout for our beautiful hand-painted dove sculptures that dot the landscape.

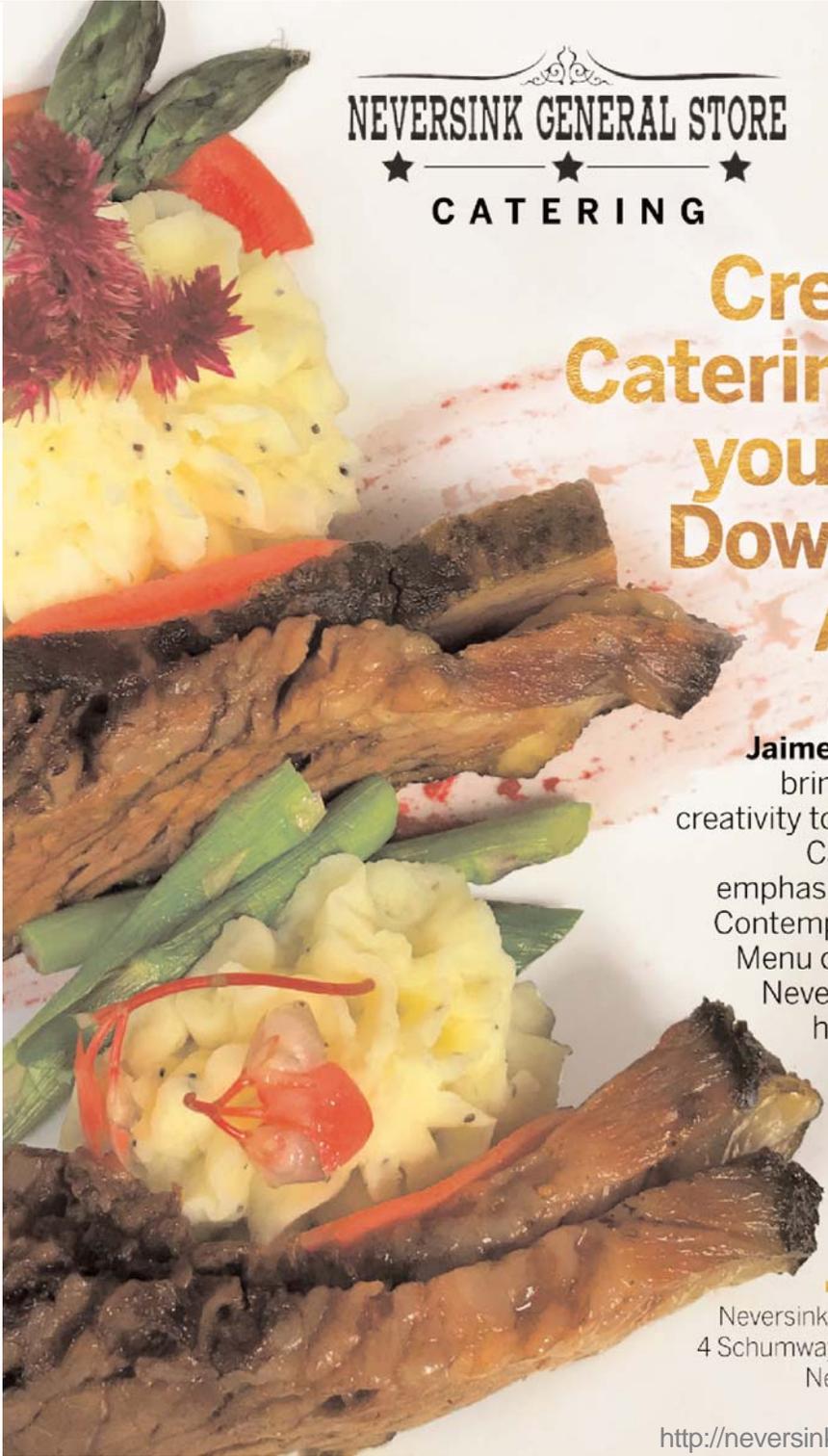
They're part of the Sullivan Catskills Dove Trail, our homage to the 50th anniversary of the Woodstock Music and Art Fair that was held in our little town of Bethel in 1969..

All that entertainment, outdoor fun, and shopping builds up your appetite. Nothing makes our inventive, creative chefs, bakers and award-winning beverage makers happier than serving you up their special brand of Catskill-icious food and drink. Our river towns of Narrowsburg and Callicoon are especially fun for foodies and feature some heavenly craft beverages.

There are so many things for families, friends, and couples to do while you're visiting our legendary vacationland. Check SullivanCatskills.com, Instagram, Facebook and TikTok feeds, too, for the most up-to-date happenings!

New York State mask mandates have been relaxed. We do ask though that you bear in mind that some of our proprietors may request that you wear a mask as part of our Catskills Confidence program to help keep us all safe, and healthy.

We're just a 90-minute drive from Manhattan. Close.... Clean... confident... and long on daylight (and nighttime) fun!



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Ellenville-Wawarsing 4th of July Committee will be holding its Annual Spaghetti Dinner Saturday, April 8

The Ellenville-Wawarsing 4th of July Committee will be holding its annual Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, April 8, 2022 at the Elks Lodge in Napanoch NY. Dinner includes salad, spaghetti, Italian bread, soft drinks, dessert and coffee/tea.

There will be 4 seatings: 4pm, 4:45pm, 5:30pm and 6:15pm. Take out orders are encouraged. Reservations are required. Call 845 647-5963 or email joecath69@hotmail.com

Proceeds from the event will benefit the 4th of July Celebration, including an historic parade and amazing fireworks on the 4th!

The cost of the dinner is \$7.00 per person, children under age 5 eat free when attending with a parent.

The Elks Lodge is located on Route 55 in Napanoch.

There will be no cancellations for inclement weather.

The Scene Too

-Jane Harrison

Have you ever tried to explain 'daylight savings time' to your cat (or dog)? It does not go well.

Recently I was reintroduced to a form of fiber art that I'd long forgotten about. Back in the day, one could walk into any 'five



and dime' store and find preprinted pillow cases on which one



could use a type of thread called 'floss' in an effort to cover the lines with colored stitching known as 'embroidery'. I admit I was never very good at it, certainly not as good as my sister. It still exists in this modern world but has evolved into something quite remarkable by the new name of 'Slow Stitching' or in some

circles, 'Mindful Stitching.'

I thank my friend MARIE SPODEK for introducing me to



this by way of her marvelously stitched small pieces. Gone are the preprinted fabrics of yore and hello to free form creativity. To those that embrace this, it is as much a basket weaving therapy as I get from my knitting and crocheting. As she was explaining how these were done, the fabrics and particularly the stitches used, well these were terms I knew well. But it was her use of this type of stitchery to reclaim a beautiful silk shirt that does what silk does in time (separate to create holes) that made the light bulb go off.

I'm a bit bothered by how we as a society have been indoctrinated into throwing things away. I have only two garments that are perfect transitory pieces from winter to early spring and both have holes....SO, under her tutelage... I'll keep you posted.

A couple of things coming up for you:

Wednesday, March 16: The Cas (CASWYN MOON, that is) is back hosting the Open Mic at CABERNET FRANK'S starting at 7pm.

Thursday, March 17 (St Paddy's Day) will be a great evening to party at CABERNET FRANK'S complete with CABAROKÉ.

Saturday, March 26: A talk by Sullivan County Historian JOHN CONWAY and book signing by he and publisher MYRON GITTELL. The book is the 50th anniversary edition of MANVILLE B WAKEFIELD's TO THE MOUNTAINS BY RAIL. I read a copy shortly after moving here, then found I couldn't have one of my own, then became extremely excited when I was able to get a copy of the reprint back in December. I'm definitely going to this.; HURLEYVILLE GENERAL STORE, 238 Main Street, Hurleyville; 2pm

Sunday, March 27: A tribute to friend NICKY RED at CABERNET FRANK'S in Parksville; 1:30 on. He was a great drummer and a dear friend to many.



Even with the easing of CoVid restrictions, the weather has jumped in making it still difficult for venues to book bands and/or entice people out of their homes. As the weather warms, I predict these same venues to explode with so much music and audience that it will be like 'old times' (pre pandemic).

That being said, I find that I remain masked unless I'm completely comfortable with the amount of people, or lack thereof, around me. That's just me.

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



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

On April 15, 2022 CITGO Gas Credit is charging us more

I just received my latest CITGO Gas Credit bill. On page 4 was a note: "Important changes to your Account Terms". It stated that as of April 15, 2022, the "Annual Percentage Rate (APR) for purchase is raised to 29.99%. Also, the "Returned Payment Fee" is \$29.00.

I wonder what the other major gas companies are doing to extort our family's money.

Respectrully submitted,
William A. Brenner
Grahamsville, NY

Move Military Forces Into Western Ukraine

Since the Russians are essentially occupying eastern Ukraine, and are attacking Kyiv from the north, east and south, maybe NATO military forces with U.S. support should move into western Ukraine to prevent Russia from completely overrunning Ukraine. Air cover would have to be provided for the ground forces.

This would allow Ukrainian civilians to remain in Ukraine, and it could provide an alternate Ukrainian government seat of power if Kyiv is taken by the Russians. The presence of NATO and U.S. military forces in western Ukraine would also provide leverage to get the Russians out of eastern Ukraine since NATO and the U.S. could agree to pull its forces out of western Ukraine as part of a negotiated settlement.

Obviously, moving military forces into western Ukraine runs the risk of war with Russia, but the alternative of trying to get Russia out of Ukraine with sanctions and diplomacy might not be viable. Additionally, it would put Russia on notice that it faces robust military action by NATO if it tries any expansionist moves in the future.

Donald Moskowitz
Londonderry NH



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845-672-4516 to register

Interview With The Author: Reavis Wortham

(FromPg. 5) Back when I had a full-time job and was working on my first novel, *The Rock Hole*, I wrote in meetings when I should have been listening, in my office early in the mornings before the work day began, or on my lunch hour. I can write anywhere I can light.

Do you prefer stand-alone novels or series characters when writing?

That's a hard question. The first books in a series is difficult, because it's world-building with characters I don't know. It takes a while to find out who they are, and what they're capable of, but after a while, the characters come alive in my mind and after that, I simply follow them through the novel. From there, successive books seem to write themselves after I put the ensemble cast into motion and mentally ask, "what if?"

The Texas Job is technically a prequel, but at the same time it's a standalone. It's an examination of young Tom Bell, who appeared in the Red River novel, *Vengeance is Mine* as a retired Texas Ranger. Because I knew Tom as an elderly man, there wasn't as much world building, only research into the oilfields of East Texas in 1931.

Why do you write?

Because I have to. My first newspaper column was published in 1988, and to date, there are approximately 2,000 columns and magazine articles under my belt. I think I would have written them even if *The Paris News* hadn't picked up that first outdoor humor column back then, because I enjoy the process of watching a story unfold.

Now there are so many ideas floating around in my head I don't have time to get them all down. I'm afraid it's become an addiction I'm not willing to kick.

Who inspired you to write?

The answer to that question began when I was in the first grade. Miss Rosalie Russell was the librarian at our school and sparked my interest in reading and turned me on to books. It was my high school English teacher, Miss Linda Adams who took that spark and turned it into the need to write.

But it took several authors to give me that final push to become published. One was Fred Gipson, the Texas author who is best known for writing *Old Yeller*. He teamed up in my head with Patrick McManus (the funniest writer I ever read), Donald E. Westlake, comedy writer Jack Douglas (who wrote for the "Laugh-In" hosts, Dan Rowan and Dick Martin, as well as for Bob Hope, Woody Allen, Red Skelton, Ozzie and Harriet Nelson and Bing Crosby, only to name a few), and finally, my favorite author of all time Robert C. Ruark. With all those talking to me one day during a particularly boring meeting, I was inspired to write my first newspaper column.

How many books do you read in an average year?

At least 52, and one a week seems to be a little shy of how many I think I read.

What makes a character endearing?

You'll have to ask your readers that question, because I come up with interesting people and describe them as they appear in my imagination. I give them quirks, characteristics, backstories, habits, and personalities, the Readers then decide what's endearing to them.

Do you plot-outline or wing it?

Thank you for not using the term "pantsier," which I despise.

I've given many author friends a rigor when they find out that I don't have an idea in my head when I first put my fingers on the keyboard and face that blank screen. While some author's outlines are a couple of pages long, to one well known friend whose outlines average 125 typewritten pages, I simply type a couple of words, which in turn leads to whole sentences, which eventually winds up becoming a 95,000 word manuscript.

It's my subconscious that does all the heavy lifting to the extent that I can write a standalone chapter which doesn't relate at all to the work in progress, and a week or month later can plug it in just like a jigsaw puzzle piece when I realize that's where it goes. It's as if someone else is typing the manuscript, and I watch it come up on the screen. My apologies to those authors whose heads just exploded.

How did your first book get published?

I sold *The Rock Hole* only months after I finished it, but that leads to the next question...

How long did it take?

I started that manuscript somewhere around 1999 or 2000, and finished it after fits and starts in either 2005-06. But I wrote it on a 5 _ floppy disk and no one told me it, and the ancient word program I was using, wouldn't hold a 140,000-word manuscript (yeah, it was too long), so when I finished the manuscript and his "save," the screen went blue and the words "File Corrupted" appeared. I lost all my work. In response, I shot a hole in my old 286 computer, bought a new machine and a Zip drive, and re-wrote *The Rock Hole* from memory, finishing it in 2010. It was published in 2011.

Do you use long, detailed and in-depth descriptions of your characters and their environs?

Lord, no. One of the worst things an author can do is commit the sin of an info dump. I often start new chapters with a one paragraph of the character's location, but after that, a sentence two scattered here and there give the reader a sense of setting. I never, never, never spend a lot of time describing a character's personality or clothes. I reveal a little bit here and there to establish a character's habits, and a mention of what they're wearing is all I'll offer. Everything else is scattered throughout the manuscript, like seasoning a rich thick stew that's already tasty.

Do you use humor in your work?

I've been on the masthead of Texas Fish and Game Magazine as their Humor Editor, so I do in both newspaper columns, magazine articles and my novels. Telling someone you are a humor writer almost always results in a request to be funny, or to tell a joke. I don't tell jokes, and trying to raise a smile is precarious at best. I simply find situations that are easy to exploit, or find just the right term that may make a reader grin. With all that said, the truth is if I can make myself smile, then it might be funny and I hope readers will see it the same way.

What type of scene is most difficult for you to write?

Scenes aren't hard for me, it's writing the second act that flows much slower than the first and third. I start out like gangbusters, hammering away at the keys in delight as the story and characters form from nothing. I laugh like a loon to somewhere around page 30,000 words, and then the process becomes glacial. The story develops as the arc rises and my writing slows, and it sometimes seems that the summit of 60,000 might be out of reach. But when I reach the third act, and drive forward to the end, it's as if all those dominoes I've set up start to fall, and then it's a rollercoaster ride to the end. (Contd. Pg. 14)

Interview With The Author: Reavis Wortham

(From Pg. 13) Are you more comfortable writing in the first, or third person POV?

Right after my first novel was published and I was still green as grass in this business, I sat in on a panel at a national conference to hear one of my favorite authors speak. He announced that no decent manuscript can switch from first person to third. The moment he spoke those words, John Gilstrap and Marc Cameron (two outstanding authors I'm lucky to call friends) cut glances at me to see how I would respond, since I switch back and forth from first and third with an ease that surprises many reviewers. I now have 13 books in print, with another due out in 2023, and they all switch viewpoints and each are well reviewed. In this business, nothing is absolute.

What's your next project?

At this writing, my new Tucker Snow series is scheduled for release of Gravel (the working title) in 2023 and 2024. It features a Texas livestock agent who has jurisdiction in both the Lone Star State and Oklahoma. I also broke tradition during the lockdown with an oddball humorous western horror novel that we're shopping right now. I sincerely hope some publisher would like to walk on the edge with me on this one.

Where could you be reached on the World Wide Web?

Find me at <http://www.reaviszwortham.com>. I also have a substantial presence on Facebook at Reavis Wortham, and Reavis Z. Wortham.

Thx again for your insights and expertise, and for taking time to speak with our audience today. Please keep us in your contacts list and let the MBR know about your next literary project. And if you have any suggestions for improvements or other questions we might ask—put them here. God knows, we can always use all the help we can get!

Empire State Fellows Program

Program Prepares New Generation of Policy-Makers to Lead New York State

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced the opening of the application process for the 2022 class of Empire State Fellows. The prestigious program attracts exceptional and diverse talent from New York and around the country to serve in high-level positions in the administration. Since the program's inception ten years ago, graduates of the Empire State Fellows program have gone on into senior roles in State government, including Deputy Commissioner, Deputy Secretary, and Chief of Staff positions at agencies throughout the State.

"As the Empire State, we are proud to welcome the best and the brightest New Yorkers interested in pursuing a career in public service," Governor Hochul said. "I encourage everyone in New York who is interested in serving their community to apply for the Empire State Fellows Program, which has been a transformative opportunity for so many public servants. We look forward to the next class of diverse and accomplished Fellows and the incredible work they will do to make sure the Empire State continues to be a progressive beacon for the nation."

The Empire State Fellows program is a full-time, mid-career fellowship program that prepares the next generation of New York State policymakers. The Governor's Office appoints selected Empire State Fellows to work directly with a Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner, or other high-level officials in a State

agency or Authority or in the Executive Chamber.

Deputy Secretary for Policy Operations Padma Seemangal said, "As a proud alum of the Empire State Fellows Program, I was privileged to join a cohort of innovative individuals inspired to join public service and to develop their leadership skills. The invaluable skills and knowledge I gained during the Fellows Program served as my introduction to state service, and it is because of this program that I am able to serve through an intersectional lens and ensure New Yorkers are receiving equitable opportunities today."

The incoming class of Empire State Fellows will serve from September 2022 to September 2024 and receive an annual salary of \$76,500. Professionals from all sectors - nonprofit, private, higher education - are welcome to apply.

Applications will be accepted through April 4, 2022, go to <https://www.ny.gov/new-york-state-fellowship-programs/empire-state-fellows-program> for more information on the program and instructions on how to apply.

Upcoming Events from the Sullivan Democrats

First in a Series of Spring and Summer Events

Sullivan County, NY- March 14, 2022 - The Sullivan County Democratic Committee is pleased to announce the first in a series of events designed to showcase the diverse beauty of our County on Saturday, April 9, 2022.

The Outside Institute's founding naturalist Laura Chávez Silverman leads a walk at the Neversink Unique Area in Forestburgh, NY, to observe, identify and learn about spring ephemerals, wild edibles and local flora, fauna and fungi. There will be two sessions, 10am-12pm and 1:30-3:30pm. Each walk is limited to 15 participants and advance registration is required. Included in the \$50.00 cost of the event is a group lunch at Forage Pizza from 12:15-1:15pm. There is a small parking lot off Cold Spring Road for the Neversink Unique Area. GPS coordinates and driving directions can be found at: <https://www.trailkeeper.org/trail/neversink-unique-area/cold-spring-road-access/>

Participants should anticipate wet, muddy conditions and dress accordingly.

To purchase tickets and more information call: 845-866-1484

The Center for Workforce Development JOB FAIR!

Here at the Center for Workforce Development, we are committed to providing businesses and customers the best service possible. With that said, I am happy to announce that the Center for Workforce Development will be hosting an in-person countywide job fair!

