





"The Best Journal Published by a Dam Site!"

VOL. 22 NO. 48 GRAHAMSVILLE, NY 12740 NOVEMBER 27, 2025

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Knarf's Classic Movie & Trivia - Page 70

Thanksgiving Food and Item Distribution - The Ulster Heights Methodist Church Food Pantry

On November 18 and November 19, 2025, members and volunteers of the Ulster Heights United Methodist Church, along with several members of The Tri-Valley Lions packaged Thanksgiving Foods and Items, which were



then distributed to 146 families in the community. As you can see from the attached photos, there was an amazing number of items packaged and then distributed. Each of the 146 recipients drove around the church packing lot and was handed their packages based on the number of members in the family. As one of the Tri-Valley Lions who participated, Tom Cosentino stated that the whole operation ran like a fine-tuned machine. It is evident that all volunteers worked so very hard to get the Thanksgiving "baskets" to each of the families that drove through. According to Food Pantry Coordinator Colleen Lepke, this was the largest amount of food distributed in all the years the Church has been doing this. It just shows how food insecurity is impacting so many families, not only in our community, but across the country and the world in general.

Ulster Heights Food Pantry Coordinator Colleen Lepke along with a few of the 32 volunteers accepted a \$600 donation from the Tri-Valley Lions as well as an anonymous donation of \$50 from one of the Lions Club members. The Church also held a Bake Sale and Craft Fair to raise additional funds for the Church and its mission.

In the first photo and sitting is Pastor Peggy Ann Sauerhoff and standing from left to right are Helen Exner, Julia Mednick, Ginny Carlsen, Gail Brearly,

Marilyn Rogerson, Donna VanWagner, Colleen Lepke and Leah Exner. There are also so many more volunteers in the background that are not shown but certainly showed up to help and make this Thanksgiving a happier one for 146 families. Special thanks to Lion Leah Exner for her coordination between the Lions and The Ulster Heights Church, and to Paul Exner for his organizational expertise for the food distribution. (Contd. Pg. 5)

YE OLDE TRI-VALLEY TOWNSMAN

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

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- 1. $\underline{\mathbf{ALL}}$ **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 OldeTri-Valley Townsman* or its staff.

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

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: Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them

Revelation 7:15

OBITUARY



Margaret Ida Baloy (nee Franson) passed away on November 21 in Dadeville, AL. She was 87.

Born in Bay Ridge Brooklyn, she was a graduate of Fort Hamilton High School. She met her husband, Tom, on a blind date at a roller rink and they spent the next 63 years together. They raised six children, first in the metro area and then in the Catskills. She and Tom retired to Alabama in 2000.

Family was at the center of Marge's life, though her other passions were singing, arts and crafts, and classic movies. Known for her fine soprano, quips, and big laugh, she was always willing to serve as den mother, costume sewer, and kid feeder. She delighted in making the holidays special and adored Christmas caroling with local friends. While her primary career was as a mother, she also worked in administration and Human Resources for several companies including Sullivan Arc and Arrowhead Composites.

While she took pride in her resilience and resourcefulness, she was always most proud of her family.

Marge was predeceased by her husband, Tom, her siblings, and four nephews. She is survived by children Elizabeth Bullock (Chris), Douglas (Jay Herring), Adam (Barbara), Andrew, Christopher (Katie), and Mikki (Rob McMahon), as well as ten grandchildren, ten great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

The family will hold a small memorial in the new year.

DAYS OF YORE....

Today's History

November 23, 1955

The stream flowing towards Sundown from Greenville, known as the Sundown stream, was turned back into its old channel last week. It had been flowing through the Ivan Sheley and Ben Johnson flats since the October floods.

So many warm and friendly things Have happened through the year. Let's count our many blessings-Thanksgiving Day is here! KUM TO KRUM'S

November 24, 1965

Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Kelder of Grahamsville have announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss Karen Brown, to Robert Curry, son of Mr. and Mrs. Chandler Curry of Neversink. Miss Brown, a Tri Valley Central School graduate, is a student at the State University College at Cortland. Her fiancé, also a Tri Valley graduate, is studying at Delhi Tech.

Eber Black Jr., 35, died on November 18, 1985 at Roswell Park Memorial Hospital, Buffalo, N.Y. He was born in Ellenville on June 8, 1930, the son of Eber and Martha Mulford Black. He was a Corrections Officer at Eastern Correctional Facility, Napanoch, N.Y. Surviving are his father at home; one sister, Mrs. Frank Maier of Slater Hill, N.Y.; one aunt, Mrs. Robert T. Many of Grahamsville; and two nieces.

(Contd. Pg. 3)

DAYS OF YORE....

Today's History

(From Pg. 2)

December 3, 1975

Best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Costigan who will be celebrating their 25th Wedding Anniversary on December 9th.

Neighbors on Red Hill, Claryville welcome Joyce and Jack Jordan to their community and wish them much happiness. The Jordans are now residing in their new home on Red Hill.

November 28, 1985

Karen Furman's essay entitled " Salute to Agriculture" has been judged by the Hesston Corporation as one of the top 100 entries submitted in the 1985 "Salute to Agriculture Contest. Karen's essay was chosen from among 3,700 entries submitted by FFA members from chapters throughout the United States. There were only two finalists from the entire State of New York.

Come to the Gingerbread Bash

Please join the fun at Claryville Church Fellowship Hall on Sunday, December 14 at 1:30 pm for the Gingerbread Bash. It's a Christmas party where you will build a gingergread nativity, play games, sing songs and learn about the first Christmas ever.

The Gingerbread Bash is FREE MUST Register your child(ren) so we have adequate supplies, parent/guardian must stay for event. Open to all ages, seniors welcome too!

To register go to:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdgJUn vrwUpVfA-

kQSNGdDK78CEbtwJ7zWjkPGtR6X47WMroQ/v iewform?usp=publish-editor

Any question don't hesitate to call 845-798-6271 or claryvillechurch@gmail.com

Household Hint:

Stuck in a Stuffy Hotel Room

If you are away during the holidays and the hotel room smells stale and stuffy, place a dryer sheet in the air conditioning or heating vent for a quick air freshener. Before you leave, stick it in with your soiled laundry to keep it a bit fresher for the trip home.

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 Ślater, Shirley Davis, Hulda Vernooy, Carolyn Coombe, Martha Ahrens and Barbara Barkley

American Wild Turkey By Peggy DeWire

"Gobble, gobble," said the wild tom turkey sitting on a limb in a maple tree almost hidden in the leaves. "You caught me resting after my lunch of grasshoppers and seeds. I'm called Tom Two Toes and I'll tell you how I got named."

He settled himself more comfortably on the limb fluffing out his

beautiful brown plumage, tail hanging down neatly folded and beard tassel on his chest swinging to and fro.

Two years ago when I was a small chick, my Mom moved me and my twelve brothers and sisters away from our nest on the ground hidden in the woods to the edge on an open field.

There we watched how she pecked at ants, bugs and berries (strawberries are my favorite). She showed us things that are good to eat. She walked along very slowly to keep her brood

together and stopped often, spreading her wings so we could rest under their shade.

We came to a pond on our way to the next open meadow and the whole family waded in with Mom cackling at us to stay together and paddle quickly across.

All the splashing caught a snapping turtle's attention and it investigated, managing to bite off two toes of the last chick to struggle up on land, safely across. I limped along at first but I kept right up with my family after that awful experience.

I also remember my first flight one summer day when I was about two weeks old. Mom and all of us were feeding together in a field pecking at ants and grass seeds. My keen eyesight helped me get the smallest bits of food as well as keep a sharp lookout for danger.

Suddenly Mom flew up into a tree and landed on a limb six feet off the ground. From there she called perk, perk encouraging us to join her.

One by one we flapped out little wings to get up there, the smaller chicks landing short on the ground and launching themselves again and again till they succeeded. I made it on my first try and snuggled beside Mom proudly. After that day we never slept on the ground but always in

By the end of my first summer I was nearly as big as Mom and looked like her in my new brown-bronze plumage. My head and wattle turned red, white and blue, my wing feathers brown with white edging. Halfinch long yellow spurs grew on my legs. A grand five-inch brown bristle beard drooped from my chest.

My brothers and I practiced loud gobbling, dragging wing tips on the ground and spreading our tail feathers into wide showy fans.

All this gobbling commotion was too much for Mom and she drove all her young toms out of the flock with loud yelping cries, and led our sisters off and away.

During the winter it was very hard to find enough food until we joined some deer that scraped snow aside uncovering moss and grass. While they foraged, we turkeys with sharp eyesight watched every alert for danger. And then we ate.

I'm now a full-grown gobbler who controls the clearing you're standing in looking up at me. This spring I fought another tom and beat him in a knock-down fight for this spot.

LOOKING BACK

by Beatrice Akerley Published January 15, 1998

On looking back to the 1900's, I can see myself, a little girl playing on the rope swing in the woods above our house. I can also see the arrival of the horse drawn mail carriage and when the mailman started unloading the large mail pouches, I knew there were catalogs from one of our several mail order stores.

In our modern world of easy telephone shopping and huge malls, it is very difficult to imagine the excitement engendered by the mail order catalogs of long ago. I recall in the early 1900's the catalogs from Sears, Robuck and Co., Mongtomery Ward, Charles William Stores, Spiegel, National Cloak and Suit Co., Alden and Martha Lane Adams. The merchandise they offered covered clothing, furniture, musical instruments, baby chickens, farm implements, horse-drawn wagons, harness and you could even order a house from Sears, Robuck & Co.

Catalogs are fast going out of style in this modern world of ours. With the numerous malls within a short drive from our homes and the ease of ordering by telephone with our credit cards, we have lost the excitement of mail order buying. If you ask me, we have lost something of value. Gone is the enjoyment of leafing through our catalog; gone are the anguished decisions while we laboriously made out our order blanks. Then there were the days of anticipation until your order arrived.

Today in this modem world of ours, we go wandering around in stores, pushing a cart and searching for the items we need. When they are found, we place them in our cart and take them up to the register where they are stuffed in a bag, tossed in the cart and progress marches on.

Free Christmas Trees & Holiday Stockings for Veterans



Action Toward Independence and the Joseph P. Dwyer Veterans Peer Support Vet 2 Vet program of Sullivan County are thrilled to once again team up with Delaware Valley Farm & Garden Center in Callicoon to offer free Christmas trees to area Veterans.

Quantities are limited and Veterans need to reserve a tree by calling 845-794-4228 to obtain a coupon for a free tree. The trees, which have been donated by Delaware Valley Farm & Garden Center, may be picked up during store hours anytime between December 2 and December 15.

Delaware Valley Farm & Garden Center is located at 305 Viaduct Road in Callicoon.

In addition to the trees, Vet 2 Vet of Sullivan County is happy to offer Holiday Stockings for Heroes, to Veterans, Active Duty, and their partners or caregivers.

Veterans can stop in at the Action Toward Independence office at 309 East Broadway in Monticello to pick up festive holiday stockings filled with essentials to brighten their season. Quantities are limited, and pick up begins December 1.

Proof of Veteran status is required. Call 845-794-4228 to reserve a tree and / or make an appointment to pick up a holiday stocking.

Thanksgiving Food and Item Distribution -The Ulster Heights Methodist Church Food Pantry



(From Pg. 1) In addition to Ulster Heights Food Pantry, The Tri-Valley Lions also donated to 3 additional food pantries including The Grahamsville Methodist Church, The Grahamsville Reformed Church, and the Woodbourne Immaculate Conception Church. As mentioned in a previous article the Claryville Church Food Pantry is not opened at this time.

It is only because of all our neighbors, Fairground Events at the Tri-Valley Lions Soda Booth, and our other fundraising events that allow the Tri-Valley Lions to assist with the Food Pantries, so we want to thank one and all who have supported our Lions Club over the years. We couldn't do these kinds of things without you.

The Tri-Valley Lions, which was chartered in 1977, is now in our 48th year of existence, and we are always looking for new members. Just as a reminder, The Tri-



Colleen Lepke, Ilene & Stue Wizwer and Leah Exner

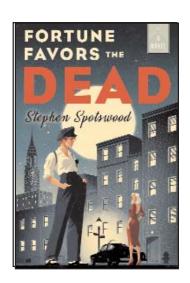
Valley Lions bring in donations and funding by selling sodas from our Soda Booth for events at the Grahamsville Fairgrounds, selling Chocolate Easter Bunnies, our Annual Journey for Sight Walk and Tag Day. Our funding allows us to continue to provide monetary and service support to Local Food Pantries, Tri-Valley Lions Club High School Community Service Awards, 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. 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 hvacpat69@gmail.com or President Stephen Miller at 845-798-1981 or or President Stephen Miller at 845-798-1981 or sgrecords@hvc.rr.com

Legacy Mysterious Book Report No. 156

Fortune Favors The Dead Mysterious Book Report No. 427 by John Dwaine McKenna Published November 26, 2020

Fortune Favors The Dead, (Doubleday, \$26.95, 336 pages, ISBN 978-0-3855-4655-3), is the first novel from author Stephen Spotswood. It takes place in New York City in 1945, and features a pair of female private eyes in the style and manner of Rex Stout,

with Lillian Pentecost, "the most famous woman detective in the city and possible the country," as the alternative to Nero Wolfe, and her young protégé, Willowjean Parker, standing-in for Archie Goodwin. All similarities end there however, as Mr. Spotswood's characters are uniquely modern and entirely his own . . . while honoring the legends of the past such as Miss Marple, Poirot or the aforementioned Nero Wolfe, who solved cases using their minds to observe, reason, and deduct, rather than guns, fists and brute strength.



The story is narrated by a twenty-something Willowjean Parker, who's been hired as an assistant —after running away from home at age fifteen and traveling with a circus for five years—to Ms. Pentecost, who is suffering from Multiple Sclerosis, a progressive wasting disease of the central nervous system.

Their case is a murder mystery in which the heiress to a steel company is bludgeoned to death with a crystal ball in a locked room of her Manhattan mansion, where a Halloween party séance was held. The medium turns out to be someone Ms. Pentecost has long suspected of fraudulence and chicanery, but has never faced off with as an adversary. Add in a pair of dysfunctional twins— a girl and a boy, children of the murdered woman— an overpro-

tective godfather to the twins, a menacing foreman at the steel company and a patient, smart and dedicated NYPD detective into the mix . . . one of who becomes a love interest of Willowjean Parker . . . and you have a great cast of traditional characters, suspects and gumshoes to entertain. enthrall, and enthuse us all for some time to come. From the stylish, artsy Art Deco style front cover to its last page, Fortune Favors The Dead is a killer kickoff and a rousing start to what we hope will be a long-lived series!

