



Ye Olde
Tri TOWNSMAN Valley

"The Best Journal Published by a Dam Site!"

VOL. 23 NO. 13 GRAHAMSVILLE, NY 12740 MARCH 26, 2026

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Have *The Townsman* delivered to your email mailbox each week and enjoy our local news. See details on Page 25

Tri-Valley Lions Dinner Meeting on March 2, 2026, at The New Munson Diner

On March 2, 2026, The Tri-Valley Lions had their dinner meeting at The New Munson Diner in Liberty, NY. The menu items were varied and all so delicious. The best part of the meeting, though, was having Cathy Russo, the new Director of The Daniel Pierce Library, along with Michelle Gorman, the new Assistant Director of the Library with us for dinner and telling us about all the amazing things the Library is doing for both children and adults in our community.

Did you know that in 2025, the Daniel Pierce Library hosted 347 program sessions, attended by 9,667 individuals, 27,686 books were checked out, 6,596 electronic checkouts, 1,676 e-Magazines, and 1,348 DVDs. Number of visitors to the Library in 2025 was 22,718, 17,332 website visits, and 23,468 Wi-Fi sessions. (Contd. Pg. 5)



Monti Elks Name Orestano-James Citizen of the Year



Lori Orestano-James is the Monticello Elks Lodge Citizen of the Year

(Monticello) Monticello Elks Lodge #1544 proudly recognized Sullivan County resident Lori Orestano-James as its 2025-2026 Citizen of the Year. Orestano-James was surprised with the honor during the Lodge's Annual Officers Installation and Awards Ceremony on March 21st. She was presented with a commemorative plaque signed by Elks Grand Exalted Ruler Bryan R. Klatt, Grand Secretary Carl T. Seibert, Monticello Lodge outgoing Exalted Ruler Elisabeth Bringle, and Lodge Secretary Ronalda Yakin-Scannell.

In presenting the award, Exalted Ruler Bringle remarked, "It is truly an honor to recognize Lori Orestano-James, a woman whose life has been defined by service, passion, and an unwavering commitment to education and the arts. For more than 40 years, Lori has shaped lives as a teacher, principal, district leader, and mentor. From the classrooms of Monticello to leadership roles across New York State, she has remained dedicated to ensuring that every child (regardless of background) has access to a high-quality education and the transformative power of the arts. Lori's impact extends far beyond the school walls. Whether advocating at the state and national levels, volunteering throughout the community, supporting initiatives through Rotary, or helping raise tens of thousands of dollars for important causes such as the Heart-A-Thon, she leads with one guiding principle: (Contd Pg. 4)

YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN

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THE TOWN OF NEVERSINK

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MYSTERIOUS BOOK REPORT - John McKenna

KNARF'S MOVIE TRIVIA - From the notes

of Frank Comando

COMMUNITY NEWS - Sheila Lashinsky

Email: tvtownsman@yahoo.com

Website: thetownsman.com

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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.

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

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

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

More than ever, thank you for your continued support.

On the Front Burner: And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with Excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. I Corinthians 2:1

OBITUARY

James K. Richardson, 83, passed away on March 16, 2026, at



Westchester Medical Center. Born on February 15, 1943, in Liberty, New York, he was the son of the late James H. Becker and Catherine Dulaff. James was later adopted by Harold Richardson, a loving and caring father.

James proudly served his country in the United States Army, a service he carried with great pride throughout his life. His love for his country remained strong in his heart and everyday life. He was a long-time and active member of several veterans' organizations including the VFW, the VVA, and the DAV. For many years, he served as the County Commander of the DAV. A few years ago, he was honored to participate in the Hudson Valley Honor Flight, traveling from Stewart Airport to Washington, D.C., and back-an experience he cherished, especially as he was able to share it with his son. He was also a proud member of the Purple Heart.

James worked as a milk pasteurizing plant manager for Eastern Correctional Facility, a bus driver for Freddie Ahrens, and a custodian for Tri-Valley Central School. Outside of work, he was deeply involved in many hobbies and organizations. He was a member of the Neversink-Roundout Antique Machinery Association, the Catskill Exotic Bird Club, the Beaver Dam Hunting Club, the Liberty Elks, and the Wawarsing Rod and Gun Club. A true outdoorsman, James enjoyed hunting, fishing, and spending time in nature.

He had a love for animals, especially birds, and spent many years raising pigeons and chickens. He also enjoyed attending gun shows and military shows, collecting firearms, and participating in Civil War reenactments as a member of

the Catskill Bushwackers. Some of his favorite moments were the simple ones-family game nights and sitting by the pond feeding the fish.

James loved his family deeply and cherished the time he spent with them. He is survived by his devoted wife of 55 years, Theresa Richardson; his son, Kenneth Richardson and his wife Michelle; his siblings, Larry Richardson and his wife Peggy, Tom Richardson, and Sally Richardson and her companion Steve; his dear friend, Tom Wright; his cousin, Eleanor Aherns; as well as many loving nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Memorial visitation was held on Friday, March 20th, with a funeral service officiated by Pastor Harriet Wilkins. Interment took place on Saturday, March 21st at the Sullivan County Veterans Cemetery with full military honors.

Donations in Jims name can be made to either the DAV, Wounded Warrior Project, or Grahamsville Volunteer Fire Department.

Arrangements are under the care of Colonial Memorial Funeral Home. For further information, please call 845-434-7363

Raymond L. Houghtaling of Parksville, NY, a lifelong area resident and business owner died Wednesday, March 18, 2026 at Garnet Health Medical Center in Harris, NY. He was 89.



The son of the late Emmet and Edith Scott Houghtaling, he was born December 4, 1936 in Neversink, NY.

Raymond was the owner of the M&M Sanitation and the owner of Ray Houghtaling's Christmas Trees. He was a hard worker who loved farming, logging, hunting, fishing, and his dog. He especially loved Christmas time, snowmobiling and enjoyed stock car racing.

He is survived by his wife, Leah Kushner Houghtaling; seven sons, Raymond Houghtaling, Jr., Chet Houghtaling, Richard Kushner, Michael Houghtaling, Mitchell Houghtaling, Jason Houghtaling, and Charlie Houghtaling; five daughters, Darlene Wright, Shelby Bossert Ivie, Lisa Smith, Melissa Houghtaling, and Sandra Houghtaling; a brother, Vernon "Butch" Houghtaling; a sister, Irene Alomar; and several grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren, and nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by his brother Clarence, his sister Elizabeth, and granddaughter Brianna.

DAYS OF YORE.... Today's History

March 21, 1956

Miss Rose Marie Singer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Singer of Sundown, a senior in Physical Education at the State University Teachers College at Cortland, N.Y., has been named to the Dean's List for the first semester of the 1955-56 school year.

Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Eck of Napanoch are the parents of a son, Mark Frederick, born at Veterans Memorial Hospital on March 3rd. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Eck of Sundown are the grandparents.

Alonzo Horton of Lackawack died at the age of 70 on March 13th. Mr. Horton, who was single, was born at Montela on Jul 7 19, 1885, son of William and Ryla Osterhoudt Horton. Surviving are four brothers: Audie of Lackawack, Gail of Neversink, Preston of Ellenville and Frank of Somerville, N.J.; a sister, Mrs. Loren Dean of Sundown; and nieces and nephews.

March anniversaries: Mr. and Mrs. Clark Ryan and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rianhart on the 22nd; Mr. and Mrs. Ross Bonnell on the 28th; and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Huntsberger on the 31st.

March 23, 1966

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick S. Rich of Litchfield, Conn., have announced the engagement of their daughter, Elizabeth, to Clemens Bribitzer. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Bribitzer. The future bride and her fiancé are both students at State University College at Plattsburgh. A Tri-Valley graduate, he is majoring in Economics. A June wedding is planned.

(From Pg. 3) Mr. and Mrs. Robert Grey had their daughter, Beth Ann, christened on Sunday, March 13th. Godparents were Miss Cheryl Storms and her brother, Terry of Franklin Lakes, N.J. After the service the Greys entertained Mr. and Mrs. Roger Banta, Mr. and Mrs. Clark Ryan, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Storms, Cheryl and Terry and Rev. James Mills.

(Contd. Pg. 4)

Household Hint: Refresh window treatments in the dryer

Put your dryer to work! Toss drapes, curtains and soft valances in the dryer for 15 minutes on air-only or the lowest temperature your model offers, then immediately rehang to avoid wrinkles.

Nature Column - L. Comando

A tribute to the memory of all of the Townsman Ladies that we have loved so much and lost... Peggy DeWire, Avril Pappa, Joan Hall, Polly Hill, Joyce Lockhart, Jean Helthaler, Karen Curry, Barbara Slater, Shirley Davis, Hulda Vernooy, Carolyn Coombe, Martha Ahrens and Barbara Barkley. And also to the memory of Frank Comando. a/k/a Knarf Adnamoc.

A Feast of Fiddleheads

Now that the spring has officially arrived, but before the last frost, there is a short window of time each year - a fleeting sign of spring in the Catskills - fiddleheads!

Found along muddy riverbanks and in moist meadows is the furred baby fern that looks like the scrolled top of a violin, thus its name, fiddlehead.

Almost everyone has heard of "fiddlehead fern," as they are gaining popularity as a spring time gourmet wild vegetable.

Few wild edibles that are so well known, are also convenient and widely available. Steamed, and served with butter, fiddleheads are regularly eaten by hundreds of millions of people today, and in North America was and continues as a traditional food for many Native American cultures. However, unfortunately, a few types of fiddleheads are surrounded by much confusion. Many people mistakenly believe that all fern fiddleheads are edible.

There are three main species of edible ferns in North America. They are Ostrich Fern (*Matteucia struthiopteris*), Lady Fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, and Bracken Fern (*Pteridium aquilinum*).

When people say "fiddlehead fern" they are most often talking about the ostrich fern. The Ostrich Fern a/k/a Shuttlecock Fern is a crown-forming, colony-forming fern, occurring in temperate regions of northern North America including the Catskill Mountains. These magnificent ferns grow mostly in shady areas near riverbanks, where often they cover many acres of ground. They are also occasionally found in rich hardwood forests. It grows from a completely vertical crown, that sends out lateral stolons to form new crowns. It thus can form dense colonies resistant to destruction by floodwaters.

The fronds are dimorphic, (representing two distinct forms) with the deciduous green sterile fronds (palm-like leaves) being almost vertical, growing 39-67 in tall and 7.9-14 in broad, that are long tapering to the base but short-tapering to the tip, so that they resemble ostrich plumes, hence the name. The fertile fronds are shorter, 16- 24 in long, brown when ripe, with highly modified and constricted leaf tissue curled over the sporangia (receptacle where spores are formed) that develop in autumn, persist erect over the winter and release the spores in early spring.

The word, *struthiopteris* comes from Ancient Greek words, *struthio* meaning ostrich and *pterion* meaning wing. The ostrich fern is a popular ornamental plant in gardens and is a nice addition to a shady garden. It easy to grow, and deer tend to leave it alone. In nature, it grows in dappled shade on the forest edge or in moist soil near water, so when placing ostrich fern in a garden scheme, look for a site with damp shade.

Remember, not all fiddlehead ferns are edible, so look for a U-shaped groove on the inside of the stem and a thin, brown, papery coating to identify the edible sort. When picking fiddleheads, three tops per plant is the recommended harvest. Each plant produces seven tops that turn into fronds. Over-picking will kill the plant. Maintaining sustainable harvesting methods is important in the propagation of any non-farmed food species.

If you are not sure what you are looking for or don't have fiddleheads growing in your backyard, fiddleheads are now available for a short time at many grocery stores, and most of the local farmers' markets.

And of course, Fiddleheads are another one of Nature's bounties that also remind us that Spring is here!



Monti Elks Name Orestano-James Citizen of the Year

(From Pg. 1) Service Above Self. What makes Lori especially remarkable is not just what she has accomplished, but why she does it. Inspired by the support she received as a young person, she has devoted her life to giving back, lifting others up, and creating opportunities for future generations. And while she may say she's 'failing at retirement,' we can all agree that's something we are very grateful for. Lori, your passion, leadership, and heart have made an incredible difference in this community and beyond. Thank you for everything you continue to do."

Orestano-James expressed her gratitude stating, "I am truly humbled. The Elks across the United States-and especially here in Sullivan County-exemplify service to others. To be recognized by an organization that so deeply understands the importance of giving of oneself is a tremendous honor. I thank the Monticello Elks Lodge and the Grand Lodge for this truly memorable moment. To be recognized for doing what simply feels natural is both overwhelming and deeply appreciated. I am sincerely grateful."

DAYS OF YORE.... Today's History

March 23, 1966 (From Pg. 3)

Gary R. Parrow, a Tri Valley senior, has had an essay accepted by the National Essay Anthology, "Young America Speaks". His essay, entitled "Happiness" is the first student effort from Tri Valley to receive national recognition. Gary, son of Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Parrow of Sundown, has been accepted at State University of New York at Cortland where he will major in Social Studies.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Klothe of Fort Wayne, Indiana, are the parents of twin daughters, Lori Kay and Sherri Lynn, born at the Lutheran Hospital on Friday, March 18th, weighing 5 and 6 lbs. Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Harsch of Fort Wayne are the maternal grandparents and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Klothe are the paternal grandparents.

March 31, 1976

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Hotchkin, Jr. of Ithaca, are the proud parents of a son, Chad Erik, born on March 15th at Tompkins County Hospital, Ithaca. Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Earl Hotchkin of Parksville and the great-grandmother is Mrs. Myrtle Cypert of Grahamsville. Congressman Matthew F. McHugh has announced that the U.S. Military Academy at West Point has admitted Thomas M. Arielly of Neversink, to the class of 1980. Tom 17, is the son of Thomas F. and Barbara Arielly of Neversink. He will be eligible to enter the academy in July, following his graduation from Tri-Valley Central School in Grahamsville.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Kortright of Maine are the proud parents of a baby girl, Christina Lynn, born March 15th.

The baby weighed 8 lbs. 7 _ oz. The paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Sherm Kortright of Neversink.

April 3, 1986

William M. Hotchkin, son of William Hotchkin and Pearl Grant of Fairfield, Alabama and formerly of Neversink, N.Y., passed away at his home. He was 78 years old. Survivors include his wife, Edith Cross Hotchkin, at home; two daughters, Audrey Currey of Fairfield, Ala., and Lois Freeman of Birmingham, Ala.; two brothers: George of Bradley and Earl of Parksville; four sisters: Philena Heisler, Mary Kahn, and Pearl Asthalter, all of Liberty and Nellie Asthalter of Parksville.

Specialist 4 Robert J. Kitchen, son of Blanche Kitchen of Grahamsville, has re-enlisted in the U.S. Army in West Germany for three years. He is a military police specialist with the 981 Military Police Company. He is a 1983 graduate of Valley Central High School in Montgomery.

LOOKING BACK

by Beatrice Akerley

Published April 10, 1997

When I was a little girl, my grandmother Davis' ancestors were all in Holland. Her maiden name was Catherine Hogencamp. She was almost as wide as she was tall and I loved her very much. She had the indomitable spirit of two men. Grandma Davis could harness and hitch her horse to the buckboard wagon, she could weave carpet, catch, kill and pluck a chicken for dinner.

To me she always was and always will be the symbol of the strong woman. She pulled her hair straight back and made it up in a little ball. She didn't wash it very often because she said it took the oil out of it. Grandma was soft spoken and gentle and wore cotton print dresses down to her ankles. She made these garments herself.

I can still see her in my minds eye standing in her kitchen by that old wood stove cooking up a meal for all of us. Her house had a long railing that ran most of the way around the porch. It was such fun to play games and run around on her porch.

When grandpa Davis went to fight in the Civil War, she kept her family fed, clothed, housed, educated and healthy with her nimble hands, spinning wheel and carpet loom. Such wonderful memories come flooding back when I think of grandma Davis. She had the softest lap, the softest arms and an ear to listen to all my problems, both large and small. How fortunate we all were that God spared grandma Davis for all of us until she was close to 100 years of age.

When she passed away, she left us the spirit to fight when we were down and a sense of worth to both community and family. I'll always remember my grandma Davis, my dad's mother.

Tri-Valley Lions Dinner Meeting on March 2, 2026, at The New Munson Diner

(From Pg. 1) Some of the programs included a D.I.Y. Energy Savings Session; Watercolor Painting; Valentine's Day Card Event, Book Inspiration Crafting Event; 5 Hour Pre-Licensing Class, A book repair program, and upcoming Lego and Spring Event where grades 4-6 will design and test a LEGO rider that attaches to a zip line, and a fun Pocketbook Bingo event for adults. For those of you who do not have access to a computer, there are several available at the library for your usage. You can go online to www.danielpiercelibrary.org or call 845-985-7233 for dates and more information.



If you haven't been to Daniel Pierce in awhile or ever, it is one of the most beautiful libraries I have ever seen, and the staff is always so helpful.

The Tri-Valley Lions have been busy with chocolate Easter Bunny sales and working on new fundraising ideas and events. While we will no longer operate a Soda Booth, we will certainly attend Fairground events, and look forward to seeing you all this Spring, Summer, and Fall.

Our Journey For Sight and Tag Day will be held on Saturday, May 2, 2026, at the Grahamsville First Aid Squad Building, and once again this year, the First Aid Staff will be available to do blood pressure checks for anyone who is interested in having one done. A complimentary continental breakfast provided by those wonderful folks of the Neversink General Store will be available to all attendees, walkers, and volunteers. For more information about the Journey For Sight, please contact Esta Jacob at 845-866-1579 or ejacob4848@gmail.com

The Tri-Valley Lions, which was chartered in 1977, is now in our 49th year of existence, and we are always



looking for new members. Just as a reminder, The Tri-Valley Lions bring in donations and funding by selling Chocolate Easter Bunnies, our Annual Journey for Sight Walk and Tag Day. Our funding allows us to continue to provide monetary and service support to Local Food Pantries, Tri-Valley Lions Club High School Community Service Awards, The Daniel Pierce Library, Children's Eye Screenings, support for Diabetes, Lymphoma and Leukemia organizations, childhood cancer, WSUL Heart-A-Thon, Guiding Eyes for The Blind, Payment for eye exams & glasses, assistance to local families for fires or health emergencies, and so much more. We have contributed to the Electronic Scoreboard at the new ballfield and the moving of the Milk House at The Time & Valley Museum. If you are interested in joining the Tri-Valley Lions or getting more information about our club, please contact Membership Chair, Pat Menje at 917-783-6253 or havapat69@gmail.com or President Stephen Miller at 845-798-1981 or sgrecords@hvc.rr.com

We hope you and yours stay well, warm, and safe.