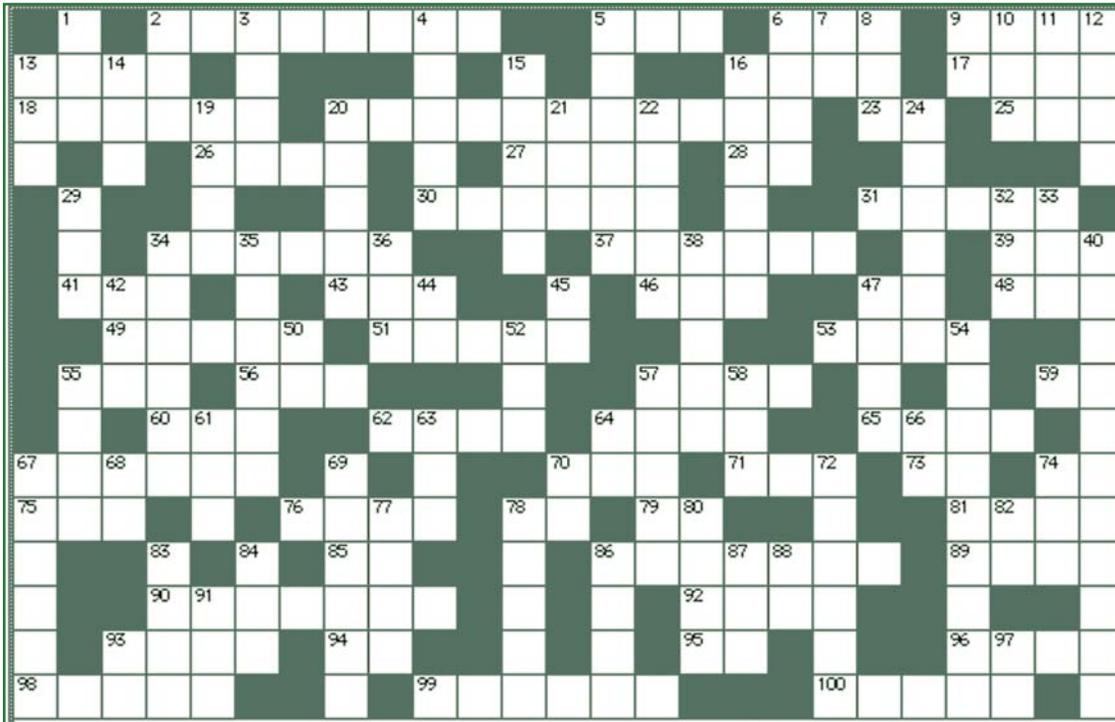
The event will be held April 6th, 2022 from 11am-3pm, at the Kartrite in Monticello. We ask that businesses arrive no later than 10:30am to begin setup. Businesses and vendors are strongly urged to stay for the entire event in order to accommodate all job seekers. If you are unable to commit the entire four hours, please call us to discuss your individual situation.

Our FastForm is a job order and will allow us to advertise your open positions and refer candidates. We are requesting at least two job orders (two separate positions) per business. To register call: 845-807-0606.

We are asking that businesses wishing to participate submit the registration form and two FastForms, no later than 5pm on March 21st, 2022. This will ensure that you will be listed in the newspaper and social media advertising.

If you have any comments, questions, or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly, via phone or email at: megan.yelekli@sullivan.us

Wearing' of the Green- L. Comando



Traditional Irish Soda Bread

- 2 cups all purpose flour
- 5 tablespoons sugar, divided
- 1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 3/4 teaspoon baking soda
- 3 tablespoons butter, chilled, cut into cubes
- 1 cup buttermilk
- 2/3 cup raisins

Preheat oven to 375°F. Butter a cookie sheet pan with butter or margarine. Whisk flour, 4 tablespoons sugar, baking powder, salt, and baking soda in large bowl to blend. Add butter. Using fingertips, rub in until coarse meal forms. Make well in center of flour mixture. Add buttermilk. Gradually stir dry ingredients into milk to blend. Mix in raisins.

Using floured hands, shape dough into ball. Transfer to prepared baking sheet. Sprinkle dough with remaining 1 table-
 spoon sugar.

Bake bread until brown and tester inserted into center comes out clean, about 40 minutes. Cool bread on baking sheet for 10 minutes. Transfer to rack.

Serve warm or at room temperature with Irish butter.

- | | | | | | | | |
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| <p>ACROSS</p> <p>2 Clover-like plant associated with St. Patrick</p> <p>5 Wool</p> <p>6 Swish</p> <p>9 Emcee</p> <p>13 Forbidden practice</p> <p>16 Uttered farewell</p> <p>17 Lowest female singing voice</p> <p>18 One of the colors of the Irish flag</p> <p>20 Tournament</p> <p>23 First person singular pronoun</p> <p>25 Colorant</p> <p>26 Saint who drove the grasshoppers from Finland</p> <p>27 Extremely</p> <p>28 South Dakota</p> <p>30 Give</p> | <p>something as a favor</p> <p>31 Embedded parts of a plant</p> <p>34 Civic</p> <p>37 Accomplished unaccompanied</p> <p>39 Petroleum</p> <p>41 Grade Point Average</p> <p>43 Persuade</p> <p>46 Prioress</p> <p>47 Exist</p> <p>48 Single unit</p> <p>49 people of Ireland</p> <p>51 Extraordinary</p> <p>53 Scottish girl</p> <p>55 Leguminous round vegetable</p> <p>56 Clue</p> <p>57 Cinematographic</p> <p>59 Either</p> <p>60 Single dice</p> <p>62 Pain</p> <p>64 Journeyed on horseback</p> <p>65 To reduce or limit food intake</p> <p>67 Clergyman</p> <p>70 Friend</p> <p>71 Type of hat</p> | <p>73 District of Columbia</p> <p>74 Alternating Current</p> <p>75 Automated Teller Machine</p> <p>76 Strip of leather at the back of a shoe</p> <p>78 Move from one place to another</p> <p>79 Mystic syllable</p> <p>81 Technician</p> <p>85 Regarding</p> <p>86 The Emerald Isle</p> <p>89 Region</p> <p>90 Day of festivity</p> <p>92 Former Hindu funeral practice</p> <p>93 Aromatic annual green herb</p> <p>94 Extraterrestrial</p> <p>95 Exclamation</p> <p>96 Portent</p> <p>98 For the gift of persuasive speech you might kiss</p> | <p>the Blarney</p> <p>99 Inhabitant of New England</p> <p>100 Center of something</p> <p>DOWN</p> <p>1 Not near</p> <p>2 Center of our solar system</p> <p>3 State the case</p> <p>4 A celestial object</p> <p>5 Attracting someone without serious intention</p> <p>6 Baton</p> <p>7 Advertisement</p> <p>8 Precious stone</p> <p>9 Used to express surprise</p> <p>10 Aged</p> <p>11 Pigpen</p> <p>12 Foot digits</p> <p>13 Highest point</p> <p>14 Prohibit</p> <p>15 Uniform</p> <p>16 This city is home to the first public St.</p> | <p>Patrick's Day Celebration in the US</p> <p>19 Spiritual teacher</p> <p>20 Comedian</p> <p>21 Hot brewed beverage</p> <p>22 U S heavy-weight boxing champion</p> <p>24 Secretly marries without consent</p> <p>29 Old world fruit with many seeds</p> <p>32 Also</p> <p>33 Immoral act</p> <p>34 A St. Patrick's Day event</p> <p>35 Creel</p> <p>36 A projection on a wheel</p> <p>38 Expressed clearly</p> <p>40 Small Irish mischievous sprites</p> | <p>42 Fruit-filled pastry</p> <p>44 Near</p> <p>45 That thing</p> <p>47 Lacking hair</p> <p>50 Used to refer to a man</p> <p>52 Consumed food</p> <p>54 Observer</p> <p>55 Harbor</p> <p>57 Hue</p> <p>58 Mesh-work</p> <p>61 Distinct philosophy</p> <p>63 Lutfisk</p> <p>64 Egyptian sun god</p> <p>66 Part of the human psyche</p> <p>67 Applies color with a brush</p> <p>68 Contraction for I am</p> <p>69 Guardian</p> <p>70 Post Office</p> <p>72 German city</p> <p>74 First-rate</p> <p>77 Tidy</p> | <p>78 St. Patrick's Day color</p> <p>80 Flat-topped hill</p> <p>82 Emergency Room</p> <p>83 Slim</p> <p>84 Everything</p> <p>86 Small island</p> | <p>87 Rule for old</p> <p>93 Perform</p> <p>97 Mountain</p> |
|---|---|--|---|--|--|--|---|

数字は単数に限る

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

Answer on page 23

To play SUDOKO online:
<https://sudoku.com>

St. Patty's Day Cryptogram

What is the name leprechauns have for a tall happy man wearing green?

20 6 18 21 16 8 8 19 1 3 18 18 7 1 25 4 7 20

Where will you always find gold?

25 7 20 6 18 23 25 10 20 25 16 7 4 3 19

What is Irish and stays out all summer long?

22 4 23 23 19 16 12 17 3 7 25 20 17 3 18

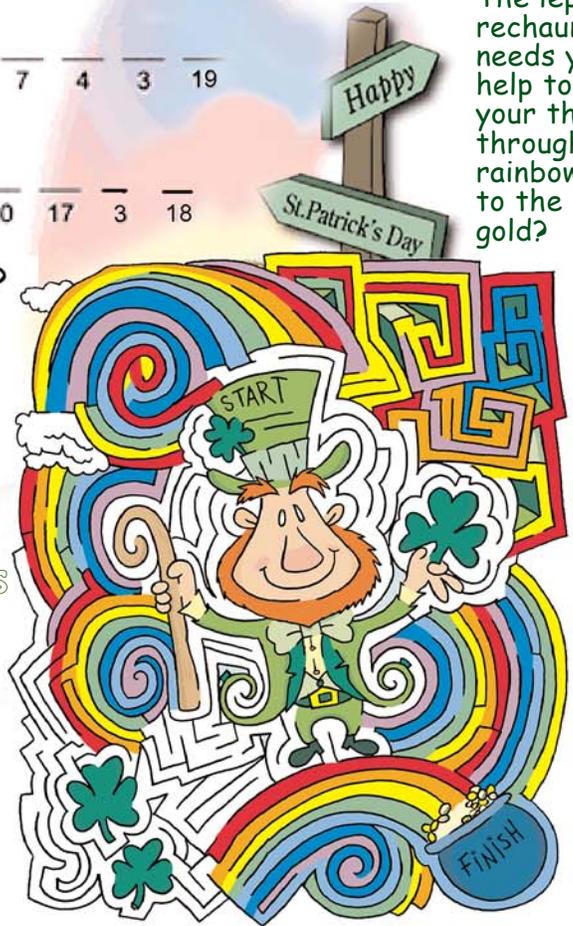
What's an Irish criminal with a disease called?

4 8 18 22 18 3 10 16 7

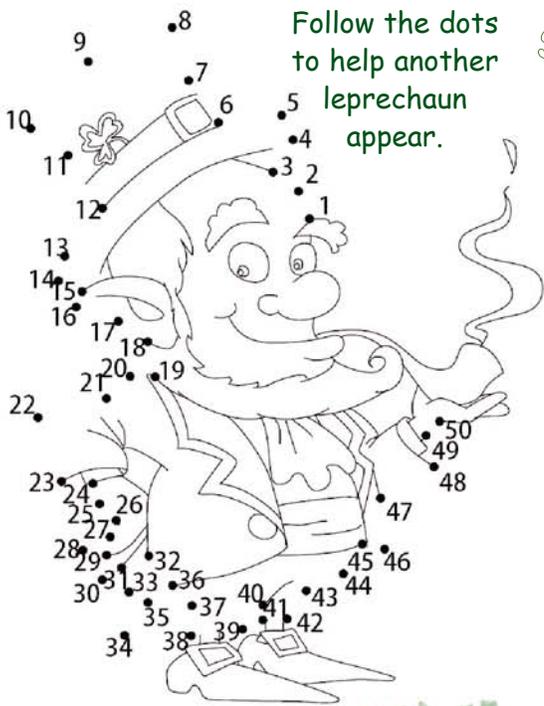
What imitation stone is from Ireland?

4 11 6 4 2 3 16 10 26

The leprechaun needs your help to find your the through the rainbow maze to the pot of gold?



St. Patrick's Day Fun Page - L. Comando



Follow the dots to help another leprechaun appear.

St. Patrick's Day Word Search!



- Coins
- Green
- Limerick
- Rainbow
- Corned Beef
- Harp
- Luck
- Seventeen
- Fiddle
- Ireland
- March
- Shamrock
- Gold
- Leprechaun
- Mischievous
- Snake

St. Urho is about to rid the vineyards of grasshoppers on March 16th. What are the differences between the two pictures?



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

Attorney General James Secures Over \$2 Million for Consumers Deceived by Energy Service Company

Family Energy Overcharged New Yorkers and Switched

Consumers' Energy Service Provider Without Their Consent

NEW YORK - New York Attorney General Letitia James secured \$2.15 million in restitution from an energy services company, Family Energy, for deceiving and misleading thousands of New Yorkers across the state. An investigation by the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) found that Family Energy's dishonest business practices resulted in New York consumers paying more for their gas and electric services - sometimes hundreds of dollars more per year - than they would have paid to their utilities. As a result of Attorney General James' agreement, Family Energy is required to stop its deceptive practices.

"Family Energy used deception to fool countless New Yorkers," said Attorney General James. "My office has zero tolerance for deceptive and unlawful practices by energy service companies that hurt New Yorkers. Utility companies have a duty to be honest and accurate and we are committed to holding them to that standard. Today's actions should send a clear message to all energy service companies: if you don't follow the law, expect to hear from my office."

Family Energy is an energy services company that offers electric and gas products throughout the state. An OAG investigation found that it lured consumers with false promises of savings, and then charged them significant early termination fees when they tried to get out of their contracts. Many consumers did not even realize they had been enrolled with Family Energy, since sales representatives falsely claimed to represent the consumers' utility and even enrolled consumers without their consent. Hundreds of consumers complained about Family Energy's practices to the New York Public Service Commission (PSC). In fact, Family Energy had the highest volume of PSC complaints in both 2020 and 2021.

As a result of OAG's agreement with Family Energy, the company is required to pay \$2,150,000 in restitution to impacted consumers. In addition, Family Energy is required to take measures to prevent deceptive practices in the future, including adequate training of customer service representatives, recording telephone communications between customers and sales representatives that result in a sale, refraining from misleading marketing and advertising that implies savings, regularly monitoring sales calls, and implementing appropriate disciplinary procedures for violations of the law.

New Yorkers who bought electricity from Family Energy may be eligible for a refund if they were subject to certain deceptive practices. New Yorkers can submit a complaint online or call (800) 771-7755 to receive a complaint form by mail and return it to the Consumer Frauds and Protection Bureau at 28 Liberty Street, New York, NY 10005.

When purchasing gas and electricity, consumers have two choices: 1) buy directly from a utility company or 2) contract the purchase through an energy services company (ESCO) that purchases energy on the open market and then sells that energy to consumers. Because ESCOs buy the electricity and gas they supply to their customers

BRENNER INCOME TAX CENTER

Dear Valued Customer:

BRENNER INCOME TAX CENTERS IS AT THE SAME LOCATION at 157 Main Street, Grahamsville, NY.

Income tax time is upon us again. There have again been many changes within the IRS which will affect your income tax return and refund. I am here and ready to assist you with these changes.

Please call me at (845) 985-7411 to set up your appointment today!

Sincerely,

Marc Hurwitz
Brenner Income Tax Centers

157 Main St., Grahamsville, NY
(845) 985-7411

from the same sources as the utility companies, there is no qualitative difference between the electricity and gas supplied by ESCOs and utilities. The PSC has recognized problems with the ESCO industry and has adopted regulations that restrict the kinds of plans ESCOs can offer to residential and small business consumers. In addition to guaranteed savings products, ESCOs can offer green products or fixed rate products that do not provide savings over utility rates.

The agreement with Family Energy is part of OAG's long-standing, ongoing investigation of ESCOs. Investigations into this industry have resulted in ESCOs paying millions of dollars in restitution and penalties. Over the last five years, OAG has recovered nearly \$7 million in settlements from five ESCOs.

Consumers can protect themselves from unscrupulous ESCOs by remembering the following tips:

- o If you receive an offer for energy services, make sure you understand whether the offer is from your utility or an ESCO.
- o You do not have to choose an ESCO to supply your gas or electricity. You may choose to use your utility as your direct supplier.
- o Make sure you understand whether an ESCO contract involves an early termination fee and, if so, the fee amount and the length of your contract commitment.
- o Before accepting any offer, ask the ESCO to show you how its rates have compared with your utility's rates during each month in the past year. This can help you judge how competitive the ESCO's rates may be in the future.
- o Remember that you have the right to cancel an ESCO contract with no obligation within three days if you change your mind.
- o If you are uncomfortable with how a marketer behaves, end the conversation with a request to look over their offer in writing so you can get back to them when you have made a decision free of any pressure.
- o If you receive a notice that your service is being switched to an ESCO and you did not authorize the switch, contact the utility and the ESCO immediately to tell them to halt the switch. If you are unable to get an ESCO switch cancelled, contact PSC at 1-888-697-7728.

LEGALS/PUBLIC NOTICES

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to Section 103 of the General Municipal Law, The Town of Denning is seeking sealed bids for Delivered Material:

Quarry Rubble (Ton), Abrasive Sand (Ton), Low Abrasive Sand (Ton), Gabions (Ton), #1 Stone (Ton) Low Abrasion, #1A Stone (Ton) Low Abrasion, #1 ST Stone (Ton) Low Abrasion, #2 Stone (Ton) Low Abrasion, #45 Stone (Ton), Sand - Snow & Ice Control (Ton) / No Clay, Loam or Organics, Screenings (Ton), Item #4 (Ton) from Ledge Rock, Crusher Run (Ton) Tail Gate Spread, Crusher Run (Ton), Dumped Rip Rap (Ton), Flat Bed Rip Rap (Ton), Cold Patch (Ton), Bank Run (Ton), Stackable Rock (Ton), Slope Rock (Ton).

FOB: Blacktop Hot Mix Type 6, and Blacktop Hot Mix Type 7.

The material must be of such grade as to be acceptable to the Town of Denning Highway Superintendent. Sand for all locations shall be screened, clean, hard sharp and free from loam, clay, frozen lumps, or organic material with 100% passing through a 3/8-inch sieve.

All bids should be delivered price only, except for FOB black top type 6 & 7, together with Non-Collusive Bidding Certification.

Upon acceptance of bid price, bidder shall in turn notify the Town of Denning Highway Superintendent when he has at least 100 tons of material stockpiled for the Town of Denning in order that the testing may be done by the Highway Department or by a designated agent for final approval.

Bid Forms and Non-collusive Bidding Certifications are available from the Town Clerks Office or the Town Highway Superintendent. Forms and Certifications must be in a sealed envelope with the company name clearly visible and marked BID. Bids may be mailed to: Town of Denning, P.O. Box 277, Claryville, N.Y. 12725

All sealed bids must be received by Tuesday, April 12, 2022 prior to the commencement of the Town of Denning Town Board Meeting; to begin at 6:00 P.M. during SAID meeting All Bids will be publicly opened and read. The meeting is to be held at the Denning Town Hall, 1567 Denning Road, Claryville, N.Y. 12725.

The Highway Superintendent must be informed upon ordering of any and all fuel charges to be added to any material delivery, followed by a fax to serve as written notice.

All material must be delivered to the Town, within the confines of the Town of Denning.

The Town Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids without reason.
The Highway Superintendent reserves the right to reject any material deemed unacceptable.

BY THE ORDER OF THE DENNING TOWN BOARD
Nancy Parrow, Town Clerk / RMO March 8th, 2022

3/17

PUBLIC NOTICE:

Chapter 680 of the Laws of 2002 enacted General Municipal Law §209-cc, requiring the annual reporting of the presence of wild animals. Pursuant to this law, each person owning, possessing or harboring a wild animal as set forth in §209-cc must report its presence to the Town Clerk on or before April 1st, 2022.