Like the review . . . let your friends know, You saw it in the Mysterious Book Report . . . The greatest compliment you can give, is to like us and share it with others on Facebook.



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The Olive Jar

by Carol Olsen LaMonda

Walking Away

The Holliday season can be lots of fun if you do not drive yourself crazy with unrealistic expectations. As an early Christmas present to myself, I am cutting back on things.

It took me eight plus decades to decide to walk away from things that do not bring me pleasure. Some of the things I am leaving behind are:

The FamilyMemoir, PROSILIO...

... in Greek means "Toward the Sun," was written by Carol Olsen LaMonda. Carol writes the column "The Olive Jar" for *Ye Olde Tri*-

Valley Townsman. This local author has been busy guesting at book clubs who have chosen this local memoir as their book choice.

Feel the warmth of "Prosilio" as you read Carol's memoirs cuddled up in your favorite chair. It also makes a great gift!

Prosilio is available at Amazon or Barnes and



Noble on-line as a soft or hard cover or as a downloadable e-book for Nook or Kindle. Go to: http://amazon.com or http://barnesandnoble.com and type in Prosilio in the search to order your copy of Prosilio

- *underwire bras
- *high heel shoes
- *pants with belts, zippers, and buttons.
- *calling people who never call me first
- *sending Christmas cards. That stamp money, a small fortune, could help a child at St. Jude's.
- *top sheets. I love the feel of my silky down comforter.
- *cooking anything with more than five ingredients
- * knives that are too dull to cut anything
- *answering phone calls from unfamiliar numbers
- *making appointments before 9:30 a.m.
- *booking flights with layovers and terminal connections
- *buying clothes for anyone else *tossing make-up. Since I rarely wear any make-up, I can throw out the entire drawer of mascara, eye-shadow (unfortunately, I have my own natural ones) and lipsticks. Perhaps, cosmetics should have an expiration date,

but I am sure one decade is sufficient.



I realize that this list is just the beginning. Part B to follow....

Happy Thanksgiving from the DPL!

Busy Times on the Horizon with Holiday Festivities through December

By Lisa Carroll

Grahamsville-I hope you're reading this as the heavenly scents of turkey, stuffing and pie drift around you, that you've made it safely to your destination if you're heading out for Thanksgiving, or that you're home and enjoying a few minutes reprieve before you're flooded with family and friends.

Thanksgiving is such a wonderful holiday: a time to make memories, to count blessings and be grateful for all you have, and to stuff yourself silly with delicious foods! Happy Thanksgiving from all of us at the DPL! We ourselves have so much to be thankful for this year, especially this past week. It's been a hard one, and we'd like to collectively thank our amazing patrons, friends, and families who have shown so much support and compassion for our staff. We are certainly grateful to know that our community shows up when there's a need. Thank you!

As November wraps up, we're full-steam ahead with our holiday programs, activities and festivities.

This past Saturday, we held our 5 Hour Pre-Licensing Class for unlicensed adults and teens looking to get their licenses. This mandatory and DMV approved class will be offered again this spring if you missed it this time around.

On Thursday, December 4 from 6:00-7:00PM we'll be hosting our holiday felting event. Join felting expert Christine Adams and dip into the felting world by making your own festive cardinal. No experience is needed with this age-old textile art form that uses wool fibers and special tools; all tips and techniques will be shared during the class. There is a \$10 fee for this adult only class, and advanced registration is required. Please visit our website to sign up.

Then, on Thursday, December 11 from 5:30-6:30PM, we'll be hosting a Cookies & Cocoa Family Night! Join us for a delightful evening of holiday family fun, perfect for children of all ages. Enjoy creating festive ornament crafts, cookie decorating and holiday music. Shhh...it's a secret, but we've heard that there will be a special visitor, Santa, here from the North Pole to take family photos. Pre-registration is required for this program as well.

And, on Tuesday, December 16 from 3:00-



4:00PM, Tri-Valley students in grades 1-6 are invited to take part in Latkes & Applesauce. During this beautiful program, participants will learn about the Festival of Lights-Hanukkah. They'll enjoy warm latkes and applesauce, crafts and holiday music. In the event of inclement weather, please check our website for information.

Finally, on Thursday, December 18 from 6:00-6:45PM join us for Sounds of the Season, showcasing a special holiday musical performance by Grahamsville native, Shane Rennison. Let his beautiful music soothe away any seasonal angst while enjoying our festive Reading Room. It will be a beautiful evening to enjoy the elegant atmosphere and to take a moment just for you.

There's a lot going on, both at the library and in everyone's lives...just the nature of the season, so if you're in need of a little respite, a break from it all, stop in at the DPL. We have plenty of holiday books on display, it's warm in here, and it's relatively quiet...a perfect place to take a breather...and maybe pick up a Lucy Score book. I'm about to start reading The Christmas Fix and I'm hoping it'll get me out of the slump I've been in. Her zany characters and hilarious plot mishaps usually do the trick!



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Looking for new ways to promote your business and connect with the local business community? Our Breakfast Sponsorship Opportunities are the perfect way to gain visibility, share your story, and build relationships with 60+ professionals and decision-makers who attend our monthly networking breakfasts.

Choose from a variety of sponsorship levels designed to fit your goals:

Booth Sponsor (\$200): Showcase your products or services with a dedicated booth space and marketing access.

Coffee Sponsor (\$200): Keep attendees energized while featuring your brand at the coffee and refreshment station.

Each sponsorship includes multi-channel exposure through Chamber newsletters, social media promotions, and on-site recognition-making it a great way to boost your brand and be part of one of the Chamber's most engaging programs.

Click Here to Register

https://sullivancountychamberofcommerce.growthzoneapp.com/chamber-events/Details/first-friday-networking-breakfast-december-5-2025-1516942?sourceTypeId=Website

Holiday Market at Liberty Mall

Celebrate the season at the Holiday Market at Liberty Mall on Saturday, December 6 and Sunday, December 7, from 11 AM to 5 PM! Located at 15 Sullivan Ave., Liberty, NY 12754, this festive event will feature 35+ local artisans, delicious food, and sweet treats perfect for the holidays.

Hosted by the Sullivan Catskills Visitors Association, in partnership with Casa Di Longobardi and Liberty NY, it's the perfect place to shop local, enjoy seasonal flavors, and embrace the holiday spirit with family and friends.

Community Foundation of Orange and Sullivan Launches Community Harvest Fund to Combat Food Insecurity

The Community Foundation of Orange and Sullivan (CFOS) has launched the Community Harvest Fund to address the growing issue of food insecurity across Orange, Sullivan, and Rockland counties. With SNAP benefits discontinued for many households, the fund will provide rapid-response grants to food pantries, soup kitchens, and other frontline organizations. It will also support partnerships with food banks and community-based initiatives that strengthen long-term food resilience. CFOS encourages nonprofits to apply for funding and invites donors to contribute to this vital effort.

Visit the website:

https://business.catskills.com/press-releases/Details/community-foundation-of-orange-and-sullivan-launches-community-harvest-fund-to-fight-food-insecurity-297192

Sullivan County Human Rights Roundtable: Join the Dialogue

The Sullivan County Human Rights Commission is hosting its inaugural Roundtable on Human Rights on Tuesday, December 3, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at SUNY Sullivan's Seelig Theatre (112 College Road, Loch Sheldrake).

The entire community is warmly invited to this public dialogue, which is intended to be a place where the Commission can listen, answer questions, address concerns, and advocate for the people they serve. Executive Director Ramone Wilson emphasizes that the goal is to have an honest and productive



discussion about everyone's rights, safety, and justice, helping to keep communities safe and fair.

The roundtable will feature distinguished members, including Sullivan County Court Judge Danielle Jose-Decker, civil rights lawyer Matthew Peluso, and local attorney Maria Zeno.

Sullivan County & SCVA Announce \$300,000 Tourism Grant Program

The Sullivan Catskills Visitors Association (SCVA), in partner-ship with Sullivan County, has launched the 2026 Sullivan County Tourism Grant Program - a \$300,000 initiative to strengthen the region's tourism economy, support local events, and boost overnight visitation. Funded through county lodging tax revenues, this program will reinvest directly into community-driven projects across four key categories: roomnight-focused marketing, arts and culture, local branding, and events and festivals.

Round One opened November 1, 2025, with applications due December 16, 2025.

Visit the website https://sullivancatskills.com/

We've Upgraded to GrowthZone!

The Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce has officially transitioned from ChamberMaster to GrowthZone. This upgrade offers a modern, streamlined member experience packed with new tools to better serve your business.

Check out the new Info Hub and explore your member benefits today!

https://sullivancountychamberofcommerce.growthzoneapp.com/MIC/Login (Contd. Pg. 12)

SC Chamber of Commerce Breakfast Sponsorship Opportunities

(From Pg. 11)

Finding Grants and Sponsorships - Locate Opportunities, Apply Confidently, Stand Out to Funders

Wednesday, December 3, 2025

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (EST)

Join us for a live online session designed to help small business owners find and secure grant funding and sponsorships with confidence. Learn where to locate legitimate opportunities, how to prepare a strong application, and what funders look for when awarding grants.

You'll learn how to:

- o Find legitimate small business grants and sponsorships using funding databases
- o Prepare for common types of business funding and determine your eligibility
- o Understand what it means to be "grant-ready" and organize key application documents
- o Strengthen your business to meet funding requirements
- o Access free and low-cost business resources that support growth and visibility

Whether you're an entrepreneur, startup founder, or established business owner, this session will give you the tools and knowledge to confidently pursue funding opportunities and position your business for success.

More information: https://www.score.org/event/finding-grants-and-sponsorships---locate-opportunities-apply-confidently-stand-out-funders

2025 Empire State Apprenticeship Tax Credit The Empire State Apprenticeship Tax Credit (ESATC) program is available to New York State Registered Apprenticeship program sponsors and/or signatory employers for in-demand occupations throughout the State. Each apprentice being claimed must be employed in a full-time position (35 hours per week) for at least six months in the 2025 calendar year.

To claim the tax credit for 2025, both steps must be completed no later than December 31, 2025.

Click here for more:

https://apps.labor.ny.gov/ApprenticeshipTaxCreditEmpApp/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Deck the Halls!

The Sullivan County Historical Society will host its 38th Annual Holiday Theme Tree & Display Exhibit on Saturday, December 6, 2025, at the Sullivan County Cultural Center & Museum in Hurleyville, as part of the "Holiday in Hurleyville Festival."

Businesses, organizations, and community members are invited to showcase their creativity by decorating an artificial tree (up to 6 ft) or creating a festive Hanukkah or Kwanzaa display that reflects their spirit, mission, or personal flair. Setup will be available from November 28 to December 5, between 10 AM and 4 PM, and exhibits may be picked up after January 3, 2026.

Sullivan County Museum o 265 Main Street, Hurleyville, NY 12747

Be part of a beloved holiday tradition and help make Hurleyville shine this season!

To participate, send your name, phone number, email, and theme to scecil@scnyhistory.org or call 845-434-8044.

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then type in In the Spirit of Sumi-e



24/7 LOCAL ADDICTION INFO & REFERRAL

866-832-5575



TEXT #HOPENY





Coming Up <u>Open Mic</u>

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.

Every Wednesday:

Heartbeat Music Hall, owned and operated by musicians David and Theresa Trestyn, in Grahamsville at 290 Main Street, present "Open Mic Night" from 7PM-10PM. Open Mic Night often includes surprise traveling guests. This being their 5th year running, and are open through Thanksgiving. BYOB. Free Admission. Call (845) 985-5068 for further information.

Final Arts Nest Concert for 2025

After you've celebrated Thanksgiving, come out for the final Arts Nest Concert for 2025 with British singer-songwriter Rupert Wates on Saturday Nov 29.

Lift up your spirits at our special Holiday Concert on Sun Dec 14th at 2pm. Featuring Craig Bickhardt, Jesse Terry, Halley Neal, and Sam Robbins.

Our weekly Arts Nest Open Mic is every Tuesday evening from 6-8pm with our final open mic for 2025 on December 16. We have a special pop-up concert this coming Tuesday Nov 25 with local musicians LITTLE SPAROW joining us from 7-8pm.

Rupert Wates Saturday November 29, 2025 from 7-9pm Doors open 6pm Buy Now on My River Tickets

Rupert Wates was born in London, UK, and has been based in the US since 2007. He signed a publishing deal with Eaton Music (London) in 1994 and has been a full time songwriter ever since. He has won over 50 songwriting and performing awards. In 2018 he performed as a Finalist in the Kerrville New Folk Song Contest, and an Emerging Artist at Falconridge Folk Festival. He was voted 'Artist Of The Year' by the Listening Room Network in both 2013 and 2016. More than 30 of his songs have been covered by other artists, including two full length tribute albums to his material recorded by independent artists in Nashville and Los Angeles.

He has released 12 solo albums, tracks from which have been played on radio worldwide. He averages 120 live shows a year, in every state in the US, in Canada and in Europe.

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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 ital Flyer Insert - 8"x10 - \$100.00/we

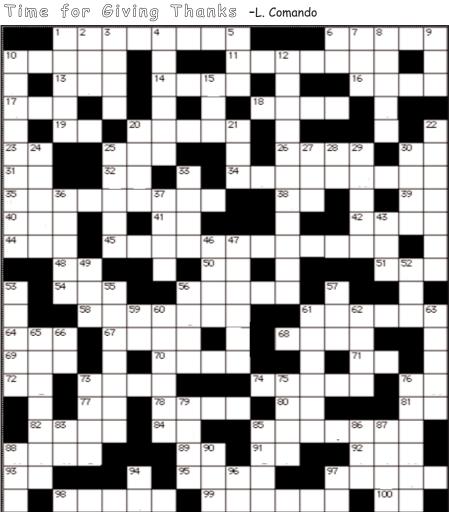
Digital Flyer Insert - 8"x10 - \$100.00/week

Sign up for 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!