Time for Spring Cleaning, Sullivan County! *Annual Litter Pluck Returns April 1, Runs through October 31*

Monticello, NY - Sullivan County's Annual Litter Pluck launches April 1 and runs all the way through October 31, 2025. By resolution of the County Legislature, the disposal fee is waived during that time for roadside, public trail, and water bodies/shoreline litter at County-operated transfer stations.

This popular annual event is coordinated by the County's Parks, Recreation and Beautification Department and the Division of Public Works.

"This is a great way to 'clean ourselves up' as we get ready for spring, summer and fall," says Legislature Chairman Nadia Rajsz. "One of the first impressions we make on anyone - residents and visitors - is the state of our roads. We can really put the shine on this beautiful area, and keep it that way!"

Residents who wish to participate in the Litter Pluck may pick up their free disposal coupons, along with program guidelines, at their town or village hall, any County-operated transfer station, or the Sullivan County Parks, Recreation and Beautification Department in the Government Center, 100 North Street, Monticello. Participants will be asked to register at the County-operated transfer station at the time of disposal.

For more information about the Litter Pluck, please contact the Sullivan County Department of Parks, Recreation, and Beautification at 845-807-0287 or email scparcs@sullivanny.gov.

“Shorts & Sweets for April Fools” coming to Roscoe

April 2026 is here and what better time for some risqué jokes? “Shorts & Sweets for April Fools” is by far Big Sky Productions' most requested program. This “adults only” presentation will be performed by Big Sky's Laure Valentine and Carol Montana at the Roscoe branch of the Livingston Manor-Roscoe Library on Friday, April 10, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.

This program of funny, devilish, bawdy and slightly off-color short stories, anecdotes and jokes will be accompanied by sweet treats and beverages provided by the Livingston Manor-Roscoe Library director and trustees.

Laure Valentine is a resident of Livingston Manor who currently works at the Monticello Central School District as a Speech/Language Pathologist. She has

appeared on screen in the pilot for “The Manor.” Laure loves performing for Big Sky Productions, which is where she met her honey Mike nearly 30 years ago during their production of “On Golden Pond”!

Carol Montana, Big Sky Productions Artistic Director has a Master's Degree in Dramatic Form and Structure from the University of Connecticut. She's directed over 60 plays for several area theatre companies and schools. Carol has worked as a journalist, library clerk, public relations director and theatrical technical director, as well as a newspaper editor. She is currently the freelance Media Manager for Action Toward Independence and Vet 2 Vet of Sullivan County.

The Roscoe Branch of the Livingston Manor-Roscoe Library is located at 85 Highland Ave, Roscoe, NY. Registration is suggested at lmr-library.org, but walk-ins are always welcome. Admission is free!

For more information, call Big Sky Productions at 845-985-3175 or the Roscoe Library at 607-498-5574.

Bloom Fest Offers Hands On Activities and Wellness Resources for Families on May 30 in Kingston

KINGSTON, NY - Area families, youth, and community members are invited to Bloom Fest on Saturday, May 30, from 11 AM to 3 PM at the Andy Murphy Center in Kingston. This free, family friendly event focuses on community well being and offers a wide range of hands-on activities, presentations, and resources.

The event is organized by MyKingstonKids in partnership with the Ulster County Department of Mental Health and the Ulster Prevention Council.

The event will offer a full afternoon of engaging activities for all ages, including inspiring short presentations, hands-on creative and movement based activities, and opportunities to explore products and resources from local vendors and community partners. Families can enjoy interactive experiences such as archery, games, and a dedicated children's area featuring the Slime Cart and other creative stations. Bloom Fest is designed as a welcoming space for the community to reconnect, recharge, and step into the spring season feeling refreshed and inspired.

EVENT: Bloom Fest

WHEN: Saturday, May 30, from 11 AM to 3 PM

WHERE: Andy Murphy Midtown Neighborhood Center, 467 Broadway in Kingston

The event is free, and families are encouraged to attend.

For questions, email info@mykingstonkids.com or call (845) 896 0105.



Legacy Mysterious Book Report No. 172

The Korean Woman

Mysterious Book Report No. 368

by John Dwaine McKenna
Published March 26, 2020

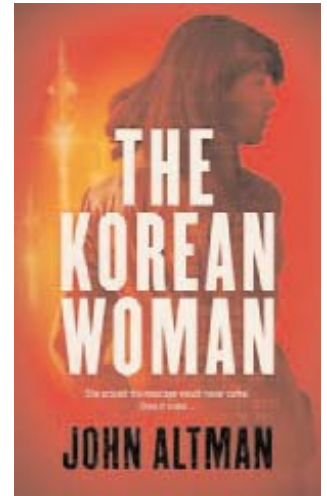
Mi-Hi Abrahams is living the American dream. She's the mother of two children; a boy age five and a girl age two and a half, married to a Wall Street lawyer, and living a privileged, wealthy lifestyle on Manhattan's upper east side where she's a doting mommy and actively involved in the PTA and community charity events. But it's all a lie. The woman's real name is Song Sun Young, and she's a spy . . . what's known as a sleeper . . . for the NKPR, the North Korean People's Republic in author John Altman's electrifying new thriller: *The Korean Woman*, (Blackstone Publishing, \$26.99, 261 pages, ISBN 978-1-4708-2697-0).

Song Sun Young barely managed to survive a brutal childhood in North Korea after her parents were killed, by engineering two escapes from the harshest imaginable prison camps before she turned eleven years old. Instead of being shot, the authorities recognized her brains, beauty and talent and decided to utilize her abilities to advance the aims of the state. She was plucked out of prison and began a decade long training course in spycraft. With her younger brother still held by the regime as insurance, Song applied herself with diligence, efficiency and ruthlessness. Showing no remorse after her first kill, she's infiltrated into South Korea with a new identity, then into the United States under still another false identity. There, she settles in, gets married, has kids . . . and waits . . . for the call she hopes never comes. But just six years later, it does. She's tasked with stealing the inner workings of America's financial system.


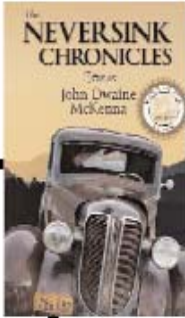



Unbeknownst to the North Koreans, the NSA, National Security Agency, using newly developed secret computers, has broken into the NKPR's cyber systems. The American CIA has been watching Song Sun Young for two years. The covert team leader calls upon retired Israeli operative Dalia Artzi, (a character introduced in Altman's last thriller, *False Flag*, MBR No. 322), who's a world-class expert in the history and tactics of warfare and a professor at Princeton. Her role is to figure out what the Koreans are attempting, as they observe Song's behavior while she relentlessly goes about her mission. What she sees convinces Dalia that Song is an unwitting dupe in a larger game, watching in horror as the nuclear-armed antagonists start their count-downs to the unthinkable in this teeth-gritting, pulse pounding and searing, all-too-real scenario that will leave you panting for more as Altman shows us once again, why he's fast becoming one of the top thriller writers in the world

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

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



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

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http://www.Twitter.com/MB_Report

<http://www.Goodreads.com/JohnDwaineMcKenna>

http://www.Instagram.com/mysterious_book_report <http://www.mysteriousbookreport.com>



The Olive Jar

by Carol Olsen LaMonda

Write It Down

“If you want to change the world, pick up your pen and write.” – Martin Luther

Writing is becoming a lost art. We rely on our phone to record notes and connect with others. We forget that writing connects our brain to the world. Using the internet does not do the same thing as putting words to paper instead of the cloud. The cloud is ephemeral. Writing is tangible until we decide to keep or discard our thoughts.

I think I spend more time deleting messages to me than creating messages to send out. Also, out of the messages I send, once they are written, they get deleted to make more space for more messages to come in.

Writing is the “inking of the thinking” but it is even more; Writing goes beyond the thinking which occurs in images and tangents that come and go like floating clouds. Writing solidifies the thinking. Writing brings thoughts to fruition by finding the precise words to record those random thoughts.

Writing is active while thoughts are passive. We are relying on our sound bites as conversations and missives. We need to start writing lists, recording thoughts and emotions, and give them a life beyond the muddled chaos of our thoughts. Once on paper, we can delete or archive or relive our former thoughts and feelings.

Try keeping a journal, a planner, a letter, a poem, a “to do” list.

Think of housekeeping the mind allowing what might be important to separate from the constant streaming of random thoughts.

Lastly, writing is cathartic. Our sadness can be recorded and eliminated; our joys can be relived.

“Exercise the writing muscle every day, even if it is only a letter, notes, a title list, a character sketch, a journal entry. Writers are like dancers, like athletes. Without that exercise, the muscles seize up.”

– Jane Yolen

The FamilyMemoir, PROSILIO...

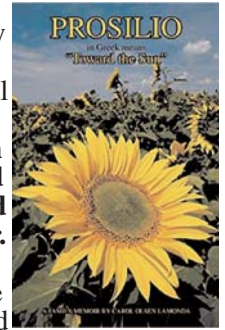
... in Greek means "Toward the Sun," was written by Carol Olsen LaMonda. Carol writes the column "The Olive Jar" for *Ye Olde Tri-Valley Townsman*. This local author has been busy guesting at book clubs who have chosen this local memoir as their book choice. **Feel the warmth of “Prosilio” as you read Carol’s memoirs cuddled up in your favorite chair.**

It also makes a great gift! *Prosilio* is available at Amazon or Barnes and

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Spring into the DPL

Get your grow on with a trip to the Seed Library!

By Lisa Carroll

GRAHAMSVILLE-Celebrate Spring with the Daniel Pierce Library by stopping in and checking out our new Seed Library!

The Seed Library offers a variety of vegetable, fruit, herb and flower seeds, just in time for the growing season. Patrons can take a few seeds from the packet (there will be little envelopes for transport) and leave the rest for others. There's also a spot to donate seeds, but please fill out the donation form so we know what they are.

While choosing seeds for your garden, it would also be the optimal time to check out our selection of gardening books. If you have any questions regarding the planting, growing, and harvesting of annuals, perennials, or vegetables we have you covered. There are also many books with helpful tips and tricks on making your gardens as deer proof as possible.

And then-and I know we're getting a little ahead of ourselves here-we have so, so many beautiful cookbooks that showcase amazingly delicious recipes using all those surplus vegetables you'll get.

Thinking about Spring though, it's also a great time to read up on raising chickens, ducks and other fowl. You know it's Spring when Tractor Supply gets them in! Raising fowl is a venture definitely not for the faint of heart as there are many steps, concerns, and considerations, but you don't have to worry, we have lots of helpful books...and if you're successful, the eggs are delicious.

And then, as we all know, Spring comes with a lot of rainy days. What better way to spend it than at the library! Children are wel-



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come to come and play with our puppet show, train set, doll houses and other toys as well as read our fabulous books, do puzzles or just sit and enjoy the vibe. And you know what rainy days mean for adults? A break from outdoor chores! So you too can come and enjoy the quiet atmosphere of the DPL, check out a suspenseful thriller or sweet romance (or one of the aforementioned nonfiction books) and relax in one of our many comfortable spots scattered around the library.

On those bright, beautiful warm Spring days (there will be days like that!) you can take a moment to enjoy the outdoors with a trip to our patio. It's the perfect spot to get a little sun (yea, Vitamin D!) and read, work-our WiFi is available outside-or just contemplate.

So, here's to the better, nicer weather ahead of us, Happy Spring, all!



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CONNECTING WATER, PEOPLE AND THE CATSKILLS

News From Time & the Valleys Museum #7

Lynn M. Priebe



Was my patriot ancestor Noah Cross a hero or a traitor? To me he was a hero though he fought for both sides during the American Revolution. He was far from the only soldier who did this. In a war that lasted eight years with the fortunes of each side changing often, there were many who switched sides and became traitors. The most famous of these was brave American General Benedict Arnold who did so much to help America win its freedom, but in the end became its most hated enemy. His defection was so horrible that when our Constitution was written in 1787, the crime of treason was the only one expressly defined.

Two Ulster County soldiers who switched their loyalties illustrate that changing sides could have momentous consequences. Both served in the Ulster Militia from the Marbletown area, so may have even known each another. One was a descendant of the early Dutch settlers of the Hudson Valley who first professed his loyalty to the Revolution but chose to later side with the British and paid the ultimate price. The second, a British foot soldier who deserted in Canada, turned up in the Town of Rochester as a member of the militia. Their stories are like those of many others, most of them unknown.

Jacob Rose (Rosa/Roosa), along with eight others of that family name, signed the Marbletown Articles of Association in 1775 to support the Continental Congress and the New York State government in opposition to the British. Rose served in the Ulster County Militia under Lt. Colonel Johannes Hardenbergh. He was court-martialed and fined in February of 1777 for refusing to obey orders. Shortly afterwards, he went over to the British, enlisting in the King's American Regiment under Loyalist Colonel Edmond Fanning, a Long Island born attorney educated at Yale. Rose was tasked with recruiting Loyalists from the upper Delaware River region. As a result of his first effort, he recruited, Jacob Middagh, who lived on the East Branch of the river. He and other recruits were successfully delivered to New York City. Middagh returned with Rose on a second recruitment trip that did not end favorably for either one. Trying to make their way through Patriot territory, they and about 40 others were captured in Orange County on April 28, 1777. All were court-martialed and found guilty of treason at Fort Montgomery. Most were pardoned, but Rose and Middagh were sentenced to death. They were hung in Kingston on May 13, 1777. Were they heroes or traitors?

Noah Cross, was baptized in Somerseshire England in 1750, the son of an unmarried 21 year old mother. Since he had few prospects for advancement due to his birth, he joined the British army in 1772, and as a member of the 7th Regiment of Foot arrived in Quebec the next year. In 1775 his regiment was involved in the fall of Chambly and St. John's and the defense of Quebec from the attack of the American army under Generals

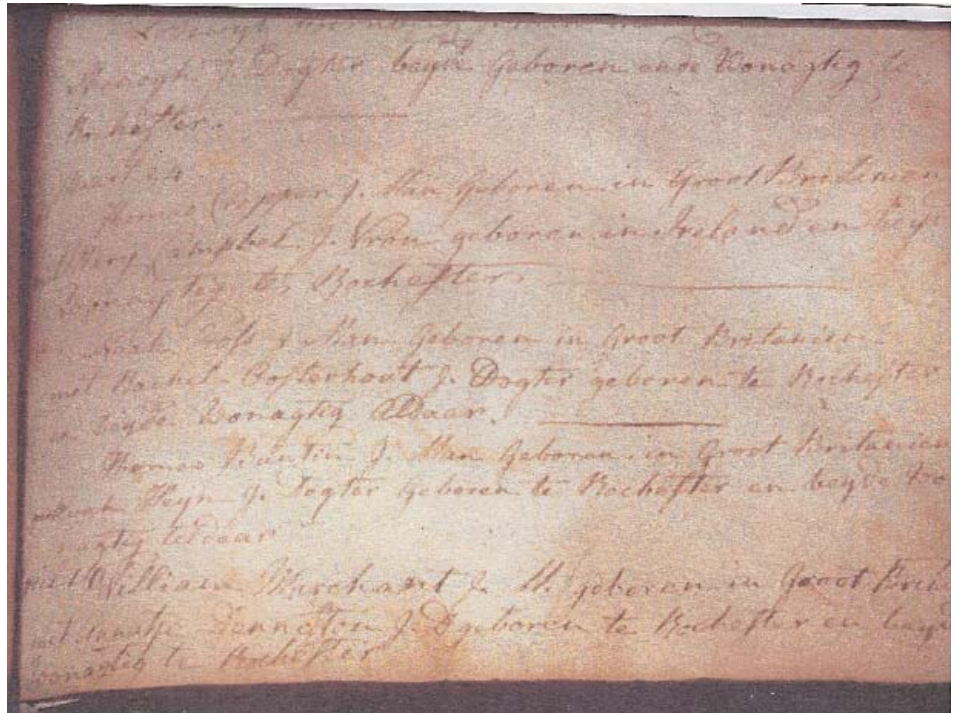
Richard Montgomery and Benedict Arnold. The regiment numbers dropped from 295 to 63 because of death, battle injuries, disease, capture and desertion. Noah's name is found on along list of deserters as of January 27, 1776. Three others on the list were Thomas Cropper, Thomas Bunting and William Marchant. All four names showed up just two months later in the marriage register of the Dutch Reformed Church of Accord, in March and April of 1776. Was that a way to hide out?

Noah married local girl Rachel Osterhoudt on March 24, 1776. The record was in Dutch, but can be translated to read, "March 24, 1776. Noah Cross, young man never married, born in Great Britian and Rachel Oosterhoudt, young maiden never married, born in Rochester. And both residing there."

Noah joined Levi Pawling's 3rd Ulster Militia Regiment in 1777. His unit served protecting the frontier and the Hudson Highland forts during the "Year of the Hangman." They responded to the attacks on Forts Clinton and Montgomery and the burning of Kingston. An irony of that time was that Noah's old unit, the 7th

Regiment of Foot was among the British troops that attacked Fort Clinton. How fortunate for Noah that he was not taken as a prisoner, as many were that day. Perhaps he had not responded to that call for troops.

Noah and Rachel lived long lives and were parents to at least 12 children. The large Cross family became prominent in Ulster and Sullivan Counties. Noah is a patriot ancestor to many in the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. I am proudly one of them. My great great great grandfather Noah Cross is certainly a hero to me!



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Celebrate Spring at the 1st Annual FO&WL Enjoy a bird walk on the Historic O&W Rail Trail in Hurleyville on 4/25!

[Hurleyville, NY] - The arrival of Spring in the Catskills is marked by increased bird activity as temperatures rise, signaling migration and mating season. To coincide with "Go Birding Day" and "Celebrate Trails Day" - two national events traditionally held on the last Saturday in April - the Sullivan County Audubon Society and the Sullivan O&W Rail Trail have joined up to host an inaugural bird watching event in Hurleyville on Saturday, April 25, 2026.

Trail walkers and bird watchers are invited to gather at 8:00AM at the trail-head located at 214 Main Street in downtown Hurleyville. Sullivan County Audubon Society President Maura Muller and local birder Kathy Scullion will lead participants on a leisurely one mile out-and-back hike along Shaddock Pond - a hotspot for several species of migratory birds and waterfowl.

"Early morning is the best time to view birds," explained Muller, "and we're sure to see and hear local favorites such as White-breasted Nuthatches, Northern Cardinals, Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers, Mourning Doves, Black-capped Chickadees, Carolina Wrens and American Goldfinches." To which Scullion remarked, "If we're lucky, we may also spy a Great Blue Heron, some Wild turkeys, or one of the many species of waterfowl common in our area."