A list of common names of animals to be reported is available at the Denning Town Clerk's Office, 985-2411, during normal business hours. Failure to file as required will be subject to penalties under the law.

Nancy Parrow, RMO
Denning Town Clerk
March 3rd, 2022

3/17

**Immediate Openings
Liberty Central School**

**FT Cleaner (Temporary)
PT Cleaner (Temporary)
Substitute Cleaners**

HS Diploma or Equivalency Required

Please apply online by **Mar 28th**
at liberty12.tedk12.com/hire **EOE**

Please be aware that the **2021 Sullivan County Annual Report** has been delivered to the Legislature, per County law, and is now available for public review at <https://sullivanny.us/sites/default/files/departments/CMGR/AnnualReports/2021/2021%20Annual%20Report.pdf>. A quick link has been provided on the County website as well: www.sullivanny.us.

Tri-Valley CSD Board Meeting

Thursday, March 17, 2022

Meeting Opening Call to Order - 6:00 p.m.
Secondary School Library Lower Level,
Anticipated Proposed Executive Session
6:00 p.m.

Secondary School Library Upper Level
Regular Meeting #18 resumes approximately
7:00 p.m.

Secondary School Library Lower Level

Fallsburg CSD Board of Education Meetings

March 16, 2022

Gillibrand, Schumer Reveal Hudson Valley and Westchester to Receive Over \$10 Million for Local Projects in Bipartisan Funding Package: Includes Funding for Broadband, Water System and Housing Upgrades, Infrastructure Projects and More

Washington, D.C. - Today, U.S. Senate Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer and U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand revealed that the Hudson Valley/Westchester region will receive over \$10 million in funding from the omnibus funding package for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 for critical local projects.

"From finally replacing the Lake St. Bridge in Newburgh to bridging the digital divide to boosting affordable housing in Westchester these project will address some of the most critical infrastructure, public health, and community needs across the Hudson Valley," said Senator Schumer. "This funding means jobs, gun violence prevention programs, new community centers, and so much more. I am proud to deliver this major investment in the Hudson Valley's future."

"From upgrading water systems and affordable housing to providing broadband to funding infrastructure projects, these resources will lay the groundwork for the Hudson Valley's future," said Senator Gillibrand. "I am proud to have worked to

secure these millions in funding to address some of the Hudson Valley's most pressing problems and I'll keep fighting to bring federal dollars back home to New York."

The senators said that these projects include:

\$1,750,000 for the City of Newburgh. Funding will be used for the Lake Street Bridge replacement project.

\$829,594 for the Town of Ghent. Funding will be used to provide broadband for unserved homes and businesses in the Towns of Ghent, Canaan, New Lebanon, and Austerlitz.

\$430,000 for the Samadhi Anti-Gun Violence Prevention Program. Funding will be used for operational expenses, primarily for hiring and training staff members, and will also cover administrative costs, rental of office space, advertising, promotion, computers and community events.

\$1,200,000 for the Town of Yorktown. Funding will be used for Phase 1 of the Sewer Extension Project in Hallocks Mill Sewer District.

\$300,000 for Nuvance Health in Poughkeepsie. Funding will go to the Northern Dutchess Hospital of Nuvance Health to upgrade patient safety and monitoring equipment in its Neugarten Birth Center.

\$1,200,000 for Family Services Inc. in Poughkeepsie. Funding will be used on a capital project to increase the safety, accessibility, and long-term sustainability of the Family Partnership Center (FPC), located in the heart of Poughkeepsie. The FPC houses Family Services' human services programs as well as the services and programs of 20 related and complementary non-profits, many of which provide behavioral health services.

\$2,000,000 for a New Center of Excellence for Women's Health at Refuah Health Center, Inc., in Spring Valley. Funding will be used for a state-of-the-art facility dedicated to the provision of accessible, high-quality, affordable health care for women, with a particular focus on infertility services for an underserved population.

\$375,000 for the Westchester Membership Fund for Aging. Funding will provide for operational expenses and to purchase equipment and services for five new senior-center TIPS sites for remote telehealth monitoring and follow-up services for approximately 500 seniors.

\$500,000 for the New Rochelle YMCA. Funding will be used for an educational program to fill the achievement gap exacerbated by COVID-19. It will bring tutoring, arts, dance and other enhancements to children of color and those economically disadvantaged.

\$1,100,000 for the O&W Rail Trail project in Sullivan County. Funding will be used for the construction of a planned bicycle and pedestrian bridge over the Neversink River to connect two existing segments of the Sullivan O&W Rail Trail, resulting in a contiguous 13-mile section from Mountain Dale, a hamlet in the Town of Fallsburg, to Ferndale, a hamlet in the Town of Liberty. Development of an additional on-road segment will link up with the existing Liberty Rail Trail, resulting in nearly 18 miles of trail through five hamlet and village centers in the Sullivan County Catskills.

\$250,000 for the Village of Port Chester. Funding will be used to replace the original heating system in Village Hall with a geothermal heating and cooling solution. This project will provide a greener and more environmentally conscious system and result in long-term cost savings.

\$500,000 for Westhab Inc. in Yonkers. Funding will be used for the SoYo Preservation project, which will deliver critically needed capital improvements and repairs to sustain 79 units of affordable housing in 9 multi-family apartment buildings in Southwest Yonkers owned and operated by Westhab.

\$308,000 for the Town of Mamaroneck. Funding will be used to renovate the Town of Mamaroneck's Senior Center's lobby, activity room and three-season porch.

State of NY Files Complaint Against State of New Jersey in U.S. Supreme Court Seeking Injunction to Prevent Dissolution of Bi-state Law Enforcement Commission

New Jersey's Withdrawal from Compact Would Result in Immediate and Irreparable Harm to New York

Governor Kathy Hochul and Attorney General Letitia James today filed legal action in the United States Supreme Court to block New Jersey from terminating the Waterfront Commission created by New York and New Jersey for the port that the two states share. The complaint invokes the Supreme Court's jurisdiction to seek a declaratory judgment and both preliminary and permanent injunctions to prohibit New Jersey from breaching the congressionally approved Waterfront Commission Compact between New York and New Jersey. New Jersey's withdrawal would likely cause immediate and irreparable harm to New York, resulting in increased criminal activity, higher prices on incoming goods, and racial and gender inequities in hiring at the port.

"Protecting the safety of New Yorkers and our vital industries is my top priority, and we cannot afford to lose the Waterfront Commission's unique authority and expertise in combatting crime at our port," Governor Hochul said. "In light of current geopolitical uncertainty, the termination of the Waterfront Commission would cause immediate and irreparable harm to New York State, from increased crime to higher prices to employment inequities. It is our responsibility to New Yorkers to stop New Jersey's unlawful actions and preserve the ongoing work of this law enforcement agency."

"For decades, the Waterfront Commission has been a critical partnership to keep our ports and our communities safe," said Attorney General James. "New Jersey's attempt to terminate this commission is unlawful, ill-advised, and infringes on our efforts to crack down on crime. This commission has long proved to be a necessary force to root out corruption and organized crime, and we will use every tool at our disposal to ensure its powers remain intact and our communities benefit from its important work."

The bi-state Waterfront Commission was created in 1953 to address organized crime at the port which spans areas in both states. For more than 60 years, the Commission has worked to investigate, deter, combat, and remedy criminal activity and influence and to ensure fair hiring and employment practices at the port. The Commission has had many successes, including by providing unique bi-state assistance to federal and state investigations, and it is a vital law enforcement agency performing the critical work of combatting organized and violent crime.

The work of the Commission is far from over. Commission investigations continue to result in convictions of individuals associated with organized crime families, seizures of illegal drugs and firearms, and seizures of financial proceeds from illegal drug trafficking, loan sharking, and gambling. Organized crime enterprises' attempts to exert influence over both sides of the port are ongoing.

Those who are connected to organized crime

or other corrupt enterprises are often rewarded with high paying, low-show, or no-work special compensation packages. These special compensation packages have a detrimental economic impact on the port and the New York metropolitan area. The Commission oversees the licensing and registration of the waterfront workforce, including background checks to prevent individuals with mob ties from joining the workforce, and also works with employers and union leadership to ensure fair and non-discriminatory hiring and labor practices at the port. The Commission is the central repository of intelligence pertaining to criminality and organized crime influence in the port. In screening prospective workers, the Commission employs sophisticated investigative techniques not only to detect prior criminality, but also to root out associations between prospective longshore candidates and organized crime figures and career criminals.

Weakening or ultimately terminating the Commission's ability to conduct criminal investigations and background checks and regulate the hiring, registration, and licensing of waterfront employees will likely increase opportunities for individuals associated with organized crime enterprises to obtain employment at the port or otherwise exert control over port operations. This could result in increased opportunities for the port to be used for criminal activity, such as the importation and distribution of dangerous contraband-including narcotics and guns. Increased criminal activity at the port would also likely result in increased prices for goods that flow through the port and into New York and the surrounding region.

The Commission's unique authority and expertise are essential to overseeing activity on both sides of the port. Despite the need for the Commission to continue its work unimpeded, New Jersey has stated that it intends to withdraw unilaterally from the compact and terminate the Commission. New Jersey's action would violate federal law, and the state does not have the power to abolish the Commission without New York's consent, as the compact is both a binding contract and a federal statute, and its terms provide that it may be amended only by concurring legislation passed by both states.

The complaint filed in the Supreme Court requests that the court preliminarily and permanently enjoin New Jersey from taking any action to further its unilateral withdrawal and declare that any such action is unlawful and void so as to preserve and protect the Waterfront Commission and the interstate agreement that created it.

SC's Health Offices Renamed

Liberty, NY - As part of changes in Sullivan County's Administrative Code approved by legislators, the Division of Health & Family Services has been renamed to the Division of Health & Human Services. Also, the Department of Family Services (DFS) has become the Department of Social Services (DSS), while Public Health Services has become the Department of Public Health.

"These name changes better align us with New York State's office naming system and are intended to eliminate confusion for the many State agencies with whom we regularly interact," Division of Health & Human Services Commissioner John Liddle explained. "No staff or program changes will occur as a result, although certain employees' titles - like mine - have been altered to reflect the new office names."

What It Was Called

Division of Health & Family Services

Department of Family Services

Public Health Services

What It's Called Now

Division of Health & Human Services

Department of Social Services

Department of Public Health

Taking Their Water for Our City: Archaeology of New York City's Watershed Communities

VIRTUAL PRESENTATION

Sunday, March 20, 2 p.m.

[Grahamsville, N.Y.] Join Dr. April M. Beisaw, Associate Professor of Anthropology at Vassar College on Sunday, March 20th at 2 p.m. virtually on ZOOM to explore NYC's Water System and its impact on local residents.

New York City has clean water because it comes from pure and rural mountains. However, there is nothing natural about New York City's water. To create the water system, thousands of people lost homes and businesses, and had to sue the City for compensation.



Join Dr. Beisaw and learn about her research and exploration over the last nine years with her Vassar College students hiking portions of the city-owned watershed to document the ruins of lives cut short by a distant city. In what was left behind, researchers can begin to estimate the price that rural people paid for providing clean water to City residents.

Admission to the program: Members are free, and non-members: \$5. Non-members can make a donation on the Museum's website: www.timeandthevalleymuseum.org before registering. Registration is required. To register and receive a program link, please email info@timeandthevalleymuseum.org and put Water System Talk in the subject line, or call 845 985-7700.

About the Time and the Valleys Museum: Connecting Water People and the Catskills, the Museum is currently open by appointment and during programs. Located at 332 Main Street in Grahamsville (St. Rt. 55), Sullivan County, admission for adults is a suggested donation of \$5, children under 16 \$2, and children under six are free.

Museum exhibitions are interactive and both fun and educational for all ages:

- o Water and the Valleys, an exhibit on the history of the Rondout and Neversink watershed area from early geological times to the 20th century. This exhibition includes interactives such as a Native American artifact guessing game, grinding corn with a mortar and pestle, videos and more.
- o Tunnels, Toil and Trouble: New York City's Quest for Water and the Rondout-Neversink Story, an interactive exhibit on NYC water supply system and the towns that were removed to build the system, which includes computer interactives, games, puzzles, videos and building a dam and tunnel.
- o 1930s Lost Catskill Farm, a farmhouse, outhouse, barn, electric plant, milk house and working waterwheel help visitors experience life in the 1930s through displays, videos, games and hands on activities.
- o New! One Teacher, Eight Grades, One Room an exhibition on one room schools in the Tri-Valley area.

The Time and the Valleys Museum is proud to be a Blue Star Museum, a collaboration between the National Endowment of the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense and over 1,500 museums across America to provide free admission to active duty military members (with ID) and up to five family members. This free admission for members of the military and their families runs from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

ST. MARK'S UMC
Napanoch

INDOOR YARD and CLOTHING SALE

Will be opened every Friday from 10 - 3

Something for Everyone



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Sundown United Methodist Church

Sundown Ladies

Hopefully we will see you this summer at our Saturday Indoor Yard Sales!

Sundown United Methodist Church Hall



ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL MISSION
The Little Church with the Big Heart
ALL ARE WELCOME!
Sunday, 8:00am Service of Holy Communion
Music by Fred VanWagner

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

For information contact:
The Reverend Diana Southwick Scheide
Canon Missioner of the Delaware Catskill Episcopal Ministry
PO Box 296 Callicoon, NY
vicardcem@gmail.com
845-887-3201 • 717-870-7874 cell

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 3:00 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

Grahamsville United Methodist Church

Thrift Sales

Volunteers Needed!



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

Join Zoom Meeting - Worship Service & Tuesday Evening Bible Study Zoom Link
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2029912673?pwd=R2lJYUhyTVdsQWdMUXZvTEtCeGdLZz09>
Meeting ID: 202 991 2673 Passcode: 012740

Dial by your location
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

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

Grahamsville Reformed Church

The Church with a friendly welcome

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



Claryville Reformed Church

Claryville Road
Claryville, NY 12725
845-985-2041

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

Loucks Funeral Home

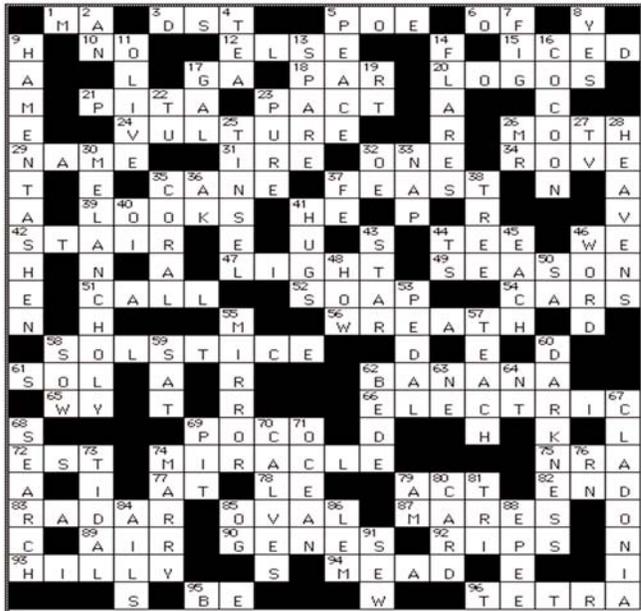
Geoff and Heather Hazzard
"Celebrating Life, One Family at a Time"

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

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

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

Ans to last week's Crossword



Purim DOUBLE JOY

It's not too late to RSVP for Purim DOUBLE JOY at The Rhinebeck Jewish Center! Simply email RSVP@rhinebeckjewishcenter.com or call 845-876-7666 to make your reservation TODAY. With megillah reading, dinner, and FUN for all ages, it's sure to be an evening that the whole family will enjoy. L'Chaim!

Thursday, March 17th
 Megillah Reading 5:00 pm * Purim double joy 5:30 PM
 Cover charge: \$18 per person
 Double Joy sponsor \$180
 RSVP required, please email RSVP@gmail.com or call 845-876-7666

Earn a Catskills Fire Tower Challenge Patch

Looking for a fun outdoor challenge this year? Earn a 2022 Catskills Fire Tower patch by taking the 2022 Catskills Fire Tower Challenge! This challenge can be a fun way to experience the Catskills, see beautiful scenery, and visit new places. To participate in the 2022 challenge, hikers must hike to all six DEC-owned fire towers in the Catskills between January 1, 2022 and December 31, 2022:

- o Hunter Mountain Fire Tower
- o Tremper Mountain Fire Tower
- o Upper Esopus Fire Tower (New!)
- o Overlook Mountain Fire Tower
- o Red Hill Fire Tower
- o Balsam Lake Mountain Fire Tower

Once completed, participants submit a log of their completed hikes along with a favorite photo to: CatskillsChallenge@dec.ny.gov or via mail. Entries must be postmarked by January 7, 2023. Finishers will receive a letter, commemorative patch designed with the 2022 completion year (as seen on the right), and a one-year subscription to DEC's Conservationist magazine. Upon completion, finishers will also be able to download a customizable certificate and will be eligible to win hiking accessories after the challenge period is closed.

For more information go to: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/76620.html>



All Aboard!

Join the Fun!

Play Mexican Train

FREE FUN every FRIDAY 1-4 pm

in the upstairs meeting room at the Neversink Town Hall

Also WANTED

People to play cards

SUUJI WA TANSU NI KAGIRU
 answer

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

Red Hill - Denning-Elevation 2,990 feet

The Red Hill Fire Tower stands 60 feet tall, has nine flights of stairs, and was constructed in 1921. Follow the blue-marked Red Hill Tower Trail for 1.4 miles from the trailhead on Denning Road in Claryville, NY which will accommodate up to 10 cars. Follow the blue-marked Red Hill Tower trail for 1.4 miles where it intersects with the yellow-marked trail. Turn right and stay on the blue-marked trail for .6 mile that leads to the summit. Moderate 4 mile, round-trip hike. Elevation gain is approximately 1200_. Trailhead address is: 2205 Denning Rd, Claryville, NY 12725 GPS coordinates: 41.935139, -74.529389
 Directions: Follow the yellow-marked Red Hill Tower Trail from Coons Road (formerly Dinch Road) just outside of Claryville-a moderate, three-mile, round-trip hike.



ARTISTS • CRAFTERS

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

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., Hurlerville, NY.
 For information call 845-434-8044.

LOCAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 3/15/22 Town of Neversink Zoning Board Meeting 7:30 pm
 3/17/22 Town of Denning Planning Board 6:00 pm Denning Town Hall
 3/17/22 Neversink Fire District Monthly meeting 7:30 PM
 3/20/22 Claryville Fire Department **All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast** 8 am - 12 noon
 4/5/22 Claryville Fire District Meeting 6:30 pm
 4/6/22 Town of Neversink Planning Board Meeting 7:00 pm
 4/12/22 Denning Town Board Meetings 6:00 pm Denning Town Hall
 4/13/22 Neversink Town Board Meeting - 7:30 pm
 4/15/22 Town of Neversink Holiday - **GOOD FRIDAY**

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.