ACROSS 1 Dressing 6 Saying 10 Producing motion 11 Temporal 13 German grandfather 14 Huge 16 Oxidize 17 Nonstand- cle to its ard spelling of 'your' 18 Metal cooking vessels 19 Extraterrestrial 20 Sanctify 23 Large 25 Cook in oil 26 Jewish Religious ceremony 30 Therefore 31 Either 32 Each 34 One of the Loves pilgrim's ships 35 Massachu- mate

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American 67 Attack 38 Room 68 Pleasant 39 Rough exclamation tener 40 The night 70 Animal's before an den event 41 Ratio of Press the circumfer- 72 Elevated ance of a cirrailway 73 Liquid diameter measure 42 Tall slender grass place 44 Cereal 76 Father grain 45 Expresby sion of gratitude 48 Troop 81 Mystical 50 Internet sound Protocol 82 Circular 51 Joyous band 54 Stitch 84 Negative 56 Uninten-85 Season's tionally slides vield 58 Sitcom 88 Peel "Everybody 89 Exclamation 61 Insist 91 Higher 64 Large priposition 92 Sheer fab-

69 Metal fas-71 Associated 74 Common-77 Supported 78 Leave out 80 Southeast

ric made from

pineapple leaf ed at fiber 93 Exist 95 Incinerate 97 He will make an appearance at the Thanksgiving Day Parade 98 Sponsor of tivity the Annual Thanksgiving Day Parade 99 Inhabitant 100 Leave **DOWN**

1 Shop 2 Highest point 3 Russian Mt. range 4 Kin 5 Girl Scouts of America 6 Milliliter 7 Paddle 8 Honesty 9 Cereal plant 47 Eight-10 Pilgrim

Plymouth 12 Small red "Thanksgiving berries" 15 Fuel 20 Grain husk 21 Save Our Ship 22 Day of fes-24 Meat sauce 25 Large meal 27 Rapid eye movement 28 Part of the human psyche 29 Given under oath 30 Fruit of the blackthorne 33 Feeling of distress 36 Encounters 37 Fiery gemstone 43 Ovum 46 Type of oven legged ship that land- Arachnid

49 For each 61 Main meal 52 Common of the day girl's name 62 Lunch or 53 A fruit used supper to make wine 63 Vision 55 Omen 65 Crusader 56 Carbonatted 66 Printer's beverage measure 57 Pertaining to 73 Waterhole recreation 75 As soon as 59 Nonstandard possible spelling of 'you' 76 Spud 60 English poet 79 Ancient of who wrote Moabite "Paradise Lost" 83 Surrounded

85 Pursue 86 Environmental Protection Agency 87 Croon 88 Male sheep 90 Ancient Asian warrior 94 Near 96 Egyptian sun god 97 Chemical element selenium

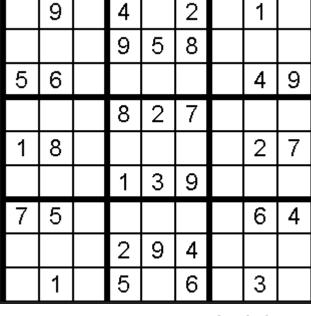
Perfect Pie Crust for A Holiday Pie

4 c. unsifted flour 1 Tbsp. sugar 1 large egg 1/2 c water 1 3/4 c shortening 2 tsp. salt 1 Tbsp. white vineger

Mix flour, sugar and salt in a large bowl. Add shortening and continue mixing until creamy. In a small bowl, beat the water, egg and vineger with a fork or whisk. Add to flour mixture and cut in with a knife. Dough will be moist. Refrigerate for 1/2 hour. This recipe will make 5 single crusts. Can refrigerate up to 3 days or freeze portions until ready to use. Bake according to your recipe's directions.

From Scratch Pumpkin Pie Spice Use 1 teaspoon cinnamon, 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg and 11/2 teaspoon ginger instead of pumpkin pie spices.

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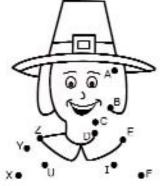
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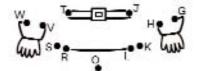
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Can you spot 10 differences?



Follow the dots

Follow the dots then color the pilgrim





Word list:

FLAVOR

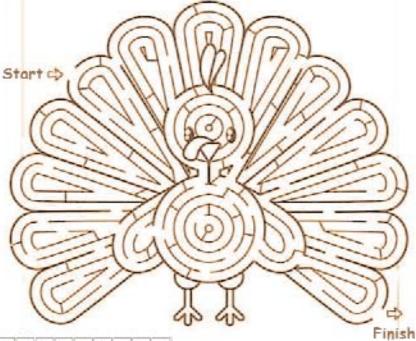
CINNAMON HEAT
CRUST HOLIDAY
DESSERT MILK
EGGS MIX
FILLING OVEN

POUR

RECIPE SPIRINKLES STIR TASTE TREAT YUMMY



Find your way through the Turkey Maze



Cryptogam Key

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Are you a crafter who needs a little virtual shop? Rent a shop for less than \$100 year in the Gnome Gneighborhood. Visit gnomehomeine.com for details or email us at gnomehomeine@yahoo.com

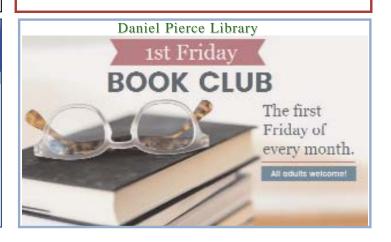


Studio Artists Group

at the Daniel Pierce Library

Wednesdays from 9:30 - 12:30 Come paint with us!

Join this collaborative group as we create and inspire each other. Please bring any art supplies that you plan to work with to create your piece. Adults only.



LEGALS/PUBLIC NOTICES

PAGE 18

Annual Election of the Neversink Fire District Held on December 9th, 2025

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual Election of the Neversink Fire District will take place on December 9th, 2025 between the hours of 6:00pm and 9:00pm at the Neversink Fire House located at 7486 State Route 55, Neversink, New York for the purpose of electing three Commissioners for the following vacancies;

- One, five year term, commencing January 1, 2026 and ending December 31st, 2029.

- One, two year term, commencing January 1, 2026 and ending December 31st, 2027.

- One, one year term, commencing January 1, 2026 and ending December 31st, 2026. All voters registered with the Sullivan County Board of Elections on or before November 17th, 2025 and residing within the Neversink Fire District will be eligible to vote.

Candidates for District Office will need to have filed their names and the office they are seeking in writing with the Secretary of Neversink Fire District, at the firehouse at Neversink Fire District, PO Box 394, Neversink, New York 12765, no later that 20 days prior to the election with the last day for a Candidate to file their name in writing being November 19th, 2025.

Dana Vogler, Secretary Board of Fire Commissioners Neversink Fire District 11/6; 11/13; 11/20; 11/27; 12/4

Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce Announces Resignation of President & CEO

Monticello, NY, (November 21, 2025) The Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors wants to share, that President & CEO Ashley Leavitt has chosen to step down from her role for personal reasons. The Board extends its sincere appreciation to Ashley for her dedication, leadership, and service to the Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce and the business community. We wish her the very best in her future endeavors and thank her for the impact she has made during her tenure.

During this transition, Chamber operations will continue without interruption. Geri Neumann, membership and operations coordinator will oversee any membership relations. Camden Olivero from Niche and Needle, the contracted marketing agency, will manage marketing, communications, and social media. Board members will support event participation, leader-

ship duties, and organizational oversight to ensure continuity and stability.

"Our members and community partners can be confident that it is business as usual at the Chamber." said Board Chairman Brad Rutledge. "We remain fully committed to supporting local businesses, delivering value to our members, and hosting the events and programs that strengthen our community."

The Executive Board has initiated the search process for the Chamber's next President & CEO. If anyone is interested in applying for the position, please send a cover letter and resume to chair@catskills.com.

For further information, please contact: Brad Rutledge, Chairman of the Board, Chair@Catskills.com Geri Neumann, Membership & Operations Coordinator, Office@Catskills.com

Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre Welcomes Families for a Full Day of Holiday Cheer: Breakfast with Santa and More

Hurleyville, NY - Celebrate the magic of the holiday season at the Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre (HPAC) with a joyful lineup of events on Saturday, December 6th, 2025. The festivities begin with the annual Breakfast with Santa from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM in the Ballroom at HPAC, setting the stage for a day filled with community spirit and festive fun.

Families are invited to enjoy a delicious breakfast buffet, lively holiday music, and creative crafting activities for children. Kids will have a special opportunity to meet Santa Claus, share their wish lists, and capture the memories with a keepsake photo. For an added touch of wonder, parents can arrange for their child to receive a special gift from Santa by dropping off a pre-wrapped present before December 1st. To coordinate, please email megan@hpacny.org.

Throughout the morning and into the afternoon, guests can savor the season with the Perfect Hot Chocolate from the Wandering Peach, available on-site to warm up the winter day.

HPAC's celebration continues as the community gathers for the Hurleyville town tree lighting, a cherished tradition marking the season's spirit. Immediately following, HPAC proudly presents "Faith in Christmas: A Holiday Concert & Donation Drive" at 6:00 PM. This free-admission event features singersongwriter Faith Kelly, performing her heartfelt collection of holiday songs along with storytelling and multimedia moments. The concert offers a cozy and uplifting way for families and friends to come together and embrace the holiday cheer.

Tickets for Breakfast with Santa are available for purchase online through the HPAC website, and admission to the evening concert is free, though advance registration is preferred. All events will take place at the Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre, 219 Main Street, Hurleyville, NY 12747

About HPAC: The Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre (HPAC) is a multi-arts venue dedicated to providing diverse, high-quality entertainment and arts education for the Sullivan Catskills region and beyond. Located in the heart of Hurleyville, HPAC offers a wide range of programming, including film, live music, dance, theatre, and community events, fostering a vibrant cultural hub for residents and visitors alike.





SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2025 10 AM - 3 PM

FEATURING LOCAL ARTISTS
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POTTERY, JEWELRY, MAPLE SYRUP, HONEY AND MUCH MORE.

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Gotsch Christmas Tree Farm

Blue and White Spruce

Cut-Your-Own Tree: \$50 any tree

Fresh Pre-Cut Tree: \$50 any tree

Open: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm (Weekends Listed Below)

November 28, 29, & 30

December 6 & 7

December 13 & 14

December 20 & 21 (depending on supply)

Closed December 24

Weekdays by Appointment Only

Cash only. No credit cards.

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Phone: 845-985-7902



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Grahamsville United Methodist Church Thrift Sale Sat., Nov. 15th 9 am - 12 noon

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



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

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Mass Times

Sat: 4:00 PM Sun: 9:00 AM

Confessions may be heard by appoinment. Just call 434-7643.

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



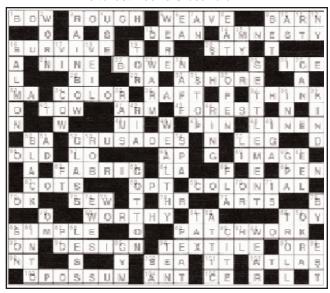
Worship Services @ 10:15 am

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

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





SUUJI WA TANSU NI KAGIRU

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

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



Sundown **United Methodist Church** Covered Dish Supper

Saturday,

December 6th, 2025 5:30 pm at the Church Hall

Check out the tables with Yard Sale items

available for sale

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

Clip & Save



Grahamsville United Methodist Church

356 Main St. P.O. Box 86 Grahamsville, NY 12740 **Thrift Sale Schedule 2025**

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

Dec 6th – Holiday Craft Fair

Donations accepted in the thrift building on Tuesdays, starting March 11, 2025, from 9:30 to 11:30 or by appointment. Call Ruth at 845-985-7222. grahamsvilleumc.org - grahamsvilleumc@gmail.com

Harriet Wilkin, Pastor

\$17.5 BILLION in Lost MoneyEvery 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

Temple Sholom Fundraiser Cruise to Nassau

Leave January 11 and return to Miami on January 18, 2026. Single cabin -\$2155; Couples-pay between \$3275 and \$4463 for a double balcony cabin with drinks and WiFi included. The higher price includes a dedicated restaurant and a cruise long pass to the spa for two. A \$500 deposit is refundable. Each cabin will receive \$100 in on-board credit.

> For further information, contact Barry Gleen at barry.gleen@cruiseplanners.com. or (516) 281-5905

All commissions from this trip donated to Temple Sholom.

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

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

44/07 00/05	Town of November Helidey, THANKOON/INO
11/27-28/25	Town of Neversink Holiday THANKSGIVING
12/2/25	Claryville Fire District Monthly Meeting 6:30 pm
12/6/25	Grahamsville UMC Thrift Sale Holiday Craft Sale 10 am - 3 pm
12/6/25	Sundown UMC Covered Dish Supper 5:30 Church Hall
12/10/25	Town of Neversink - Board Meeting
12/14/25	Gingerbread Bash at Claryville Church Fellowship Hall 1:30 pm FREE. See Pg 13
12/18/25	Denning Town Board & Business Meeting 6:00 pm Denning Town Hall
12/17/25	Neversink Rondout Antique Machinery Association Grahamsville Firehouse 7 pm
12/18/25	Town of Denning Planning Board Meeting 6:00 pm Denning Town of Town Hall
12/18/25	Neversink Fire District Commissioner Meeting 7:00pm
12/24/25	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service Claryville Reformed Church- 946 Claryville Rd, Claryville NY- Time t/b/a

TOWN OF OLIVE MEETINGS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

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

<u>Town of Olive Planning Board</u> meets the <u>first and third Tuesdays of each month</u>. 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 November 24 - November 28, 2025

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

Monday, November 24

- o 4:00 PM Special Meeting of the Ways & Means Committee to Vote on Budgetary Appeals & Amendments, in Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston & Via Legislature LiveStream
- o 6:30 PM Climate Smart Committee, in the Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston & Via Zoom, Meeting ID: 812 5415 3072

Tuesday, November 25

o CANCELLED - 4:00 PM Special Meeting of the Ulster County Economic Development Alliance Board Of Directors

Wednesday, November 26

o 9:00 AM - Ulster County Soil and Water Conservation District Board, at 5 Park Lane, Highland, New York 12528

Thursday, November 27

Thanksgiving Day - County Offices Closed

Friday, November 28

Office Closed

SLAC MEETING Friday November 28, 2025

Our agenda will address the fines imposed on the ACC, while it was under the Consulting firm Infinite Care, and managed by Sunset Lake. Two fines were placed on the ACC, involving patient harm, but the county is liable for paying them. Why?

Infinite Care still owes Sullivan County \$8 million. Where is it?

Why isn't our Legislation suing them, and why are they still in the picture?

These and the situation with Garnet Sullivan will be discussed.

Hope you have a great Thanksgiving.

Wolf Lake Foundation Awards \$5,000 Transfer Scholarship to Justina Wallace

Justina Wallace, a recent graduate of SUNY Sullivan, has



been awarded the \$5,000 Wolf Lake Neighbors Foundation (WLNF) Transfer Scholarship in recognition of her academic excellence and commitment to higher education.