After the walk, participants are invited to enjoy a complimentary beverage and a snack at the Forage & Gather Cafe located at 234 Main Street (while supplies last and redeemable on April 25 only). In addition, all participants will be entered into a drawing to win a copy of "A Birding Guide to Sullivan County New York" by John. H. Haas courtesy of local business owner Lisa Lyons of Morgan Outdoors.



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Fire Departments participating in the Sullivan 180 Healthiest Fire Department Challenge will receive 3 points for attending with five or more active members.

Visit www.SullivanOandW.com/Events or visit the Sullivan O&W Rail Trail Alliance on Facebook for up-to-date event information.

The Sullivan O&W Rail Trail Alliance is fiscally sponsored by Catskill Mountainkeeper, and is a partnership of local government entities, non-profits, and volunteers which serve as the stewards for the trail. For more information about the O&W Rail Trail and the work of the Alliance, visit www.SullivanOandW.com.

Crystal Connection Wellness Center cuts the ribbon in Wurtsboro

Crystal Connections, a new wellness center in Wurtsboro, officially opened last Friday, offering a variety of holistic and technology-driven healing services.

Co-owner Travis Ogden says the center is designed to "calm the mind and bring the body into balance," with options ranging from cryotherapy and red light beds to infrared saunas and frequency-based Rife machines.

Ogden emphasizes that the services are accessible to everyone, whether or not they practice holistic healing, and can address physical, emotional, or metaphysical needs.

Crystal Connections in Wurtsboro is meant to be relaxing, according to its co-owner Travis Ogden who cut the ribbon last Friday.

(We're here) "To calm the mind, to bring you back into homeostasis. To have a calm in the body, know where you're at and help you deal with whatever it is that you're dealing with," he says they offer several avant-garde healing services.

"From cryo Chamber; cold therapy to red light beds, an infrared dry sauna, a Rife machine; frequency-based technologies to heal the body."

Ogden says you don't have to practice holistic healing because its services are for everyone.

"We have a range of things, whether you're not metaphysical or you are, whether it's physical or emotional, we can find something (beneficial) that fits you and what you need to move through your journey."



DEC Releases 2025 Hunting Safety Statistics *2025 Season the Safest on Record*

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Amanda Lefton today announced another year of safe hunting. Hunting remains one of the most popular forms of wildlife-related recreation in the state with nearly 600,000 New Yorkers participating annually, helping achieve State wildlife management objectives and safely enjoying time outdoors.

“The historic low number of incidents observed in 2025 demonstrates that hunting is safe and is getting safer thanks to the efforts of DEC’s Hunter Education Program, volunteer instructors, and the vigilance of New York’s hunters,” said Commissioner Lefton. “In addition to being safe, hunting is ecologically important, helping manage wildlife populations, promoting conservation-related behaviors, and providing a local, affordable food source. I am proud of our team’s efforts to grow New York’s hunting community.”

The 2025 hunting season was the safest in New York’s recorded history. The total number of hunting-related shooting incidents (HRSI) in 2025 was seven, five of which were self-inflicted and two involved more than one person. One incident involved an unlicensed individual who was hunting illegally. Fortunately, there were no HRSI fatalities.

Many, if not all, HRSIs can be prevented if people follow the primary rules of hunter safety:

- o Treat every firearm as if it were loaded.
- o Control the muzzle, always keep it pointed in a safe direction.
- o Identify your target and what lies beyond it.
- o Keep your finger off the trigger until ready to fire.
- o Wear hunter orange or pink.

DEC also documented nine falls from tree stands or elevated platforms, including one fatality. Like HRSIs, elevated hunting incidents (EHIs) can be avoided by following simple safety measures. Hunters can prevent severe injuries or death due to falls from tree stands or elevated platforms by wearing and properly using a fall-arrest system (FAS). A FAS keeps a hunter attached to the tree from the time they leave the ground until they get back down. A harness only works if it is attached to the tree the entire time the hunter is off the ground.

A FAS includes:

- o A full-body harness with shoulder, chest, and leg straps;
- o A strap that attaches to the tree when in the stand;
- o A tether strap that attaches the harness to the tree strap;
- o A “lifeline” to keep a hunter safe while climbing and descending; and
- o A suspension relief strap to be used in the event of a fall.

DEC encourages all New York hunters to Strap Up before you Go Up.

For more information on hunter education courses and hunting safety statistics, visit Hunter Education Program web-page.



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LEADING TOGETHER

Monticello Elks Install New Officers

(Monticello) Monticello Elks Lodge #1544 has installed a new slate of officers for the 2026-2027 Elk year, which begins on April 1st. Elks New York East Central District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler Merrill Conner of Ellenville Lodge presided over the installation of the Lodge's new officers. Conner was assisted by East Central District State Vice President Brian Minerly of Middletown Lodge and Past Exalted Ruler Gwen Conner of Ellenville Lodge. The newly sworn officers include: Exalted Ruler David Welsch; Leading Knight Julie Brennan; Loyal Knight James Rodriguez; Lecturing Knight Tricia Cahalan; Secretary and Past Exalted Ruler Ronni Scannell; Treasurer and Past District Deputy Jim Gerrard; Five-Year Trustee and Past Exalted Ruler Elisabeth Bringle; and Esquire and Past Exalted Ruler Brian Bock. Continuing in their roles are Chaplain Past Exalted Ruler Bob Linzer, Inner Guard Josh Conlon, and Tiler Peter Kunz. The current Lodge Trustees are: Past Exalted Ruler Mike Brennan, Sue Mapledoram and Jennifer Millian.

During the program, outgoing Exalted Ruler Elisabeth Bringle recognized outstanding service within the Lodge. Gary Huebner was honored as the Elk of the Year and Julie Brennan was named the

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Elks East Central District Deputy Merrill Conner (center) looks on as Monticello outgoing Exalted Ruler Elisabeth Bringle passes the gavel of authority to new Exalted Ruler David Welsch at a ceremony on March 21st

Officer of the Year. In presenting the awards, Bringle praised Huebner as being a cornerstone of activities at the Lodge and commended Brennan for her leadership, noting that she sponsored many new members and hosted numerous events throughout the year.

The Monticello Lodge has 373 members, an increase from 340 last year. The Lodge supports local veterans, scouts, Little League and the Homeless Federation, as well as providing coats and gloves to elementary school children in Monticello and Fallsburg.

Shorts & Sweets for April Fools

Short Stories, Jokes, and Anecdotes

April 2026 is here and what better time for some risqué jokes?

Join Big Sky Productions' Laure Valentine and Carol Montana for funny, devilish, bawdy, and slightly off-color short stories, anecdotes, and jokes.

This "adults only" program will be accompanied by sweet treats and beverages.

Friday, April 10th
5:30pm



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- Business card ad (2" x 3") - \$15.00 per week
- (3" x 4") - \$30.00 per week
- (3" x 6") - \$45.00 per week
- 1/4 pg (4" x 5") - \$50.00 per week
- 1/2 pg (4"x8") - \$80.00 per week
- Full Page - 8" x 10" - \$100.00 per week
- Digital Flyer Insert - 8"x10 - \$100.00/week

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to work with to create your piece. Adults only.

Daniel Pierce Library

1st Friday BOOK CLUB



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every month.

All adults welcome!

Daniel Pierce Library 1st Friday Book Club

Friday, February 06, 2026 • 1:00 PM
1st Friday Book Club Type: Adults
Location: Upper Level - Conference Room
Join our book club each month and
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You will need to be a RCLS library card holder to participate and join in on
the fun! Please contact Mikki at (845) 985-7233 x103 with any questions.
Adults only.

LEGALS/PUBLIC NOTICES**Neversink Fire District
2026 Pool Staff Posting**

Neversink Fire District is accepting applications for Pool Manager, certified life guards and pool assistants at the Neversink Pool for the 2026 Summer Season. Salary is to be determined and will be based on experience. All inquiries, please reach out to Commissioner Paul Lepke at paulslepke@gmail.com

Dana Vogler, Secretary

1/15 -RTF

**Notice of Change of Date for the Claryville Fire
District Regular Meeting**

The Claryville Fire District regular Meeting will be held on held on April 1, 2026 instead of April 7, 2026 at the Claryville Fire Department Warren Cole Hall, 1500 Denning Road, Claryville, NY.

Anne-Marie Kremer/Secretary
Claryville Fire District

3/26

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 14th, 2026 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 / Tax Collector / RMO
March 11th, 2026

3/19; 3/26

LEGALS/PUBLIC NOTICES

Neversink Fire District Notice of Special Meeting

There will be a Special Meeting for the Board of Commissioners held on Thursday, April 9th, 2026 at 4:30pm at 7486 Route 55 in Neversink, NY 12754 to complete a walkthrough of the facilities with discussion to follow.

Appropriate footwear is encouraged.

3/26; 4/2; 4/9

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

Zoning Board of Appeals Workshop

The Town of Denning Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Workshop Meeting on Monday, April 6th, 2026 at 6:00 pm at the Denning Town Hall, 1567 Denning Road, Claryville, NY 12725.

The purpose of Said Workshop is a received application for a Variance from Bruce Charlick and Andrea Adams pertaining to property located at 29 Saw Mill Road, Claryville, NY 12725. SBL 50.1-1-17.

There will be no other business before the Board.

By Order of
Joy Monforte
ZBA Chairperson
March 23, 2026

3/26

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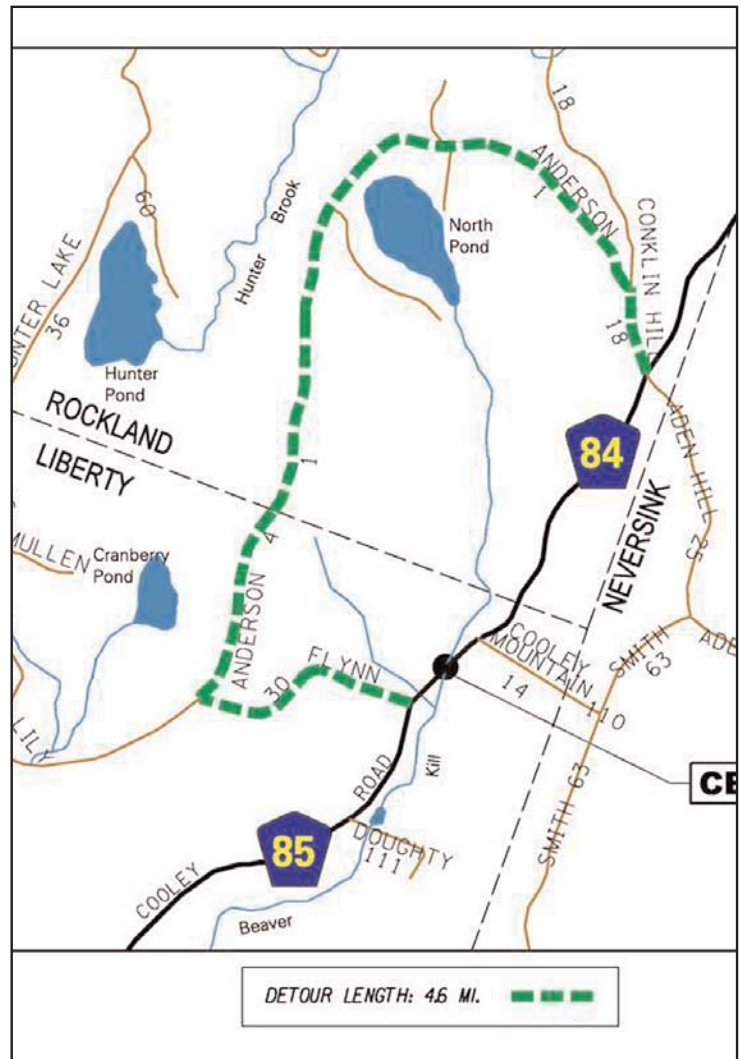
By Order of
Joy Monforte
ZBA Chairperson
March 23, 2026

3/26

ROAD CLOSURE

Parksville, NY - The Sullivan County Division of Public Works is closing a section of County Road 85 (Cooley Rd.) to replace County Bridge 121, located near Flynn Road north of Parksville. This section of County Road 85 will remain closed for approximately 6 weeks.

The Sullivan County Division of Public Works will post a detour route using Flynn Rd., Anderson Rd. (in towns of Liberty and Rockland), and Conklin Hill Rd. (Town of Rockland).



Open Mic Every Sunday:

DeFilippis Bakery in Monticello at 506 Broadway presents "Every Sunday - Open Mic 11AM-1PM. Dusty David Rosenberg and Lively Laura Garone have acted as Co-Masters of Ceremonies for the past nine (9) years.

Frequently, Steve Schwartz, proprietor of Steve's Music Center, located at 248 Rock Hill Drive, Rock Hill, NY shows up with his band, with Steve on lead guitar, Kenny Windheim on bass and Eric Nies on the keyboard. The group often accompanies and encourages other singers and music students. Young performers receive a cookie. Owner Angelo Foglia is the baker, and owner Camela is the cook. On the menu is oven-baked Italian bread, bagels, cannoli's, cakes and cookies with breakfast. Free Admission. Call (845) 791-4103 for further information.

Tri-Valley Lions Chocolate Easter Bunnies have arrived!



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Milk Chocolate, Dark Chocolate
or White Chocolate.

The milk and dark chocolate bunnies
weigh in at 6.2 oz, and the white
chocolate at 2.8 oz.

Cost is \$5 to \$6 per bunny.

You can get them
from

any Lion,

at the Daniel Pierce Library,
The Neversink General Store or
The Trading Post in Liberty

Sun Trail Storage

Sun Trail is a local family-owned business
God Bless America

Located on the Corner of Hill Top Rd
and Route 55 Grahamsville, NY



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

Please call for availability first

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

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

Display Ads

1" Boxed ad (1"x3")-

\$7.50 per week

Business card ad (2" x 3")

- \$15.00 per week

(3" x 4") - \$30.00 per week

(3" x 6") - \$45.00 per week

1/4 pg (4" x 5") - \$50.00 per week

1/2 pg (4"x8") - \$80.00 per week

Full Page - 8" x 10" - \$100.00 per week

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

Sign up for weekly ads with quarterly billing
and get a 20% discount

•• Full Page Flyer for
Local Municipalities
and Organizations -

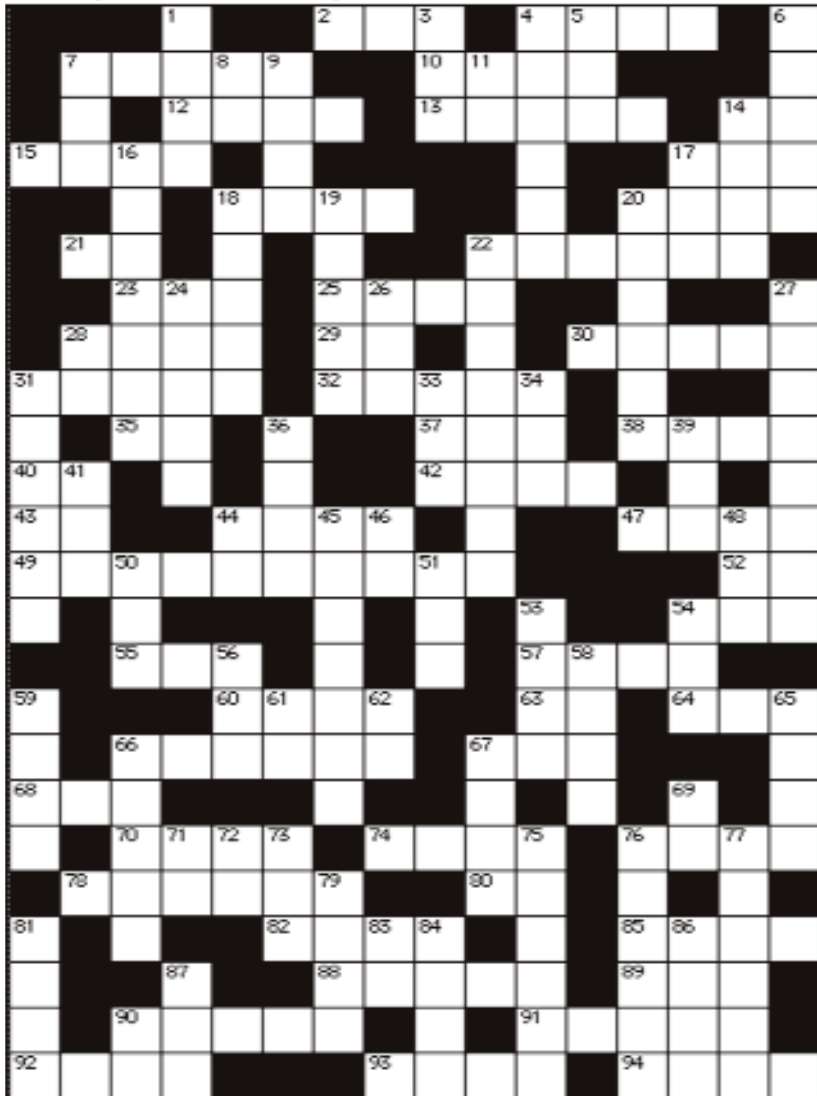
one time fee- \$20.00

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

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

Low Rates
High Visibility!

Fun, Fish and Fools - L. Comando



- 28 Referring to a male
- 31 Cooking instructions
- 33 Tease
- 34 Allow
- 36 One thousandth of a kilogram
- 39 Unimportant fuss
- 41 Single unit
- 44 Tantalum chem. symbol
- 45 Learning institution
- 46 Knock Out
- 48 Rest on a flat surface
- 50 Young lamb
- 51 Used to cut wood
- 53 Destroy by friction
- 54 Domestic animal
- 56 Pertaining to three
- 58 Newly received information
- 59 Imprudent person
- 61 Part of the human psyche
- 62 Language
- 65 Pleasant
- 66 Fastgrowing thin-barked tree
- 67 Froth
- 69 Roman numeral eleven
- 71 Alternating current
- 72 General Electric
- 73 Environmental Protection Agency
- 75 Small three masted
- 73 Mediterranean
- 76 A person who is tricked
- 77 April rain event
- 79 Metal containers
- 81 Person in charge
- 83 Egyptian sun god
- 84 Dishonest scheme
- 86 Abode
- 87 Evergreen
- 90 Chemical element
- Iron

Pork and Beans Cake
An April Fool's Fun Dessert

- 2 cups white sugar
- 1 cup vegetable oil
- 3 eggs
- 1 (15 oz) can baked beans with pork
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 cup raisins (optional)
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

This cake can be made in loaf pans or in 16 ounce cans.
Preheat oven to 325 degrees F (165 degrees C). Grease and flour five 16 ounce cans OR two 8 x 4 inch loaf pans.
In a large bowl, mix sugar, oil, eggs, and beans until smooth.
In a separate bowl combine flour, cinnamon, baking powder, and soda. Add to bean mixture, stirring just until combined. Stir in raisins and vanilla.
Fill prepared cans 2/3 full with batter, or divide batter into prepared loaf pans.
Place cans or pans on a baking sheet. Bake for 45 to 50 minutes, or until a tester inserted in the center of the cake comes out clean. Cool completely on wire racks before removing bread from cans or pans.
Serve with whipped cream.