Local Town Hall Websites:

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

Ulster County Legislature Weekly Update

March 14 - March 18, 2022

Monday, March 14

- o 5:00 PM - Ulster County Community Services Board, Powered by Zoom Meetings. Meeting ID: 843 9989 2283, Passcode: 897625, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656
- o 5:30 PM - Public Hearing: Periodic Compensation Review Committee, in the Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston
- o 6:30 PM - Ulster County Board of Health, Powered by Zoom Meetings. Meeting ID: 849 0261 0293, Passcode: 153744, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656

Tuesday, March 15

- o No Meetings

Wednesday, March 16

- o 8:00 AM - Ulster County Industrial Development Agency Audit Committee, Powered by Zoom Meeting, Meeting ID: 816 4111 9687, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656
- o 8:30 AM (or immediately following the UC IDA Audit Committee) - Ulster County Capital Resources Corporation Audit Committee, Powered by Zoom Meeting, Meeting ID: 816 4111 9687, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656
- o 9:00 AM - Ulster County Industrial Development Agency Board of Directors, Powered by Zoom Meeting, Meeting ID: 816 4111 9687, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656
- o 10:30 AM (or immediately following UC IDA) Ulster County Capital Resources Corporation Board of Directors, Powered by Zoom Meeting, Meeting ID: 816 4111 9687, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656

- o 5:00 PM - Ways & Means Committee, in the KL Binder Library, 6th Floor, COB, Kingston

- o 6:00 PM (or immediately following Ways & Means Committee) Special Meeting of the Laws, Rules & Government Services Committee, in the Legislative Chair's Office, 6th Floor, COB, Kingston

- o 6:15 PM (or immediately following Laws, Rules & Government Services Committee) - Caucus: Democrats, in the Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, COB, Kingston

- o 6:15 PM (or immediately following Laws, Rules & Government Services Committee) - Caucus: Republicans, in KL Binder Library, 6th Floor, COB, Kingston

- o 7:15 PM - Legislative Session, in the Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, COB, Kingston. Legislative Session is also available via vimeo Livestream at: <https://livestream.com/accounts/1512750/events/1824203>. Public Comment is also offered by "Call In Studio": Dial 205-ULSTER-0 or (205) 857-8370 to be connected. Written comments may also be submitted to the Clerk via email to vfab@co.ulster.ny.us

Thursday, March 17

- o 5:30 PM - Youth Board, Powered by Zoom Meetings. Meeting ID: 997 2737 2088, Passcode: 178045, By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656

Friday, March 18

- o No Meetings

Help your
 local business grow
 Advertise locally in
The Townsman!

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

1" Boxed ad (1" x 3")
 - \$6.00 per week

Business card ad (2" x 3")
 \$12.00 per week

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

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

(4" x 6") - \$48.00 per week

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

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

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

Full Page - 8" x10" - \$100.00 per week

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

•• Full Page Flyer for Local
 Municipalities
 and Organizations - one time fee-
 \$20.00

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

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

Low Rates
 High Visibility!

April is just around the corner...
Remember All the Fun You Had at the
Grahamsville UMC Thrift Sales?
We Can't Allow that to Change!

This is the time of the year that many of us begin to look forward to the **Grahamsville UMC First Thrift Sale of the Season!** This will only happen this year if they get enough volunteers to help.

We all know how much fun we had looking for that special item and finding a lot more! Not only was it fun finding great bargains, but it was also a lot of fun seeing familiar faces and meeting new friends who were having just as much fun.

All those years, all those bargains, fun and food were **made possible by volunteers.** **Volunteers are special people** who want to give some time and effort back to the community. In the past volunteers found their little niche - whether it was sorting the new items that were brought in by donors, washing items so they were pristine when you bought them, placing the items in an orderly fashion on the racks, tables and shelves, or being there on a sale day helping those making purchases.

Unfortunately time has taken its toll on the number of volunteers that are needed to make the Thrift Sales happen. Some of the volunteers are longer with us, or are now unable to perform as they did in years past. How sad it would be not to have someone follow in their footsteps and step up and volunteer! **If you loved coming to the Thrift Sales, why not become one of the volunteers?**

You don't have to be a member of the Grahamsville UM Church to be a volunteer. Think about it. If everyone who came to the Thrift Sale in the past were to volunteer just a little of their time and a little effort, we could all still look forward to the **First Thrift Sale of the Season in April!**

Please fill out the form below and bring it with you **to the church on Sunday and leave it with the pastor** or mail it to: **Grahamsville UM Church, P O Box 86, Grahamsville, NY 12740** **Attention: Thrift Sale Volunteers**

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELE NUMBER: _____

EMAIL: _____

Please check what type of volunteer service you can offer to **help make the GUMC Thrift Sales happen**

_____ Help sort donations

_____ Wash items when necessary

_____ Help with displaying and placing merchandise for sale

_____ Help at the Thrift Sales

____ Other: If you have something else that you may offer to help, please let us know

THANK YOU!

Senator Martucci Reacts to the Senate One-House Budget Proposal

“One-house budget resolutions are political documents not realistic budget proposals, and this one is no exception. I was pleased to see several initiatives I have been fighting for included in the laundry list of funding increases provided for in the resolution. Among these are

Fair Pay for Home Care - a bill I was the first Republican to co-sponsor, Fee-for-Service Parity for neighborhood pharmacies, and expanded bonuses for healthcare workers. That said, the overall level of spending imagined in this document is crazy, and the last thing this State needs is another tax-and-spend budget.

“This resolution also takes us even further down the road of putting the needs of criminals and inmates before that of law-abiding citizens. It seals the criminal records of felons, gives tuition assistance to convicts, and does absolutely nothing to address the State's failed and dangerous bail reform law that's contributing to a statewide crime wave. The Majority even ignored the protection of firefighters by failing to include Billy's Law, which would add 3rd and 4th degree felony arson to the list of offenses eligible for bail. Make no mistake, New Yorkers would be less safe were this resolution to be fully enacted.

“For these reasons, I voted No.

“The good news is the passage of this resolution is far from the final word in this budget process. As we move toward a final budget, we must address the clear and present dangers facing our state: crime, population loss, and high taxes, while still making sure to properly fund education, support our local pharmacies, and ensure fair pay for our home care workers.”

New Citizens to Take Oath in Ulster County

Ulster County Clerk Nina Postupack announces that a naturalization ceremony will take place in the Legislative Chambers of the Ulster County Office Building located in Kingston on Friday, March 18th at 11:00 a.m.

Approximately 20 new citizens will take their Oaths of Allegiance accepting the responsibilities of an American, while also gaining the

rights and privileges afforded to most Americans by birth. “I am honored to be a part of such a special ceremony,” states Ulster County Clerk Nina Postupack. “It's a moving experience to watch as people are finally able to realize their dream of becoming a U.S. citizen.”

Due to the U.S. Customs and Immigration Service's COVID safety protocols, no outside observers will be permitted to attend the ceremony. There are, however, several local elected officials and organizations who will be helping to welcome the new citizens by awarding them with congratulatory certificates and providing them with useful resources and materials.

Presiding over the ceremony will be the Honorable Lisa M. Fisher, Associate Justice, Supreme Court, Appellate Division-Third Department. Judge Fisher will be the keynote speaker welcoming our 20 participants as newly naturalized American Citizens.

For further information about the ceremony or other programs of the Ulster County Clerk's Office, please call County Clerk Nina Postupack at (845) 340-3040

Sullivan County Virtual Alzheimer's Community Forum

6-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 16

Join us for a free Virtual Community Forum to help us learn about real-life experiences with Alzheimer's and dementia in our community, learn about our resources, and learn how to engage more people.

As a part of our community assessment we are looking to identify needs and service gaps within the community.

To register and participate by phone or Zoom, call the Alzheimer's Association at 800.272.3900 or [click here](#).



alzheimer's  association®

Sullivan County Office for the Aging

SULLIVAN 180 

 NY Connects
New York's Long Term
Care and Support
Program
of Education 212071
(845) 343-8871 (845) 340-1000

Tri-Valley Elementary School
"INSPIRE SUCCESS TOGETHER"



GO BEARS!

Tri-Valley Elementary School

UPK REGISTRATION

**If you have a child that will be 4
years old by December 1, 2022 please
call us at**

845-985-2296 ext. 5405

Or send an email to:

registration@trivalleycsd.org

**and leave your name, your child's
name and phone number where you
can be reached.**





Fallsburg CSD 2022-2023 Pre-K & Kindergarten Registration

**NEW FOR 2022-2023:
FULL DAY PRE-K PROGRAM!**
(2 classrooms with 18 students in each)
(that day program will no longer be offered)

- Pre-K students must be 4 years old on or before December 1, 2022.
- Kindergarten students must be 5 years old on or before December 1, 2022.

Registration packets can be picked up in the Central Office in the JSHS or completed online.
Please visit <http://www.fallsburgcsd.net/parents/registration> for instructions and to reach our online registration form.

****PLEASE NOTE:**
ALL incoming Kindergarteners MUST register, even if registered for Pre-K last year.**

- Registration will take place for incoming:
• Pre-K students: April 11th - April 29th
• Kindergarten students: May 9th - May 20th

For Pre-K:
COMPLETE Registration Packets (including ALL required documentation) will be accepted until April 29th. At that time, a lottery *may be held* if more register than available seats. Once all seats are filled, students will be added to a Waiting List. Registration will be processed, by date of receipt, for COMPLETE registration packets only.



Fallsburg CSD 2022-2023 Registro de Pre-K y Kindergarten

**NUEVO PARA 2022-2023:
PROGRAMA DE PRE-K DE DÍA COMPLETO!**
(2 aulas con 18 alumnos en cada una)
(el programa de medio día ya no se ofrece)

- Los estudiantes de Pre-K deben tener 4 años cumplidos el 1 de diciembre de 2022 o antes.
- Los estudiantes de kindergarten deben tener 5 años cumplidos el 1 de diciembre de 2022 o antes.

Los paquetes de inscripción se pueden recoger en la Oficina Central en el JSHS.
Visite <http://www.fallsburgcsd.net/parents/registration> para obtener instrucciones y acceder a nuestro formulario de registro en línea.

****TENGA EN CUENTA:**
TODOS los estudiantes que ingresan a kindergarten DEBEN registrarse, incluso si se registraron para Pre-K el año pasado.**

- El registro se llevará a cabo para los entrantes:
• Estudiantes de Pre-K: 11 de Abril - 29 de Abril
• Estudiantes de Kindergarten: 9 de Mayo - 20 de Mayo

Para Pre-K:
COMPLETE Los paquetes de registro (que incluyen TODA la documentación requerida) se aceptarán hasta el 29 de abril. Una vez que se llenen todos los asientos, los estudiantes se agregarán a una lista de espera. El registro se procesará, por fecha de recepción, solo para paquetes de registro COMPLETOS.

Attorney General James Warns NY'rs of Potential Price Gouging of Fuel Following President Biden's Ban on Russian Oil

AG James to Oil Companies and Gas Stations: Price Gouging Will Not be Tolerated

NEW YORK - In response to U.S. President Joe Biden's announcement today that the United States will ban imports of Russian oil, natural gas, and coal, New York Attorney Letitia James warned oil companies and gas stations that price gouging is illegal and reminded New Yorkers to be on alert for potential price gouging of fuel. Russia is one of the world's largest producers of energy, and as a result of these sanctions, New Yorkers should prepare for continued market disruptions, potentially inflated prices at the pump, and ensure that they know their rights. New York law prohibits sellers of fuel and other vital and necessary goods from charging unconscionably excessive prices during an abnormal market disruption, including disruptions caused by world conflicts. New York consumers who experience dramatic increases in the price of gasoline or fuel should report these incidents to the Office of the Attorney General (OAG).

<https://formsnym.ag.ny.gov/OAGOnlineSubmissionForm/faces/OAGPGCHome>

"President Biden is taking critical and necessary action to hold Russia accountable for this unprovoked invasion that has claimed thousands of Ukrainian lives," said Attorney General James. "This newest round of sanctions could impact New Yorkers, so we are reminding companies that price gouging is illegal and ensuring that consumers take precautions to protect themselves and their wallets. Anyone who has experienced issues relating the price gouging of fuel should contact my office, and we will continue to do everything in our power to protect consumers."

When reporting price gouging to OAG, consumers should:

- Report the specific increased prices, the dates, and places that they saw the increased prices, and the types of fuel being sold;
- Provide copies of their sales receipts and photos of the advertised prices, if available; and
- Buy only as much fuel as they need and not to stock up out of fear of a potential future shortage.

New Yorkers should report potential concerns about price gouging to :

https://formsnym.ag.ny.gov/OAGOnlineSubmissionForm/faces/OAGPGCHome;jsessionid=YyB6Jdu-hXK4auiBjIVVusxoilnxcNUBtD_hDDuOnD8Ys43fvkLM!-1352777832

Following Push, Gillibrand, Schumer Announce Funding Package Includes Huge Boost to Cybersecurity Funding to Help NYS Guard Against Russian Cyber Attacks

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Today, U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY), member of the Senate Armed Services Committee and Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, and U.S. Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer (D-NY) announced that following their push, the final omnibus funding package for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 includes at least \$38 million for the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center, a federally funded

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(845) 985-7923
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7 AM - 9 PM
Every day of the week
Call (845) 985-7923 or (914) 672-3952

Please call for availability first

cybersecurity resilience program. The funding represents an increase of \$11 million over the previous year.

On March 2, the senators had sent a letter to Senate appropriators pushing for a significant increase in cybersecurity funding, given the increased threat to New York State from Russian cyber attacks.

"The crushing sanctions that the U.S. and our allies have leveled against Russia and Putin's inner circle have increased the risk of retaliatory cyber attacks, particularly against New York State infrastructure and individuals," said Senator Gillibrand. "It is critical that we boost funding to protect New York State and the country from cyber threats from Russia, which is why Senator Schumer and I pushed for this significant increase in cybersecurity funding. This funding will enable the United States to act quickly to strengthen our cyber defenses to meet potential Russian aggression."

"Protecting our government, our businesses, critical infrastructure, and our utilities from cyberattack has assumed even greater importance with Putin's unjustified aggression in Ukraine and recklessly threatening cyberattacks throughout the world," said Senator Schumer. "That's why we pushed for and worked to secure increased funding to the Center for Internet Security's Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (MS-ISAC) - a New York based national leader in building cybersecurity resilience and coordination between federal, state, and local entities."

"We stand with Sen. Schumer and Sen. Gillibrand--our home state Senators--in continuing to emphasize the importance of supporting the cybersecurity of our nation's State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial (SLTT) governments. Our members, over 12,000 SLTT, are an integral part of the whole-of-nation approach to protecting both our critical infrastructure and essential civil services across the country," said John Gilligan, President & CEO of the Center for Internet Security.

The MS-ISAC program is a successful example of a partnership-based approach to building cybersecurity resilience and coordination between federal, state and local entities. In 2010, DHS designated the MS-ISAC as the focal point for cyber threat prevention, protection, response, and recovery for the nation's state, local, territorial, and tribal (SLTT) governments as well as Fusion Centers. The MS-ISAC is used by all 56 states and territories and more than 12,500 other local governments to receive up-to-date information on and analysis of cyber threats. Additionally, the Center for Internet Security, which houses the MS-ISAC, also houses the Elections Infrastructure Information Sharing & Analysis Center (EI-ISAC), which provides election systems professionals with a full cyber-defense suite of hardware, software, and expertise to fend off the threat of foreign interference.

Ulster County and Via's Proposal to Bring On-Demand, Electric Microtransit to Kingston and Ellenville Awarded Phase One Grant

- *The proposal, Ulster Connect, has been awarded a Phase One grant through the New York Clean Transportation Prizes' "Clean Neighborhoods Challenge."*
- *Ulster County would be one of the only Counties in the State to offer on-demand, electric microtransit*

Ulster County, NY - Ulster County Executive Pat Ryan announced today that a proposal to bring affordable, convenient, electric microtransit, on-demand through a mobile app, to Kingston and Ellenville has been selected as a Phase One Awardee in a statewide grant program. The proposal, Ulster Connect, has been awarded a Phase One grant through the New York Clean Transportation Prizes' "Clean Neighborhoods Challenge." The proposal is a joint initiative between Ulster County, Sustainable Hudson Valley, Family of Woodstock, and Via, the global leader in TransitTech, and will be the first mobility service of its kind in the county.

"Ulster County is excited to partner with Via to provide residents of the county access to clean, on-demand, electric transit," County Executive Pat Ryan said. "Our innovative proposal has moved to the next round and we are one step closer to providing quick, efficient, and energy-smart transit to residents in the Kingston and Ellenville areas."

"Via is proud to partner with Ulster County, a recognized leader for sustainability in New York State, to use our TransitTech software to expand access to mobility in underserved communities," Head of Public Policy at Via Andrei Greenawalt said. "Via will work with Ulster County and community partners to ensure clean, affordable, and convenient transportation is available to those who need it most."

Within the Ulster Connect microtransit app, Via's intelligent algorithms will enable riders to book a ride to a location within the Kingston and Ellenville region, and then direct them to a "virtual bus stop" within a short walking distance - allowing for quick, efficient shared trips that provide more flexibility than traditional public transit fixed routes and schedules. To underscore Ulster County's commitment to accessibility, riders without smartphones will be able to book a ride through phoning a call center.

In addition to the electrified microtransit service, the Ulster Connect program will also leverage community perspectives to inform the development of a smartphone app to make it easier for residents to plan and book efficient travel itineraries that use multiple modes of sustainable transporta-

tion (such as Ulster Connect, bikeshare, and existing electrified buses).

The Clean Transportation Prizes is supported by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) and aims to fund programs that electrify transportation, reduce air pollution, and enhance clean mobility for disadvantaged communities in New York State. As one of 17 projects announced through Phase One of the competition, Ulster Connect is eligible to compete for up to \$85 million in grand prizes under Phase Two. The project proposal will receive a Phase One award package of up to \$200,000, including a \$100,000 planning grant for further proposal development, up to \$50,000 in funding for community partners, and up to \$50,000 in in-kind support from technical experts.

Ulster Connect will be able to compete for a final grand prize for the Clean Neighborhoods Challenge, which will award up to three \$10 million grand prizes through Phase Two to innovative projects that address air pollution reduction at scale in underserved communities. As selected project teams finalize their proposals, they will prepare for a pitch competition to be held in the summer of 2022 with grand prize winners expected to be announced in late summer 2022.

Last month, Ulster County Executive Pat Ryan announced that Ulster County Area Transit (UCAT) put its first three electric buses on the road, which were purchased with funding from the New York Truck Voucher Incentive Program (NYTVIP), administered by New York State Energy Research & Development Authority (NYSERDA). The addition of three electric buses brings the number of green vehicles in Ulster County's fleet to approximately 9% - major progress towards the County's aggressive Green Fleet policy goal of 20% green by 2025 - with nine more buses scheduled to be replaced with electric buses in the coming years.

About Ulster County

Ulster County is geographically about the size of the state of Rhode Island. It's 90 miles north of Manhattan, between the Hudson River and the Catskill Mountains. We have 180,000 full-time residents plus an influx of visitors on the weekends. Ulster County Executive Pat Ryan, who is serving his third year in office, is a fifth-generation Ulster County resident. After graduating from Kingston High School, Pat attended West Point and served two combat tours in Iraq as an Army intelligence officer. After leaving the military, he founded a small technology company, which he grew to over 150 employees. Pat lives in Gardiner with his wife, Rebecca, and their two sons, Theo and Cameron, and their two rescue cats.

About Via

Via builds innovative software to enable our customers-cities, transit agencies, transport operators, school districts, universities, and corporations-to transform their legacy transportation systems into advanced digital networks. As pioneers of the TransitTech category, Via's mission is to expand access to efficient, affordable, and sustainable transportation. Via's software enables organizations to digitize their existing transportation networks and launch new and innovative services, simultaneously lowering operating costs and increasing quality of service. Our software is used in over 500 communities in more than 35 countries around the world.

4th of July Committee

2022 Spaghetti Dinner



4pm, 4:45pm, 5:30pm & 6:15pm

Takeout Encouraged

RESERVATIONS ONLY by noon 4/8/22

647-5963 or joecath69@hotmail.com

Sat., April 9th

Elks Lodge

Route 55, Napanoch

\$7 per person

Under 5: FREE with Parent



No cancellations for inclement weather

Gillibrand Calls for Senate to Extend USDA School Meal Programs; Calls for McConnell to Drop “Callous Opposition”

WASHINGTON, D.C. -Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand is calling on the Senate to protect and extend federal waivers for school meal programs that have prevented the country's neediest families from going hungry during the pandemic. The program is facing opposition from Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, who is reportedly blocking the extension of the waivers.