Wallace, a resident of Pine Bush, N.Y. and a graduate of Pine Bush Central High School, has graduated recently from SUNY Sullivan associate with an degree in criminal justice. She has since matriculated to the University at Albany's bachelor of arts criminal justice program.

"As I continue my journey in criminal

justice, I'm driven by a deep understanding of the societal impact of the system," said Wallace. "I recognize that the justice system affects not just individuals, but families, communities, and society as a whole. That's why I'm committed to approaching my work with empathy and compassion, particularly when it comes to vulnerable populations like children."

Wallace expressed deep appreciation for the scholarship's impact on her educational journey.

"I would like to stress that none of my goals would be as obtainable had I not received the scholarship," Wallace said. "I am in need of financial support, and I am eternally grateful for the assistance I have received from SUNY Sullivan and the Wolf Lake Neighbors Foundation."

"We are thrilled to be able to assist Justina Wallace as she pursues the next step in her educational career," said Jim Gleason, a cofounder and current board member of the Wolf Lake Neighbors Foundation. "The WLNF is committed to helping students in our community reach their potential, and we wish her well as she pursues her degree at SUNY Albany."

The Wolf Lake Neighbors Foundation Transfer Scholarship, established in 2024 in partnership with the SUNY Sullivan Foundation, provides a one-time \$5,000 award to SUNY Sullivan graduates who transfer to a State University of New York (SUNY) institution to complete their bachelor's degree. The scholarship can be applied toward tuition, housing, textbooks, fees, or other educational expenses, easing the financial transition for deserving students like Wallace.

For more information about the Wolf Lake Neighbors Foundation Transfer Scholarship Program, contact the SUNY Sullivan Foundation by calling (845) 434-5750 x3188 or emailing foundation@sunysullivan.edu.

About the Wolf Lake Neighbors Foundation: Established in 2022, the Wolf Lake Neighbors Foundation (WLNF) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization comprised of Wolf Lake homeowners dedicated to philanthropic activities benefiting the towns of Thompson and Mamakating. Visit wolflakeneighbors.org for more information.

About SUNY Sullivan: SUNY Sullivan is the leader of innovative higher education and a catalyst for workforce development throughout the Sullivan Catskills and beyond. Our diverse community cultivates personal growth and professional advancement, preparing students for success in a sustainable and interconnected world. A forward-looking, top-tier community college in New York, SUNY Sullivan offers dozens of degree programs, certificates, and microcredentials for learners at all levels of their educational goals. We value critical inquiry and creativity while supporting our students in a culture of inclusion and respect.

Martin Colavito, Sullivan County Community Organizer, Receives 2025 SYDA Foundation Community Service Award at Event on November 19, 2025

Monticello, NY - November 23, 2025 - The SYDA Foundation presented the 2025 SYDA Foundation Community Service Award to Martin



Marty and Lynn Colavito with SYDA Representatives and Previous Community Service Award Recipients

decades of service and presented to Marty Colavito a framed certificate of merit for outstanding service to the Sullivan County community. Dr. Panchapakesan praised him for being an "exemplary leader whose compassion uplifts and inspires others. Marty is always on the lookout for those in need of assistance - whether they're fighting addiction, in need of housing or food, facing discrimination, or just need someone to talk to. When he finds them, he listens and works to get them the resources they need - not just to survive, but to thrive."

Dr. Panchapakesan also presented Marty with a check from the SYDA Foundation for \$7,500.00 to be distributed to charities of his choice.

(Marty) Colavito, a community organizer, from Liberty, New York, at a public event held at the Sullivan County Government Center in Monticello on Wednesday, November 19 at 1 pm. This year marked the 40th anniversary of the SYDA Foundation Community Service Award, an annual award which recognizes and honors local citizens for outstanding and enduring service to the Sullivan County community.

SYDA Foundation representative, Dr. Vivek Panchapakesan, shared about Marty's



Marty Colavito receiving ovation from audience



Marty Colavito speaking at SYDA Foundation Commumity Service Award event

Marty has chosen to donate the funds to two charities: Sullivan Fresh Community Cupboard, a food pantry and emergency food delivery service, and Trans + Support Initiative (TSI), an organization committed to addressing the need for support services for the trans + community in Sullivan and Wayne Counties. In accepting the award, Marty said that he was personally inspired by people "who fight the good fight" and "do the hard work every day to overcome the challenges they face in life." Marty also honored his wife, Lynn, by saying "if I never met her, I would not be standing here today."

In addition to the SYDA Foundation Community Service Award, Marty received formal commendations from elected officials including Eric Ball, representing U.S. Congressman Josh Riley; New York Assemblymember Paula Kay; Camille O'Brien representing New York State Senator Peter Oberacker; and Sullivan County Legislator Catherine Scott, who was joined by fellow legislators, Brian McPhillips, Luis Alvarez, and Nicholas Salomone.



Marty Colavito receiving certificate from Eric Ball representing U.S. Congressman Josh Riley

The event was attended by over 60 people, including Marty's wife Lynn, Marty's colleagues, SYDA Foundation
Trustees and Management, previous Community Service Award recipients, local officials, and representatives
from local organizations including Sullivan Fresh Community Cupboard, Sullivan Allies Leading Together

(SALT), Trans+ Support Initiative (TSI), Cornell Cooperative Extension, Liberty Rotary Club, Boys and Girls Clubs of Sullivan and Orange County, Sullivan 180, and New Hope Community.



NY State
Assemblywoman
Paula Kay presenting
proclamation to
Marty Colavito



Marty Colavito with Sullivan County Legislators Brian McPhillips, Luis Alvarez, Catherine Scott and Nicholas Salomone Jr



Camille O'Brien presents Marty Colavito with NY State Senate Certificate on behalf of Senator Peter Oberacker

Money in Your Pockets: Governor Hochul Highlights New Affordability Initiatives for Families and Announces Investment in New Bronx Maternal Health Center

- Starting in January, 1.6 Million Families Can Start Claiming New York's Expanded Child Tax Credit for up to \$1,000 Per Child
- New York Launches \$1,800 BABY Benefit for Low-Income Parents Upon Birth of New Baby
- Announces \$5 Million To Expand Affordable Maternal Health Care in the Bronx; Builds on Actions To Improve Maternal Health Statewide
- Significantly Expanded Access to Doula Services To Help Deliver More Affordable Care

Governor Hochul today met with new moms and families to highlight new affordability initiatives that will put thousands of dollars back in the pockets of families across New York. Starting in January, families statewide can start filing for up to \$1,000 per child under the Governor's historic expansion of New York's child tax credit, which will benefit more than 1.6 million families. Additionally, the Governor launched New York's new "Birth Allowance for Beginning Year" (BABY) Benefit, a nation-leading initiative to provide \$1,800 to thousands of eligible families across New York upon the birth of a new baby, providing additional support to vulnerable households.

The Governor also announced a new \$5 million investment to help build a new maternal health care center in the Bronx, as part of broader statewide efforts to continue expanding access to affordable maternal health care. The new Bronx birthing center will provide a home-like setting for labor, delivery, and postpartum care. It will also provide health services before, during, and after birth where care is provided through a midwifery, wellness, and collaborative care model.

In addition to the Governor's record level investments in maternal health care statewide, she also took significant action last year to expand affordable access to doula services.

"I'll never stop working to make life more affordable for new moms and families across New York," Governor Hochul said. "That's why I'm continuing to put more money back in New Yorkers' pockets, expand access to affordable maternal health care, and deliver more of the resources families need to grow and succeed."

Expanded Child Tax Credit for 1.6 Million Families

Governor Hochul fought for and secured the largest expansion of New York's child tax credit in state history. As a result of that expansion, starting in January, more than 1.6 million families can file for a child tax credit of up to \$1,000 per child under age four. Families in 2026 will also continue to receive a child tax credit of up to \$330 per child between ages 4-16.

As part of the Governor's expansion, in 2027 the tax

credit for children ages 4-16 will also be increased to \$500 per child. These increases are projected to benefit more than 2.75 million children statewide, assisting families with young children across the income spectrum.

Governor Hochul's expansion of the credit will double the size of the average credit going out to families from \$472 to \$943, providing relief to low-income and middle-income households. A family of four with a toddler and school-age child, earning up to \$110,000, would receive a \$1,500 annual credit, nearly \$1,000 more than under the current program. Even a family of four with an income of \$170,000, which was previously ineligible, would receive over \$500 per year. The Governor's actions also removed the credit's minimum income requirement, eliminating a longstanding provision that excluded New York's poorest families from accessing the maximum credit, so that those families can now receive the maximum credit as fully refundable.

Eligible New Yorkers will be able to claim the expanded Child Tax Credit as part of the normal tax return filing process in 2026. Tax season opens at the end of January.

New Baby Benefit for the Most Vulnerable Families

As part of her affordability agenda, the Governor also fought for and secured a new BABY Benefit - a one-time \$1,800 benefit at birth for New Yorkers who receive Public Assistance when they have a new baby. This nation-leading initiative will provide vital assistance to families at a critical time, helping support new parents, improve infant health, and reduce childhood poverty.

Administered by the State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, the BABY Benefit will help thousands of new under-resourced parents across New York meet vital needs during a crucial period in their lives. This essential funding will help families pay for baby essentials - such as diapers, safe-sleep items, and clothing - and ease the financial burden associated with caring for a new baby. This investment builds upon Governor Hochul's longstanding commitment to supporting pregnant individuals, new parents, and infants, fostering a stronger and more stable foundation for both parents and children by putting more money in the pockets of families to pay for critical items their new baby needs.

The child tax credit expansion and BABY Benefit are part of \$2.2 billion in landmark new investments Governor Hochul secured to support New York's families and children as part of her agenda to make New York the best, most affordable place to start and raise a family.

Expanding Access to Affordable Maternal Health Care

In the Bronx, the Maryam Reproductive Health + Wellness provides comprehensive gynecological care services such as reproductive health, bodywork modalities, lactation and feeding support, and community workshops. This extends to include lifestyle counseling and family planning to help people make informed choices, STI testing and treatment, breast health evaluations, and expert guidance on managing menopause, tending to their client's overall well-being, with considerations to their mental health support, pelvic floor health, addressing physical and emotional needs to enhance the quality of life for individuals and the community.

Under Governor Kathy Hochul's leadership, New York State is taking steps to improve maternal mental health. Earlier this month, Governor Hochul announced the release of New York's first-ever maternal mental health report detailing the challenges pregnant women are facing and recommendations for improvements statewide. In addition to the report, the state also made available funding to help OBGYN and family medicine practices support perinatal pregnant women with behavioral health needs and is hosting a series of virtual roundtables to discuss maternal mental health issues. (Contad. Pg. 28)

Money in Your Pockets: Governor Hochul Highlights New Affordability Initiatives for Families and Announces Investment in New Bronx Maternal Health Center

(From Pg. 27) The state is also developing specialized training for counselors staffing the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline, so they can better provide compassionate care, support, and necessary resources to birthing parents who experience mental health distress. The state expanded Project TEACH so that a wider range of front-line practitioners - including therapists, lactation consultants, WIC staff, home visiting nurses and others - can provide mental health support to pregnant and postpartum New Yorkers. OMH has also expanded HealthySteps, an evidence-based prevention program that integrates behavioral health specialists in pediatric practices to address the social and emotional well-being of young children and their families, to incorporate 125 sites statewide.

Governor Hochul has made critical investments in pregnancy care for New Yorkers. In 2022, Governor Hochul expanded Medicaid coverage from 60 days postpartum to one year postpartum, regardless of immigration status. Governor Hochul has also expanded access for doula care by giving all Medicaid enrollees coverage for doula services when they are pregnant, birthing, or postpartum. The Governor further expanded access to these services by creating a doula directory, and creating a doula expansion grant program. In January 2025, New York became the first state in the nation to offer "prenatal leave," 20 hours of paid leave available for all employees in the private sector to use for any pregnancy-related medical care.

New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance Commissioner Barbara C. Guinn said, "Under Governor Hochul's leadership, New York State has greatly expanded the resources available to families with young children, so parents are better able to provide for their children both economically and emotionally. These evidence-based investments will improve maternal well-being and positive child development. The BABY Benefit will provide economic support for parents of infants to reduce economic hardship and help ensure a better foundation for both parent and child. This investment along with the Governor's historic expansion of the Empire State Child Tax Credit are critical actions to reduce childhood poverty in New York and improve long-term health, education, and employment outcomes for New York families."

New York State Health Commissioner Dr. James McDonald said, "I thank Governor Hochul for always prioritizing the needs of New York families and ensuring that real resources are put directly in their hands. From the expanded Child Tax Credit to the BABY Benefit and now the new maternal health center in the Bronx, these initiatives will expand access to care, support maternal and child health and provide families with the financial security they need to thrive."

New York State Tax Department Acting Commissioner Amanda Hiller said, "The Empire State Child Credit is a proven accountable way of delivering vital support to New York families. By expanding this refundable credit, Governor Hochul is helping to lift more children out of poverty."

New York State Office of Mental Health Commissioner Dr. Ann Sullivan said, "We know that socioeconomic factors can have a significant impact on the mental health of new parents and can play a huge role in the growth and development of their child. These supports represent a commonsense approach to maternal mental health and achieving better outcomes both today and later in life. Governor Hochul's focus on prenatal and postpartum supports will help us eliminate past inequities and usher in a healthi-

er future for parents and their children."

Representative Ritchie Torres said, "Every parent in the Bronx should be able to raise a child with stability and good care. The Governor's plan will put dollars back in the pockets of families and strengthen maternal health care in our borough. It's real help for moms, babies, and families, and I'm grateful for her commitment to the Bronx."

State Senator Gustavo Rivera said, "Governor Hochul is providing much needed relief to countless New York families deeply affected by the affordability crisis. From the expansion of the child tax credit to the BABY Benefit for eligible new families, it is a sound investment in our State's future to support and uplift families. I'm thankful to the Governor for the \$5 million to build a new maternal health care center in the Bronx, where soon-to-be moms will be able to receive affordable care before, during and after birth, including the opportunity of giving birth in a safe, home-like setting."