- ACROSS**
- 2 Feline
- 4 April Fool symbol
- 7 Archaic 'two'
- 10 Short for Aerodynamic
- 12 Not fake
- 13 Practical joke
- 14 Junior
- 15 Ax-like tool
- 17 Received
- 18 Form of play
- 20 Tasty baked treat
- 21 Proceed
- 22 Fail to perform a required action
- 23 Meadow
- 25 20th century modern artist
- 28 Hindu spring festi-
- val
- 29 Exist
- 30 Turbulent weather
- 31 Fit for a monarch
- 32 Second month of spring
- 35 Yukon Territory
- 37 Frozen water
- 38 Broad shallow crater
- 40 Colorado
- 42 Bump
- 43 Not out
- 44 Small sharp nail
- 47 Fare
- 49 Nearby mountain within the Catskill Watershed
- 52 Illusion
- 54 Edible spherical seed
- 55 Eastern
- Standard Time
- 57 On one occasion
- 60 Monetary unit of Cambodia
- 63 Regarding
- 64 Two thousand pounds
- 66 Overpass
- 67 Not many
- 68 Broad Japanese sash
- 70 Uncontrollable anger
- 74 Prank
- 76 Metal tool with moveable jaws
- 78 Consent to receive
- 80 Used by a speaker to refer to himself
- 82 Condescending manner
- 85 Food
- 88 Mother of pearl
- 89 Pull along with a rope or chain
- 90 They celebrate St. Urho's Day
- 91 Toll
- 92 Soothsayer
- 93 Belonging to a German grandmother
- 94 Very small
- DOWN**
- 1 Not clothed
- 3 Knock
- 4 Where 'Poisson d'Avril' is celebrated
- 5 Electrically charged atom
- 6 Sweet cake
- 7 Small amount
- 8 Indo-European
- 9 National Aeronautics and Space Administration
- 11 Emergency Room
- 14 Short story with a funny punch line
- 16 Scientific study of animals
- 17 Petrol
- 18 The 'cup' in Arthurian legends
- 19 Main means of mass communication
- 20 Tradition
- 22 Subject to mockery
- 24 Make very happy
- 26 Viper
- 27 Parasol

数字は単数に限る

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

April Fool's Cryptogram

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

25 7 16 9 7 20 2 2 24 21 25 19 7 17 19 7 9 25 7 1 16 11 8 7 2 9

11 2 17 21 2 25 7 5 4 6 19 17 16 21 25 7 24 24 1 16 11 8 7

Japanese Proverb

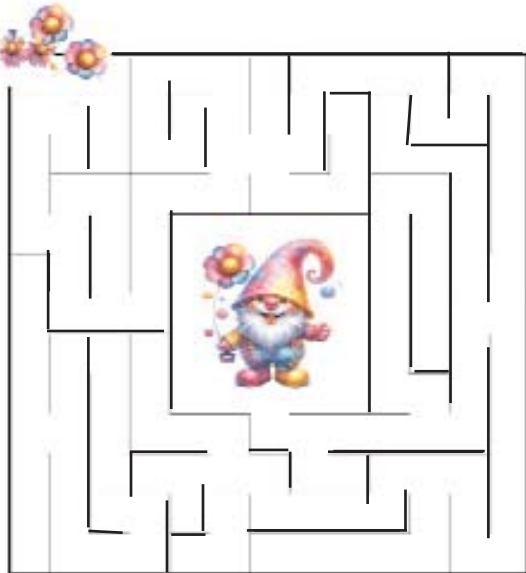


Find five differences between the two pictures

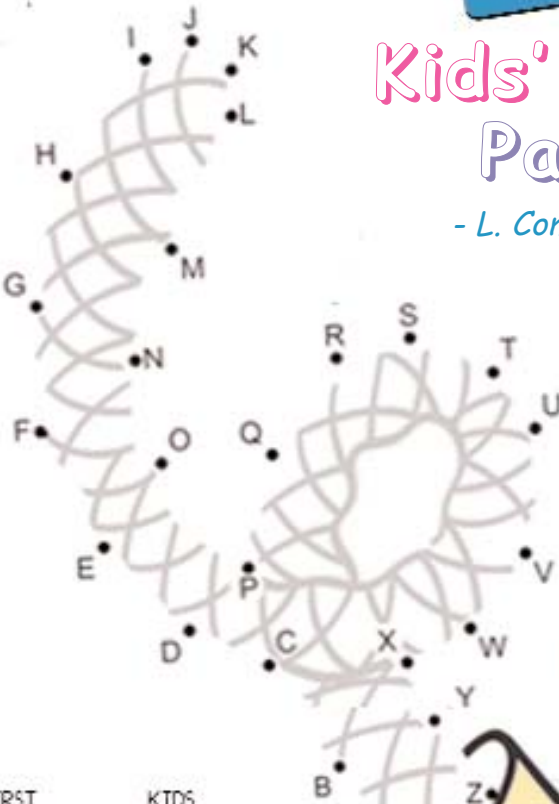


Kids' Fun Page

- L. Comando



Help the gnome through the maze so he can pick a bouquet of spring flowers.



April Fools' Wordsearch

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

ANTICS
APRIL
CELEBRATE
CLASS
CLEVER
CRAFTY
CREATIVE
FAMILY

FIRST
FRIENDS
FUNNY
GAME
GIGGLE
GRIN
HUMOR
JOKE

KIDS
LAUGH
MISCHIEF
PLAN
PLAYFUL
SCHOOL
SHOUT
SILLY

Cryptogram Key

21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46
Z	Y	X	W	V	U	T	S	R	Q	P	O	N	M	L	K	J	I	H	G	F	E	D	C	B	A



ST. MARK'S UMC
68 Clinton St
Napanoch NY

INDOOR YARD and CLOTHING SALE

Will be opened every Friday from 10 - 3

Something for Everyone!



COLONIAL FAMILY of FUNERAL HOMES

**PRE-PLANNING, FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICES
VETERAN'S CARE, MONUMENTS & ENGRAVING**

LOCATIONS IN WOODBOURNE, LIBERTY,
MONTICELLO, LIVINGSTON MANOR & KAUNEONGA LAKE

434-7363 292-7160 794-2700 583-5445 439-4333
<http://www.colonialfamilyfuneralhomes.com>

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

Sundown United Methodist Church

Covered Dish Suppers will resume in the Spring.

Looking forward to be back for the 2026 Indoor Yard Sales!

Sundown United Methodist Church Hall

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

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

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

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

CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
(Embraces Fallsburg, Neversink, Sundown and Ulster Heights)

Mass Times
Sat: Vigil 4:00 PM • Sun: 9:00 AM

Confessions: Saturdays -3:15 to 3:45 pm
Or by appointment.
Call the rectory at (845) 434-7643.
Parochial Vicar: Father Thomas

Grahamsville United Methodist Church

1st Thrift Sale of the Year!

Apr. 4, 2026
9 am - 12 Noon

Grahamsville & Sundown United Methodist Churches

Come and Join us for in person Worship on Sundays.

Sundown UMC 8:30 am
Peekamoose Rd., Sundown

Grahamsville UMC 10:30 am
350 Main Street, Grahamsville
Pastor Harriet Wilkin
845-985-2283

Grahamsville Reformed Church

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

Claryville Reformed Church

Claryville Road
Claryville, NY 12725
845-985-2041



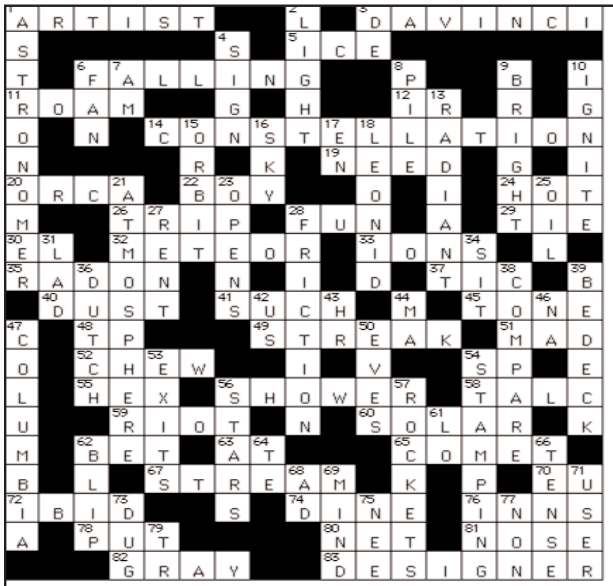
Worship Services @ 10:15 am

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



To learn more about
Neurofibromatosis Type 1 (NF1)
 or to make a donation
 please go to:

<https://www.nfxdetroit.org/>

NFX drives bold, high-impact research to discover and develop targeted treatments for **neurofibromatosis type 1 (NF1)**. NFX advances groundbreaking research that will bring us closer to ending neurofibromatosis.

Thank you

The Wurtsboro Board of Trade 2026 event dates are as follows:

- Spring Fling, Saturday May 2nd 12-3pm
- Street Fair, Saturday July 11th 11-5pm
- Duck Race, Thursday August 13th 6pm
- Halloweenfest, Saturday October 31st 12-3pm
- Joy to Wurtsboro, Saturday November 28th 1-4pm

Music & Farmers Market in the park will run every Thursday, starting June 11-Sept 24 from 5pm-8/8:30pm.

SUUJI WA TANSU NI KAGIRU
 answer

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



Daniel Pierce Library Hours

- Monday - 9:00 - 4:00
- Tuesday - 9:00 - 7:00
- Wednesday - 9:00 - 4:00
- Thursday - 9:00 - 7:00
- Friday - 9:00 - 4:00
- Saturday - 9:00 - 12:00
- Sunday - Closed

\$17.5 BILLION in Lost Money

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

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

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

Check the air quality where you are at:
<https://www.airnow.gov/>

ARTISTS • CRAFTERS
 Need a place to show and sell your crafts?
 email: tvtownsman@yahoo.com
 or visit our Virtual Mall
<http://gnomehomeinc.com>

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

LOCAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

4/1/2026	Town of Neversink Planning Board -7 pm (Application Submission Due Date 3/20/2026)
4/3/2026	Town of Neversink Holiday - GOOD FRIDAY
4/1/2026	Claryville Fire District Monthly Meeting 6:30 pm
4/8/2026	Town of Neversink Town Board Meeting
4/14/2026	Town of Denning Business Meeting 1:00 pm Denning Town Hall, 1567 Denning Rd, Claryville, NY
4/14/2026	Denning Town Board Meeting - 6:00 pm Denning Town Hall, 1567 Denning Rd, Claryville, NY
4/16/2026	Town of Denning Planning Board Meeting—6:00 pm Denning Town Hall, 1567 Denning Rd, Claryville, NY
4/16/2026	Neversink Fire Commissioners' Meeting 7 pm
4/21/2026	Town of Neversink Zoning Board of Appeals -7 pm (Application Submission Due Date 4/10/2026)

TOWN OF OLIVE MEETINGS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

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

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

Town of Denning - <http://www.denningny.gov>
Town of Neversink - <https://townofneversink.org>

Weekly Update For The Week Of March 25, 2026 - March 27, 2026

Wednesday, March 25

- **9:00 AM - Ulster County Soil and Water Conservation District Board**, at the District Office, 5 Park Lane, Highland
- **9:00 AM - Ulster County Industrial Development Agency Regular Board Meeting**, in Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston
- **10:00 AM (Or Immediately Following UCIDA Regular Board Meeting) - Ulster County Capital Resources Corporation Regular Board Meeting**, in Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston
- **12:00 PM - Resolution Deadline**
- **3:00 PM - Ulster County Electrical Licensing Board**, at the Rondout Municipal Center, 1915 Lucas Avenue, Room M-1, Cottekill
- **6:30 PM - Ulster County Environmental Management Council**, at the SUNY Ulster Kingston Center, 94 Mary's Avenue, Room 104, Kingston, & Via Zoom, Meeting ID: 974 4254 9615 Passcode: 278571
- **7:00 PM - Ulster County Fire Advisory Board**, in the Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston

Thursday, March 26

- **5:15 PM - Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency Audit Committee**, at the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency, 999 Flatbush Road, Kingston, & livestream at <https://www.youtube.com/@ucrra5008>
 - **6:00 PM - (or immediately following UCRA Audit Committee) Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency Regular Board Meeting**, at the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency, 999 Flatbush Road, Kingston, & livestream at <https://www.youtube.com/@ucrra5008>
- Friday, March 27 - No meetings

Dept. of Motor Vehicles dates for the Neversink Town Hall

April 9th, May 7th & June 4th, 2026



Go on the DMV Website to make a reservation.

Search [sullivancountydmscheduling](https://www.sullivancountydmscheduling.com)

Please read all appointment types before selecting one. If you select the wrong appointment type you may have to reschedule due to time constraints.

Now conveniently doing business at 9 locations:

- **Neversink Town Hall** - 273 Main Street, Grahamsville, NY (rotating schedule)
- **Callcoon Town Hall** - 19 Legion Street, Jeffersonville, NY (rotating schedule)
- **Rockland Town Hall** - 85 Main Street, Livingston Manor, NY (rotating schedule)
- **Delaware Town Hall** - 104 Lower Main Street, Hortonville, NY (rotating schedule)
- **Memaketing Town Hall** - 2348 US 209, Wurtsboro, NY (rotating schedule)
- **Tusten Town Hall** - 210 Bridge Street, Narrowsburg, NY (rotating schedule)
- **Town of Liberty Senior Center** - 119 N Main St. Liberty, NY (rotating schedule)
- **Bloomingsburg Town Hall** - 13 North Rd. Bloomingsburg, NY (rotating schedule)

Customers **MUST** have all forms completed **PRIOR** to arriving for their appointment. You can access forms through the NYS DMV website - <https://dmv.ny.gov>

*** IF YOU ARE LATE OR NOT PREPARED YOU WILL BE ASKED TO RESCHEDULE ***

Please limit the number of people coming to your appointment. Additional people not necessary.

to this location every 15 minutes to avoid traffic.

The DMV will continue to take mail-in license renewals with proof of an eye exam and registration renewals to: Sullivan County DMV, 100 North Street, Monticello NY, 12701

For further information please call: 845 794-3573.

**To Renew or Sign up for your weekly digital copy to
Ye Ole Tri-Valley Townsman (a/k/a The Townsman)
follow these directions**

Print out this form

Fill out it out

Mail it along with a check for the **Annual Rate –\$40.00**
payable to **The Townsman**

**The Townsman
P O Box 232
Grahamsville, NY.**

NAME _____

EMAIL _____

PHONE _____

SUBSCRIPTION RATE: **\$40.00 PER YEAR**

NEW _____ RENEWAL/DATE EXP. _____

Check # _____

OR

Save \$5.00

Sign up on line with **Paypal**

Go to our website:

<http://thetownsman.com>

and follow the link to Paypal

Thank you for your continued support.



1700s Frontier Exhibit Opening in May & We Need Your Help!

Do you have any of these items below to loan to the
Time and the Valleys Museum through September, 2028?

- Mannequins with heads (man and woman)
- Taxidermied deer, beaver, opossum, hedgehog, racoon, fox, wild cat, rabbit and especially wolf
- Any items (real or replica) from the 1700s

We are also seeking someone with graphic design skills
to enhance photos and create graphics.

If so, please call or email
Time and the Valleys Museum, Grahamsville
director@timeandthevalleymuseum.org 845 985-7700
All loans will be gratefully acknowledged in the exhibition
Thank you so much!



Clip & Save



Grahamsville United Methodist Church

356 Main St. P.O. Box 86 Grahamsville, NY 12740

Thrift Sale Schedule 2026

All sales are from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

April – 4th and 18th

May – 2nd and 16th

June – 6th and 20th

July – 4th and 18th

August – 1st and 15th

Sept – 5th and 19th

October – 3rd and 17th

Nov – 7th and 21st

Dec – 5th Holiday Craft Fair

Donations accepted in the thrift building on Tuesdays, starting March 17, 2026, from 9:30 to 11:30 or by appointment. Call Ruth at 845-985-7222.

Harriet Wilkin, Pastor– grahamsvilleumc@gmail.com or visit us on Facebook

— THE —
BAGEL
 FESTIVAL

★ MONTICELLO NY ★
 THE BAGEL CAPITAL

AUGUST 9, 2026 AT 9AM

Tri-Valley Lions Journey For Sight Annual Walk Saturday, May 2, 2026

In memory of our fellow Lions lost over the past years. All proceeds go into our Charity Account to help support the missions of The Tri-Valley Lions, which include Sight, Hearing, Diabetes, and support to Guiding Eyes for the Blind, Local Food Pantries, Service Awards for local high school graduates, Sight Screenings, and so much more.

Register at 8:30 am on Saturday, May 2, 2026
at the Grahamsville First Aid Squad Building

Please be available no later than 8:45am
for a group photo before
the start of the Walk

Complimentary coffee & continental breakfast
starts at 8am, please join us

Walk starts promptly at 9 am from the
First Aid Squad Building
and consists of as many loops around the Fairgrounds
each walker feels comfortable doing.
Even if you do not walk, donations are appreciated.

COME WALK WITH US!

Refreshments will be served before and after the walk.

For additional pledge sheets or questions about the
Journey For Sight Walk, please call Esta Jacob 845-985-2927
or Stephen Miller at 845-798-1981.

Thank you.