“For many children, the harsh reality is that these meals are the only full meal they get to eat throughout the day, and it is unconscionable that we would let children go hungry, just as our communities are beginning to open up and rebound from the global pandemic,” said Sen. Gillibrand. “Senator McConnell should drop his callous opposition to this critical program, which feeds millions of children in communities across the country and will help us transition beyond COVID-19.”

In a letter, led by Senator Martin Heinrich (D-NM). Senator Gillibrand and her colleagues are pushing to ensure that school administrators, staff, and industry partners that supply food to child nutrition programs have continued support from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), preventing those most in need from losing pandemic waivers that provided child nutrition program flexibilities to cope with the impact of the pandemic. The letter requests that the upcoming omnibus spending bill include a provision to “continue to provide USDA authority to issue all necessary waivers, including an extension of all authority provided by FFCRA for state and nationwide waivers from June 30, 2022 to September 30, 2023.” The full-year spending package, which House Democrats plan to unveil soon, allows for the waivers to continue throughout the 2022-23 school year.

Sen. Gillibrand has been supportive of the federal food waivers since their inception, having helped Congress pass the Families First Coronavirus Response Act that granted USDA the authority to issue several nationwide waivers and flexibilities for schools and program operators, back in 2020, at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Sen. Gillibrand also supported the congressional extension of USDA's initial authority to June 30, 2022, through the Continuing Appropriations Act 2021 and Other Extensions Act.

LETTER

Dear Leader Schumer and Leader McConnell:

Since the onset of the pandemic, Congress has taken action to address the exceptional circumstances of the COVID-19 public health emergency, including by granting USDA authority in the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) to issue several nationwide waivers and flexibilities for schools and program operators. We write to ask that the omnibus continue to provide USDA authority to issue all necessary waivers, including an extension of all authority provided by FFCRA for state and nationwide waivers from June 30, 2022 to September 30, 2023, in order to provide the flexibility needed to respond to the ongoing pandemic and to ensure that the federal child nutrition programs continue to operate and provide healthy snacks and meals to students.

Going forward, schools across the country will continue to need flexibility in providing school nutrition programs. That's because school districts that continue to operate in-person face a slew of challenges that impact meal service such as workforce shortages, unpredictable and cancelled food deliveries, increased food prices, and the inability to source standard food items or products like trays and cutlery. It will take time for nutrition operations at schools to recover from the challenges created during the pandemic, to rebuild their programs, and overcome the significant financial impact.

We recognize schools will continue to have the option to serve free meals to all students through June 2022 via the Seamless Summer Option (SSO). However, it is clear that schools and suppliers are continuing to face ongoing operational and supply challenges as they work to transition back to normal operations. Given that over 29 million children receive low cost or free meals at school every day, extending the SSO and other waivers are critical to keeping our nation's children fed this summer and during the 2022-2023 school year. This is especially true for states with high rates of poverty, where large portions of students are eligible for free and reduced lunch. (Contd. Pg. 33)

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Gillibrand Calls for Senate to Extend USDA School Meal Programs; Calls for McConnell to Drop "Callous Opposition"

(From Pg. 32) The June deadline means that summer meal programs will not be able to operate under the same program rules through the entire summer. This deadline also restricts the ability to respond to the operational and access challenges that schools may face into 2023. For schools that continue to face fluctuations in participation and staffing shortages, returning to normal National School Lunch Program (NSLP) rules on meal counting and eligibility would shortchange schools of adequate commodities and make both school and summer programs virtually impossible to run effectively. Further, schools will need support when they ultimately transition back to normal school meal operations under the National School Lunch Program. USDA will need waiver authority to support schools and program operators through this process and be able to effectively respond to unexpected challenges that may arise.

We believe extending the authority to issue state and nationwide waivers through September 30, 2023 will provide much needed assistance to school administrators, staff, and industry partners that supply food to child nutrition programs. Without these waivers, federal child nutrition programs will not be able to adequately meet the needs of children as we work to transition beyond COVID-19. The meals provided through the child nutrition programs are critical to our nation's pandemic response to childhood hunger. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Gillibrand: "It's Time For Some Dam Safety"

Gillibrand to FEMA: Work with States to Implement Federal Dam Safety Infrastructure Funding
New York State is Home to Nearly 150 Potentially Dangerous Dams

Washington, DC - U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand is calling on FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell to work with state dam safety agencies as FEMA implements the \$800 million included in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act for dam safety. Gillibrand was joined in her push by Senators Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), Alex Padilla (D-CA), Michael Bennet (D-CO), and Gary Peters (D-MI).

"The scale of our nation's dam safety challenge is daunting," said Senator Gillibrand. "More than \$20 billion is needed for critical repairs to dams that are likely to cost human lives if they fail, according to the Association of State Dam Safety Officials. If we are going to succeed in meeting this challenge, we need a carefully developed Federal-State-local-private partnership. The \$800 million investment in the National Dam Safety Program provides a real opportunity to build this partnership on a solid foundation and create a safer future for New York." (Contd. Pg. 36)

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STEM Day at SUNY Sullivan

Saturday, March 26 | 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.

(11:30 a.m. check-in)

SUNY Sullivan Campus

112 College Road, Loch Sheldrake, NY

Do you like discovering the unknown, finding solutions, and being hands-on? Explore all the possibilities at SUNY Sullivan STEM Day!

Learn about SUNY Sullivan's STEM programs like Mathematics, Environmental Science, Biology, Computer Science & Green Building Technology.

Meet our STEM Faculty & watch live demonstrations. Enjoy tours of the campus, field house & residence hall at 2 p.m. after the event.

Plus, enjoy Instant Acceptance with a valid high school transcript!

REGISTER NOW at:

<https://suny-sullivan.com/stem-day/>

Registration requested, not required.

Veteran Support Group

Vet 2 Vet is offering
Veteran Peer Support Groups.
Every Thursday from 6pm to 7pm

We didn't fight alone while
we served, we don't need
to fight alone at home.

VET 2 VET



SULLIVAN COUNTY
NEW YORK

Call or email us to get involved.

845-794-4228

vet2vet@atitoday.org

309 E Broadway Suite A

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SAVE A LIFE! DONATE! SHARE OUR STORY!



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

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

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

More about our warrior Nick....

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

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

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

For any other questions
845.798.2077 nickneedsokidney@gmail.com

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

Gillibrand: “It's Time For Some Dam Safety”

(From Pg. 33)

February 28, 2022

The Honorable Deanne Criswell
FEMA Administrator
500 C Street, Southwest
Washington, DC 20472

Dear Administrator Criswell,

We write to express our priorities for implementation of the \$800 million provided for the National Dam Safety Program (NDSP) in the recently enacted Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. We also note our support for the NDSP recommendations set forth in the attached letter from a coalition including the Association of State Dam Safety Officials.

The scale of our nation's dam safety challenge is daunting. More than \$20 billion is needed for critical repairs to dams that are likely to cost human lives if they fail, according to the Association of State Dam Safety Officials. If we are going to succeed in meeting this challenge, we need a carefully developed Federal-State-local-private partnership. The \$800 million investment in the NDSP provides a real opportunity to build this partnership on a solid foundation, as set forth in the following steps:

- o Fundamentally, we urge FEMA to work closely with state dam safety offices to implement the NDSP, including development of a new strategic plan.

- o We strongly encourage FEMA to streamline the application and management processes for the High-Hazard Potential Dam (HHPD) Rehabilitation Grant Program to be more in line with other FEMA grant programs and those in other agencies such as the EPA's Clean Water State Revolving Funds. Many States have underfunded dam safety programs, and we want to ensure that States can conserve their staff time to focus on better assessing and identifying dam safety risks and other critical steps for improving their dam safety programs.

- o We recommend that FEMA provide the risk-based prioritizing tool to the States for project ranking purposes by States under the HHPD Program, as it does for other FEMA grant programs like Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) and the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. If States develop their own rankings of highest risk dams, it could help develop needed State funding support for repairing those dams. Moreover, because dams already must be ranked for assistance based on risk, we believe that requiring a benefit-cost analysis could be redundant while adding significant application costs and burdens on damowners for little corresponding benefit.

- o We also recommend that FEMA relax its requirement that, in order to receive assistance under the HHPD Program, a dam's hazard classification population at risk threshold must be equal to or higher than 100 people (and in some cases over 1000 people). If a dam has been identified as high-hazard potential by a State regulator, meaning lives could be lost should it fail, Federal assistance may be appropriate even if the lives at risk are fewer than 100. This is especially the case because many own-

ers of smaller, rural dams cannot afford to pay for even urgently needed repairs, and Federal and State grant assistance may be the only option to repair these dams to save lives. By contrast, the owners of many larger dams, particularly in urban areas, may be able to afford dam safety repairs, particularly with assistance from some State and Federal grants and loan programs such as those available under the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA).

- o We especially believe FEMA should prioritize assistance for smaller but highly dangerous dams where they are located in lower-income areas. We support prioritizing disadvantaged communities and have included a provision in the most recent “Twenty-First Century Dams Act” legislation that would waive the 35% cost-share under the HHPD Program for smaller, disadvantaged communities.

- o Finally, we urge FEMA to keep applications for the HHPD Program open for longer than the five to seven weeks that have recently been provided. By comparison, other FEMA programs such as BRIC have an application window of several months.

We appreciate your commitment to ensuring dam safety nationwide. Thank you for considering our comments, and we look forward to working with you to ensure the NDSP's successful implementation.

Sincerely,

STEM Day at SUNY Sullivan

Saturday, March 26 | 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.
(11:30 a.m. check-in)

SUNY Sullivan Campus

112 College Road, Loch Sheldrake, NY

Do you like discovering the unknown, finding solutions, and being hands-on? Explore all the possibilities at SUNY Sullivan STEM Day!

Learn about SUNY Sullivan's STEM programs like Mathematics, Environmental Science, Biology, Computer Science & Green Building Technology.

Meet our STEM Faculty & watch live demonstrations. Enjoy tours of the campus, field house & residence hall at 2 p.m. after the event.

Plus, enjoy Instant Acceptance with a valid high school transcript!

REGISTER NOW at:

<https://suny-sullivan.com/stem-day/>

Registration requested, not required.

FALLSBURG CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT PRESENTS
ICE SKATING WINTER EVENT... SKATES INCLUDED

SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 2022
11:00 AM TO 4:00 PM

FOOD MUSIC DRINKS
FOOD TRUCK **ALL FREE**

Loaded Nachos-Choice of Filling and Sauce
 -OR- Gluten Free Arepas-Choice of Filling and Sauce

SUB SANDWICHES
HOT CHOCOLATE



PRIZES/RAFFLES
BIKE RAFFLE
NEW WINTER COATS/HATS
SNOWSHOEING NATURE WALK
(WEATHER PERMITTING)
AND MUCH MORE!!!!

FREE TRANSPORTATION PICKUP/DROP OFF

BUS 1 PICK UP LOCATIONS:

- 10:15am - Mountindale Post Office
- 10:30am - Woodridge Town Hall
- 10:45am - Woodbourne Firemans Parking Lot
- 11:00am - Arrives at Benjamin Cosor Elem. School

BUS 2 PICK UP LOCATIONS:

- 10:00am - Loch Sheldrake Municipal Parking by Hasbrouk Road A
- 10:15am - Hurleyville by Post Office
- 10:30am - Laurel Avenue by Apartments
- 10:40am - Griff Court
- 10:50am - Main Street Houses

4:00pm DROP OFF - RETURN IN OPPOSITE DIRECTION

ALL SMALL CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

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behind former Trail Nursery, 4078 NY-28, Roxeville
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10:30 A.M.

MASKS REQUIRED

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Save the Date

All proceeds from the 12th Annual Wallace Berkowitz Cup support the NHC Foundation to benefit and enhance the lives of people with disabilities and complex conditions served by New Hope Community.



12th Annual Wallace Berkowitz Cup

Presented by: **Empire** 
BLUECROSS BLUESHIELD

Monday, May 16, 2022

West Hills Country Club

121 Golf Links Rd., Middletown, NY 10940

For more information contact:

Tom Burnham 845-468-5223

tburnham@newhopecommunity.org

Proceeds will benefit the NHC Foundation

www.newhopecommunity.org/2022golf

UC NOW TRENDING

March 2022

March 15, 22, 29 Hutton Brickyards Presents PUB NIGHT:

Kingston's coziest Tuesday night hangout. Join us in The Winter Pavilion for cocktails, bonfires, board games and light bites. 5-9 p.m. 200 North St., Kingston. 845-213-4742; huttonbrickyards.com

March 1-31 Women's History Month Kingston: A series of events in celebration of women's history month in Kingston through a diversity of perspectives. See Facebook page for event details. Kingston. Facebook: Women's History Month Kingston

March 5 Awosting Falls and Mossy Glen Footpath Hike: Four-miles roundtrip. Hike on the Awosting Falls Carriage Road, Mossy Glen Footpath and Upper Awosting Carriage Road. Peter's Kill Area, 5281 Route 44-55, Kerhonkson. 845-255-0752; parks.ny.gov/parks

March 20, 26 Maple Family Weekend Activities at Seed Song Farm: Learn maple sugaring, collect sap and gather 'round the sap boiler. Enjoy pancakes with our own maple syrup (additional fee). Live music. 160 Esopus Ave, Kingston. 845-383-1528; seedsong-farm.org

March 19, 26 Drop-In Snowshoe Lessons for Beginners: Learn how to properly wear and adjust the snowshoe. Snowshoes available to rent. 11 a.m. Minnewaska State Park Preserve: Sam's Point Area, 400 Sam's Point Road, Cragmoor. 845-647-7989; parks.ny.gov/parks

March 19, 26 BornWild Adventures-"The Secret Ruin Hike:" Traverse a moderate incline up the trail to the skeletal ruins of the Overlook Mountain Hotel. Overlook Mountain Trailhead, 353 Meads Mountain Rd, Woodstock. 765-314 618; bornwild.rock

March 19, 26 Spring Family Craft Workshops: Focus will be on learning a craft inspired by the Esopus Munsee Indigenous people. Noon-2 p.m. Purchase tickets online. Children ages 7-12. Historic Huguenot Street, 92 Huguenot St, New Paltz. 845- 255-1660; huguenotstreet.org

March 16 ONLINE EVENT - Lecture: Claire Bellerjeau discusses her book "Espionage & Enslavement in the Revolution: The True Story of Robert Townsend & Elizabeth." Hudson River Maritime Museum, 50 Rondout Landing, Kingston. 845-338-0071; hrmm.org/lecture-series

March 16 Irish Tenors: Declan Kelly, Anthony Kearns and Ronan Tynan have been the acknowledged Celtic music kings since they burst upon the scene during a 1998 PBS special. Ulster Performing Arts Center, 601 Broadway, Kingston. 845-339-6088; bardavon.org

March 19 Hike to Indian Rock: Hike past Sam's Point Overlook, then around Lake Maratanza. Beautiful views of the Catskills. Terrain: woods, and a rocky footpath. Sam's Point Visitor Center, 400 Sam's Point Road, Cragmoor. 845-647-7989; parks.ny.gov/parks

March 19 Bowie 75th Birthday Bash at The Colony: Robert Burke Warren will perform, adding a set of electric material to the intimate acoustic evening. Features songs from Bowie's entire career. 22 Rock City Road, Woodstock. 945-679-7624; colonywoodstock.com

March 19-20; 26-27 Maple Weekends: There are maple producers who will be open for visits. Check our website: ulster-countyalive.com/landing/farms

March 19, 26 Kingston Outdoor Farmers Market: 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Entrance on John St. and Wall St. County Courthouse parking lot, Kingston. info@kingstonfarmersmarket.org; kingstonfarmersmarket.org

March 20 Hike-Lake Minnewaska/Beacon Hill Carriage Road: Three-mile hike around Lake Minnewaska Carriage

Road, Beacon Hill Footpath and Beacon Hill Carriage Road. Lake Minnewaska Visitor Center, Hamilton Point Trail, Gardiner. 845-255-0752; parks.ny.gov

March 20 35th Annual Wallkill St Patrick's Day Parade: 2-4 p.m. Line up at 1 p.m.; kick-off at 2 p.m. from John G Borden Middle School, 109 Bona Ventura Ave, Wallkill. Facebook: 35th Annual Wallkill St Patrick's Day Parade

March 22 High Peter's Kill Loop Hike at Minnewaska: 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Explore the High Peter's Kill Footpath on this approximately five-mile hike. Lake Minnewaska Visitor Center. Pre-registration required. Hamilton Point Trail, Gardiner. 845-255-0752; parks.ny.gov/parks (Contd. Pg 40)

March 25 Darlene Love at Bearsville Theater: Darlene Love continues to captivate audiences worldwide. Billboard hits include "He's a Rebel" and the #1 holiday classic "Christmas Baby Please Come Home." 291 Tinker Street, Woodstock. 845.684.7133; bearsvilletheater.com

March 25-27 "WE GOT THE BEAT:" Women in Music Summit: Award-winning performers, DJs, photographers, filmmakers, journalists and music lovers. Concerts, panels and screenings. Bearsville Theater, 291 Tinker St., Woodstock. 845.684.7133; bearsvilletheater.com

March 26 Animal Tracks & Signs for Kids: Three-mile hike on Loop Road. We will look for animal tracks and other signs such as scat and browse. Sam's Point Visitor Center, 400 Sam's Point Road, Cragmoor. 845-647-7989; parks.ny.gov/parks

March 26 Spring Wake Up Hike: 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Explore Castle Point Carriage Road. Search for signs of the arrival of spring. In Shawangunk Mountains. Lake Minnewaska Visitor Center, Hamilton Point Trail, Gardiner. 845-255-0752; parks.ny.gov/parks

March 26-27 The Ashokan Center Maple Fest 2022: Guided hikes to the sugar shack. Self-guided nature walk. Cozy outdoor campfires, live music and blacksmithing demos. Includes pancake brunch. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 477 Beaverkill Rd, Olivebridge. 845-657-8333; ashokancenter.org

March 30 Celebrating Women's History Month at The Rosendale Theatre: Work-in-progress "After the Vote" with director Dawn Scibilia. Explores the stories of NY suffragists after they got the vote in 1917. 408 Main St., Rosendale. 845-658-8989; rosendaletheatre.org

Jan. 1-Dec. 31 2022 Catskills Fire Tower Challenge:

Experienced hikers are encouraged to visit the region's six fire towers. Hike to all six Catskill Fire Towers between January 1 and December 31, 2022. Fill out the log of completed hikes along with one favorite photo. Download the Catskills Fire Tower Challenge log (PDF) and email it to catskillschallenge@dec.ny.gov or mail to New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Outdoor Recreation, 625 Broadway, Albany, New York 12233-1010. Entries must be postmarked by January 7, 2023. Limit one entry per person. Participants will receive a commemorative patch and will be entered to win great outdoor prizes including hiking accessories. Catskills Visitor Center, 5096 Route 28, Mt. Tremper. 845-688-3369; catskillsvisitorcenter.org

Feb. 5-July 17 The Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art at SUNY New Paltz - "Mary Frank: The Observing Heart:"

A retrospective exhibition of Mary Frank's powerful artwork that spans her career of more than six decades. Centered on the twin themes of social justice and the preservation of the natural world. "Museum hours: Wednesday-Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Anderson Gallery and Howard Greenberg Family Gallery, 1 Hawk Drive, New Paltz. 845-257-3844; newpaltz.edu/museum

Read and WIN!

Read a book and tell us how you liked it by filling out a Reading Review for our older readers & a reading log for our younger ones.

Bring them to the library and you will have a chance to win a prize!



Governor Hochul Announces Lincoln Center's \$550 Million David Geffen Hall to be Completed in October 2022

*Project Complements Efforts to Revitalize New York
State's Tourism Industry*

new community-based public programming in the public space and launch a diversity and arts job training program that will provide paid fellowships to support the community-based programming.