State Senator Jamaal T. Bailey said, "New York families face enormous financial pressures during pregnancy and early childhood, and too often the cost of essential care puts vital support out of reach. The expansion of the Child Tax Credit, the nation's first BABY Benefit, and the investment in a new Bronx birthing center represent critical steps toward easing those burdens. Strengthening maternal health services statewide will not only improve access to quality care but provide families with the stability and support they need during the most vulnerable moments of their lives. I am incredibly grateful to Governor Hochul for her leadership and commitment to making New York a more affordable and supportive place to raise a family and look forward to seeing the prosperous future of New York's family support systems"

State Senator Luis R. Sepúlveda said, "Today we celebrate historic advances that will directly support families across our state. The expansion of the Child Tax Credit, the creation of the BABY Benefit, and the investment toward a new maternal health care center in the Bronx represent tangible relief for those who need it most. This new health center will be especially transformative in the Bronx, where maternal health outcomes are dire. The borough's maternal mortality rate has been documented at 36.2 deaths per 100,000 live births, far above the citywide average. Black women face particularly staggering risk. In prior years, Black mothers in New York City (including the Bronx) experienced a mortality rate of 51.0 per 100,000, more than double the citywide average. These initiatives, driven by Governor Hochul, reflect our commitment to confronting persistent racial inequities in maternal health, ensuring every child in New York has a dignified start, and that no parent faces the challenges of birth and child-rearing alone. As a legislator representing one of the State's poorest districts, I am proud to fully support Governor Hochul's agenda, which prioritizes equity, health, and the well-being of our communities. I will continue fighting to ensure that every family in the Bronx and across New York has access to essential resources, from comprehensive medical care to meaningful economic support. This is another step toward building a state where every New Yorker can thrive from day one."

State Senator Robert Jackson said, "When a state chooses to invest in its children, it is choosing its future. I commend the Governor for advancing these investments, which reflect a clear understanding of what families in our communities have been saying for years: affordability is not abstract - it begins at home, in the earliest days of a child's life. From the expansion of the child tax credit to the new BABY Benefit, to a maternal health center in the Bronx rooted in community and compassion -- this is the government stepping up where it matters most. These are not gestures; they are justice in action. For too long, the cost of raising a family in New York has fallen hardest on those already stretched thin. Today, we begin to turn that tide - by putting money back in parents' pockets, honoring the sacred start of life, and ensuring every child and every parent gets the foundation they deserve."



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Holiday Shop

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(next door to the Museum)

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SHADOWLAND STAGES' favorite, Jefferson McDonald

SHADOWLAND STAGES' favorite, Jefferson McDonald, is wrapping up after a whirlwind year of concerts billed along-side legends Paul Anka, Darlene Love, Gary Lewis and the Playboys. But it's not over yet! McDonald returns to the MainStage with a brand new show chock-full of vintage rock and roll and Christmas cheer: Jefferson McDonald's Great Jingle Balls Of Fire! Sing, laugh, and dance the night away with the man dubbed "the Victor Borge of Rock and Roll," who was "born inside a piano." Critics rave, "run, don't walk" (Jonathan Charles Fox, The River Reporter) to see McDonald. McDonald is joined by the incredible "Great Jingle Balls of Fire" Orchestra, featuring the talents of Armando Gutierrez on bass and vocals and Colin Summers on electric guitar and vocals.

~GET YOUR TICKETS HERE~

https://shadowlandstages.easy-ware-ticketing.com/events

GEORGIANA & KITTY ~ Christmas at Pemberley~



Shadowland finishes the popular Christmas at Pemberley trilogy with this fun holiday tale based on Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice.

After years of being overshadowed by their older siblings, Georgiana and Kitty are ready for their own adventures in life and love, starting with the arrival of an admirer and secret correspondent. Meddlesome families won't stop these two friends from forging their own way in an inspiring holiday story filled with music, ambition, sisterhood, and forgiveness.

"Delivers a delight...bringing a modern sense to Austen's sensibility." - The Courier

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

FRI, DECEMBER 5th at 7 pm*
SAT, DECEMBER 6th at 2 pm*
SAT, DECEMBER 6th at 7 pm (OPENING NIGHT)
SUN, DECEMBER 7th at 2 pm

FRI, DECEMBER 12th at 7 pm SAT, DECEMBER 13th at 2 pm SAT, DECEMBER 13th at 7 pm SUN, DECEMBER 14th at 2 pm

FRI, DECEMBER 19th at 7 pm SAT, DECEMBER 20th at 2 pm SAT, DECEMBER 20th at 7 pm SUN, DECEMBER 21st at 2 pm





CSEA Ratifies Four-Year Labor Contract with UC

KINGSTON, NY - The Ulster County Civil Service Employees Association Inc. (CSEA) has officially ratified a new four-year labor agreement with Ulster County, covering the period from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2028. The contract was negotiated by County Executive Jen Metzger and her team and is scheduled to go before the Ulster County Legislature for approval at its special budget session on December 3.

The total anticipated cost of the agreement is \$11,830,837 over four years, with no additional appropriation required for 2025. The County Executive's recommended budget includes \$6,220,578 for 2026. For 2027, anticipated funding is expected to be \$2,906,357, and for 2028, it is expected to be \$2,703,902.

The agreement includes salary schedule adjustments across multiple departments impacting more than 870 employees:

7-Hour and Department of Social Services Salary Schedule:

o Annual 3% increase to entry rates for Grades 1-16 and Grades 17+, with step increases ranging from \$2.00 to 5.5% in 2025, and adjusted annually through 2028.

Department of Public Works Salary Schedule:

o Annual 3% increase to entry rates, with step increases ranging from \$2.00 to 3.5% in 2026, and adjusted annually through 2028. Psychiatric Salary Schedule:

o 3% increase to entry rates and 3.5% step increases in 2025, followed by 3% annual increases through 2028.

Additional provisions include updates to call-in pay, uniform and meal allowances, bereavement leave, and a new take-home vehicle use policy.

"This agreement reflects our strong commitment to the wellbeing of Ulster County's hardworking employees and their families, and to addressing pay disparities that have long existed," said Ulster County Executive Jen Metzger. "The agreement we reached with our largest union, CSEA, fairly compensates its 880 members for their dedicated work, strengthens pay equity, and will improve employee retention across departments. I want to thank CSEA leadership and my negotiating team, including Deputy County Executive Jamie Capuano, Personnel Director Dawn Spader, Director of Employee Relations Jim Farina, and Budget Director Ken Juras, for their dedicated work to reach this agreement."

"For our members, being out of contract during negotiations was frustrating, but this Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is a step forward in recognizing the pay disparities that exist throughout our titles and provides significant life sustaining and necessary wage increases to our members," said Tina Buono, CSEA Ulster County Unit 8950 President. "Our members overwhelmingly supported this MOA by a 95% yes margin."

Ulster County Celebrates Inaugural Sojourner Truth Awards Honoring 22 Local High School Students

KINGSTON, NY - Ulster County Executive Jen Metzger and Chief Diversity Officer Dina Suggs led a ceremony with community leaders, educators, and families on Saturday, November 22, at St. James United Methodist Church in Kingston to present the inaugural Ulster County Sojourner Truth Awards, honoring outstanding high school students who embody the courage, resilience, leadership in service to others, and advocacy of one of Ulster County's most extraordinary native daughters.

The ceremony, held in commemoration of Sojourner Truth Day 2025, featured music by Ubaka Hill and the Drumsong Orchestra, an original poem by Ulster County Poet Laureate Mike Jurkovic entitled Your North Star, a piece by storyteller Evelyn Clarke, and reflections on Truth's legacy. Speakers included Reverend Gia Hall of St. James United Methodist Church, County Executive Jen Metzger, County Clerk-elect Taylor Bruck, County Historian Eddie Moran, and culminat-

ed in the presentation of certificates and commemorative keepsakes to 22 student awardees from across Ulster County.

Visitors also had the opportunity to view a special Sojourner Truth display prepared by the Ulster County Clerk's Office, located outside the sanctuary. Coffee and pastries were provided by Di Sweet Spot following the ceremony.

2025 Ulster County Sojourner Truth Awardees:

- o Nisean Abney, P-Tech at Ellenville High School (nominated by) My Brother's Keeper
- o Nino Belheleurl, Kingston High School Center for Photography at Woodstock
- o Johnell Brannon, Saugerties High School Boys and Girls Club of Ulster County
- o Kyra Campbell, Kingston High School Center for Creative Education
- o Bryan Correa, Jr., Kingston High School YMCA of Kingston and Ulster County
- o Sam Constable, Kingston High School Center for Creative Education
- o Diego Estrada Perez, Kingston High School Fly the Coop
- o Marlene Hernandez, Kingston High School Fly the Coop
- o Alanny Jimenez Peralta, Kingston High School Boys and Girls Club of Ulster County
- o Henry Jones, P-Tech at Ellenville High School My Brother's Keeper
- o Isabela Lewis-Rivera, P-Tech at Ellenville High School My Sister's Keeper
- o Zackary Mahoney, Highland High School Ulster County 4-H
- o Ella Maxwell, Saugerties High School Ulster County 4-H
- o Juelz Mayers, Rondout Valley High School Center for Creative Education
- o Wyatt McNeil, Ellenville Central School Wild Earth
- o Timothy Michaud, Wallkill Senior High Ulster County 4-H
- o Dalianis Ortega, P-Tech at Ellenville High School -My Sister's Keeper
- o Kurtis Owens, Kingston High School Boys and Girls Club of Ulster County
- o Raisa Rehuma, Kingston High School Center for Photography at Woodstock
- o Janaye Riley, Kingston High School Boys and Girls Club of Ulster County
- o Isabella Rivera, Saugerties High School Boys and Girls Club of Ulster County
- o Jarell Seabrook, Grove Street Academy The Children's Home of Kingston (Contd. Pg. 36)





Ulster County Celebrates Inaugural Sojourner Truth Awards Honoring 22 Local High School Students



(From Pg. 35) "It was incredibly meaningful to gather in the very church where Sojourner herself once worshiped to cel-

ebrate her extraordinary legacy and the young people in Ulster County who embody Sojourner's spirit in their own lives," said County Executive Jen Metzger. "I'm very proud of these 22 young leaders, and want to thank the youth-serving organizations who nominated them as well as the work of the Ulster County Sojourner Truth Awards



Committee. This is the first of what will become an annual tradition to honor the young leaders who the legacy Sojourner Truth forward in courage, resilience, advocacy, and leadership in to the greater service good."



"Each awardee has shown great character through their actions, leadership, and care for others," said Dina Suggs, Ulster County Chief Diversity Officer. "It has truly been a privilege to learn about each one of them as a member of the awards committee. These high school students enrich our community in mean-

ingful ways and make us all deeply proud."

"It was deeply moving to celebrate Ulster County's inaugural Sojourner Truth Awards in the very church where Sojourner worshiped before forging her path to freedom and justice," said Taylor Bruck, Ulster County Clerk-elect. "Watching young people step up to serve their communities - quietly, consistently, and with heart - felt like a living continuation of her legacy. Their commitment honors the history we inherit and the future we're responsible for building."

Students were nominated by youth-serving organizations, based on criteria established by the Ulster County Sojourner Truth Awards Committee, including courage and persistence, leadership in service to others, and community advocacy. The Committee included Dina Suggs (Ulster County Chief Diversity Officer), Sharon Williams (Director of the Office of Employment and Training), Sugely Melenciano-Weed (Director of the Youth Bureau), and Kim Mapes (Youth and Family Engagement Coordinator at the Center for Restorative Justice).

About Sojourner Truth Day

Born enslaved in Esopus in 1797, Sojourner Truth freed herself in 1826 and made history in Kingston when she successfully sued to win back her son - becoming the first woman in the United States to win a court case against a man. She went on to become a fearless abolitionist, women's

rights advocate, and one of the most powerful voices for justice in American history.

In 2022, four young women from the Kingston YMCA Farm Hub Youth Crew successfully advocated for Ulster County to permanently designate November 26 as Sojourner Truth Day. Their work inspired New York State to follow suit in 2024, making November 26 a statewide day of recognition.

Ulster County and MyKingstonKids Host 'A Day of Play & Wellness' for Families and Youth on Dec. 4

KINGSTON, NY - The Ulster County Department of Mental Health and MyKingstonKids invite families to a vibrant evening of fun, connection, and community support at A Day of Play & Wellness, taking place on Thursday, December 4, from 5 to 8 PM at St. James United Methodist Church, 35 Pearl Street in Kingston.

This free community event is designed to bring youth and parents together through engaging activities and meaningful conversations. Attendees can enjoy virtual reality, gaming, interactive stations, and more - all while exploring the Mental Health Village, a welcoming space where local organizations will offer resources, tools, and open dialogue around mental health, stress, and drug prevention.

Admission is free, and refreshments will be served. Families are encouraged to come together, have fun, and leave with new ideas, lasting memories, and real support for life beyond the event.

EVENT: A Day of Play & Wellness - Hosted by MyKingstonKids in partnership with the Ulster County Department of Mental Health and community providers

WHEN: Thursday, December 4, from 5 - 8 PM

WHERE: St. James Church, 35 Pearl Street, in Kingston

After you've celebrated Thanksgiving, come out for the final Arts Nest Concert

After you've celebrated Thanksgiving, come out for the final Arts Nest Concert for 2025 with British singersongwriter Rupert Wates on Saturday Nov 29.

Rupert Wates

Saturday November 29, 2025 from 7-9pm

Doors open 6pm

Buy Now on My River Tickets

Rupert Wates was born in London, UK, and has been based in the US since 2007. He signed a publishing deal with Eaton Music (London) in 1994 and has been a full time songwriter ever since. He has won over 50 songwriting and performing awards. In 2018 he performed as a Finalist in the Kerrville New Folk Song Contest, and an Emerging Artist at Falconridge Folk Festival. He was voted 'Artist Of The Year' by the Listening Room Network in both 2013 and 2016. More than 30 of his songs have been covered by other artists, including two

full length tribute albums to his material recorded by independent artists in Nashville and Los Angeles.

He has released 12 solo albums, tracks from which have been played on radio worldwide. He averages 120 live shows a year, in every state in the US, in Canada and in Europe.

Lift up your spirits at our special Holiday Concert on Sun Dec 14th at 2pm. Featuring Craig Bickhardt, Jesse Terry, Halley Neal, and Sam Robbins.

Our weekly Arts Nest Open Mic is every Tuesday evening from 6-8pm with our final open mic for 2025 on December 16.

Songs, Stories and Sleighbells

A Holiday Concert Sunday Dec 14, 2025 at 2pm Tickets \$30 - Buy Now on My River Tickets Featuring Craig Bickhardt, Jesse Terry, Halley Neal, and Sam Robbins.

Four highly acclaimed, award winning singer-songwriters team up and take the stage for an evening of festive & heartwarming holiday music!

Craig Bickhardt's songs have been recorded by Johnny Cash, Ray Charles, BB King, Martina McBride and about 125 others. He has written or co-written nine (9) top ten hits including four (4) #1s. "Precious Child - The Story of Christmas," Craig's collaboration with Thom Schuyler (Songwriter Hall of Fame), is considered a classic, must-have holiday album.