The Tri-Valley Lions Journey For Sight Walk and Tag Day - Saturday, May 2, 2026

Pledge Rules

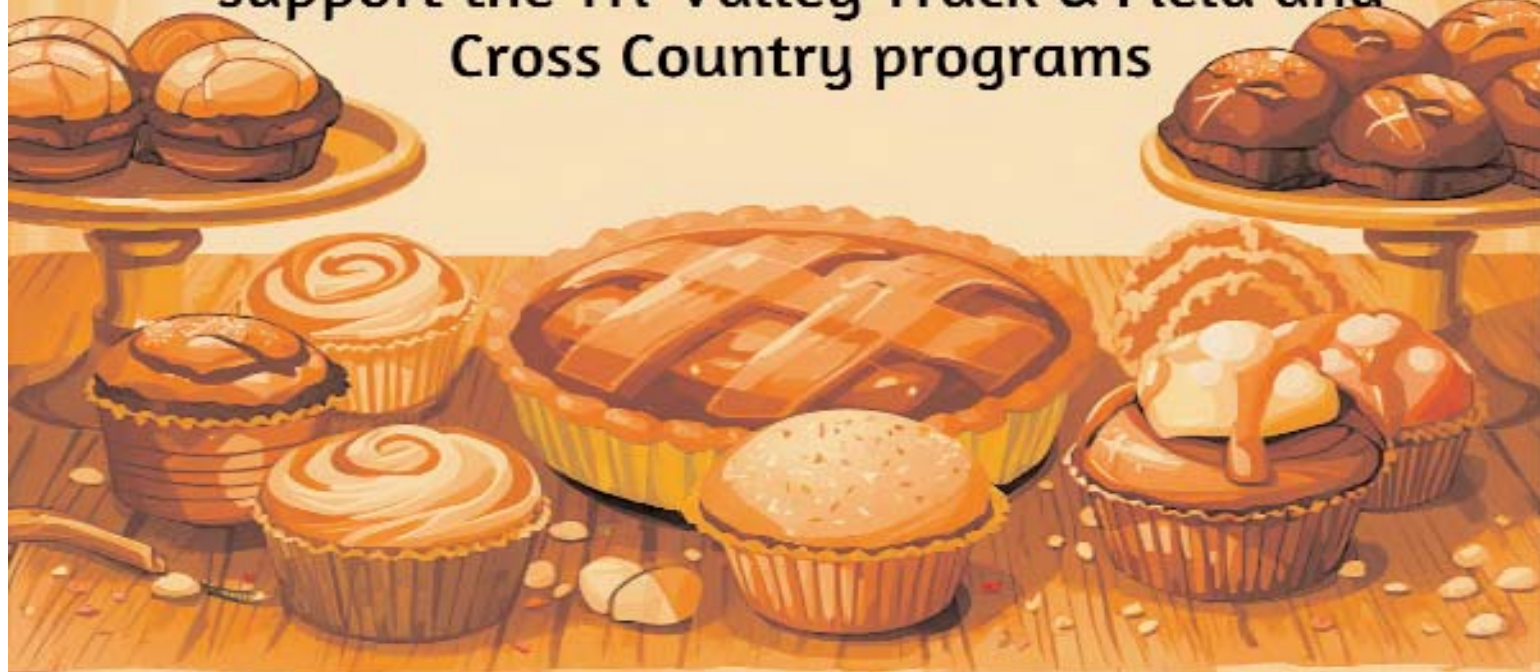
1. Anyone under 18 years of age must have the signature of parent or guardian on the form.
 2. Each participant should encourage as many sponsors as possible. Sponsors may pledge as much as they wish.
 3. The Sponsor Pledge Form must be returned by 8:30 am on the day of the event.
 4. Pledges must be collected from your Sponsors and turned in at Registration or no later than June 1 to any Lion.
 5. The Journey For Sight will begin at 9:00 am. Participants must sign in between 8:30 am and 9:00 am at the GRAHAMSVILLE FIRST AID BUILDING (where the walk will begin and end). Refreshments will be available during this time.
 6. The event will be held rain or shine.
 7. All food and drinks given before, during, and after the event are free.
 8. Neither Tri-Valley Lions, nor Lions International will be responsible for injuries incurred during the event.
 9. It is suggested that Participants without pledges offer a donation of \$30.
-

Bake Sale Fundraiser

**Sunday, April 26th
9am - Noon**

Grahamsville Firehouse

**Hosted by the Neversink Track Club to
support the Tri-Valley Track & Field and
Cross Country programs**



Supporting Tri-Valley Track & Field and Cross Country Program

Contact: neversinktrackclub@gmail.com

I Voted” Sticker Contest 2026 Ulster County Board of Elections Launches 6th Annual “I Voted” Sticker Contest

KINGSTON, NY - The Ulster County Board of Elections is proud to announce the launch of its 6th Annual “I Voted” Sticker Contest, inviting young artists from across the county to help shape this year's Election Day experience.

Open to Ulster County residents ages 9-18, the contest encourages students to design the official “I Voted” sticker that will be distributed to voters during the November 3, 2026 General Election, including throughout Early Voting.

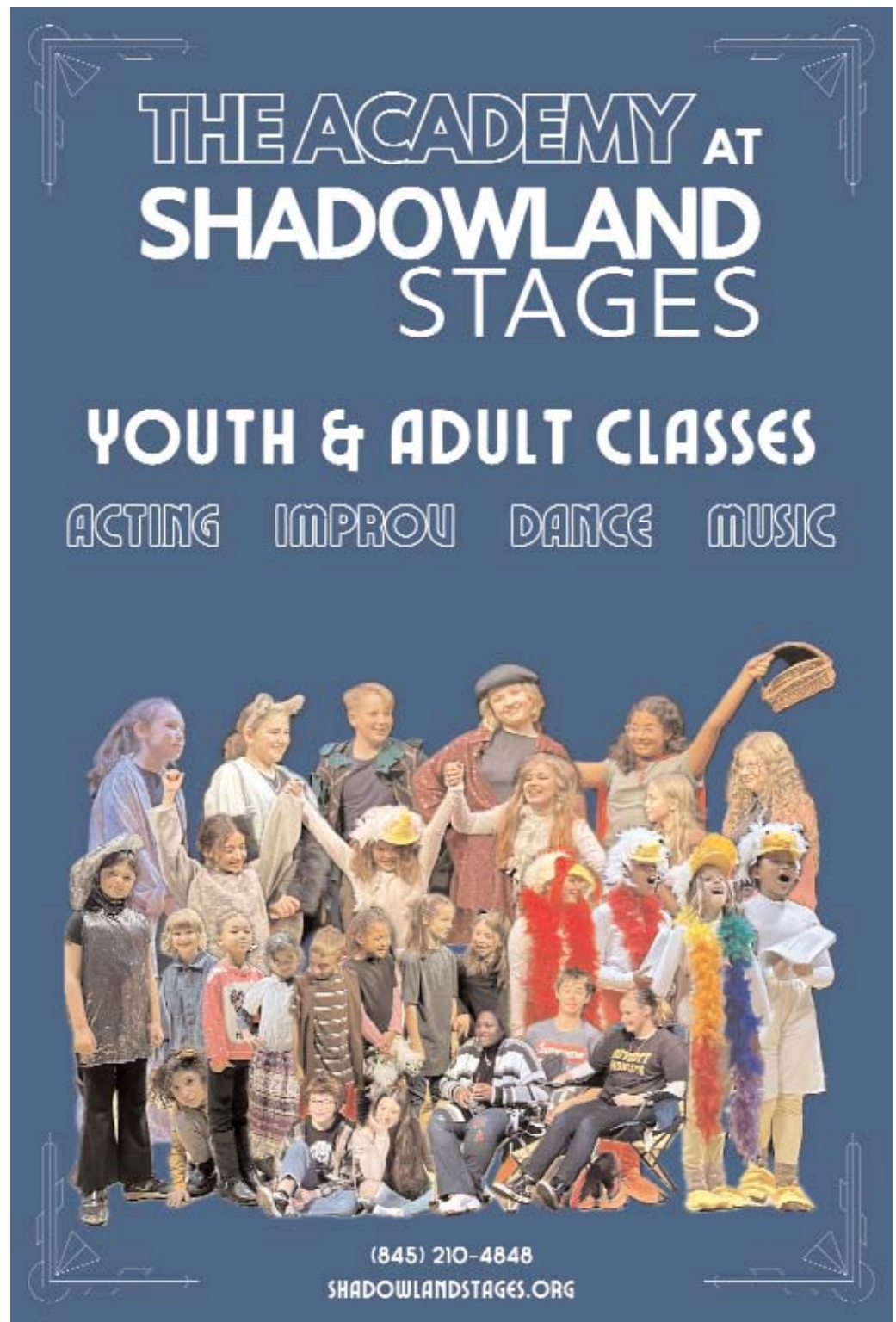
Participants are asked to create an original design for a 2-inch circular sticker that must include the words “I Voted.” Artists are welcome to use any medium: crayon, paint, pencil, or digital tools, and may submit their artwork as a photo, PDF, or JPEG. Both hand-drawn and digital submissions are accepted.

“This contest is a meaningful way to engage young people in the democratic process while celebrating creativity across Ulster County,” said Commissioners Torres and Quigley. “Each year, we are inspired by the talent and civic pride reflected in these designs.”

Submissions will be accepted from April 15 through June 30, 2026. A panel consisting of the Commissioners, along with local artists and educators from the Ulster County Arts and Cultural Advisory Council, will select the top five designs. Those finalists will then be featured in a public online vote beginning this summer, allowing the community to help choose the winning design. The selected winner will have their artwork printed on the official “I Voted” stickers distributed to voters across Ulster County this fall.

Artwork submissions should be emailed to elections@co.ulster.ny.us. For more information, residents can call (845) 334-5470 or visit www.voteulster.com.

Contact: Ashley Torres, Commissioner
Ulster County Board of Elections
Phone: 845-334-5430 Email: elections@co.ulster.ny.us Website: www.voteulster.com



**THE ACADEMY AT
SHADOWLAND
STAGES**

YOUTH & ADULT CLASSES

ACTING IMPROV DANCE MUSIC

(845) 210-4848
SHADOWLANDSTAGES.ORG

UCEDA Votes to Sign Letter of Intent with Ronnybrook Farm Dairy to Anchor New Ulster Agribusiness Center at iPark 87

KINGSTON, NY - The Ulster County Economic Development Alliance (UCEDA) voted today to sign a non binding Letter of Intent (LOI) with Ronnybrook Farm Dairy, a multigenerational New York dairy producer, to establish operations at the future Ulster Agribusiness Center located on UCEDA owned property within iPark 87, in the Town of Ulster.

In her State of the County address, County Executive Metzger announced that she was working with UCEDA on a proposal to partner with a local food and beverage company to site a production facility at iPark as well as to manage a cold/freezer storage facility that would lease space to local farms and value-added businesses. Access to cold storage is a priority-need identified in Ulster County's 2025 Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan to enable agricultural enterprises to grow their sales and markets.

Under the LOI, Ronnybrook would lease two buildings on a UCEDA-owned property located on the iPark East campus. The existing warehouse building would be used for cultured dairy production, and the second building, a former power house, would be converted to a cold/freezer storage facility that Ronnybrook would manage on behalf of UCEDA. The proposed lease includes approximately 21,700 square feet in the warehouse building (Phase 1) and 20,000 square feet in the former powerhouse (Phase 2), with a 10-year term and two five-year renewal options.

"We're excited about this proposed partnership with Ronnybrook, which will advance the kind of forward-looking, sustainable economic development we are committed to in Ulster County," said Ulster County Executive Jen Metzger. "The proposed Agribusiness Center aims to expand value-added production, diversify food and beverage manufacturing, and support shared services that strengthen the region's farm economy. Ronnybrook is an ideal partner as a values-driven business and respected New York State dairy producer with deep

roots in the Hudson Valley dating back more than 80 years as a family farm. We look forward to working with owner Rick Osofsky and his team to bring the new Center to fruition, and I want to thank the UCEDA Board for its continued commitment to transforming iPark into a hub of innovation and opportunity."

Ronnybrook, based in Ancramdale, N.Y., is known statewide for its high quality dairy products and longstanding commitment to sustainable farming. The company is seeking to expand its production and distribution capacity, particularly for cultured dairy products, and views the Ulster Agribusiness Center as a strategic location for growth.

"We've been interested for some time in exploring the possibility of locating production at iPark, and this opportunity feels like the right fit for our farm and our future," said Rick Osofsky, owner of Ronnybrook Farm Dairy. "We share Ulster County's vision for a strong and sustainable food economy and are excited about the County Executive's proposal to manage a shared cold storage facility alongside our company's own operations. (Contd. PG. 34)

Spring 2026

**THE ACADEMY AT
SHADOWLAND
STAGES**

Musical Theatre Workshop!

MARCH 21 - MAY 16
Saturdays (9 weeks)

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MARCH 21, 2026

'An Element of Fun!' Ages 6-9 10 AM - 11:30 AM
Ensemble based acting, singing and dancing inspired by 'Mary Poppins'

'A Delicate Balance' Ages 10-13 11:35 AM - 1:05 PM
Inspired movement training, song, and scenes from 'The Lion King'

'Who Tells Your Story?' Ages 14-18 1:10 PM - 2:40 PM
Workshop choreography and storytelling inspired from the music of 'Hamilton'

***Each class explores and creates their own interpretation from selected musicals.**

Free Showings on Saturday, May 16th
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call (845) 210-4848
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SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE!

UCEDA Votes to Sign Letter of Intent with Ronnybrook Farm Dairy to Anchor New Ulster Agribusiness Center at iPark 87

(From Pg. 33) We look forward to working with UCEDA and the County's economic development team to move this project forward."

"UCEDA is excited for this partnership and for the positive momentum it brings to iPark," said Gregory Simpson, Chair of the UCEDA Board. "Ronnybrook is a respected, values-driven producer, and we're thrilled to see them take this step with us. We're grateful for County Executive Metzger's partnership and look forward to the progress ahead."

"For over 80 years, the multigenerational Ronnybrook Farm Dairy has been a leader in high-quality dairy production and responsible stewardship, and their expansion into iPark is smart economic development that will strengthen our food system and agricultural economy," said Senator Michelle Hinchey, Chair of the Senate Agriculture and Food Committee. "This plan, paired with a commitment to increase shared cold storage capacity, responds to a critical infrastructure need that will help many of our small and mid-sized producers grow, compete, and generate new market opportunities. I thank Ulster County Executive Jen Metzger and the Economic Development Alliance for forming this exciting partnership to bolster our farm and food businesses in Ulster County."

"Ronnybrook's commitment to the Ulster Agribusiness Center is a tremendous opportunity for UCEDA to lead by example in strengthening our regional food system," said Joshua Stratton-Rayner, Ulster County Director of Economic Development. "Expanded cold storage capacity - one of the core functions Ronnybrook will help manage - is directly aligned with a priority recommendation of the 2025 Ulster County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan. By co locating processing, storage, and distribution infrastructure, we're creating favorable conditions for small and mid sized producers to grow and innovate. This partnership moves us closer to a more resilient and sustainable agricultural sector, and we're proud to be working with Ronnybrook to bring that vision forward."

The LOI outlines the parties' intent to negotiate a full lease agreement within 180 days, and UCEDA and Ronnybrook will continue those negotiations with the goal of beginning phased occupancy once site preparation and build-out are complete.

The Ulster Agribusiness Center is envisioned as a multi organizational partnership that will provide shared infrastructure, cold storage, and value added processing capacity to support farms and food businesses in Ulster County and beyond. By co locating services and production facilities, the Center aims to reduce costs for producers, strengthen supply chains, and create new opportunities for agricultural entrepreneurship.

Wearable Art: Head to Toe March 14 - May 2, 2026

The Olive Free Library Association is pleased to present Wearable Art: Head to Toe, an exhibition featuring the work of six artists who approach textiles and fashion as powerful forms of self-expression. Curated by Seán Nixon, the exhibition runs from March 14 through May 2, 2026. Public events include an opening reception on Saturday, March 14 from 3 - 5 pm; a hands-on wearable art workshop, Meet. Make. Wear., on Saturday, April 4, 2:30 - 4 pm; and an artists' talk on Saturday, May 2, 3:30 - 5 pm.

Seán Nixon says about this exhibition, "Wearable Art: Head to Toe" explores the intersection of art, design, textiles, and the human body. The works are created not only to be seen, but to be worn. From headpieces and garments to accessories, shoes, and adornment, the exhibition challenges traditional boundaries between fine art and function, inviting us to reconsider what art can be when it moves with us through the world."

Seán continues, "Drawing from craft traditions, fashion, sculpture, and contemporary art practices, these works transform everyday materials into expressive forms that communicate identity, culture, and personal narrative. By engaging the body as both canvas and collaborator, the exhibition encourages viewers to imagine art as an active, lived experience-intimate, mobile, and responsive from head to toe."

Featured artists include: Alpana Bawa (apparel), Judith Hoyt (jewelry), Sophi Kravitz (headpieces), Seán Nixon (apparel and hats), Debra Rapoport (jewelry and hats), and STIEFELwerk | Anne Marika Verploegh Chassé (shoes).

Artist Bios:

Alpana Bawa's work is driven by a lifelong love of color. Growing up in India, she was surrounded by vibrant patterns and bold hues that continue to shape her instinctive, celebratory aesthetic-where cool tones meet hot, and bright pinks, yellows, turquoise, and orange come together in harmony. Born in New Delhi, Alpana moved to New York in 1983 to study design and opened her Manhattan store in 1989. She continues to work between New York and New Delhi, designing in the U.S. while regularly returning to India to collaborate with and oversee her workshop. Bawa creates clothing for women and men, as well as home goods, all hand-assembled and embroidered by skilled artisans. A strong advocate for ethical labor practices, environmental responsibility, and the empowerment of women in the clothing industry, Bawa's work reflects both cultural richness and conscious design. alpanabawa.com

Judith Hoyt has worked with found metal and paper collage for over four decades, creating richly layered pieces shaped by time, material, and process. Born in 1958 in the Catskill Mountains of New York, she began studying art at age fifteen at Art Awareness in Lexington and later earned a BFA in Printmaking from SUNY New Paltz.