The reimagined David Geffen Hall will be the premier home for the New York Philharmonic and will improve the overall concert-goer experience, which will include a state-of-the-art theater for artists and audiences. The public spaces will expand by tens of thousands of square feet to create a deeper connection with the audience and community. This will



Governor Kathy Hochul today joined Lincoln Center leadership to announce that the \$550 million renovation of Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts' new David Geffen Hall will be completed in October 2022, two years ahead of schedule. The hall is being reimagined from the inside out with expanded access to public space for the community, supported by a \$6.5 million grant from Empire State Development. The project will transform the storied concert hall and home of the renowned New York Philharmonic into a world-class venue and destination that will further support New York City's post-pandemic economic recovery.

"Lincoln Center is a central piece of New York's cultural heart and the new David Geffen Hall, complete with expanded public and community spaces, will make that heart beat even stronger," Governor Hochul said. "New York's comeback is just getting started and this project is a crucial part of that comeback, creating jobs and giving New Yorkers and visitors from across the globe the opportunity to experience world-class entertainment in a state-of-the-art venue. I look forward to seeing this magnificent facility introduce the next generation to the joy of the arts."

Empire State Development is providing up to \$6.5 million to accelerate the transformation of David Geffen Hall, including approximately 21,000 square feet of renovated and expanded public space in and around the hall. Through this project, Lincoln Center has committed to creating 114 new full-time jobs. Additionally, the iconic venue plans to host

improve the quality of the experience for both ticket holders and the general public, with a focus on equitable access to arts programming. Additional components of the public spaces project include:

The main lobby will double in size and open on three sides to connect with the campus to allow community activity to flow.

A media streaming wall at the core of the new lobby will show concerts and events for free in real time as well as other digital material.

A new Welcome Center on Broadway will offer a portal to Lincoln Center for the public.

The reconfigured and reenergized Grand Promenade will create one of the largest gathering spaces at a performance facility in New York City, with ability to welcome more than 1,000 people for an event.

The Sidewalk Studio, visible from the street on the corner of 65th Street and Broadway, will be a home for educational, artistic, and community activities, and provide a window into the performers and ideas that live on campus.

Empire State Development Acting Commissioner and President and CEO-designate Hope Knight said, "Lincoln Center is an iconic destination for New York's residents and visitors alike, and this expansion reflects the renewed energy of the city's cultural core. ESD's investment in David Geffen Hall will help to create jobs and support our tourism economy with new and expanded spaces that invite even more people to enjoy and explore Lincoln Center." (Contd. Pg. 43)

CONGRESSMAN

ANTONIO DELGADO

NY-19

Weekly Recap

Dear Neighbor,

This week in Congress, we passed a government funding bill and took additional concrete steps to isolate Russia and support the people of Ukraine. Read more about our efforts and my work to serve our district.

Supporting Ukraine By Banning Russian oil

The House voted to pass legislation to stop the import of Russian oil into the United States. The Russian economy is closely tied to its energy exports and this bipartisan vote sends a strong and unified message that the U.S. will not stand for Putin's inhumane war.

As we work to cripple Putin's economy, we also must do everything in our power to move us towards American energy independence, protect our national security, and lower costs for hardworking families.

Delaware River Watershed Hill Day

On Tuesday, I hosted a group of advocates in Washington, D.C. for a meeting to discuss progress and map future plans to secure resources for the Delaware River Watershed. During the meeting, I joined my colleague Rep. Dwight Evans (PA-03) in announcing bipartisan legislation to reauthorize the Delaware River Basin Restoration Program (DRBRP) through 2030. The reauthorization improves on the existing statute by further increasing federal cost-sharing provisions included in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

The Delaware River is a critical resource for our communities and local economies. As a proud co-founder of the bipartisan Congressional Delaware River Watershed Caucus, I was glad to help introduce this legislation supporting essential conservation programs. I will keep working with my colleagues to protect this great natural resource for decades to come.

Focusing on Rural Development

As Chairman of the House Agriculture Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy, and Credit, I held a hearing to review Rural Development programs from the 2018 Farm Bill. I invited U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development Under Secretary Torres Small to testify and answer questions about the USDA's efforts in rural communities to increase access to broadband, support rural economic development, provide affordable housing and more.

On Wednesday, I led a bipartisan group of the New York Delegation in sending a letter to New York City Mayor Eric Adams in response to recent proposals to remove flavored milk from New York City schools. We urged that the choice of flavored milk continue to be offered in New York City schools.

Over two-thirds of milk served in school is flavored, which represents an essential way that kids get the nutrients they need for healthy growth and development. Research finds that children who drink flavored milk consume more important nutrients like calcium, vitamin D, and potassium compared to non-flavored milk drinkers. Studies have shown that reducing or eliminating the availability of flavored milk in schools has led to overall decreased milk consumption and increased food waste.

It is critical that children have access to school meals that support their growth and wellbeing. I'm glad to be joined by my

Republican and Democratic New York colleagues in urging Mayor Adams to continue offering flavored milk in schools.

Securing Community PProjects in NY-19

This week, Democrats and Republicans came together to pass a bill to fully fund the government and provide additional aid to the Ukrainian people. This bill also includes funding for nine local community projects that I led in New York's 19th Congressional District. From expanding broadband in Columbia County, to investing in law enforcement in Montgomery County, to creating childcare opportunities in Delaware County, I am proud to have secured needed resources for New York. This funding is about investing our communities and building a better and safer future together.

Legislative Update

This week, I also introduced legislation to support domestic violence survivors.

I joined my Republican colleague Representative David P. Joyce (OH-14) to introduce a bipartisan bill that expands access to Social Security spousal benefits for divorced individuals who ended their marriage due to domestic abuse. The Fair Social Security for Domestic Violence Survivors Act will make social security spousal benefits available to victims of domestic violence following a divorce after just 5 years of marriage. The current minimum marital threshold is 10 years. Survivors of domestic violence should not be penalized for leaving their abusive marriage and I will keep working to advocate for their safety and wellbeing.

March mobile office hours

Monday, March 14th
10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Sand Lake Town Hall
8428 NY-66
Averill Park, NY 12018

Richfield Springs Public Library
102 W Main St
Richfield Springs, NY 13439

10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Ethelbert B. Crawford Public Library
479 Broadway
Monticello, NY 12701

Monday, March 28th
10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Plattekill Public Library
2047 Route NY-32,
Modena, NY 12548

Monday, March 21st
10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Coxsackie Village Hall
119 Mansion Street
Coxsackie, NY 12051
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Red Hook Public Library
7444 South Broadway
Red Hook, New York 12571

Regular Arrears Supplement Benefit

If you are eligible, the Regular Arrears Supplement HEAP benefit can help you pay for gas and/or electricity utility arrears. The Regular Arrears Supplement HEAP benefit will close on March 15, 2022.

You may be eligible for a Regular Arrears Supplement HEAP benefit if: You heat your home with natural gas or electricity, and/or Your heating costs are included in your rent, but you are responsible for paying for your home's electricity,

Learn more: Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) | OTDA (ny.gov)

New York Statewide Burn Ban

The New York Statewide burn ban goes in effect from March 16 through May 14.

Open Burning - NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation

Congressman Delgado Weekly Recap

(From Pg. 42)

Cybersecurity Resources

Stay safe when you use the internet. Find the the Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency's (CISA) publication of a list of free cybersecurity services and tools to help organizations reduce cybersecurity risk and strengthen resiliency.

NYS Low Income Household Water Assistance Program

If you need help with water and sewer services, the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) is here to help. This program helps low income households pay the cost of water and sewer services and can assist households who have past due bills (arrears) for water and/or sewer services.

Deadline Extension - Dairy Margin Coverage

The USDA has extended the deadline to enroll in Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC) and Supplemental Dairy Margin Coverage (SDMC) for program year 2022. The deadline to apply for 2022 coverage is now March 25, 2022. As part of the ongoing efforts to support dairy farmers and rural communities, USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) opened DMC and SDMC signup in December 2021 to help producers manage economic risk brought on by milk price and feed cost disparities.

To determine the appropriate level of DMC coverage for a specific dairy operation, producers can use the online dairy decision tool.

IRS Child Tax Credit Letters

Did you receive advanced Child Tax Credit payments in 2021? If so, look out for a letter from the IRS.

The IRS started issuing information letters to advance child tax credit recipients in December. Recipients of the third round of the Economic Impact Payments will begin receiving information letters at the end of January. Using the information in these letters when preparing a tax return can reduce errors and delays in processing.

People receiving these letters should keep them. Do not throw them away. These letters can help taxpayers, or their tax professional prepare their 2021 federal tax return.

Governor Hochul Announces Lincoln Center's \$550 Million David Geffen Hall to be Completed in October 2022

(From Pg. 41)

The accelerated completion of David Geffen Hall furthers Governor Hochul's commitment to revitalize tourism in New York State. The tourism industry was among the hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, which saw significant losses in visitation, direct spending and economic impact. In November, Governor Hochul announced the "Bring Back Tourism, Bring Back Jobs" inclusive recovery package, featuring targeted programs and initiatives designed to support the industry's economic rebuild.

Governor Hochul also recently announced the launch of new global I LOVE NY ads, representing the state's first paid tourism advertising to overseas markets. The new 30-second ad features a mix of newer attractions and iconic favorites

from across New York City - including Lincoln Center - and encourages residents and visitors alike to plan a first-time trip or a return visit to find what they love and come be a part of all that New York State has to offer.

State Senator Brad Hoylman said, "For over 60 years, Lincoln Center has been creating jobs for New Yorkers, bringing music and entertainment to the masses, and enticing tourists to visit the Big Apple. At a moment when New Yorkers and visitors from around the world are ready to once again safely enjoy the arts, it's wonderful to see the improvements to David Geffen Hall set to finish two years early."

Assemblymember Linda B. Rosenthal said, "The David Geffen Hall expansion represents a multitude of opportunities for artists as well as for residents of the Lincoln Center community, who will also benefit from the jobs and new community spaces that the project will create. These last few years have been challenging for the city's economy and for artists and arts institutions, and I am hopeful that this expansion represents the next phase in our recovery, where we all come out better than before. I am proud to represent Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in the New York State Assembly, and I would like to thank Governor Hochul for her support of this project and for her faith in New York's future."

Council Member Gale Brewer said, "Congratulations to Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts and the Philharmonic on the progress of the new David Geffen Hall, which will be the ongoing home of the Philharmonic. I am grateful to Governor Hochul for her support of this project. I was pleased as Manhattan Borough President to allocate \$50,000 to this project in FY21, which creates 6,000 jobs, including over 30 positions for local community members, and provides space for great cultural expression for our city and nation. I am committed to the people who make art, as well as to the workers who provide the support systems for that cultural growth. Additionally, I would like to thank the Philharmonic for visiting so many parks around our city during the pandemic; I had the honor of participating in many performances. I look forward to the many additional visitors that the David Geffen Hall will attract and I welcome the full-strength encore of our pre-pandemic tourism economy."

Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts President and CEO Henry Timms said, "The revitalization of David Geffen Hall is a symbol that New York is open for business-the largest cultural investment project to open since before the pandemic, accelerated to show that New York is still the vibrant hub of the cultural world. Our deep thanks to Empire State Development for its support. The fact that we are able to deliver this project on time and on budget speaks to the incredible teamwork at all levels, and sends a clear message that something new and exciting is afoot on this legendary campus-a deep focus on welcome, on audiences both new and existing. You belong here; this is your new David Geffen Hall."

President and CEO of the New York Philharmonic Deborah Borda, Linda and Mitch Hart said, "Opening two years ahead of schedule, the New York Philharmonic and Lincoln Center are bringing this important project in for a landing! Many thanks to Empire State Development for its definitional support. Without the unprecedented partnership between our two organizations, the State, City, and donors, it simply would not have been possible. Together we have created a home for an orchestra of the 21st century, which requires not only true versatility but the creation of new public spaces that invite in all New Yorkers."

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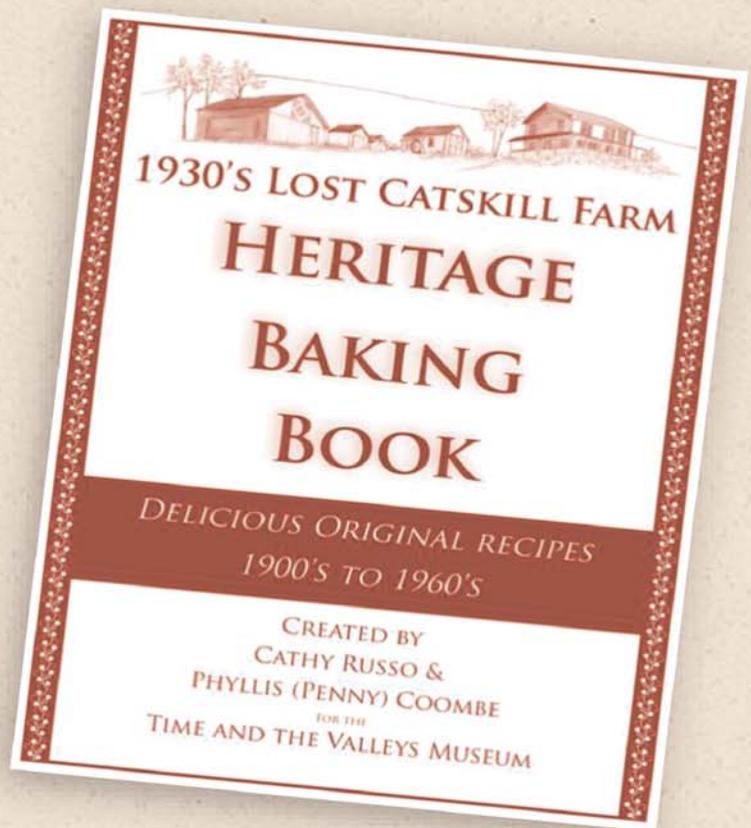
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First-In-the-Nation Initiative Positions New York Farmers and Individuals with Prior Cannabis-Related Offenses to Comprise Early Adult-Use Cannabis Supply Chain

Initiative Furthered by Cannabis Control Board's Advancing to Public Comment Regulations for the Initiative's Adult-Use Dispensaries

Initiative Advanced by the Board's Approval of the Conditional License Applications for Hemp Farmers to Grow Adult-Use Cannabis in Spring 2022, Application Portal Set to Open March 15

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced the first-in-the-nation Seeding Opportunity Initiative, which will position individuals with prior cannabis-related criminal offenses to make the first adult-use cannabis sales with products grown by New York farmers. This farm-to-store initiative makes sales in New York possible before the end of 2022, jump-starts New York's Cannabis Industry, guarantees support for future equity applicants, and secures an early investment into communities most impacted by the disproportionate enforcement of cannabis prohibition.

"New York State is making history, launching a first-of-its-kind approach to the cannabis industry that takes a major step forward in righting the wrongs of the past," Governor Hochul said. "The regulations advanced by the Cannabis Control Board today will prioritize local farmers and entrepreneurs, creating jobs and opportunity for communities that have been left out and left behind. I'm proud New York will be a national model for the safe, equitable and inclusive industry we are now building."

The Cannabis Control Board at its meeting today advanced two components of the Seeding Opportunity Initiative.

First, it advanced to public comment regulations for Conditional Adult-Use Retail Dispensaries. As part of the Seeding Opportunity Initiative, this subset of dispensaries must be owned by equity-entrepreneurs with a prior cannabis-related criminal offense who also have a background owning and operating a small business. They will be the first to open and make sales in New York State, establishing equity-owned businesses at the front-end of New York's adult-use market.

Second, the Board approved a license application for hemp farmers seeking to grow adult-use cannabis this spring - called the Adult-Use Conditional Cultivator License. The license was made possible by legislation Governor Hochul signed last month. The Board designated March 15 as the opening date for the application portal.

Cannabis Control Board Chair Tremaine Wright said, "Our state's Cannabis Law sets a high goal for creating an equitable industry that puts New Yorkers first. The Seeding Opportunity Initiative puts us on a path for achieving that goal and hopefully models a way forward for reaching those goals while building a stable market. I am thankful for the support of Governor Hochul and the Legislature, which made it possible for us to get this initiative off the ground quickly, establish a supply chain from our farmers to equity, retailers, and generate the resources to help revitalize communities that were harmed by the disproportionate enforcement of cannabis prohibition."

Cannabis Control Board Member Jen Metzger said, "The

Seeding Opportunity Initiative truly sets New York's program apart from other states that have legalized adult-use, by starting out of the gate with an equity- and sustainability-led program that will supply equity entrepreneur-owned dispensaries with sun-grown cannabis products. It is a great start to building a new industry in which small businesses can thrive and generational wealth can be created."

Adam Perry, Cannabis Control Board Member said, "Shaping the New York cannabis industry and putting social equity entrepreneurs at the forefront is a historic opportunity to address the harm caused by cannabis prohibition and fully implement the goals of New York's Cannabis Law. This is the right start for the industry and I look forward to continuing to work with our team to support all license types to ensure we're not only delivering licenses to social equity entrepreneurs, but also setting them up for success over the long-haul."

Jessica Garcia, Cannabis Control Board Member said, "Positioning justice-involved equity-entrepreneurs as the first to make sales puts New York on the right track to meet the goals of the New York Cannabis Law while providing protections to workers in the industry by creating pathways to union cannabis careers. This is a big, first step forward for the cannabis industry we're building in New York - it's an important one and it's only the beginning."

Reuben McDaniel, III, New York State Cannabis Control Board member and President and CEO of DASNY said, "Our work to create the new cannabis industry in New York is structured to develop successful entrepreneurs in black and brown communities across New York, expand access to capital for those who have been denied, and establish a cannabis industry that leads the nation in health and safety, and in equity, as well. We look forward to continuing our work with the Legislature to develop the funding mechanism that will support New York's equity entrepreneurs in an exciting new sector of our economy."

Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) Executive Director Chris Alexander said, "With the Seeding Opportunity Initiative, we are now on the path to doing what no state has done before: Put our farmers and equity entrepreneurs, not big, out of state businesses, at the forefront of the launch of our adult-use cannabis market. Thanks to the support of Governor Hochul and the action taken by the Board today, we've made a huge advancement in our efforts to prioritize New York's small farmers, our equity entrepreneurs, and ultimately our goal to generate the resources that will support future equity applicants and drive investments into our communities most impacted by cannabis prohibition. We aren't stopping here and work is already underway across all license types to open access to capital and develop supporting networks to build an equitable New York Cannabis Industry and setup our small businesses for long-term success."

Assembly Majority Leader Crystal Peoples-Stokes said, "With this announcement, we are doing what no other state has done by focusing on the people most criminalized by cannabis prohibition, and promoting New York farmers. The cannabis industry is going to grow our economy and create new wealth, and it is imperative that we make sure that opportunities begin with the most deserving New Yorkers. I commend Governor Hochul, the Cannabis Control Board, and the Office of Cannabis Management for taking these steps to implement the Marijuana Regulation and Taxation Act in a manner consistent with the intent of the legislation." (Contd. Pg. 48)

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First-In-the-Nation Initiative Positions New York Farmers and Individuals with Prior Cannabis-Related Offenses to Comprise Early Adult-Use Cannabis Supply Chain

(From Pg. 46) `Senator Liz Krueger said, "The initiatives announced by the Governor today will help to ensure that the equity and justice goals of the MRTA will be met, and that New York farmers and small businesses will serve as the foundation of the legal cannabis market. The MRTA was designed not only to end the failed war on drugs in New York, but specifically to take positive action to help rebuild those communities that were most harmed by prohibition. Offering the first retail licenses to people who have been convicted of marijuana-related offenses is a big step in the right direction, and will set the marketplace on a path where social equity applicants can compete successfully."