Jesse Terry is a Grand Prize winner of The John Lennon songwriting contest and the CMT/NSAI Song Contest. He plays over 125 shows annually from Bonnaroo to the Philadelphia Folk Festival, the 30A Songwriters Festival to AmericanaFest. Jesse's Holiday CD, "Peace-A Christmas Collection," his children's book, "If I Were The Moon," and his arrangements of timeless holiday songs, have people coming back for more every holiday season!

Halley Neal is an award winning folk singer and songwriter whose live shows center on themes of positivity and peace. The formerly-Nashville-currently-Boston-areabased artist has gained national recognition from touring across the country to listening rooms and folk music venues and from her performances at festivals, notably the Kerrville Folk Fest, Rocky Mountain Folks Fest and the Telluride Bluegrass Festival. Her live shows are remembered for her effortless vocals and honest lyrics.

Sam Robbins is a Nashville-based singer songwriter, in the vein of classic writers like James Taylor and Jackson Browne, with an upbeat side. He's the 2021 Kerrville Folk Fest New Folk winner and he was the first to sing a Jim Croce song on The Voice. Sam and Halley's collaborative holiday album, "You and Me on Christmas Eve," was released in December or last year and quickly drew accolades from reviewers and fans alike.

All are Welcome to join us and get into the Holiday spirit!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oy9Awq8Afr0



BIG INDIAN-OLIVEREA AUXILIARY



HOLIDAY FUNDRAISER & BAZAAR

DECEMBER 6th 11AM-3PM

SANTA AT NOON!

Cookie Platters- Wreaths- Swags- Holiday Gifts

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Join us for hot cocoa, and cookies with Santa at noon!

Environmental Conservation Police on Patrol

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's (DEC) Division of Law Enforcement enforces the 71 chapters of New York State's Environmental Conservation Law (ECL), protecting fish and wildlife and preserving environmental quality across New York. In 1880, the first eight Game Protectors proudly began serving to protect the natural resources and people of New York State.

In the first half of 2025, DEC's Division of Law Enforcement fielded an estimated 45,000 calls, resulting in Environmental Conservation Police Officers (ECOs) and Investigators across the state responding to more than 18,934 complaints and working on cases that resulted in 9,440 tickets or arrests for violations ranging from deer poaching to solid waste dumping, illegal mining, the illegal pet trade, and excessive emissions violations.

"DEC Environmental Conservation Police Officers (ECOs) and Investigators protect New York's air, water, wildlife, and public safety, while also working to connect New Yorkers with the outdoors," DEC Commissioner Amanda Lefton said. "As we tackle environmental threats on all fronts, I applaud the critical work DEC's ECOs and Investigators are undertaking to enforce New York's Environmental Conservation Law and ensure a cleaner, greener, safer, and more resilient New York State."

Two Plead Guilty for Stealing from DEC Facility - Schuyler County

Two subjects recently pleaded guilty and paid fines to settle charges related to the theft of items from a DEC facility in Schuyler County earlier this year.

In January 2025, Investigators from DEC's Division of Law Enforcement Bureau of Environmental Crimes Investigation (BECI) Unit responded to a report of ongoing vandalism at the DEC facility. BECI Investigators Gross and Wojtkowiak met with DEC Operations employees at the location and observed fresh footprints in the snowy ground, indicating items were recently removed from buildings on the property.

Based on the preliminary investigation, Investigators shifted their focus to the nearest scrap metal recycling facility approximately 10 miles away and learned two vehicle occupants attempted to sell copper and brass items matching items taken from the DEC facility.

Investigators approached the truck, which was still on a scale at the scrap yard, and interviewed two subjects who admitted to stealing copper wire and a brass fixture from a DEC building earlier in the day. The items were valued at \$190.57, according to sales receipts provided by the scrap yard.

Both subjects were charged with one count each of burglary in the third degree, a felony, and petit larceny, a misdemeanor.

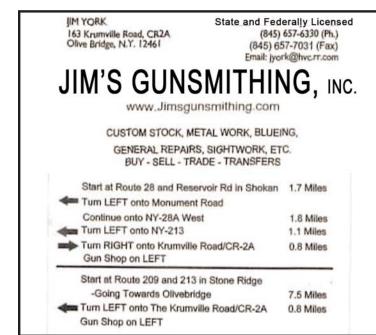
On September 11, one subject pleaded guilty to felony attempted burglary and was sentenced to five years' probation and ordered to pay fees totaling \$375.

On October 23, the second subject pleaded guilty to misdemeanor petit larceny and was sentenced to three years' probation and ordered to pay fees totaling \$75.

Two cups filled with copper wire



Copper wire taken illegally from a DEC facility



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

Illegal Deer Take - Saratoga County

On October 29, ECO Smith responded to a call requesting assistance with an injured whitetail deer in the backyard of a residence in the town of Stillwater. Officer Smith arrived at the residence and located the now-deceased nine-point buck on the edge of the wood line. An investigation revealed the animal was shot with a bow on an adjoining property. ECO Smith located and interviewed the hunter who took the buck and discovered the subject did not have an archery season tag or bowhunting endorsement as required. Officer Smith issued tickets to the individual for the illegal take, returnable to the Town of Stillwater Court. The buck was confiscated as evidence and donated to the organization Venison for Veterans and Seniors of Fulton and Montgomery counties.



ECO with buck that was illegally taken

Environmental Conservation Police on Patrol

(From Pg. 39)



Deer Rescue - Niagara County

Deer Rescue - Niagara County

On November 6, ECOs assisted the Lewiston Police Department following a report of an antlered deer that fell into a 10-foot-deep dry well and became trapped off Upper Mountain Road in the town of Lewiston. ECO Scheer, along with a licensed wildlife rehabilitator, and the Niagara County Tech Rescue Team were able to hoist the deer from the well and release it safely without incident. The well was covered as a preventative measure.



A deer trapped in a dry well



Emergency crews rescue deer trapped down 10-foot-deep dry well in Niagara County

Trapped Bears Released Safely - Sullivan County

On November 18, a trapper notified ECOs about two yearling bears stuck in foothold traps within a few feet of each other in the town of Rockland. ECO Johnson and Lieutenant Lattimer responded to the location and met with the licensed trapper who was legally trapping bobcats when he accidentally trapped the bears. Each bear had a front paw trapped in the footholds and was unable to escape. ECO Johnson carefully pinned one bear down using a catchpole while Lieutenant Lattimer used a piece of plywood as a shield, allowing the trapper to safely access the bear's front paw and free it. They successfully repeated the process with the second bear and both animals ran off into the woods without incident.

New York State trapping regulations require trappers to check their traps at least once every 24 hours, reducing the amount of time an animal remains in a trap.

ECO Reunites Lost Dog with Owner - Fulton County

ECO Pasciak recently observed a dog running loose in the roadway while on patrol in the town of Johnstown. Fearing for the dog's safety and potential traffic hazards, Officer Pasciak stopped and safely secured the German shorthaired pointer in his patrol vehicle and drove around in search of the dog's owner. After a short time, ECO Pasciak located and reunited the dog, named Jack, with its owner, without incident.



A dog wearing an orange collar and a gray collar sits in the passenger seat of a vehicle

To contact an ECO to report an environmental crime or to report an incident, call 1-844-DEC-ECOS for 24-hour dispatch or email (for nonurgent violations).



Students Grades 1-6 Tuesday, December 16th

3:00 to 4:00 pm

Snow Date: Wednesday, December 17th

Join us for an afternoon of warm latkes and applesauce! Come in from the cold for some holiday cheer, stories, crafts, music and LOL (Lots of Latkes)!

Learn about the Festival of Lights - Hanukkah, a joyous holiday. We have a whole lotta latke experience to share.

Take home the secret recipe to make your own!

Registration is open to Tri-Valley residents. Advanced online registration is required at danielpiercelibrary.org

If you wish for your child to take the bus from school, please send a note to the elementary office no later than Monday, December 15th.



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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.

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



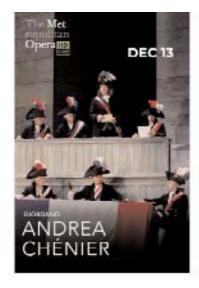






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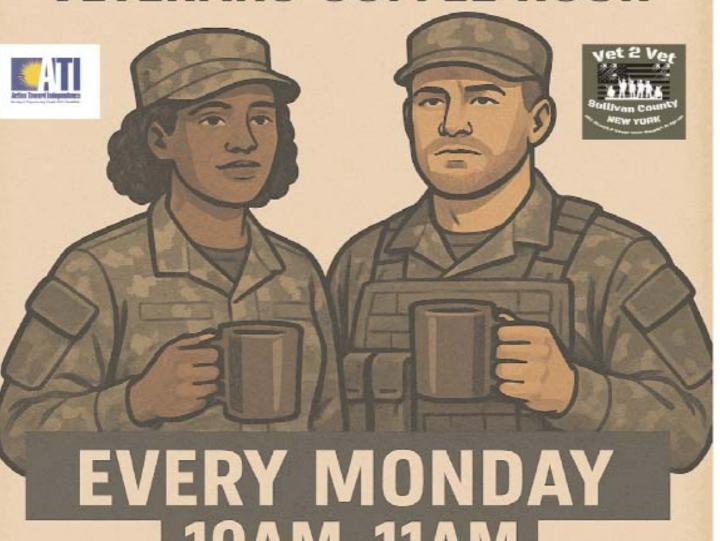
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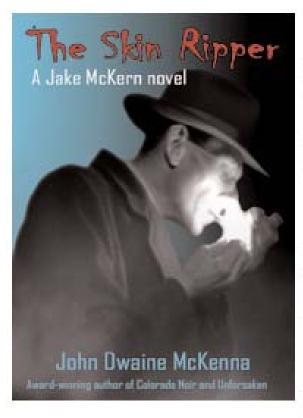
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The Skin Ripper

John Dwaine McKenna

From the award-winning pen of John Dwaine McKenna comes a searing new novel five years in the making . . .



Recently promoted and just out of the hospital after a long recuperation from injuries he received while battling Lee Roy Morgan gang as they were trying to rob Colorado Commercial Bank, Colorado Springs homicide detective Jake McKern is on his first case . . . the double murder of an elderly couple who ran a small grocery on the 'Springs near west side . . . while at the same time, his personal life is crashing down around him.

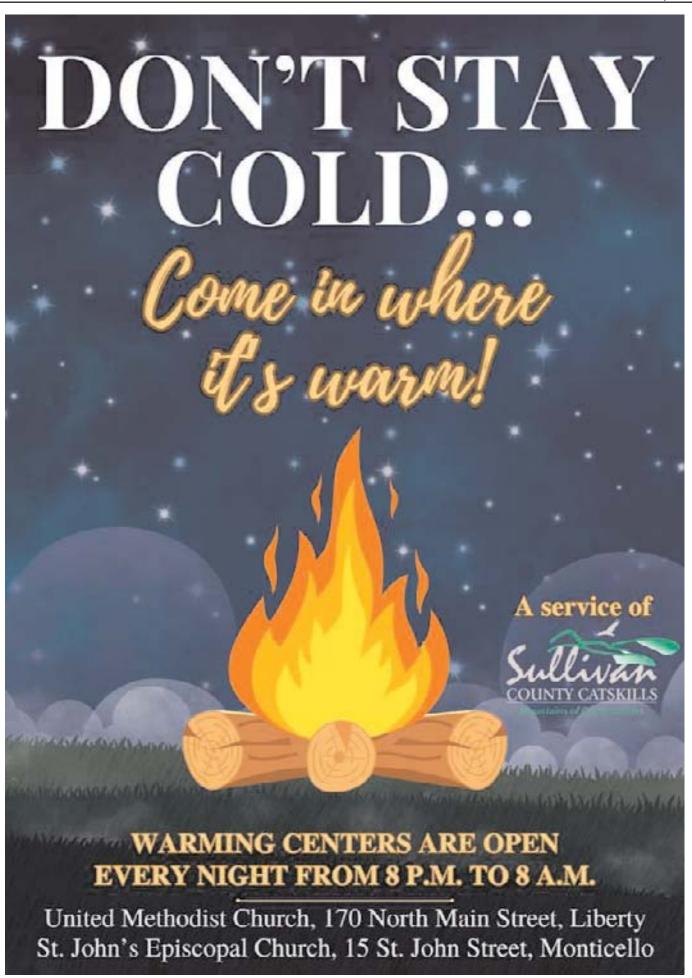
With the only clue being a handwritten journal in an unknown and indecipherable language, the victims turn out to be Jews who survived Auschwitz and the horrors of the Shoah. the case suddenly takes on an international flavor with worldwide consequences.

The suspense ratchets up with each chapter as the beleaguered detective is drawn ever deeper into a morass of treachery, danger, and personal tragedy. It's Jake's darkest

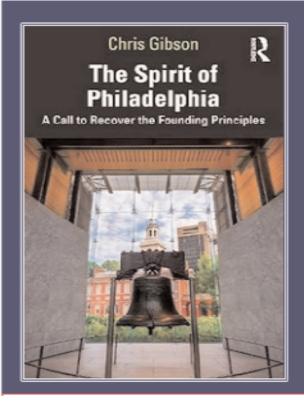
hour and his greatest adventure to date!

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The Spirit of Philadelphia By Chris Gibson

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

The Spirit of Philadelphia.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





danielpiercelibrary.org.

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Vet 2 Vet Sullivan County

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December 1st-December 15th Trees donated by: Delaware Valley Farm and Garden

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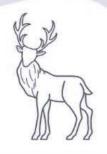






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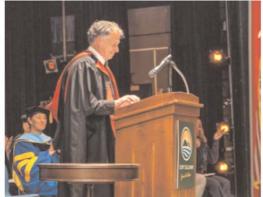


Dr. David Potash Inaugurated as SUNY Sullivan President











We are pleased to mark a significant moment in the institution's history: the formal inauguration of Dr. David Potash as the eighth president of SUNY Sullivan.

The ceremony celebrated a new era of ambitious leadership and collaborative vision. Dr. Potash, an experienced historian and nationally recognized leader, brings a proven commitment to student success and community engagement

We extend sincere gratitude to all distinguished guests, including SUNY Chancellor Dr. John B. King Jr., local and state government representatives, and leadership from numerous SUNY campuses, who joined us for this momentous occasion.

The work to build a bold future for SUNY Sullivan starts now!

Ulster County Announces Leadership Transition in Economic Development Department

KINGSTON, NY - Ulster County Executive Jen Metzger today announced a leadership transition in the Department of Economic Development. Director Kevin Lynch will be stepping down at the end of the year for family reasons, and Deputy Director Joshua Stratton-Rayner will serve as Interim Director beginning January 1, 2026.