(Contd. Pg. 35)

Wearable Art: Head to Toe

March 14 - May 2, 2026

(From Pg. 34) Limited access to a printing press after graduation led her toward collage and found materials, and she later studied metalsmithing with Robert Ebendorf before adding encaustic to her practice. Hoyt's work emerges from an intuitive dialogue with materials that are discolored, corroded, and altered by history. Through careful arrangement, these fragments are transformed into cohesive compositions that carry both memory and meaning. Her work is held in major museum collections, including the Guggenheim Museum, the Smithsonian Institution, the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, and the Racine Art Museum. judithhoyt.net

Sophi Kravitz is an artist and electrical engineer whose work translates invisible phenomena into immersive experiences of light, sound, and story. Through custom-built hardware and software, they create responsive sculptures informed by cosmic rays, biological signals, and environmental data. A recurring focus of Kravitz's practice is hair—its cultural meanings, from historical symbols and fashion to loss, disguise, and transformation. Hair, for Kravitz, is a powerful marker of identity. In *Wearable Art: Head to Toe*, Kravitz presents sculptural headpieces that blend hair, light, and sensors, celebrating individuality while challenging traditional beauty standards. Their work has been exhibited at more than 50 festivals and venues, including the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Bi-City Biennale, Burning Man, and ArtPrize. A 2026 NYSCA Support for Artists grant recipient, Kravitz lives and works in Kingston, NY. spohikravitz.com

Seán Nixon is an artist and professor of art at SUNY Ulster who creates his own textile patterns, bringing together color, pattern, and storytelling through intuitive, playful design. Inspired by mandala forms, his prints explore themes of growth, healing, and transformation. The narrative continues with the wearer—each garment is meant to be lived in, moved in, and activated, transforming fabric into a living story. Nixon's work has been featured in solo exhibitions at Unison Arts and The Lace Mill, with group exhibitions at Muroff-Kotler Gallery, WAAM, Roos Gallery, and New York City venues including Rivington Gallery, Arts Brookfield at Battery Park, and the New Museum through the ART PAC-KIT collaborative. All garments are hand-sewn in upstate New York using minimal-waste practices, reflecting care for both people and the planet. seanixondesigns.com | [@seanixondesigns](https://www.instagram.com/seanixondesigns)

Debra Rapoport is a New York City based artist and style icon known for creating and wearing bold, sculptural fashion made from recycled and found materials. She studied textile design at UC Berkeley under Ed Rossbach, a pioneer of the American fiber arts movement, who championed her early work. Rapoport later taught costume craft and textile arts as an associate professor of design at the University of California. Her

work is less fashion than manifesto. Using her body as an armature, Rapoport assembles, builds, and constructs striking forms—boas, bibs, and breastplates—primarily from materials gathered on New York City streets. Celebrated for her fearless use of color, texture, and scale, she has modeled for major labels including H&M and appears in Ari Seth Cohen's *Advanced Style* books and film. Her work has been exhibited internationally, including at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. [@debrarapoport](https://www.instagram.com/debrarapoport)

Anne Marika Verploegh Chassé (AMVC) is a shoemaker, artist, and educator from Switzerland and the Netherlands. In her Brooklyn atelier, STIEFELwerk—meaning "bootwork"—she designs and constructs made-to-measure footwear for individual clients, combining traditional techniques with her fine arts sensibility. Fascinated by the physicality of making and the challenge of uniting design, mathematics, ergonomics, and artistry, AMVC has trained with master craftsmen around the world to refine her craft. Her work is characterized by bold lines and curves, hand-stitched details, multicolored rows of thread, and leather surfaces marked by natural textures. Collaborations with other artists and designers continually inspire her practice. In addition to her atelier work, she teaches footwear design and construction at Rhode Island School of Design, the Fashion Institute of Technology, and Parsons School of Design, sharing her knowledge and passion with the next generation of makers. stiefelwerk.nyc

The Olive Free Library has created a platform to show and sell the art of regional artists, both established and emerging. This provides art enthusiasts a way to view, appreciate, and purchase local and regional artworks. The rural town of Olive does not have a cultural center, so the library converted its spacious, light community room into a gallery space. The response from both artists and the community has been overwhelmingly positive.

Wearable Art: Head to Toe

Experience art you can wear! *Wearable Art: Head to Toe* showcases vibrant, sculptural, and interactive works by six artists, designed to be touched, tried on, and brought to life by the wearer.

Meet. Make. Wear - hands-on workshop making wearable art: Saturday, April 4, 2026, 2:30 - 4 pm: Join the artists of *Wearable Art: Head to Toe* for a hands-on workshop that brings together creativity, sustainable reuse, and personal expression. Participants will learn how wearable art is made, and create their own piece using fabric scraps, found objects, and repurposed materials. No experience necessary. Leave with an understanding of wearable art, and wear what you made.

Artists' Talk: Saturday, May 2, 2026, 3:30 - 5 pm



Fairy Tales

9th annual juried
summer group show
juried by
jaime ransome

July 11 – September 5, 2026
submission deadline: **monday may 11, 2026**

OLIVE FREE LIBRARY

more info: olivefreelibrary.org/call-for-art

OLIVE SENIORS

When: 2nd Thursday of the month, 1-3 p.m.

Where: American Legion Hall*

What: Guest speakers covering topics like CPR, wildlife, Ashokan Reservoir, etc. & visits from local vendors like the Catskill Visitor Center and Fruition Chocolate

Shuffleboard: meets January-May every Tuesday from 10 a.m.-noon**

* 26-28 Mountain Road, Ashokan, NY; handicap accessible; bathrooms on site

** follows Ontario School District calendar and is cancelled when Ontario schools cancel due to a weather event



Time and the Valley Museum's Community Takeout Chicken BBQ

Saturday, May 16, 2026
4 to 6 p.m. \$15

Museum and Library Parking Lot
332 Main Street, Grahamsville

- *Murray's Chicken*, BBQ'D to perfection by the *Neversink Fire Department*
- Delicious sides of baked beans, potato salad, coleslaw and split top roll from *Wilson's Deli*
- Dessert from *Frost Valley YMCA*

Name: _____

Address: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

of Meals: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

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Sullivan County in the Revolution Traveling Exhibit



Includes:

- ♦ Engaging information on the Sullivan County battles of Minisink and Chestnut Woods, Loyalists, Patriots, Sullivan County's evolution, General John Sullivan, settler life & more.
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takes your students
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full size 15' x 6'

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Breaks down to the size of three folding tables
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educator

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for more information

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Time and the Valleys Museum P.O. Box 254 Grahamsville NY 12740

info@timeandthevalleymuseum.org 845 985-7700



TROUT UNLIMITED
Ashokan-Pepacton Watershed Chapter

BLUE MOUNTAINS TROUT NEWS

MARCH 2026



A Catskill heritage brook trout from the Esopus Creek watershed.
Photo by Ed Ostapczuk.

Brook Trout will be Focus of March Meeting

Our March meeting is scheduled for Thursday March 26, 7:30 PM at the Boiceville Inn, on NY 28 Boiceville. Please note the new meeting starting time of 7:30 PM, one half-hour later than prior. This month Tony Coccozza and I will present a PowerPoint on the chapter's ongoing "Catskill Heritage Brook Trout Studies" that initially took root in 2018. Our chapter has been invited to present these efforts and our findings at Trout Unlimited's Northeast Regional Rendezvous in Roscoe, NY on April 11.

Our April chapter meeting is scheduled for April 23, also at the Boiceville Inn. We are privileged that evening to host Dany Davis as our special guest speaker. Dany is retiring from the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYC DEP). He has long been an advocate for clean waters in the Esopus Creek watershed and is a chapter member. Mark your calendars now. You don't want to miss this; it's probably Dany's last public speaking engagement in our area.

If you missed the February meeting, when Mike Valla (also a chapter member) presented, you missed a packed house and special evening that night.

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← Turn LEFT onto Monument Road	
Continue onto NY-28A West	1.8 Miles
← Turn LEFT onto NY-213	1.1 Miles
→ Turn RIGHT onto Krumville Road/CR-2A	0.8 Miles
Gun Shop on LEFT	

Start at Route 209 and 213 in Stone Ridge	
-Going Towards Olivebridge	7.5 Miles
← Turn LEFT onto The Krumville Road/CR-2A	0.8 Miles
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Bingo at the Monticello Elks Lodge
Every Tuesday at 7 PM
46 North Street in Monticello
For information
contact Past Exalted Ruler Ronni Scannell
at (845) 701-0695



Author and chapter member Mike Valla spoke about fishing in Vermont to a full house last month.

Last Call for DEC Summer Camp Sponsorships

Registration for the Department of Environmental Conservation 2026 Summer Camp opens March 22, and slots are taken fast. So this is last call for any young people interested in attending camp on a Chapter scholarship. If interested, contact John Yanzek at: jyanzek@gmail.com.

The chapter hopes to sponsor four young folks; slots are available to male or female youths expressing an interest in the outdoors. Two slots are for ages 11-13 and two slots for ages 14-17. (Conrs. Pg. 40)

Blue Mountain Trout News (From Pg. 39)

Kids don't have to be members of Trout Unlimited, nor does an individual submitting a name. We just want to sponsor someone who enjoys the outdoors and is interested in learning more about nature and trout fishing. For information on these camps, visit the DEC website. Our chapter will pay the \$350 registration fee, but transportation must be arranged by the individual attending.



Ashokan High Point seen from the Ashokan Reservoir.
Photo by Ed Ostapczuk.

DEC Seeks to Add Land to Sundown Wild Forest

New York State Department of Environmental Protection (NYS DEC) is proposing updates to the Sundown Wild Forest Unit Management Plan to incorporate newly acquired lands along the southern edge of the Ashokan Reservoir. As part of this process, DEC is accepting initial public comments through April 1 as they begin preparing proposed revisions to the plan.

Our chapter has shared concerns about potential development in areas known to contain sensitive native brook trout headwaters. Many of us have seen firsthand the ongoing management challenges along the upper Rondout Creek corridor-particularly around the Blue Hole-so this is an important opportunity to help guide future stewardship of these Forest Preserve lands.

John Yanzek has submitted the chapter's initial input and will remain engaged in the process, keeping members updated as the plan develops. We encourage chapter members to share comments with DEC. You can email: CatskillPark@dec.ny.gov Attn: Environmental Program Specialist Pine Roehrs.

NYC DEP Shandaken Tunnel SPDES Permit Update

On February 20 New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYC DEP) held its first semi-annual review of their Shandaken Tunnel SPDES (State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) Permit for 2026. Kevin Cwalina, of NYC DEP, ran the virtual meeting. Approximately 32 folks were in attendance including representatives of NYC DEP, NYS DEC Division of Water and Region 3 Fisheries, the Ashokan Watershed Stream Management Program (AWSMP), NYS Department of Health, several individuals, plus me and Tony Cocozza from our chapter.

Essentially Kevin covered SPDES Permit requirements, operation of the Shandaken Tunnel and Esopus Creek flows since DEP's last permit review in 2025, sta-



Shandaken Tunnel. Photo by Ed Ostapczuk.

tus of the DEP water supply-noting the NYC system was 12.5% below normal as of that meeting-and snow pack. Then Veronica Andreassen, a DEP professional engineer overseeing construction activities at NYC's Schoharie Reservoir, reviewed status of the various projects underway there. As of this meeting, two (Gate 2 & 7) of the eight Shandaken Tunnel intake gates were not operational and eventually all eight gates will need to be inspected and reworked. The High Level Outlet (HLO) in Gilboa Dam-that will eventually provide water releases downstream of the dam-is currently in design phase and scheduled for completion in late 2029 at a current projected cost of \$31 million dollars. The meeting ended with a Green County Soil & Water representative presenting status of various ongoing bank stabilization projects in the Schoharie Creek watershed, upstream of NYC's reservoir.

Tony and I thought it was a productive meeting with a good dialogue and exchange of information. We also learned that the next work-related shutdown of the Shandaken Tunnel is not scheduled until fall of 2026 at the earliest. Plus, shutdown of the Delaware Aqueduct is not in the foreseeable future at this time.

TU Northeast Regional Rendezvous Coming up in April

Trout Unlimited is hosting its Northeast Regional Rendezvous April 10-12 at the Roscoe Mountain House in Roscoe, NY. You should have received information on this event, but if not, you can visit the Rendezvous page on the TU National website. On Saturday April 11 our chapter will be presenting a PowerPoint on our Catskill Heritage Brook Trout Studies.

2026 Fly Tying Classes-a Big Success!



Royal Wulff tied and photographed
by Ed Ostapczuk.

The chapter's 2026 fly-tying classes ended six weeks of instruction on March 14 and was a huge success. It started with a snowstorm and ended with a bang. Classes were offered free and were well attended. We're grateful for all our chapter members who assisted with instruction. Thanks to you showing up and helping; our classes' success was a direct result of your work. Also, thanks to chair Tony Cocozza and co-chair Russell Martin for overseeing this activity with special thanks to the Olive Free Library for hosting this event. The collective effort of all involved made this another positive experience. Thanks one and all! (Contd. Pg 41)

Blue Mountain Trout News

(From Pg. 40)



Jerry Bartlett Angling Collection's Anglers' Parlor at the Phoenicia Library. Photo by Carol Seitz.

Angling Collection Celebrates 30 Years!

On April 1, the Jerry Bartlett Memorial Angling Collection at the Phoenicia Library celebrates its 30th Anniversary. If you're in the area, stop by the Anglers' Parlor between 1 and 4 PM to mark the occasion and enjoy snacks, cake, coffee and camaraderie.

Precipitation Report

Jody Hoyt reported during February there were six measurable storms recorded in Boiceville, having 1.54 inches of liquid precipitation including 9.1 inches of snow/sleet with a weighted 6.2 pH. By comparison, in February 2025 there were seven storms measuring 3.62 inches of liquid precip, including 14.4 inches of snow/sleet, with a 6.1 weighted pH.

Kyle Black Joins the Board

Chapter bylaws allow for 10 directors on our board, above and beyond the four officers. We had one open slot, which Kyle Black was appointed to fill. Congratulations Kyle, and thanks for stepping forward. We're very fortunate to have an active board of directors; Kyle will be another welcome addition with his term running in 2026 and 2027.

Summer BBQ and Stream Cleanup

Though it's months away, the chapter is planning a stream cleanup and barbecue on July 18. Save the date, more info to follow in the months ahead.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer John Yanzek reported at the end of February we had \$16,960.86 of which \$1,190.52 in the Conservation Fund. Thank you John for all you do.

Got Ideas? Let's hear 'em!

We're always looking for input and suggestions for your monthly TU newsletter. If you have some, send them to me at: Tailwaters@hvc.rr.com.

Membership

If you have membership questions or concerns, or know someone who wants to join our chapter, please contact Russell Martin at: rmartintu@gmail.com. If you know someone who wants to join our chapter, please use this link: <http://tu.org/join559>.

Until next time,
Ed Ostapczuk



WHEN: TUESDAYS,
FEBRUARY 24 – APRIL 7

TIME: 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

LOCATION: VIRTUAL

MORE INFO: CONTACT
DOMONIQUE BYRD AT
(845) 647-6400 EXT. 281



**THINKING ABOUT QUITTING SMOKING?
YOU CAN DO THIS.**

The Ellenville Regional Rural Health Network and Ellenville Regional Hospital are offering the American Lung Association's Freedom From Smoking® Group Quit Program, a proven 7-week program designed to help participants quit smoking for good.

This evidence-based program provides guidance, support, and practical tools to help you prepare for your quit day, manage stress, explore medication options, and develop healthy lifestyle changes to stay smoke-free long term.

Participants will learn how to set realistic goals, build coping strategies, and create a new, smoke-free self-image, while receiving encouragement every step of the way.

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

Join Us to Celebrate Our Nation's 250th Anniversary!

This July is the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The Time and the Valleys Museum is honoring our area's contribution to the struggles for independence by creating two new interactive exhibitions on the Revolution in 2026.

Celebrate With Us - Become a Museum Member - It's Easy!

Membership is only \$25 for a FULL YEAR

- ◆ Free admission to all in-person and virtual programs, exhibits and the Catskill Farm
- ◆ Invitations to all special member openings and events
- ◆ *Around the Reservoirs* Newsletter and monthly historical and informative emails
- ◆ 10% discount in the Museum Shop
- ◆ FREE ADMISSION to over 30 New York State Museums, and more!



Join now by going to timeandthevalleymuseum.org/support/membership, or send a check (\$25 for Individual, \$40 for Double and \$50 for Family) to the Museum at the address below. You will receive membership cards, a newsletter and special gift by return mail.

2026 and beyond is sure to be exciting - be part of the excitement by becoming a member today!



Time and the Valleys Museum P.O. Box 254, Grahamsville NY 12740
845 985-7700 / timeandthevalleymuseum.org/support/membership

11th Annual!

Wings & Wheels for Warriors



Dash Plaques for first
150 Vehicles Registered!
Many Categories!
Over 50 Trophies.

Saturday, May 16th 2026

Rain date: Sunday, May 17th

9am to 3pm

JUDGING UPON ARRIVAL - 11AM CUTOFF

Joseph Y. Resnick Airport

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- Food
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Innovation Integrity Insurance

February 2026

Dear Friends of Disabled American Veterans,

Over the past ten years, **Wings & Wheels for Warriors** hosted by **Sprague & Killeen, Inc.** has grown into one of our community's most anticipated events. Thanks to the generosity of local businesses and supporters like you, we have raised **\$220,000 for the Disabled American Veterans of NY**. Each year, we are reminded that when a community comes together, incredible things happen.

As we celebrate our **11th anniversary**, our goal is ambitious but heartfelt: to raise **\$50,000 in 2026 in support of the men and women who have sacrificed so much in service to our country**. There is no group more deserving of our support than our nation's veterans.

One of the most impactful ways to participate is by becoming a sponsor. We invite you to select a sponsorship level that works best for your business from the enclosed co-sponsor sheet. Every level of sponsorship makes a difference and helps ensure the continued success of this highly attended **car show and community event**.

Wings & Wheels for Warriors is a day full of family-friendly fun featuring:

- Plane rides with **Fly with Kate, LLC**
- Music by **DJ Brian**
- Craft tents and activities for children
- Raffles and prizes
- Food offerings
- A vibrant atmosphere celebrating community and patriotism

In appreciation of your support, **all sponsors receive recognition**, including:

- Placement in our exclusive Program
- Event signage and regular announcements throughout the day
- Promotion on our event Facebook page – Your business will be promoted to our large Facebook audience
- All recognition will feature your logo or business information. If needed, our design team will gladly create professional signage using your name, phone number, or website.

Silver sponsors and **above** are also invited to host a table at the event for an additional \$100 donation to **DAV of NY**, providing a great opportunity to engage directly with attendees.

Your contribution is **tax-deductible**, but more importantly, it represents a tangible show of gratitude and support for **Disabled American Veterans of NY**. Any level of participation is deeply appreciated.

We are also seeking **volunteers** to help make the day a success. If you or your team would like to get involved, we would love to hear from you.

Thank you for considering being part of this special event. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact us at **845-647-9100**. We truly hope you will join us in honoring our veterans and strengthening our community.

With sincere gratitude,

Dwight Coombe and the Staff of Sprague & Killeen, Inc.
 Proud Hosts of Wings & Wheels for Warriors
 skmain@sprague-killeen.com
 845-647-9100



SCAN TO LEARN MORE



Co-Sponsor Levels

BRONZE – \$100 – 11" x 17" Sign

SILVER – \$250 – 18" x 24" Sign

GOLD – \$500 – 2.5' x 4' Banner

PLATINUM – \$1000 – 4' x 6' Banner

DIAMOND – \$5000 – 4' x 8' Banner

All proceeds go to Disabled American Veterans!