The Seeding Opportunity Initiative is composed of three programs:

- o Equity Owners Lead Program: Provides a Conditional Adult-Use Retail Dispensary License to eligible equity-entrepreneur applicants, putting them at the front-end of the adult-use market. This first-round, equity-licensing opportunity will be supported with renovated or renovation-ready retail locations and wrap-around services with dispensaries sited in high-traffic areas.

Applications for these priority licenses will open in the Summer of 2022. The first licenses are expected to be distributed by late summer or early fall 2022. This positions equity-entrepreneur-owned dispensaries to make the first adult-use cannabis sales in New York State by the end of 2022 while speeding the delivery of investments into communities across the state that were most impacted by the disproportionate enforcement of cannabis prohibition.

The Board today directed the OCM to post for public comment the proposed regulations for the Conditional Adult-Use Retail Dispensary License. Under the proposed regulations, to be eligible for this initial license, applicants must:

- o Have a cannabis-related offense that occurred prior to the passage of the Marijuana Regulation and Tax Act (MRTA) on March 31, 2021, or had a parent, guardian, child, spouse, or dependent with a pre-MRTA cannabis offense in the State of New York.
- o Have experience owning and operating a qualifying business in the State of New York.

Additionally, the regulations include information for what application materials will be needed to apply for a Conditional Adult-Use Retail Dispensary License and sets the parameters for how the Office will review and evaluate applications. A subsequent regulation package will outline the requirements for safely operating a retail dispensary.

- o Farmers First Program: Provides an Adult-Use Conditional Cultivator License to eligible New York cannabinoid hemp farmers, giving them the first chance to grow cannabis for New York's adult-use market. Farmers must adhere to quality assurance, health, and safety requirements developed by the OCM. They must also take part in sustainability and equity mentorship programs that will help build the first generation of equity cannabis owners across the entire supply chain. These conditional licenses make it possible for farmers to grow cannabis in the

2022 growing season.

The Board today approved the application for the Adult-Use Conditional Cultivator License and set the opening of the application portal for March 15. The license was made possible by legislation recently signed by Governor Hochul on February 22. Further information on eligibility requirements and what's allowed with the license can be found here.

- o The New York Social Equity Cannabis Investment Program: Governor Hochul proposed this \$200 million program in her FY 2023 Executive Budget, the nation's first to make funding available for equity entrepreneurs at the forefront of the adult-use cannabis market. Through the program, industry licensing fees and private equity would support the development of dispensary facilities for equity-entrepreneurs with a Conditional Adult-Use Retail Dispensary License. Under the proposal, the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY) would provide support with its leasing and construction services to site dispensaries at prime locations and renovate them to meet health, safety, and security requirements. The Social Equity Cannabis Investment Program's funding and accompanying services would reduce barriers to entry and position these equity-entrepreneur owners for long-term success. The proposal remains under discussion with the Legislature.

Statement for attribution to NYSDEC Commissioner Basil Seggos on U.S. EPA's Announcement of Rebates Totaling \$17 Million to Fund Clean School Buses that Reduce Diesel Emissions and Protect Children's Health

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's ongoing commitment to clean transportation is both improving air quality and transforming the way we travel. Today's announcement will help improve air quality for students and communities, and give schools and bus fleet owners the resources to support the transition to cleaner transportation. Under Governor Hochul's leadership, and with federal support, New York continues to advance efforts to ensure a zero-emission school bus fleet by 2035, building a cleaner and greener future for the next generation.

Statement from Governor Kathy Hochul on Major League Baseball Agreement

"The news that the Major League Baseball season will move forward is a home run for New Yorkers. Over the past several weeks, I have been engaged in conversations with the involved parties and am grateful, on behalf of New Yorkers, that they have come to an agreement. The jobs and economic activity that baseball supports will bolster our ongoing economic recovery, and I know New Yorkers are looking forward to experiencing the hope and joy of springtime baseball."

DEC Announces Opening of Long Island Segment of Statewide Birding Trail

Trail Includes 20 Locations in Nassau and Suffolk Counties • New Opportunities for New Yorkers, Regardless of Age, Ability, Identity, or Background to Enjoy Birding

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos today announced the grand opening of the Long Island segment of the New York State Birding Trail to highlight the state's world-class and wide-ranging birding opportunities. The Long Island segment includes 20 locations throughout Nassau and Suffolk counties, providing a variety of quality birding experiences for New Yorkers and visitors to enjoy.

"Long Island is an important haven for resident and migratory bird species and this latest segment of the New York State Birding Trail brings our partners together to help more communities enjoy an accessible and affordable hobby," Commissioner Seggos said. "As the statewide Birding Trail continues to take shape, this latest segment will provide new opportunities for Long Islanders to learn about the diversity of birds in our backyards, fields, forests, and shores."

State Parks Commissioner Erik Kulleseid said, "This newest segment of the Statewide Birding Trail offers an informative and helpful way to discover Long Island's rich natural habitats and fascinating bird life. I encourage New York residents and visitors to see for themselves the picturesque birding locations offered throughout state park lands on Long Island and take part in this wonderfully engaging activity."

Empire State Development Vice President and Executive Director of Tourism Ross D. Levi said, "Bird watching along this new segment of the New York State Birding Trail is a great way to get outdoors and enjoy the warming weather on scenic Long Island. Its 20 locations offer countless vantage points which, when paired with local attractions like award-winning wineries, pristine beaches and Gilded Age mansions, make for an amazing Long Island getaway. The birding trail is an exciting opportunity to come be a part of this growing pastime and experience the wonder and beauty of New York State."

Birdwatching has become one of New York's fastest-growing recreation and tourism activities. DEC manages the New York State Birding Trail in collaboration with partners including the Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation. The statewide trail includes a network of promoted birding locations that can be accessed by car or public transportation, providing an inclusive experience for all visitors to enjoy birds amid beautiful natural settings with little or no cost or investment in equipment.

The Long Island segment of the birding trail includes 20 locations on a mix of State and Federal lands throughout Nassau and Suffolk counties. From Montauk Point State Park on the tip of Long Island to Hempstead Lake in Nassau County, visitors can experience birding at a variety of habitats. Visitors can enjoy birding at coastal locations like the barrier island ecosys-

tem at Fire Island Lighthouse, where one-third of all North American species have been recorded. Inland sites like Edgewood Oak Brush Plains and Ridge Conservation Area offer multiple opportunities to observe migratory birds and other forest and grassland species. The sandy pine barrens of Rocky Point Pine Barrens State Forest are ideal habitat for woodpeckers, great horned owls, and orioles. Three National Wildlife Refuge properties with salt marshes and lagoons offer the chance to see waterfowl, raptors, waders, and songbirds. Visiting north shore sites such as Sunken Meadows State Park that has salt marshes where snowy and common egrets, black-crowned night herons, and great blue herons can be seen fishing in the waters of the marsh. Long Island is part of the Atlantic flyway and on the migratory path of a high diversity of bird species. A visit to these sites will have something for everyone.



Hempstead Town Supervisor Don Clavin said, "As America's largest township, Hempstead Town is host to an immense amount of pristine parks, trails, and other protected environmental lands that are home to over 200 species of birds along with scores of other aquatic and land dwelling animals. Our hometown's diverse array of wildlife is truly a sight to behold, and we invite members of the public to come and view our avian neighbors at the Lido Beach Passive Nature Area. This preserved wetland space,

maintained and protected by the Hempstead Town Department of Conservation and Waterways, is an ideal place to connect with nature just a stone's throw from Long Island's south shore beaches. Hempstead Town will continue working hard to ensure our community's wonderful ecosystems are preserved for the enjoyment of future generations."

Kathryn D'Amico, director of the National Audubon Society's Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary and Audubon Center in Oyster Bay, said, "Long Island's coastlines and associated marshes, islands, and beaches are critical to the health of birds and people. Long Island also boasts an incredible variety of habitats, making it a globally significant home for birds - including threatened and endangered species like the Piping Plover and Least Tern. Audubon and our affiliated chapters on Long Island are thrilled to welcome bird-loving visitors to this newest segment of the New York State Birding Trail, where you are almost certain to spot a 'lifer' that you've never seen before!"

Ann Marie Chapman, Visitor Services Manager for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Long Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex, said, "Long Island National Wildlife Refuges are some of the best places on the island to go birding! We are excited to be included along the birding trail and look forward to welcoming new (and returning) visitors to our refuges."

As the weather warms, some species begin to travel north to move closer to breeding grounds, creating opportunities for birders to enjoy a wide variety of species. Many species will arrive mid-April and continue through early June. Many shorebirds will return in the summer.

(Contd. Pg. 50)

DEC Announces Opening of Long Island Segment of Statewide Birding Trail

(From Pg. 49)

In addition to the opening of the Long Island segment of the New York State Birding Trail, Commissioner Seggos announced the addition of Governors Island to the New York City segment, which was announced in October 2021. With the addition of Governors Island, the New York City segment includes 34 locations throughout the five boroughs. The Greater Niagara trail segment announced in February 2022, includes 36 locations in five Western New York counties. Once finished, the trail will

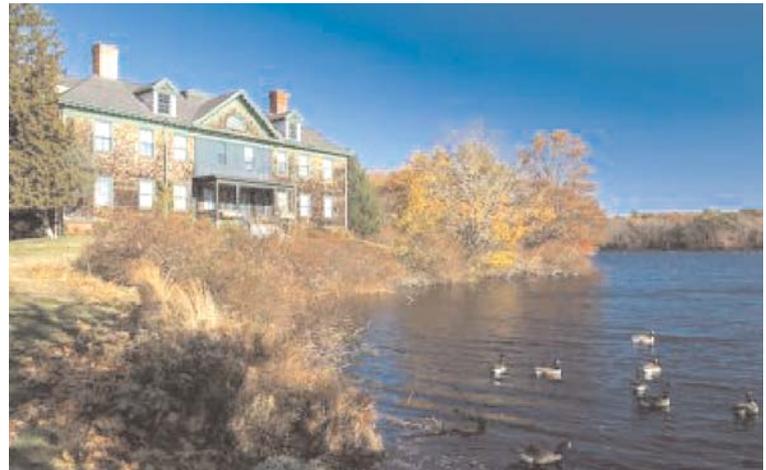


provide birding opportunities for all visitors, regardless of age, ability, identity, or background, across New York State. New segments of the Birding Trail will continue to open in a phased approach.

To promote the trail as an inclusive experience for all, DEC and partners are working to select sites that are welcoming and accessible by public transportation. More than half of the locations on Long Island are accessible by public transportation. DEC also continues to solicit input from a wide range of New Yorkers and organizations that represent Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities and is making information available in both English and Spanish. Bird walks are held in collaboration with organizations working with BIPOC communities.

The New York State Birding Trail map is available on the I Bird NY webpage and provides valuable information on each site such as location, available amenities, species likely to be seen, directions, and more. Additional information on birding, educational and interpretive information, is also available. Digital information on the Birding Trail will be updated periodically, so budding outdoor enthusiasts are encouraged to check back often.

In addition to State-owned and managed locations for the Birding Trail, publicly and privately managed sites can complete a simple self-nomination process to be considered for inclusion on the trail. Sites all meet criteria to help



ensure a positive experience for visitors throughout the state. Additionally, each site will post signage noting it as an official location on the birding trail. For information on the nomination process, see the I Bird NY webpage.

DEC encourages birding enthusiasts to visit I Bird NY for more information on where and how to observe birds, upcoming bird walks, a downloadable Beginner's Guide to Birding (PDF, 14 MB) (available in Spanish (PDF)), and additional resources.

DEC manages and oversees nearly five million acres of public lands and conservation easements and plays a vital role in both protecting New York's natural resources and providing opportunities for people to enjoy the outdoors. From fishing on scenic streams, hiking and rock climbing, swimming and boating, birding, and nature study, or simply relaxing in a tent under the stars, there are endless adventures to be found. Visit DEC's website, connect with us on Facebook, or follow us on Instagram and Twitter.

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Streamside Acquisition Program Helps Local Communities Getting the Facts Straight

March 11, 2022 -- Arkville, NY: The Catskill Center is releasing a new fact sheet that articulates the multiple community benefits of its Streamside Acquisition Program, or SAP. The SAP aims to protect water quality in streams in the northeastern Catskills through the purchase and protection of streamside lands. By doing that, the SAP also helps to mitigate future flooding, which has devastated parts of our communities in recent years. The SAP only purchases eligible properties, and only if the property owner is interested in selling.

Key points in the fact sheet include criteria for eligible properties, such as that lands be within the drainage basin of the Schoharie Reservoir. Another important part of the program is that the SAP focuses on lands outside of areas formally identified by municipalities as areas intended for future growth. The SAP will not reach out to landowners in these areas unless invited to do so by the municipality through a formal resolution. Honoring community goals is important.

“We regularly reach out to town officials to ask how the SAP can complement community goals,” said Lee Alexander, Streamside Acquisition Program Director. “Some towns have asked us to prioritize floodplain protection, while others have worked with us to help create streamside trail networks. We love working collaboratively with towns to implement the SAP in ways that enhance community goals while also protecting water quality.”

Besides helping to ensure community flood resilience by keeping undeveloped wetlands and floodplains from being developed, the SAP preserves the tax base, as the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYC DEP) pays property taxes on lands acquired through the program. The SAP focuses on properties that make the biggest difference in protecting water quality: floodplains, wetlands, and lands within 300 feet of streams. SAP staff encourage landowners to keep their more developable lands in private hands.

The Catskill Center runs the SAP in partnership with the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYC DEP). It is one of many programs required by regulators, such as the New York State Department of Health, to help protect the City's drinking water at its source. The SAP furthers the mission of the Catskill Center to protect and foster the environmental, cultural, and economic well-being of the Catskill region.



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Thursday, March 17, 2022, at 7:30 PM

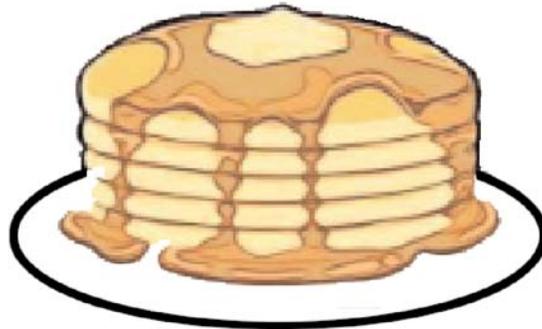
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This concert will be in person at MISU, 40 Market St. Ellenville, NY and live-streamed on Zoom. Pre-registration on Eventbrite is required for both. Please consider making a donation for your ticket.

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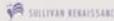
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 To register, please visit: www.Sullivan180.org









Beware of Malicious COVID-19 Phishing

Protect yourself from identity theft and fraud during pandemic recovery.

Confirm any SBA disaster assistance emails by contacting **(800) 659-2955**, TTY **(800) 877-8339**, or disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Avoid scams and fraud, visit sba.gov/COVIDfraudalert



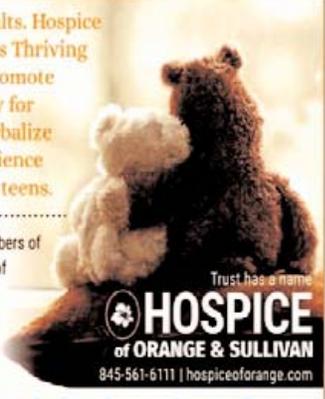
U.S. Small Business Administration

Children grieve differently than adults. Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties offers Thriving Families Family Grief Program to promote healing by providing an opportunity for youth to express their thoughts, verbalize their feelings, and share their experience of grief. For children ages 6 through teens.

Our bereavement services are available to all members of our Orange and Sullivan Communities, regardless of whether a loved one received hospice care.



Thriving Families: building resilience
 A Virtual Family Grief Program



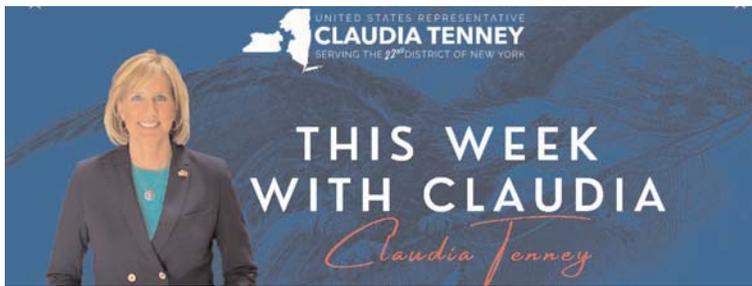
If your child is grieving the loss of a loved one, please call 845-561-6111 and ask for Kristin Palmieri, LMHC.

If you know a family who may need this support, consider sharing this information.



Thriving Families: building resilience
 A Virtual Family Grief Program
Circle of Friends
Children & Family Grief Support

March 7/8
March 21/22



Make the U.S. Energy Independent Again!

Tenney Discusses the White House's War on Fossil Fuels
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vp0e2FT0sYc>

This week, gas prices hit their highest national average ever. In New York, as of Friday, the average price of a gallon of gas is up to \$4.46, according to AAA. Prices have continued to skyrocket, with the average price in New York rising 41 cents over the past week. This is unacceptable and entirely unsustainable.

While Vladimir Putin bears full responsibility for his unprovoked invasion of Ukraine, our lack of energy independence is a result of the White House's war on domestic energy as well as policies in our own state.

That's why I am calling on President Biden and Governor Hochul to take immediate action to restore American energy independence and drive down soaring costs. We must reopen federal lands to safe oil and gas drilling, restart construction of the Keystone XL pipeline, and open New York to responsible and regulated natural gas exploration to create jobs and drive down costs.

The war on domestic energy coming from the White House and the Governor must stop immediately. Americans cannot bear these costs any longer and we need an all-of-the-above energy strategy that seeks to harness resources from a much wider range of sources, including fossil fuels and renewables!

Claudia Tenney Discusses the White House's War on Domestic Energy

After refusing to pass a bipartisan, long-term funding package three separate times since the end of the last fiscal year, House Democrats once again proved they are unable to govern effectively by ramming a 2,700-page, \$1.5 trillion bloated omnibus bill through Congress. The bill was released in the dead of night, leaving Members of Congress virtually no time to read its text, let alone seriously analyze its contents.

After working around the clock to thoroughly review the legislation, I voted for the defense and security portions of the omnibus, which received bipartisan support and included an additional \$30 million in funding for Rome Lab. However, I opposed the non-security portion of the bill because it failed to deliver relief to seniors on fixed incomes, address the ongoing energy crisis, or reduce wasteful spending. The bill does nothing to jumpstart American energy production and included a 21% increase in budgets for congressional offices. It is unconscionable that I would give myself a 21% raise when so many New Yorkers, especially seniors on fixed incomes, are suffering.

I am tremendously pleased that of the ten community projects I submitted to the House of Representatives earlier this year, eight were approved, returning \$12.5 million to the 22nd Congressional District. This will allow us to make generational investments in our infrastructure that are targeted and based on demonstrated community need, not Washington political agendas. While I did have strong concerns with several provisions of the omnibus spending package and therefore could not support every portion, I never once stopped advocating for our community's priorities to be included in the final bill.

NY-22 wins in defense portions of the omnibus, which

Tenney supported:

\$30 million increase in funding for Rome Lab over the President's budget request, leading to an annual research budget of more than \$221 million.

This includes a \$10 million increase for Air Force quantum network testbed, \$10 million increase for Air Force ion trap quantum computing, and \$10 million increase for Air Force academic partnership intermediary agreements.

\$18.17 million increase for the Civil Air Patrol.

\$1.8 million for procurement of new Civil Air Patrol Vehicles.
Concerns with non-defense portions of the omnibus, which Tenney opposed:

A 21% funding increase for congressional offices, amounting to \$300,000+, at a time when Americans are suffering, many living paycheck to paycheck.

Continues the COVID-19 emergency even though our economy has reopened, Americans are returning to work, and our lives are getting back to normal.