"We thank Kevin Lynch for his service and leadership over the past two years," said County Executive Jen Metzger. "Kevin brought valuable experience in finance, economic development, and public-private partnerships to the role, and we wish him the very best."

Stratton-Rayner, who has served as Deputy Director since 2022 and previously held the role of Interim Director, brings a strong background in urban strategy, systems-oriented planning, and civic development. He has played a central role in a number of key initiatives, including the County's first comprehensive arts and culture plan, the Boost for Main Streets program, and his work to help secure major New York State economic development awards for iPark 87 in the Town of Ulster, the Barrel Factory in Kingston, and the redevelopment of the Wellington Hotel in Shandaken. Stratton-Rayner also currently serves on the City of Kingston's Zoning Working Group.

"Joshua's dedication to Ulster County's economic development efforts has been evident in every initiative he's helped lead," said County Executive Metzger. "His thoughtful leadership and collaborative approach will ensure continuity and momentum as we continue our work to advance the County's economic development priorities



Opposing Hochul's Extreme Mandates

New Yorkers are facing one of the worst affordability crises in the country, and Albany's extreme energy mandates are exacerbating the situation, making it even harder for families, seniors, and small businesses to keep up. This week, I joined my colleagues at a press conference to call out Governor Hochul's reckless push to eliminate natural gas hookups, force all-electric construction, and overload a fragile grid already stretched thin. Utility bills are up more than 30 percent across many regions, and experts warn these mandates would add as much as \$20,000-\$30,000 to the cost of building a new home. Hochul's so-called "pause" on her ban is nothing more than a political maneuver, not a real change in direction. New Yorkers deserve honesty, transparency, and policies grounded in affordability, not activist-driven mandates that ignore the everyday realities working families face.

That's why I'm standing firmly for energy choice and common-sense solutions. The Energy Choice Act, which I cosponsor, protects your right to choose affordable, reliable energy, whether it's natural gas, propane, electricity, nuclear, or hydropower. An all-of-the-above approach helps keep costs down and maintains a stable grid. New Yorkers shouldn't be forced into higher bills, unreliable power, and one-size-fits-all mandates dreamed up by Albany bureaucrats. I'll continue fighting to restore balance, protect consumers, and ensure our state's energy future works for the people who live here, not the activists and politicians driving these extreme policies.

Condemning the Horrors of Socialism

This week, I voted to condemn the horrors of socialism by supporting H. Con. Res. 58, a resolution that exposes the atrocities committed by socialist regimes and reaffirms America's commitment to liberty and human rights. Around the world, socialism has produced political repression, economic collapse, and the deaths of more than 100 million people in countries like the Soviet Union, China, Cuba, North Korea, and Venezuela. I saw the dangers of this ideology up close while working in Yugoslavia during the communist era, where I was the only American employed by the Consulate General and witnessed firsthand how every decision, every opportunity, and every movement required political approval from the state. It was a stark reminder of what happens when government controls every aspect of life and freedom becomes an afterthought. Today, we're seeing alarming echoes of this ideology here in New York as radical politicians push government-run systems, undermine law enforcement, and drive families and job creators out of our communities. Socialism has never been about compassion; it's about control, and we must ensure America never goes down this dan-

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 thor-

ough 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. 2574, No Iranian Energy Act: This bill would permanently impose sanctions on the importation of natural gas from Iran by the Government of Iraq. Additionally, this would apply to the sale, supply, or transfer of natural gas to or from Iran. The Iranian regime is a threat to our national security, and it is vital that we continue to apply maximum pressure on their government while advancing a commonsense energy policy that will promote domestic production.

H.R. 438, PFC Joseph P. Dwyer Peer Support Program Act: This bill would require the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to permanently establish a peer support program to make grants to eligible entities for peer-to-peer mental health programs for veterans. Additionally, these grants would be available to nonprofits that serve the mental health needs of veterans, as well as to state or local veteran service agencies. This builds on the New York Statelevel program that helps address the mental health challenges that our service members face, and we must do everything we can to support our veterans and know that their sacrifice is appreciated.

H.R. 2813, Small Modular Reactor Commercialization Act of 2025: This bill would update the definition of a Small Modular Reactor (SMR) up to modern technology standards, increasing the electrical output threshold to enable easier deployment of higher-output reactors. Additionally, this bill would establish a working group within the Department of Energy to advance the commercialization of SMRs. Nuclear energy remains the most efficient, carbon-free form of energy, and I am fighting to ensure it remains viable now and to ensure our energy becomes more dependable and affordable.

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

Monday, November 17

I voted "Yes" on H.R. 1608, the Department of Homeland Security Vehicular Terrorism Prevention and Mitigation Act of 2025. On January 1, 2025, a deadly vehicular terrorist attack occurred in New Orleans, Louisiana, when an individual inspired by the Islamic State drove a vehicle into a crowded area, resulting in the deaths of 14 individuals and injuries to at least dozens of others. This bill requires the Secretary of Homeland Security to produce a report to Congress on emerging threats and countermeasures related to vehicular terrorism and publish a summary of this report on the Department's website for the public. We must do more to keep the American people safe from deadly vehicular terrorism. This bill passed by a vote of 400-15.

I voted "Yes" on H.R. 2659, the Strengthening Cyber Resilience Against State-Sponsored Threats Act. This bill establishes an interagency task force and requires a comprehensive report to Congress on the targeting of the United States' critical infrastructure by the People's Republic of China (PRC) state-sponsored cyber actors. In recent years, the PRC has significantly escalated its malicious cyber operations targeting the United States, compromising power grids, water systems, and telecommunications. This new task force will be laser-focused on the threats posed by the PRC and will enhance our defense of critical infrastructure. This bill passed by a vote of 402-8.

(Contd. Pg. 55)

This Week with Claudia (From Pg. 54)

Tuesday, November 18

I voted "Yes" on H.R. 815, the Epstein Files Transparency Act. This bill will direct the Department of Justice to release the Epstein files, including files related to Jeffrey Epstein, Ghislaine Maxwell, flight logs to the island, and any plea deals related to the Epstein files. I applaud President Trump's commitment to release the files, something President Biden failed to do during his tenure. The American people deserve to know the extent of Jeffrey Epstein's depravity and any other individuals that were complicit in his heinous crimes. However, this Democrat discharge petition is poorly drafted and fails to include sufficient protections to preserve the privacy of the victims, prevent the release of child sexual abuse material (CSAM), and keep whistleblowers and undercover law enforcement officers protected. The Senate must amend this legislation to include important safeguards to protect the victims and protect confidential methods and sources. However, I supported this resolution generally because the release of the files will help provide closure to the many victims of Jeffrey Epstein and ensure the public has all the information possible related to this tragedy. The bill passed the House by a vote of 427-1.

I voted "Yes" on H.Res. 878, Disapproving the behavior of Representative Jesus G. "Chuy" García of Illinois. This resolution disapproves of the behavior of Congressman Chuy García for his actions to undermine the Congressional election in Illinois' 4th Congressional District. On October 27th, Congressman García filed for re-election and on November 5th, minutes before the filing deadline, Congressman García's chief of staff filed to run for the seat as well. Then, the day after the filing deadline, Congressman García announced he would not be running for re-election. This shady maneuvering is beneath the dignity of the House of Representatives and violates the spirit of free and fair elections. I strongly condemn Congressman García's manipulation and supported the passage of this resolution formally expressing Congressional disapproval of his actions. This resolution passed the House by a bipartisan vote of 236-183 with 4 members voting present.

I voted "Yes" on H.Res.888, Censuring and condemning Delegate Stacey Plaskett and removing her from the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence for conduct that reflects discreditably on the House of Representatives for colluding with convicted felony sex offender Jeffrey Epstein during a congressional hearing. Recent reports revealed that during the Trump impeachment hoax hearing with Michael Cohen, Delegate Stacy Plaskett (VI) texted with convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein. This resolution censures Delegate Plaskett for her conduct, directs the Ethics Committee to conduct a full investigation into the relationship between Epstein and Delegate Plaskett, and removes Delegate Plaskett from the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (HPSCI). As a member of HPSCI, I can attest that this conduct is completely unbecoming of a member of this prestigious committee that deals with the information with the highest sensitivity. Delegate Plaskett's actions reflect discreditably on the House of Representatives, and thus I voted for this resolution. This resolution failed to pass the House by a vote of 209-214, with 3 members voting present.

I voted "Yes" on H.J.Res. 130, Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to "Buffalo Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment". This resolution utilizes the Congressional Review Act (CRA) to rescind the Biden Administration rule which locked up all 800,000 acres of land and 4.7 million acres of mineral estate administered by the Buffalo Field Office and made 48.12 billion short tons of coal

unavailable for leasing. Critical mineral resource access is a national security priority, and this resolution is a necessary reversal against the Biden administration's broader agenda of locking up public lands and stifling domestic industrial capacity. This resolution passed by a vote of 214-212.

I voted "Yes" on H.J.Res. 131, Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to "Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program Record of Decision". This resolution would use the Congressional Review Act (CRA) to rescind the Biden Administration rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) which made 1.16 million acres of land unavailable for oil and gas leasing. Overturning these burdensome Biden Administration regulations will help unleash American energy dominance and is essential for boosting domestic energy production while responsibly managing federal land. This resolution passed by a vote of 217-209.

I voted "Yes" on S.J.Res. 80, Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to "National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska Integrated Activity Plan Record of Decision". This resolution rescinds the Biden Administration rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) under the Congressional Review Act (CRA) that restricted development of petroleum reserves in Alaska. During his time in office, President Biden pushed policies that targeted American fossil fuels while prioritizing environmental special interest groups over everyday consumers, restricting market choices, and ultimately driving up costs for American households. Overturning these harmful Biden Administration rules will help drive down costs for American consumers. This resolution passed by a vote of 216-209.

Wednesday, November 19
I voted "Yes" on H.R. 4058, the Enhancing Stakeholder Support and Outreach for Preparedness Grants Act. This bill amends the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) and the State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) of the Department of Homeland Security to require the FEMA Administrator to provide ongoing stakeholder outreach, education, technical assistance, and support to grantees. Cooperation and resource sharing among federal, state, and local authorities enhance our national security and ensure that all levels of government are ready for emergencies. H.R. 4058 is a crucial step toward better equipping state and local governments with the information and resources they need to protect the American people. This bill passed by a vote of 380-45.

I voted "Yes" on H.R. 5214, the District of Columbia Cash Bail Reform Act. Like New York, Washington, DC is experiencing record levels of crime that threaten the safety of residents and visitors alike. Amidst this crime wave, DC's radical bail reform laws give judges complete discretion on bail, including for murderers and drug dealers. This legislation will help keep violent offenders off DC's streets by requiring individuals charged with violent crimes to be held pre-trial. This includes charges such as assault of a police officer, carjacking, and murder. Additionally, this bill requires cash bail for serious crimes that pose a threat to public safety, such as fleeing a police officer, rioting and stalking. Upstate New Yorkers that visit our Nation's capital should never feel unsafe or be threatened by violent criminals that continue to roam DC's streets. This bill passed by a vote of 237-179.

I voted "Yes" on H.R. 5107, the CLEAN DC Act. Like Albany, Washington DC is full of politicians that support the radical defund and demoralize the police movement that have led to record staffing lows that embolden criminals in our Nation's capital. This legislation will help protect DC police officers as they do their jobs to keep DC's streets safe.

(Contd. PG. 56)

This Week with Claudia (From Pg. 54) This includes reinstating the rights of DC police officers to collectively bargain over disciplinary matters, allow for the use of riot gear and less-lethal projectiles, and allow officers and the police union to be represented on the Police Complains Board. Allowing police officers proper due process when a complaint is filed is critical to ensuring that police officers are not punished for upholding the law and doing their jobs. For too long, DC has prioritized criminals and punished police officers - this is completely backwards. By restoring proper protections for police officers in DC, we can help recruit and retain more officers to keep DC safe for Upstate New Yorkers that visit our Nation's capital. This bill passed by a vote of 233-190.

I voted "Yes" on H.R. 6019, To repeal certain provisions relating to notification to Senate offices regarding legal process on disclosure of Senate data, and for other purposes. This bill repeals Section 213 of the Continuing Appropriations, Agriculture, Legislative Branch, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Extensions Act, 2026 (PL 119-37) which allows Senators to receive up to \$500,000 in damages if federal law enforcement obtains their electronic data without proper notification. This provision provides unfair protections to Senators, without similar provisions for the general public or members of the House of Representatives, and would force taxpayers to provide compensation for the weaponization of law enforcement by the Biden administration. This provision was unfortunately included in the CR by the Senate without coordination with the House of Representatives, and this legislation will repeal this problematic provision. This bill passed by a unanimous vote of 426-0.

I voted "Yes" on the Motion to Table H.Res. 893, Censuring Representative Cory Mills and Removing Him From the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Foreign Affairs. This resolution would have censured Congressman Cory Mills (FL) and removed him from the Armed Services and Foreign Affairs Committees. This resolution did not go through regular order and would preempt the ongoing investigation by the House Ethics Committee into the allegations against Congressman Mills. By tabling this resolution, the House Ethics Committee can investigate these allegations and make a proper recommendation to the House of Representatives once its work is concluded. The motion to table passed by a vote of 310-103, with 12 members voting present.

Thursday, November 20

I voted "Yes" on H.R. 3109, the REFINER Act. This bill addresses the shrinking refinery capacity that has driven rising fuel costs. Since 2020, the U.S. has lost more than a million barrels per day in refining output, thanks to overregulation and the Biden Administration's misguided energy policy. This bill directs the National Petroleum Council to collect and provide critical information on the current state of our nation's petrochemical refineries. This will inform sound policy decisions that restore American refining reliability, lower fuel prices for working families, and reinforce the energy security our economy depends on. The bill passed the House by a vote of 230-176.

I voted "Yes" on H.R. 1949, the Unlocking our Domestic LNG Potential Act. This bill reverses the Biden Administration's arbitrary pause on LNG export approvals and ensures that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has sole authority over natural gas exports. That means more certainty for producers, more jobs for American workers, and more support for our allies abroad who are trying to end their reliance from Russian natural gas. At a time when demand for LNG is rising both domestically and around the world, this legislation sends a clear message that the United States is still the global leader in energy output. The bill passed the House by a vote of 217-188.