We encourage all sponsors to donate an item or basket for our silent auction.

Thank you for supporting Wings & Wheels for Warriors and
the Disabled American Veterans of NY!

***Please make check or money order payable to
the Disabled American Veterans of NY***

If you wish to co-sponsor the 11th Annual Wings & Wheels for Warriors, please fill in the form below and mail it to our office with a check or money order payable to the Disabled American Veterans of NY. Thank you for your support.

We look forward to seeing you there!

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

In order to guarantee signage be ready for event, please inform us of your commitment by April 27th. Please feel free to send a logo or brief description of how you would like your banner or poster laid out to skmain@sprague-killeen.com

if no description is received, we will create your sign to the best of our ability.

Sprague & Killeen, Inc. • 116 Canal St. • P.O. Box 506 • Ellenville, NY 12428



CLARYVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

SPRING

CRAFT FAIR

Saturday May 2nd

(Blizzard Date: Sunday, May 3, 2026)

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Claryville Fire Department

1500 Denning Road
Claryville, NY 12725

Shop Local Vendors

Food for Sale: Soups, Chili, Sandwiches & More!

Free Admission • Family Friendly Event



The Spirit of Philadelphia

By Chris Gibson

Rediscover the common ground
of common sense through the
wisdom of our founding principles.

[TheSpiritofPhiladelphia.com](https://www.thespiritofphiladelphia.com)

Greetings again from Kinderhook,

I hope your summer has gone well. I'm reaching back out to you to share the news that our website has been refreshed and updated. It now features four new essays on the Founding era recently published by the Hoover Institution of Stanford University as we look forward next year to celebrating our 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. One of those essays is on the significance of the Battle of Saratoga, which proved to be a turning point in the Revolutionary War. You can now read those essays for free on our website here.

<https://www.thespiritofphiladelphia.com/events>

We've also added links to some of our recent TV, radio and podcast appearances, relevant media coverage, and an updated listing of upcoming events (all of these can be found on the "media & events" page). All of the new items are marked with a green "NEW" banner. We've also updated the "what people are saying" section of the home page to include several new endorsements of the book by Americans from across the ideological spectrum.

As always, I'd welcome your thoughts and feedback on any of these items and/or your reactions to my new book. You can reach me by sending an email message from the "contact us" page on the website.

Finally, I hope you are enjoying the beautiful color as our leaves change across the region and country - it's shaping up to be a beautiful fall!

Sincerely yours,
Chris Gibson

Chris Gibson

Soldier



Scholar



Statesman



Give the Gift of Membership

**Lasting all Year Long, it's the perfect gift
for family and friends who have everything.**

Individual \$25
 • A subscription to *Around the Reservoirs* newsletter
 • Advanced notice and for all programs and events
 • Invitations to special member receptions and openings
 • FREE admission to the Museum
 • A 10% discount in the Museum Shop
 • FREE admission to over 30 museums throughout New York State!

Double \$40
 All the above benefits extended to an additional adult.

Family \$50
 All the above benefits extended to children residing in the household under age 18.

Patron \$100
 All of the above benefits **plus** an invitation to a special higher category member's only reception.

Patron Silver \$200
 All of the above benefits **plus** a private tour of the new Museum and a set of special Museum note cards.

Patron Gold \$500
 All of the above benefits **plus** a surprise historical publication and a reproduced historical photo from the Museum's collections.

Name of Recipient: _____ E-mail: _____

Mailing Address: _____ Membership Level: _____

Your Name and Address: _____

Gift Message: _____

A notice of your gift and all the benefits will be sent to your recipient in a holiday card. They will receive mailings and notices of programs, activities and openings, plus other benefits.

Solve your gift giving problems and support the Museum at the same time!

Mail your check to: **Time and the Valleys Museum** P.O. Box 254, Grahamsville, New York 12740
 or go to: <https://www.timeandthevalleysmuseum.org/support/membership> 845-985-7700

Donations and membership fees are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law

Thank you for your support and best wishes for the holiday season!





The Daniel Pierce Library

Spring Children's Programs 2026

The library is a wonderful place to ignite your child's love of reading!

Calling all caregivers and their little ones (ages 12 months to 4 years)
in the Tri-Valley Central School District.

We've got exciting programs designed just for you!

Our spring session begins the week of April 6th and runs for eight
fun-filled weeks. These programs are offered at no cost, thanks to the
support of our amazing community. Registration is required.

We can't wait to learn, play and grow together!

Mother Goose Time (12-23 months)
Beginning Wednesday, April 8th

Toddler Time (24-35 months)
Beginning Thursday, April 9th

Story Hour (3 and 4 year-olds)
Beginning Friday, April 10th

Universal Pre-Kindergarten Story Hour

Our "Story Hour on the Road" program visits the three
UPK classes at Tri-Valley Central School.

Children will be registered at school.

Click Here to Register your Child

<https://www.danielpiercelibrary.org/pages/index/229635/spring-childrens-programs>



*Register
Today!*



P.O. Box 268 • 328 Main Street • Grahamsville, NY 12740
845-985-7233 • www.danielpiercelibrary.org



ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

Cornell Cooperative Extension | Sullivan County

64 Ferndale-Loomis Rd, Liberty, NY 12754
(845) 292 6180 x 122 | sullivancrc@cornell.edu

Caregiver

Cafe' Support Group

Jan-June 2026



Jan. 5th Feb. 2nd March 2nd April 6th May 4th June 1st



1st Monday of
each month
10 am-11 am

Registration Required:

Use the QR code below or go to
<https://tinyurl.com/5n6mtpy4>

Take a break while you:

- Learn about tips for self-care
- Share caregiving strategies
- Connect with others
- Enjoy a light snack on us!



The Caregiver Resource Center is a co-partnered program between Cornell Cooperative Extension and Office for the Aging of Sullivan County and is supported by grants from the NYS Office for the Aging's Caregiver Program and the Alzheimer's Association.

Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan County is an equal opportunity educator, provider and employer.



WE'RE LOOKING FOR *Volunteers* TO HELP US OUT!

Maybe you're a student looking for some volunteer hours, a retiree looking to use your skills and passion to help others, or maybe you just LOVE your library and have an extra hour or two each week!

Whoever you are, we appreciate your interest! To apply for volunteer opportunities at the DPL, please complete a volunteer application.

Thank You!



P.O. Box 268 • 328 Main Street • Grahamsville, NY 12740
845-985-7233 • dpl@rcls.org • www.danielpiercelibrary.org

Volunteer Application

[https://www.danielpiercelibrary.org/resources/documents/Volunteer%20Application\(1\).pdf](https://www.danielpiercelibrary.org/resources/documents/Volunteer%20Application(1).pdf)

Volunteer Opportunities

<https://www.danielpiercelibrary.org/resources/documents/Volunteer%20Opportunities.pdf>

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, 2026 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.**





Your voice and stories are crucial to my work as your Representative. Whether it's talking to you on the street at a community event or when you call my office, I immensely value hearing from each and every one of you.

Here's some of how I fought for you and a more affordable, safe, and free Hudson Valley for us all this week:

INVITING YOU TO MY TELEPHONE TOWN HALL THIS UPCOMING TUESDAY

Every single day, I'm fighting for a more affordable, more safe, and more free Hudson Valley for us all.

Hearing directly from you is how I can best serve as your Representative. That's why on Tuesday, March 24 at 5:30PM to 6:30PM, I'm hosting a telephone town hall. This means that everyone from NY-18 can have the opportunity to join, ask me questions, and make their voices heard by calling (833) 980-3644 at 5:30PM on Tuesday, March 24. If you can't join by phone, the town hall will also be streamed at patryan.house.gov/live.

If you can't make the event, but want to make your voice heard, or if you experience technical difficulties when trying to join the call on Tuesday, my office is always here to help and listen. My Washington, DC team is available at (202) 225-5614, my district team can be reached at (845)443-2930. Forward this email to invite your neighbors and friends and RSVP to the Facebook event here.

https://www.facebook.com/events/1256447569342403/?rclid=ptoTS2WoW1MidRhp&share_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fshare%2F1B4t9cHN7a%2F

I'm looking forward to hearing from you, so I hope you'll dial in on Tuesday. Invite your friends and neighbors, get a group together and put the phone on speaker, put it on in your earbuds while you're at the grocery store - join however works for you, I just hope you do! Talk to you then!

REFUSING TO FUND THE UNAUTHORIZED WAR WITH IRAN

We're spending billions of tax-payer dollars a day funding the President's illegal, open-ended war on Iran. We've already lost thirteen brave American troops, and Trump is demonstrating - more and more concerningly everyday - that he is way out of his depth.

I voted to rein in his war powers not just because he violated the process - but because this war is bad for the American people. It's bad for troops in theater. It's bad for Americans at the gas pump. And it's bad for the Gold Star families having their kids sent home in flag-draped coffins.

It never should have started in the first place - so no way am I supporting giving Trump, Hegseth, and the rest of them another dime of your hard-earned money to continue the chaos while the President plays another round of golf and companies like Lockheed Martin rake in billions.

AND CONTINUING TO DEMAND AN END TO FOREVER WARS

Do we want to continue spending trillions of dollars on forever wars in the Middle East?

Or do we actually want to invest here in our country to lower the cost of health care, housing, utilities, and gro-

ceries?

The American people have made it clear: No more forever wars. I'll keep pushing to stop them. Watch here.
<https://x.com/RepPatRyanNY/status/2034376881168957645?s=20>

WISHING YOU A HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

I hope everyone had a Happy St. Patrick's Day last Tuesday.

Always lucky to call the Hudson Valley home.

AND CELEBRATING ACROSS THE HUDSON VALLEY

There's no better place to celebrate St. Patrick's Day than right here at home in the Hudson Valley.

It was great to kick off celebrations last Saturday in Beacon with Mayor Mayor Kyriacou!

Thanks to everyone who helped organize a perfect day at the Ulster County St. Pat's Day parade. It was awesome seeing so many community members out there!

BRINGING MY OFFICE TO YOU

Do you need help enrolling in Medicare, getting your IRS tax return, and more? Join my team at one of March's CARES Van events for one-on-one assistance with federal programs.

If you need help navigating a federal agency, but can't join an event, please call my team at (845) 443-2930.

My team had a great time helping neighbors with federal programs at last week's CARES Van event in Red Hook. Hope they'll see you at this upcoming week's events!

WISHING A HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO A HUDSON VALLEY HERO

I want to wish a huge Happy 100th Birthday to Hudson Valley hero and WWII veteran Ralph Osterhoudt!

It was an honor to present Ralph with a Congressional Record to celebrate.

Ralph, it's been a privilege to fight for our veterans community alongside you over the years. Your impact on our community, nation, and world is immeasurable and our entire community and I are truly grateful for you.

Thank you for your service and Happy Birthday!

CELEBRATING 224 YEARS OF WEST POINT

Last Monday we celebrated the anniversary of West Point's founding.

For 224 years, West Point has stood as a beacon of American values of duty, honor, and country.

I will continue to fight to deliver for West Point and everyone who puts their life on the line for this country.

SENDING YOU WISHES FOR A JOYOUS EID AL-FITR

As the month of Ramadan came to a close last week, I want to wish everyone who celebrated a joyous Eid al-Fitr and that the holiday brought you blessings and peace alongside loved ones.

Eid Mubarak!

STANDING AGAINST ANTISEMITISM

I was deeply concerned by the recent Antisemitic attack at Temple Israel in West Bloomfield, Michigan.

I'm thankful for all the brave law enforcement officers on scene, including the heroic security guard injured in the attack, who risked their lives to protect innocent children and worshippers.

My prayers are with the entire Jewish community, and all families impacted.

Antisemitism has no place in America. (Contd. Pg. 54)

Pat Ryan (From Pg. 53)

WORKING TOGETHER TO MAKE CHILDCARE AFFORDABLE FOR EVERY FAMILY

Every family deserves affordable childcare.

I'm grateful that my team could join the Commissioner of the Office of Children and Family Services, Dr. DaMia Harris-Madden, to hear about how the state budget is prioritizing affordable childcare by working with visionary partners like Poughkeepsie's DAY ONE Early Learning Community.

PUSHING TO LOWER THE COST OF GROCERIES

No one in this country should ever worry about where their next meal is coming from, but nearly everyone who responded to my grocery prices survey said they were feeling the burden of increasing food costs and a recent assessment found that one out of five Dutchess County residents face food insecurity.

That's why I'll keep pushing to get my Lower Grocery Prices Act passed.

GETTING RID OF TOXIC PFAS

I'm fighting every day to get rid of toxic PFAS 'forever chemicals' - it's why I introduced the landmark PFAS Action Act my first term in Congress.

Dutchess, Orange, and Ulster counties are now part of New York State's Private Well PFAS Testing and Mitigation Rebate Pilot Program, meaning residents who rely on private wells for water can now apply for free PFAS testing for their wells and rebates for treatments if PFAS levels exceed state standards.

To learn more call 800-616-9275 or visit the program's website here.

https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/privatewellspilot/?fbclid=IwY2xjawOpAm1leHRuA2FlbQIxMABicmlkETFoR1htTGNsbk1RR3Z2T0lZc3J0YwZhcHBfaWQOMjIyMDM5MTc4ODIwMDg5MgABHrOp3DAzoEBHBmv8j3BuEnEOfqNVK YuqKw9ybvnuElJoFG5-RZICEopJjTfi_aem_uPt8eNv09FnwaR8S3G19bg

FIGHTING FOR OUR VETERANS ALONGSIDE THE AMERICAN LEGION

A huge Happy 107th Birthday to the American Legion.

Thank you for continuing to serve and strengthen our country by uplifting our fellow veterans. It's a privilege to work alongside you.

GRANTS CORNER

APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR:

The Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley has ongoing community grant, funding, and scholarship opportunities.

Brownfields 101 with the EPA: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Region 2 Office recorded its "Brownfields 101" briefing for New York communities to provide an overview of the EPA's Brownfield Program. To view the recording, please contact Natalie Lincoln at natalie.lincoln@mail.house.gov or (518) 465-0700. Sign up for the EPA's Technical Assistance and Funding Resource Guide here!

<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USEPAREG2/subscribe/new?preferences=true#tab1>

Each month Hudson Valley Regional Council publishes its Grants Guide focused on federal, state, and local funding opportunities related to economic development, water, clean energy, resilience, and sustainability. Each grant listing features the deadline, eligibility, and a short description including the amounts municipalities are eligible to apply for and any required match. To view past Grants Guides, click here

<https://hudsonvalleyregionalcouncil.org/resources-publications/newsletter-archive/>

To subscribe to the grants guide, please email elaferriere@hudsonvalleyrc.org.

New York School Bus Incentive Program (NYSBIP) : Governor Kathy Hochul announced \$200 million in new funding for zero-emission school buses through the Environmental Bond Act of 2022. Distributed via the NYSBIP, the funds support electric bus purchases, charging infrastructure, and fleet planning to improve air quality and reduce pollution in communities across the state. The funding is available on a first-come, first-served basis with incentive amounts covering up to 100 percent of the incremental cost of a new or repowered electric school bus. This helps offset some or all of the difference in purchase price between zero-emission buses and comparable diesel or gasoline buses. All school bus fleet operators in New York State can also qualify for funding for fleet electrification plans, which provide a customized roadmap for electric bus adoption.

Weatherization Assistance Program is the largest residential energy conservation program in the country. NYS WAP assists income-eligible homeowners and some renters* in our state by reducing heating and cooling costs through energy-conservation measures, while also addressing health and safety issues in their homes. Households with incomes at or below 60% of state median income are eligible for assistance. Program services are available to both homeowners and renters, with priority given to senior citizens, families with children, and people with disabilities. If a household contains a member who receives Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) benefits or certain other forms of public assistance, the household is automatically eligible for NYS WAP services. Applications are accepted from renters, homeowners, and rental property owners. Potential program participants apply by contacting the WAP provider that serves their area.

RESOURCES:

New York Small Business Development Center (NYSB-DC) - NYS Multi-Agency Small Business Resource Presentation : Watch this free session as representatives from several NYS agencies share information about resources and services available to assist small businesses. Topics include licensing, regulations, taxes, insurance, grants, training, and more.

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

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

I look forward to hearing from you soon!



Intelligence Committee's Hearing on Worldwide Threats

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1fG-KKe4t5g&feature=youtu.be>

This week, I questioned top U.S. intelligence officials during the House Intelligence Committee's annual Worldwide Threats Assessment hearing on the growing threats facing our nation. I used my time to voice strong support for President Trump's decisive action through Operation EPIC FURY to degrade Iran's ability to attack Americans and to stand with the courageous Iranian people who have suffered for decades under that brutal regime. I also asked officials about the importance of internet freedom in Iran and what kind of access the Iranian people have. In addition, I raised concerns about security at our northern border, including the hundreds of terror watch list suspects encountered there in recent years, and asked about the types of threats we are seeing and the role of Canada in helping stop them. Finally, I highlighted the strategic importance of Micron and Upstate New York's role in semiconductor and memory production, asking what it would mean for our economy and national security if China were to catch up to the United States in these critical technologies.

House Passage of the Deporting Fraudsters Act

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=onoCuvuVLCK&feature=youtu.be>

The House took an important step this week to protect American taxpayers and uphold the rule of law by passing the Deporting Fraudsters Act with a vote of 231-186. This commonsense legislation ensures that noncitizens who defraud the United States government or unlawfully receive taxpayer-funded benefits are no longer allowed to remain in our country. For too long, gaps in our immigration laws have allowed bad actors to exploit programs like Social Security and SNAP without facing proper consequences, undermining programs that seniors, working families, and vulnerable Americans rely on. This bill closes those loopholes, holds individuals accountable, and ensures that those who steal from American taxpayers are removed. Fraud against the federal government is not a victimless crime, and anyone who comes to this country and

exploits these programs at the expense of law-abiding citizens should not be allowed to stay.

Ways & Means Health Subcommittee Hearing on Improving Kidney Health Through Better Prevention and Innovative Treatment

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CiZBH5WNOqY&feature=youtu.be>

This week, I participated in a House Ways and Means Health Subcommittee hearing focused on improving kidney care through better prevention and innovation. More than 800,000 Americans are living with end-stage renal disease, including 1,200 in NY-24, and while these patients make up just one percent of Medicare, they account for over \$50 billion in annual spending. Despite this, care has remained largely unchanged for decades. I emphasized the urgent need to improve early detection, as most patients do not even know they have chronic kidney disease until it is too late, and highlighted the importance of simple, accessible screenings. I also raised concerns about outdated Medicare payment policies that discourage innovation and limit access to new treatments. We need to modernize our approach, support the development of new therapies, and ensure patients receive the care they deserve before their condition reaches a critical stage.