Fails to end Biden's overreaching and unconstitutional vaccine mandates.

Increases funding across the federal government, despite record levels of inflation.

Continues to fund Planned Parenthood through Title X.

Increases the IRS budget by \$675 million, despite concerns about consumer privacy and overreaching bureaucracy.

Adds an additional \$88 billion in spending this year and \$500 billion over the next 10 years, an unsustainable and unprecedented sum.

Highlighting the Risks of Chinese Tech Companies

Tenney Joins China Tech Threat to Discuss Risky Chinese Tech
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ePwviZXoky8>

On Wednesday, I joined China Tech Threat to discuss the hazards posed by risky Chinese technology and technology companies, including those used by the New York State government and federal law enforcement.

In New York, we've spent tens of millions of dollars on contracts with Chinese state-owned or influenced companies. Earlier this year I sent a letter to New York Governor Kathy Hochul expressing concerns over New York State's continued business with these risky Chinese entities and highlighted the risks they pose to our state's security and your privacy.

In Congress, issues pertaining to the threat of Chinese technology equipment and software are incredibly important to me. I am an original cosponsor of the Secure Equipment Act, which was signed into law and barred the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) from approving new authorizations for any equipment listed on the Covered List of high-risk technologies. I also am an original cosponsor of the Countering CCP Drones Act, which would add DJI Technologies, a Chinese state-linked company, to the FCC Covered List.

A full video of my remarks is available here.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ePwviZXoky8>

My Votes Explained

Transparency in government is key, and I'm pleased to keep you updated on how I voted on legislation in the House of Representatives. For a more detailed explanation of my votes on each of the bills below, click here.

I voted "Yes" on H.R. 5616, the DHS Basic Training Accreditation Improvement Act. This bill requires reporting by the Secretary of Homeland Security to Congress on the accreditation status of each of the Department's basic training programs. Ensuring these basic training programs are up-to-par is critical to our national security and will make our country safer. This bill passed the House by a vote of 390 - 33. (Contd. Pg. 56)

This Week with Claudia Tenney

(From Pg. 55)

I voted "Yes" on S. 658, the National Cybersecurity Preparedness Consortium Act. This bill authorizes the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to work with the National Cybersecurity Preparedness Consortium (NCPC) to help prepare for and respond to cybersecurity risks at the national, state, and local levels. This bill passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 403 - 19.

I voted "Yes" on H.R. 5681, the Shadow Wolves Enhancement Act. This legislation would authorize the Director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to reclassify officers of the Shadow Wolves from tactical enforcement officers to Special Agents upon the completion of specialized training, including federal criminal investigator training and customs enforcement training. Shadow Wolves are "a Native American tactical patrol unit assigned to Homeland Security Investigations." The unit specializes in the interception of human and drug smugglers in a border territory of 8 million acres and a 76-mile stretch of land shared with Mexico. This bill passed the House by a vote of 387-33.

I voted "Yes" on H.ConRes. 70, condemning threats of violence against historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) and reaffirming support for historically Black colleges and their students. This bill passed the House by a unanimous vote of 418-0.

I voted "No" on the non-defense portion of the Fiscal Year 2022 Consolidated Appropriations Act. After failing to pass a bipartisan, long-term funding package three separate times since the end of the last fiscal year, House Democrats continue their abject failure at responsible governance. The 2,700-page, \$1.5 trillion omnibus bill to fund the government through the end of September was released in the dead of night, leaving Members of Congress virtually no time to read its text, let alone seriously analyze its contents. This is no way to govern. Unfortunately, the non-security portion of the omnibus package fails to address the severe crises facing our country, while wastefully increasing spending in many areas at a time when inflation is already at record levels. The bill does not defund President Biden's vaccine mandates and does nothing to jumpstart American energy production, despite the unprecedented energy crisis we now face. Further, it includes a 21% increase in budgets for congressional offices, while not taking a single meaningful step to help seniors and those on fixed incomes who are desperate for relief because of Biden's inflationary policies. While I could not support this portion of the bill given these very serious issues, I am nonetheless pleased that the underlying text included several Community Funding Projects I tirelessly advocated for in Congress. This includes a water systems improvement project in Frankfort, a broadband expansion project in Sherburne, among several others. I vetted these programs thoroughly and worked with all recipients to make sure the funding requests were targeted and responsible. I am extremely disappointed these important priorities were tied to a partisan spending package that overall is irresponsible and reckless. This bill passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 260 - 171.

I voted "Yes" on the defense portion of the Fiscal Year 2022 Consolidated Appropriations Act. I supported the defense portion of this omnibus package because it included important priorities for our national defense, like a 5.6% increase in defense spending and a 2.7% pay increase for our troops. I also fought hard to secure an additional \$30 million in funding for the Air Force Research Lab in Rome, which will lead to significantly

more resources for Central New York's high-tech eco-system. The brave men and women of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) also received an increase of \$800 million, and the bill included targeted and much-needed security assistance to Ukraine. This bill passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 361 - 69.

I voted "Yes" on H.R. 6968, the Suspending Energy Imports from Russia Act. This bill would block all imports from Russia of oil, gas, coal, and other energy products under Chapter 27 of the tariff code. It would also reauthorize and expand the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act and remove its sunset. In addition, the bill would direct the United States Trade Representative (USTR) to use the voice and influence of the United States at the World Trade Organization (WTO) to condemn the recent aggression in Ukraine, to encourage other WTO members to suspend trade concessions to Russia and consider further steps to suspend Russia's membership in the WTO. Although this legislation was not as strong as an earlier bipartisan agreement I strongly supported, which was inexplicably abandoned by Democratic leadership at the last minute, this bill is nonetheless a step in the right direction to stop funding Putin's war machine. This bill passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 414 - 17.

Resources for Seniors Struggling Due to Inflation

With gas prices reaching record highs and inflation rising to 7.9% last month, the highest figure on record in more than four decades, many seniors have contacted my office looking for resources to help make ends meet.

Seniors who worked their whole lives never should have to worry about whether they will be able to pay their bills. That's why I am cosponsoring the Senior Citizens Tax Elimination Act to ensure federal income taxes are not levied on seniors collecting Social Security. I also support policies to drive down oil and gas costs, such as reopening federal lands to oil and gas drilling and restarting construction of the Keystone XL pipeline.

I am fully committed to ensuring the resources of the federal government are readily available for everyone in New York's 22nd District. If you have questions or need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact my Binghamton District Office at 607-242-0200 or my Utica District Office at 315-732-0713.



Town of Neversink Parks & Rec
ICE RINK HOURS

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday	7pm-9pm
Saturday	1pm-3pm
	&
	7pm-9pm
Sunday	1pm-5pm

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

FREE

RABIES CLINIC

**Town of Rockland
Livingston Manor Firehouse
93 Main Street, Livingston Manor, NY
Wednesday, April 13th 2022
6PM to 7:30PM**

***Sullivan County Residents only -Proof of ID required**

*** Everyone must wear a mask while at clinic site**

***Appointments are required**

***Pre-registration of ALL animals is required**

<https://tinyurl.com/yckmx6jm>

***Everyone must maintain social distancing guidelines and remain at least 6 feet apart.**

***Bring prior rabies certificate, receive a 3-year vaccination.**

*** No vaccine history, receive a 1-year vaccination.**

Dogs – Cats – Ferrets

All Pet owners must clean up after their pets.

All pets must be in a carrier or on a leash.

All pets must be at least 3 months old.

Aggressive dogs should be muzzled to prevent any biting incidents

**If you don't have access to a computer or have questions, please
call 845-292-5910**

Who is St. Urho?

Most of us agree, we need a little humor in our lives, especially this time of the year. St. Urho does have quite a few stories attributed to his incredible feat of driving all the grasshoppers (or maybe frogs) out of Finland and thus saved the grapes!

Unless you either had Finnish ancestors, or knew someone who was Finnish, very little was known about St. Urho in our little Tri-Valley community until 1979. My niece, Elyse Hornbeck along with Howard and Isabelle Bernstein were in New York City preparing to participate in the St. Patrick's Day. Arriving the day before, they were introduced to their first St. Urho's Day Celebration that was celebrated on March 16th. A little story about their escapade was printed in *The Townsman* only to be picked up years later in our *Days of Yore* column. Quite a few of our local Finnish family and friends were thrilled to see their 'patron saint' make its way into *The Townsman*.

Since then *The Townsman* has not forgotten St. Urho's Day and our local legend of St. Urho grows on.

Over the years we learned that Jonah Hamilton had lived in Minnesota where they celebrated St. Urho's Day. Then when our nephew Adam, Elyse's brother married Melanie Karkkainen we added a new chapter. Melanie's father's came from the same town in Finland where Adam's great-grandfather (my grandfather) was born! Three years ago, on St. Urho's Day our family was blessed with the arrival of our grand daughter!

Here's to our growing Finnish community and to all those who for just one day a year want to have a little extra fun as we emerge from the winter doldrums into living spring!

Oh, who was St. Urho? One story tells that St. Urho started as a joke during the long Minnesota winter of 1956. They claim

St. Urho was the creation of Richard Mattson, who worked at Ketola's Department Store in Virginia, Minnesota and is partially credited with conjuring up a Finnish counterpart to St. Patrick. Just as Patrick had driven the snakes from Ireland, Mattson's saint drove a plague of frogs from Finland.

There is another story. Dan Gartrell, EdD, who is the author of several books and is emeritus professor of early childhood and foundations education at Bemidji State University in northern Minnesota claims the real story lies in Bemidji. Dan and I are on our CCHS Class of '62 Reunion committee. This

past weekend he sent me the Bemidji legend including the picture on the left of St. Urho, the legendary patron saint of Finland that is located along Hwy. 71 South. The statue serves as a way for visitors to remember Menahga and an exciting way



for citizens to celebrate their Finnish ancestry on St. Urho Day. The park grounds surrounding St. Urho are maintained by the city and community volunteers to make the area attractive to visitors. A story in the *Minneapolis Star Tribune* included St. Urho as one of the seven "must-see" tourist attractions in the state.

The Legend of St Urho

One of the lesser known, but extraordinary legends of ages past is the legend of St. Urho - patron saint of the Finnish Vineyard workers.

Before the last glacial period wild grapes grew with abundance in the area now known as Finland. Archeologists have uncovered evidence of this scratched on the thigh bones of the giant bears that once roamed northern Europe. The wild grapes were threatened by a plague of grasshoppers until St. Urho banished the lot of them with a few selected Finnish words.

In memory of this impressive demonstration of the Finnish language, Finnish people celebrate on March 16, the day before St. Patrick's Day. It tends to serve as a reminder that St. Pat's Day is just around the corner and is thus celebrated by squares. At sunrise on March 16, Finnish women and children dressed in royal purple and Nile green gather around the shores of the many lakes in Finland and chant what St. Urho chanted many years ago.

Adult male, (people, not grasshoppers) dressed in green costumes gather on the hills overlooking the lakes, listen to the chant, "Heinasirkka, heinasirkka, menetaalta hiiteen." Then kicking out like grasshoppers, they slowly disappear to change costumes from green to purple. The celebration ends with singing and dancing polkas and schottisches and drinking grape juice, though these activities may occur in varying sequences.

... and some serious research revealed.

Dr. Sulo Havumäki, a psychology professor at Bemidji State College in Bemidji, Minnesota is credited with changing the plague to grasshoppers, who were consuming the grape crop that would become wine in ancient Finland. (Pre-historic Finland was allegedly a much warmer place than it is today.) St. Urho's triumph was saving the vineyards and the jobs for those who picked the grapes. St. Urho became the Patron Saint of Finnish Vineyard Workers. Sulo was a devout Catholic and, feeling left out because there weren't any Finnish saints, made one up with tongue in cheek. His story was often told, and was part of Sulo's local identity.

St. Urho is not as popular in Finland as he is in the U.S.A. Although Urho Kekkonen Finland's popular president from 1956 to 1981 influenced the name of St. Urho's Pub located in Helsinki where it is still a popular meeting place. Ironically, in 1933, Kekkonen joined the Agrarian Party and among his first political jobs was a post at the ministry of agriculture. It is said that Kekkonen was called "Saint Urho" by the citizens of Finland.

For many years the real joke according to Rev. Les Niemi, a Finnish-American winter visitor who had organized a local St. Urho's Day picnic in the past was, "Of course, there are no vineyards in Finland. The interesting thing is that these Finnish-Americans, who have nothing else to do, today have St. Urho's Day parties all over the country." (Contd. Pg. 59)

Who is St. Urho?

(From Pg. 58) And the saga changed once again. In October of 2013 according to a Norwegian news report from Reuters, "the first wine grapes have ripened and were harvested at a research facility in Pasvik in Finnmark, Norway, which is approximately 70 degrees north latitude. The crafty Norse-chaps discovered that by keeping a vine's roots warm, the plant can survive even the chilly excesses of a near-Arctic winter. Nearby in Finland, Dr. Slotte, a 29-year-old physician, is one of a growing number of people in Finland who, as global temperatures climb, are turning to winemaking.

The grapes he planted were hardy, weather-resistant varieties, including a cross between a Latvian and a Siberian strain. In spring and fall, when temperatures are erratic, Fredrik Slotte sprinkles his vineyard with water. The water freezes, encasing the vines in thin tubes of ice that protect them from temperatures far lower than freezing.

Dr. Slotte anticipated about 110 bottles a year; hardly a threat to the French. Since Finland entered the European Union in 1995, and is not considered a wine-growing country under European rules, Dr. Slotte may not sell his wine.

No one really knows how the European Commission, the European Union's executive body, got wind of Dr. Slotte and his little vineyard, although it could have been through an article about him that appeared in *Alandstidningen*, the small local newspaper, like *The Townsman*, had featured a photo of a smiling Dr. Slotte on its front page, happily clutching a bunch of grapes.

Dr. Slotte insists he is not in the wine business for the money. "It's only a hobby," he said.

But some say he is too modest. His sparkling wine is tasty. "It's a shame," said Mr. Dahlen. "It would be something for the local restaurants."

Yet Dr. Slotte's passion has been borne aloft in part by increasingly mild winters. After studying temperatures on the Alands over the last 20 years, he found "a curve pointing upward," he said.

To protect his vines from the cold, Dr. Slotte employs other tactics. He lays insulation boards over the plants in winter and prunes the vines so that in summer the grapes lie close to the ground, where they can absorb warmth from the soil. One of his varieties, a Latvian vine, can survive temperatures as low as 22 below.

"It looks like it's becoming a more suitable climate for wine-growing, better certainly than in the 1980s. If you look at history, ice ages came and went," he said. "It's premature to say if it's global warming."

A generation ago, the northernmost frontier for vineyards was Britain. Nowadays, the title of the world's most northerly vineyard is a moving target. Climate change has significant implications for Europe's wine industry, according to a other news reports. However, while rising temperatures are creating stern challenges for some of the region's most established wine-producing areas, wine production is becoming possible in northern regions where hitherto viticulture was not commercially viable.

With all these facts in line regarding the legend of St. Urho, I would have to go along with Dan's legend of Dr. Sulo Havumäki – St. Urho lived in a pre-Ice Age Finland, when it was warmer there and the country's grape crops were under threat from giant, pre-Ice Age grasshoppers!

"Heinasirkka, heinasirkka, menetaalta hiiteen!" The Finnish phrase roughly translates to

"Grasshopper, grasshopper, go to the devil!" It's the mantra of St. Urho's Day. Maybe the old Saint is at work, not just driving the grasshoppers away, as I understand there are still grasshoppers in Finland –but could it be the myth of St. Urho will take on another facet –the Saint of Global Warming?

No matter what, we will keep legend of St. Urho alive in Tri-Valley! This time of the year, with the price of fuel oil, we could use a little warming. A good crop of grapes would be nice too, should we have another long cold winter next year, and maybe a bit of wine to warm us!



Happy
St. Urho's Day,
Happy St. Patrick's Day
and welcome SPRING!



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KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE I

**AMAZON PRIME, IMOB, NETFLIX
 BIRTH**

(RATED R / 2004 / 1hr 41min / Drama/Thriller)
<https://www.amazon.com/Birth-Nicole-Kidman/dp/B001TDRGZO>

The film follows Anna, who becomes convinced that her dead husband Sean is reincarnated as a 10-year-old boy. Directed by Jonathan Glazer and starring Nicole Kidman, Lauren Bacall, Danny Huston, Anne Heche and Cameron Bright.



Birth is an excellent film to stimulate the belief or disbelief of the possibility of reincarnation. One of the best fiction films on this subject.

Nicole Kidman stars as Anna, a woman engaged to be married 10 years after her husband Sean suddenly died. One day a 10 year old boy sneaks into her home to explain that he is her late husband, Sean, and he also has proof. Haunting and lingering performances from Nicole Kidman and young Cameron Bright.



(Contd. Pg. 61)



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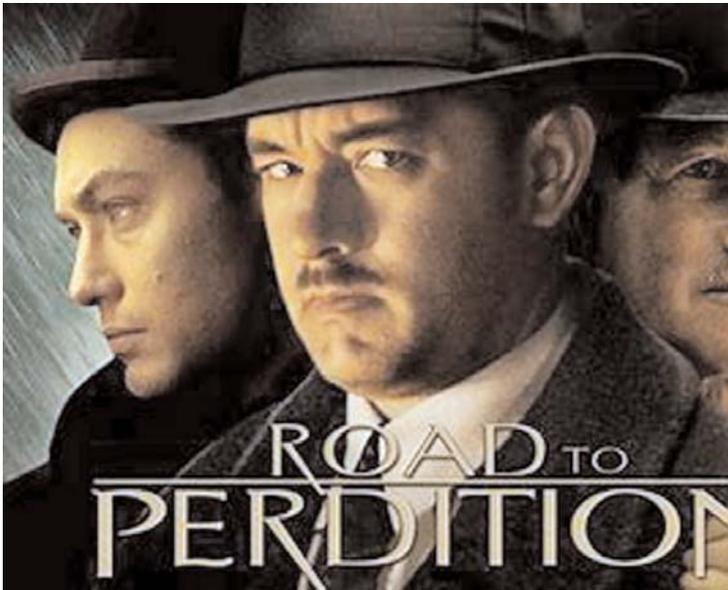
*(From Pg. 60)***"KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE II**SEE ALL OF YOUR FAVORITE FILMS ON TCM,
AMAZON PRIME, IMOB, NETFLIX,**ROAD TO PERDITION**

(2002 / NR, SUGGEST 16+ / 2 HR / CRIME / DRAMA)

Tom Hanks like you never seen him before. How far will you go to save your son in the gangster era of the depression's hard times. When family meant everything. When loyalty to friends and business associates no longer had any meaning.



Directed by Sam Mendes. starring Paul Neuman as John Rooney, Tom Hanks as Michael Sullivan, Jude Law as Maguire, With Tyler Hoechlin, Rob Maxey, Liam Aiken, Jennifer Jason Leigh.



A mob enforcer's son in 1930s Illinois witnesses a murder, forcing him and his father to take to the road. He is now destined to do as his father has done and now he must travel down a path of redemption and revenge.

"KNARF'S CLASSIC MOVIE III
SEE ALL OF YOUR FAVORITE FILMS ON TCM,

AMAZON PRIME, IMOB, NETFLIX,

VICTOR VICTORIA

(PG-14 / 1982 / 2 hr 30 min / LGBTQ/Comedy)



British-American musical comedy film written and directed by Blake Edwards and starring Julie Andrews, James Garner, Robert Preston, Lesley Ann Warren, Alex Karras, and John Rhys-Davies.



The film was produced by Tony Adams and scored by Henry Mancini, with lyrics by Leslie Bricusse. Released by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, it was adapted in 1995 as a Broadway musical.

**Happy St. Urho's Day
& Happy St. Patrick's Day!**

Stay Safe,
Kn arf Odnamoc
Gnome