As your representative in Congress, my top priority is championing legislative initiatives that benefit you and your families. Each week, I review numerous bills and letters, engaging in thorough discussions with members of our community to determine which actions to support and address your needs. Below are a few bills I recently cosponsored.

H.R. 5461, the Special Diabetes Program Reauthorization Act of 2025: This bill would reauthorize funding for the Special Diabetes Program, which supports research, prevention, and treatment efforts for type 1 diabetes and diabetes in Native American communities. Diabetes remains a significant public health challenge, and continued investment in research and prevention is critical to improving outcomes. This legislation helps sustain ongoing efforts to advance treatment, reduce complications, and support those affected by diabetes.

H.R. 5017, the Greyhound Protection Act of 2025: This bill would prohibit wagering on live greyhound racing being transmitted across state lines, effectively limiting the practice. While greyhound racing has declined significantly in recent years, concerns remain about animal welfare and the treatment of racing dogs. This legislation helps restrict the expansion of greyhound racing by addressing interstate wagering and reinforcing existing protections for animal welfare.

(Contd. Pg. 56)

This Week with Claudia (From Pg. 55)

H.R. 768, the Holocaust Education and Antisemitism Lessons Act: This bill would expand federal support for Holocaust education by authorizing grants to develop and disseminate educational materials on the Holocaust and contemporary antisemitism. Education plays a critical role in combating hatred and preserving the lessons of the Holocaust for future generations. This legislation helps strengthen Holocaust education efforts and promotes greater awareness of antisemitism in schools and communities.

Transparency in Congress and a well-informed electorate are vital to preserving our self-governing Constitutional Republic. My constituents deserve to know how their members of Congress vote, which is why I have explained every vote I have cast in Congress since I was first elected.

To read more about my votes and see the full list with explanations of all the legislation considered this week by the House, please click here. <https://tenney.house.gov/about/my-votes-explained>

Tuesday, March 17

I voted “Yes” on S. 3971, the Small Business Innovation and Economic Security Act. This bill reauthorizes the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs through September 30, 2031. Additionally, this bill enacts several reforms to strengthen research security and improve the commercialization of federally funded technologies against foreign adversaries. The Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs play an important role in federal research and commercialization efforts that go to our nation's small businesses and startups. S. 3971 ensures these programs remain available for small businesses and safeguards American innovations from theft by foreign countries. This bill passed by a vote of 345-41.

I voted “No” on H.R. 4294, the MAWS Act of 2026. This bill directs the Commerce Secretary to establish a pilot program for the sale of blue catfish caught within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. Blue catfish are an invasive species in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, with no natural predators, and feed on several native species, including blue crabs, American shad, and striped bass. While this bill is well-intentioned, seafood processors have spent years developing commercialized processes for these fish. Further subsidies are not necessary, as they are already being sold. Congress should not intervene and distort this marketplace. This bill passed the House by a vote of 320-66.

Wednesday, March 18

I voted “Yes” on H.J. Res. 139, Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States requiring

a balanced budget for the Federal Government. I have long supported a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution, which would end large annual deficits and curb the growth of our skyrocketing debt. Congress must do more to get our fiscal house in order, and start doing the real work of making difficult spending decisions. I am disappointed that all but one of my Democratic colleagues opposed this measure and refuse to engage in a serious conversation about fiscal discipline. Under Article V of the Constitution, amendments to the Constitution require a 2/3 majority in both the House of Representatives and the Senate, and unfortunately this amendment failed to reach this threshold by a vote of 211-207.

I voted “Yes” on H.R. 1958, the Deporting Fraudsters Act. This bill amends the Immigration and Nationality Act to explicitly clarify that aliens convicted of defrauding the United States or unlawfully receiving public benefits are inadmissible and subject to deportation. As more and more cases of mass fraud are revealed, such as in Minnesota or New York, we must do more to deport illegal aliens who take advantage of our system. The Deporting Fraudsters Act protects taxpayer dollars, and ensures that those who exploit our system are removed. This bill passed the House by a vote of 231-186.

I voted “Yes” on H.R. 556, the Protecting Access for Hunters and Anglers Act. This bill prohibits the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture from banning the use of lead ammunition or tackle on federal lands and waters open to hunting and fishing. During the Biden Administration, misguided proposals to ban these types of ammunition on federal lands were seriously considered, which would have imposed overburdensome restrictions limiting recreational opportunities for Americans. Lead ammunition and fishing tackle are the most cost-effective options on the market and provide an important revenue source for conservation efforts. H.R. 556 prevents the implementation of these prohibitions and ensures that Americans can continue to enjoy hunting and fishing. This bill passed the House by a vote of 215-202.

Thursday, March 19

I voted “Yes” on H.R. 4638, the BOWOW Act of 2025. This bill amends the Immigration and Nationality Act to specifically allow the deportation of aliens who admit to or are convicted of harming animals used in law enforcement. Animals like dogs and horses are crucial for law enforcement, border protection, and community safety. Noncitizens who intentionally harm animals serving in law enforcement should be held accountable, and this bill ensures those individuals are deported and inadmissible to the U.S. While Democrats choose to stand with animal abusers, House Republicans are committed to ensuring that illegal aliens who commit these heinous acts are deported. This bill passed the House by a vote of 228-190.



Welcome to Kirsten's New York Minute!

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

1. Supporting working Americans

Working families are struggling amid higher prices and substantial job losses due to President Trump's reckless tariffs.

This week, Kirsten introduced the Tariff Refunds for Working Families Act to bring these families financial relief. This critical legislation would provide American consumers with direct tax rebates, putting money back into the pockets of hardworking New Yorkers. Kirsten is determined to get this bill across the finish line.

Read more

https://www.fingerlakes1.com/2026/03/20/gillibrand-proposes-tax-rebates-tied-to-tariffs/#google_vignette

2. Fighting for tax cuts for working families

As high prices strain working families, Kirsten introduced legislation that would provide broad, permanent tax cuts to nearly 130 million working Americans.

The Working Americans' Tax Cut Act would eliminate federal income taxes for Americans who make under the median cost of living, \$46,000, and provide a significant tax break to individuals making between \$46,000 and \$80,500. This critical legislation would support working families, drive economic growth, and reduce income inequality.

Read more.

<https://www.newsweek.com/tens-of-millions-of-americans-would-pay-zero-income-tax-under-new-bill-11695061>

3. Demanding the release of heating assistance funding

No New York family should have to choose between putting food on the table and staying warm.

As working families across the country struggle to keep up with skyrocketing utility prices, Kirsten demanded that the Trump administration swiftly release roughly \$400 million in heating assistance funding that has already been approved by Congress.

Read more.

<https://www.wxhc.com/senator-gillibrand-joins-bipartisan-group-calling-for-release-of-400-million-in-remaining-low-income-home-energy-assistance-program-funding/>

4. Securing commitments on the military's use of AI

The American people deserve transparency on the U.S. military's use of artificial intelligence.

During a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing, Kirsten questioned two top generals about the use of AI in

military operations and secured commitments from both generals that they would not use AI for any domestic surveillance.

Watch here.

https://www.youtube.com/shorts/EKmr_p-QVCM

5. Fighting for clean water

Every New Yorker deserves safe, clean drinking water.

Kirsten was grateful to meet with New York members of The Garden Club of America to discuss their shared mission to protect New York's bodies of water and keep dangerous chemicals out of our water supply.

6. Helping New Yorkers with federal agencies

A Nassau County constituent contacted Kirsten's office for assistance after the Social Security Administration (SSA) wrongfully reported an overpayment debt to credit bureaus.

After Kirsten's team contacted SSA, the agency reviewed the discrepancy and ultimately retracted its report to the credit bureaus.

Individual casework is Kirsten's top priority. If you need help with any federal agency, contact her here.

<https://www.gillibrand.senate.gov/help/help-for-new-yorkers/>

7. WATCH: Kirsten opposes voter suppression

President Trump's SAVE America Act is a voter suppression bill disguised as an anti-fraud measure. By imposing onerous voter registration requirements and severely restricting mail-in and absentee voting, this bill would disenfranchise millions of Americans.

Kirsten opposed the bill on the Senate floor this week, and she will do everything she can to prevent it from passing.

Watch Kirsten's Senate floor speech here.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9sWkaJmjbAE>

Ulster County Launches PFAS Testing and Mitigation Rebate Pilot Program

KINGSTON, NY - Ulster County residents who rely on private wells for their drinking water are now eligible to apply for free PFAS testing and rebates for water treatment systems, as part of New York State's new Private Well PFAS Testing and Mitigation Rebate Pilot Program. Applications are now open in Ulster County. Ulster County is one of six counties participating in the pilot, which County Executive Metzger announced in her State of the County Address in February.

The program - led by the New York State Department of Health (NYS DOH), Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), and Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) - provides free testing for PFAS in private wells and offers rebates of up to \$5,000 for whole-house treatment systems, up to \$10,000 for connection to public water where available, and up to \$1,000 for point-of-use treatment systems in certain cases. (Contd. Pg. 58)

Ulster County Launches PFAS Testing and Mitigation Rebate Pilot Program

(From Pg. 57) Property owners are eligible to apply for a rebate when PFAS concentrations are at or above drinking water standards established by NYS DOH.

In addition to Ulster County, other participating counties include Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Suffolk, and Westchester, which have a high number of private wells with potential for PFAS contamination, and therefore more residents at potential risk.

“In my State of the County address, I spoke about giving residents new tools to protect their drinking water, and I'm proud to see this program now underway,” said Ulster County Executive Jen Metzger. “PFAS contamination is a growing concern across the country, and this pilot provides our residents with free testing and meaningful financial support to keep their water safe. I'm grateful to Governor Hochul for championing this effort and to our state partners for making this important program possible. I also want to thank Public Health Director Eve Walter and her team for leading this pilot in our County, and for their dedication to protecting our residents' right to clean water, as enshrined in the New York State Constitution.”

“Our department has heard from many residents who are understandably concerned about PFAS in their drinking water,” said Eve Walter, Ulster County Public Health Director. “This pilot program gives private well users access to testing and financial support that would otherwise be out of reach for many households. We're committed to helping residents navigate the process.”

“Under the leadership of Governor Hochul, the New York State Department of Health is pleased to partner with Ulster County and our state partners to implement this pilot program to address PFAS in drinking water for people on private wells,” said State Health Commissioner Dr. James McDonald. “We are committed to protecting the health of New Yorkers and are optimistic for the impact of this program to inform future efforts.”

PFAS - per and polyfluoroalkyl substances - are a group of chemicals used in many household and commercial products. They can persist in the environment and have been detected in drinking water across the country. New York State's drinking water standards for PFOA and PFOS (two of the most studied PFAS) are 10 parts per trillion, and these values are used as guidelines to deter-

mine eligibility for mitigation rebates.

Residents may be eligible if their drinking water comes from a private well in Ulster County. Property owners may apply for free testing; tenants may also apply if they provide a notarized property owner acknowledgment. Businesses with transient non community water systems - such as parks, rest stops, convenience stores, and restaurants with their own wells - may also qualify. Wells associated with known contamination sites already part of a remediation program are not eligible.

The program offers free PFAS testing conducted by New York State. If results show PFOA or PFOS at or above 10 parts per trillion, eligible property owners may apply for rebates to install a whole house PFAS treatment system, connect to public water where feasible, or install certified point of use systems in cases where whole house treatment is not possible. Funding is limited, and application periods may open and close depending on demand.

Applications can be submitted online at health.ny.gov/PrivateWellPFAS, which is the preferred method. Paper applications are also available on the program website under “Documents”. Rebate applications must be submitted after mitigation work is completed.

Program inquiries can be directed to the program hotline number: 1-800-616-9275, the program help email: PrivateWellPFAS@hrpassociates.com, or the program website at health.ny.gov/PrivateWellPFAS. For local assistance to navigate the process, please call the Ulster County Department of Health at (845) 340-3022.

For more information and to apply, visit health.ny.gov/PrivateWellPFAS.

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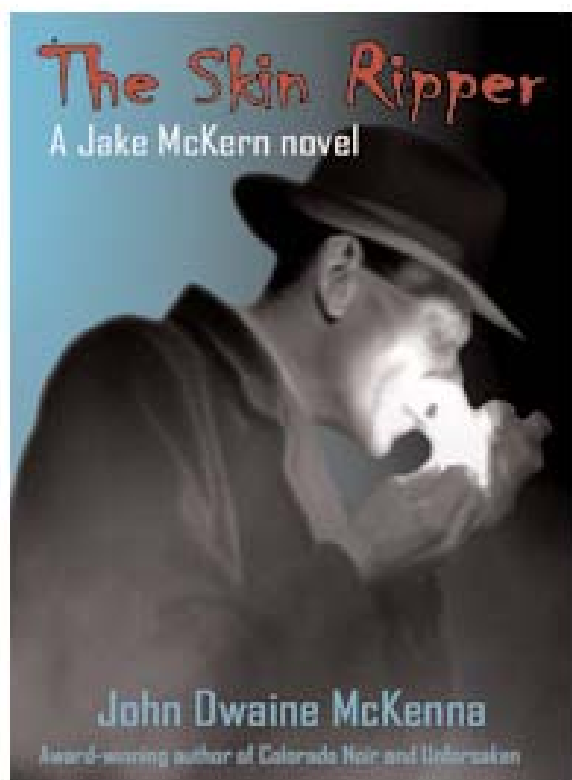


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saturday march 14,
3 – 5 pm

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seán nixon

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saturday april 4, 2:30 – 4 pm

artists' talk:
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stiefelwerk | anne marika



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MARCH FITNESS CALENDAR



Location Key

(ERH)
Ellenville Regional Hospital
Specialty Services Lobby
10 Healthy Way
Ellenville, NY 12428

(EPL)
Ellenville Public Library
40 Center Street
Ellenville, NY 12428

(SH)
Ellenville Senior Housing
15 Healthy Way
Ellenville, NY 12428

(TRF)
Trudy Resnick Farber Building
Basement Community Room
50 Center Street
Ellenville, NY 12428

(ML)
Mamakating Library
128 Sullivan Street
Wurtsboro, NY 12790

(EHA)
Ellenville Housing Authority
199 Canal Street
Ellenville, NY 12428

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10:00am	***Bingocize (EPL) Starts 3/9	Breathe, Stretch, & Flex (ML)		***Bingocize (EPL) Starts 3/12	
11:00am	FIT Class (TRF)		HIIT Class (TRF)		Cardio Beat Boxing (EPL)
12:00pm		Senior Power 1/2 Hour (SH)		Senior Power 1/2 Hour (SH)	
1:30pm		Senior Power 3/4 Hour (EHA) Workout pickup 2pm-2:30pm			
4:30pm	Brain & Balance (ERH)		Strength Training (ERH)		Breathe, Stretch, & Flex (ERH) *No class 3/13*

As the weather changes, check our Facebook for updates on class cancellations.

*** Classes with an asterisk require registration with Office for The Aging (OFA)
Call Ulster County OFA at 845-340-3456.

All other classes do not require registration, for questions please call 845-647-6400 ext. 215



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UPCOMING DATES


March 13 10:00 to 12:00PM	March 20 2:00 to 4:00PM	March 27 10:00 to 12:00PM
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We will also cover how nutrition impacts this disease, while promoting beneficial changes for best colon and overall health.



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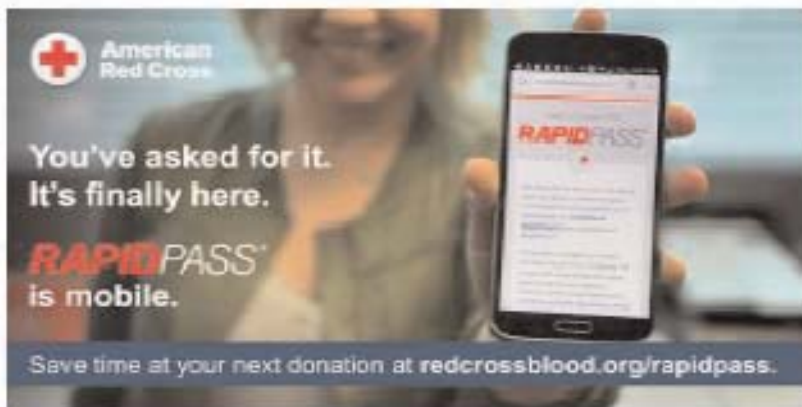
Daniel Pierce Library Community Blood Drive

**Friday, May 29, 2026
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Come join us!

Conversations With Death

First Saturdays, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Starting Saturday, January 3

Join three death doulas for Conversations with Death, a monthly circle that invites open dialogue about dying, grief, and the cycles of life.

Together, we'll open space for story, reflection, and connection, inviting curiosity, courage, and compassion into our relationship with death and dying.

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

EVERY 1ST & 3RD

WEDNESDAY


@ 6:30 PM


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WEDNESDAY

@ 6:30 PM

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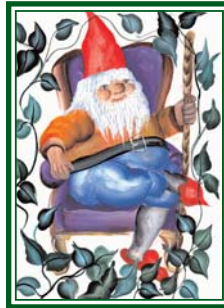
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Is ghoulish looking Herman Munster an aristocrat? He is when he inherits an estate from a British uncle, and takes his wife Lily, and his entire family, his son, Eddie, a niece Marilyn, and Grandpa an experimenter supreme, to

England, by boat, to claim both his title – his manor house. Marilyn falls in love with Roger Moresby, a race-driving champion boating across the Atlantic to England. On arriving, they receive a less than a wonderful welcome, from their foreign relatives, Lady Effigies, her children Freddy and Grace, and their sinister butler Crookshank, who are using the manor house as the headquarters of a counterfeiting ring.



The thugs try to chase them away, but all attempts to scare off the Munsters fail terribly, as they are delighted by screams in the night, white-sheeted apparitions, and other ghostly phenomena. Desperate to get rid of the Munsters, Lady Effigie persuades Herman to save the family honor by entering an automobile race against Roger, as their families have been longtime rivals. Roger is knocked unconscious, and the head of the counterfeiting ring substitutes another driver, planning harm to Herman as the race proceeds. Herman, avoids trouble by driving his Dragula, a special coffin-shaped car and wins the race. Will Rodger visit Marilyn in the States?

Directed by Earl Bellamy. Starring Fred Gwynne, Al Lewis, Yvonne De Carlo, and Hermione Gingold

Have a Happy and Fun April Fool's Day!

*Stay safe and stay well,
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Answer to last week's Knarf's Trivia Question:
Blasing Saddles

This weeks' Trivia question: In what film does Harrison Ford play an attorney who emerges childlike after nearly losing his life to a bullet?