Friday, November 21

I voted "Yes" on H.Con.Res. 8, Denouncing the horrors of socialism. Socialism has always been rooted in control, not compassion. Across the world, socialist regimes have delivered only misery, oppression, and economic ruin. After graduating college, I had the opportunity to work in Yugoslavia as the country prepared for the Olympics. I saw firsthand how everything was controlled by the state and nothing moved without political permission. It was a cautionary lesson about what happens when government dictates opportunity and individual liberty is an afterthought. That is exactly why America must never embrace that path. Here in New York, we are already watching socialist ideology gain ground paving the way for radical politicians to push government run systems, undermine law enforcement, and drive out families and job creators. We cannot allow New York's slide toward socialism to become a model for the nation. This resolution passed the House by a vote of 285-98, with 2 members voting present.

Strengthening Fort Drum with Reliable, Secure Energy

Congresswoman Elise Stefanik and I led a letter to Army Secretary Daniel P. Driscoll urging the Army to select Fort Drum as one of the nation's first microreactor sites. Fort Drum is home to the most deployed division in the United States Army, the 10th Mountain Division, and it must never be forced to rely on an unstable and unreliable power grid. Under Governor Hochul's extreme climate mandates, New York has already shut down reliable energy sources, including Fort Drum's biomass plant, which once supplied dependable power to the installation. These reckless policies have weakened grid reliability across our state and put mission readiness at risk. A microreactor would provide Fort Drum with secure, independent, uninterrupted energy to support critical operations and ensure our troops have the power they need to defend our nation. Ensuring Fort Drum's strength and stability is not just an energy issue; it is a national security imperative.

READ FULL LETTER HERE.

<u>https://tenney.house.gov/sites/evo-</u> <u>subsites/tenney.house.gov/files/evo-media-document/driscoll-</u> <u>microreactor-letter.pdf</u>



It was a busy week in Washington, where Congress came together in a bipartisan manner to fight for the transparency and answers that the American people demanded and deserve.

Hearing directly from you is how I can best represent you and fight for your priorities in Congress, and I remain willing and ready to work with anyone to deliver for you and your family. Whether it's about releasing the Epstein files, how you're being impacted by the soaring cost of health care, or what factors you think are driving up grocery prices, your voice, stories, and experiences are what motivate me day in and day out to deliver

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

DEMANDING THE TRANSPARENCY YOU DESERVE

Bringing predators to justice - no matter who they are - is not a political issue. It is a simple question of law and order. That's what the American people are demanding, and that is what they deserve. (Contd. Pg. 57)

Pat Ryan (From Pg. 56) This year, the Administration is letting airlines get away with messing up your holiday travel by rolling back those protections.

That makes your life more expensive, not less.

I'm fighting to defend the protections for airline passengers that former Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg put into place.

Earlier this year, the Trump Administration also nixed the rule that required airlines to safely transport wheelchairs and assistive devices for passengers without damage and to compensate passengers whose wheelchairs and assistive devices did sustain damage during flight, as well as provide loaner devices while the airline paid for immediate repairs.

I immediately led colleagues on a letter to Department of Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy demanding that he reinstate the rule.

I'll keep working to make sure that when you fly, you receive the protections, respect, and compensation that you deserve.

COMMEMORATING THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE GETTYSBURG ADDRESS

Wednesday marked 162 years since President Lincoln said in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania:

"Government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

Each one of us has a duty to ensure our democracy persists.

Our nation overcame civil war through the collective sum of individual Americans' devotion to our country's founding principles. It is how we will continue to overcome any division our nation faces.

THANKING OUR CAREGIVERS

As we continue to celebrate National Caregivers Month this November, I want to say to the caregivers across the Hudson Valley:

Your work does not go unnoticed, your strength inspires us all, and every day, I'm working to deliver the resources and support you need for your vital work.

BOOSTING AWARENESS OF DIABETES RESOURCES

An estimated 38.4 million Americans have diabetes - I'm fighting to make treatment and care accessible and affordable.

During this Diabetes Awareness Month, help spread the word to loved ones and neighbors with diabetes about the resources available at our Hudson Valley health care providers - learn more about some here!

https://midhudsonnews.com/2025/11/09/hudson-valley-healthcare-providers-focus-on-diabetes-awareness-

month/?fbclid=IwY2xjawOMJvFleHRuA2FlbQIxMQBzcnRjBmFwcF9pZBAyMjIwMzkxNzg4MjAwODkyAAEeQOzG8XIm0JB9jg1Rcgsdmu6CIWKWjeA_iL6aVUF_t0NvUkiHTA4QFoHAX9I_aem_DLjjnuO7RFwVmLCqGtg0jg#google_vignette

CONGRATULATING OUTSTANDING WEST POINT CADETS

I want to give a huge congratulations to West Point Cadets Max Felter, Johnny Pinc, and Brandon Tran on being named Rhodes Scholars.

They embody the best of our nation, grounded in service above self and living out the West Point motto of Duty, Honor, Country.

GRANTS CORNER

APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR:

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) FY26 Conservation Program Funding: NRCS in New York is announcing that the fiscal year FY26 sign-up deadline for the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and EQIP Initiatives including the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI), National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI), Working Lands for Wildlife Golden-Winged Warbler (WLFW) and Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA) is Oct. 24, 2025

While applications are accepted on a continuous basis, NRCS utilizes application cutoff periods to assess and rank applications based

on their potential conservation impact. All applications need to be received by Oct. 24, 2025, to be considered for this first round of funding for FY 2026. Applications received after this date will be held and considered for subsequent rounds.

NOVEMBER 27, 2025

New York State Council on the Arts FY2026 Capital Projects Fund: Up to \$80 million in capital funding is now available to non-profit arts and cultural organizations through the New York State Council on the Arts Capital Projects Fund. The Fund has three grant categories: Small and Midsized Capital Improvement Grants, Large Capital Improvement Grants, and Capital Design Grants for Arts and Culture. The deadline is January 13, 2026, at 5PM.

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

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. To subscribe to the grants guide, please email epeck@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.

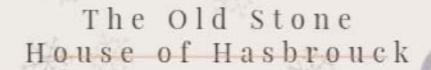
RESOURCES:

New York Small Business Development Center (NYSBDC) - 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!



Holiday CRAFT FAIR

282 Hasbrouck Road, Woodbourne

6-7th
OPEN FROM



Reserve your spot 845 807 6446 Come & Shop for: Home-made Crafts Artwork Vintage Items Local Jewelry & Much More Refreshments

vendors spaces of approximately 8'X5'or as space allows \$10.00 for one day \$15.00 for both bring your own table

www.oldstonehouse.org/

Laura Aley's new book includes stories about people and places from long ago.



The book is available at the **Shandaken Historical Museum in Pine Hill** for \$10.00. Not only will you want
your own copy, but *Laurels by Laura* will make a great gift -

The Shandaken Historical Museum is located at 26 Academy Street, Pine Hill, NY 12465. The telephone number of the museum is 845 - 254 - 4460.

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 morel



Join now by going to timeandthevalleysmuseum.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!





Momen's Empowerment Group

Join us on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month from 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Discuss topics impacting women today, in a safe and judgement free environment. Opportunities to exchange ideas and share life experiences. Attend educational workshops and learn from guest speakers.

Be Inspired ~ Be Empowered ~ Be You

Location:

126 Seward Ave

Middletown, NY 10940

For More Information Call 845.343.4284

Eligibility & Pre-Registration is required.





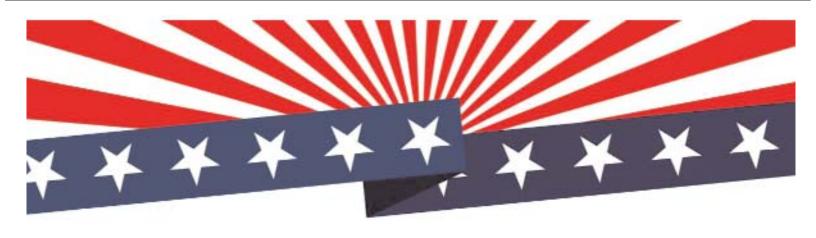






Plenke, R.SI/P

Sents are limited



Sponsor a Flag in the Town of Neversink

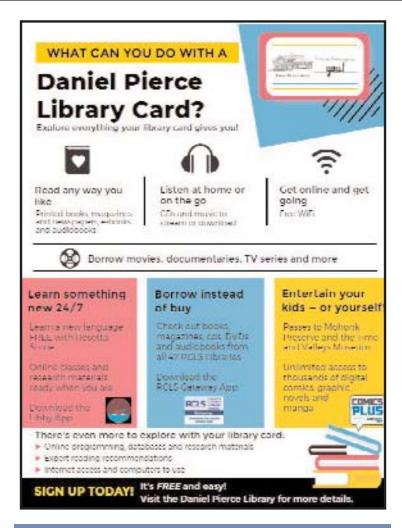
This is a unique opportunity for you to honor your hero. A loved one, A friend, Military, Non-Military, Maybe it is someone who changed your life,

Each sponsored flag is \$200, allowing you to create a stirring tribute to a person who has inspired you. Your contribution becomes part of an annual inspirational display that touches everyone who sees it.

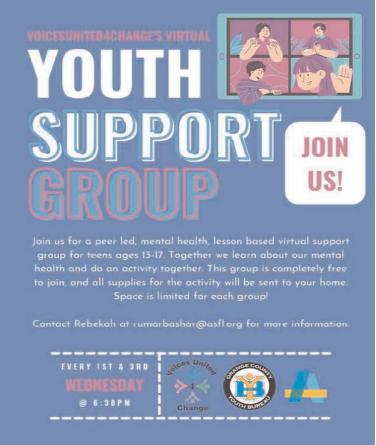
For Details please email, call or visit the Neversink Town Clerk's office.

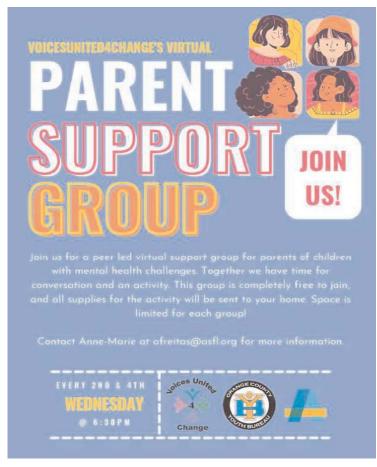
Attn: Town Clerk PO Box 307, 273 Main St Grahamsville, NY 12740 townclerk@townofneversink.org 845-985-2262 Ext. 307











CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP FOR FAMILIES OF VETERANS

1st Wednesday each month 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM Feb 5

Mar 5 Apr 2

May 7 June 4

July 2 Aug 6

Sept 3 Oct 1

Nov 5 Dec 3

Action Toward Independence 309 E Broadway, Monticello, NY 12701

To register:

Use the QR Code, or use the link https://tinyurl.com/5n6mtpy4 or email sullivancrc@cornell.edu.

For more information or to talk to a Veteran Peer Advocate. please call 845,794,4228.

Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan County



An estimated 80% of veterans will have some need for long-term services and supports in their lifetime. Supporting caregivers helps reduce stress and caregiver burnout and improves wellness.











Monticello, NY 12701



Cornell Cooperative Extension | Sullivan County

2025 Caregiver Resource Center **Monthly Virtual Support Groups**

For family caregivers caring for an individual with any illness, chronic disease or disability (including seniors or someone with earlystage dementia).

To register:

Use the QR Code, or use the link https://tinyurl.com/5n6mtpy4 or email sullivancrc@cornell.edu.



3rd Wednesday each month

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Jan 15 Feb 19

Mar 19 Apr 16

May 21 June 18

July 16 Aug 20

Sept 17 Oct 15

Nov 19 Dec 17

Via Zoom or Phone

Center

ALZHEIMER'S 95 ASSOCIATION

This program is supported by a grant from the NVS Department of Health and is a partnership between Cornell Cooperative Extension, Sullivan County Office for the Aging, and the Alzheimer's Association.



Join the DPL 2025 Reading Challenge!

Read ALL year and you could win a book or two!

Ready to dive into new adventures, explore fresh ideas and discover exciting worlds? The 2025 Book Challenge is here and it's open to readers of all ages! Whether you're a child just learning to read, a teen devouring every novel in sight or an adult looking for your next great read, this challenge is for you!

Make sure to stop by the library and grab your reading log!

- · Set Your Goal whether it's 5, 10 or 30 books, there's no limit!
- · Read explore new genres, authors and topics.
- · Track Your Progress add the titles as you go.
- · Celebrate Your Success complete the challenge by December 31, 2025 and be entered to win a book each time you fill out one side of your reading log!

Challenge yourself and your family.

Expand your horizons with new books.

For ALL ages!

Read adventurously! || |





New to the Daniel Pierce Library this year...

Introducing

Pages & Percs

Join us for a brand new experience at the DPL Now you can sip, relax and read all in one place.

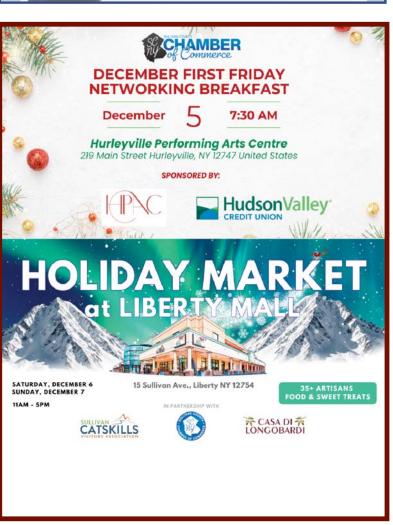
Get cozy and caffeinated while you enjoy a delicious cup of coffee and browse our book sale selection, located in our beautiful 1902 Room.

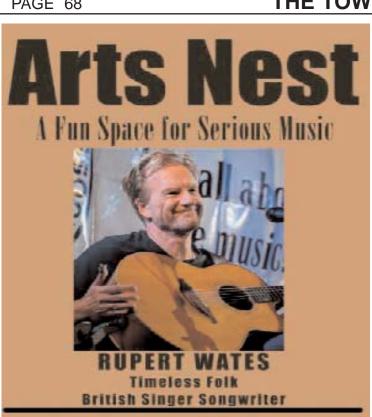
Enjoy a fresh cup of coffee from Happy Belly for \$2. Choose the perfect coffee pod for yourself at our front desk.

Pick out a book to buy and take home or dive into it right here. Sit back, sip your coffee and enjoy a peaceful moment.

Whether you're looking for your next page-turner or just need a break, Pages and Percs is your perfect spot to relax and recharge.

Enjoy!







Saturday Nov 29, 2025 \$20 cover 7-9pm

Street 6692 Rte 52, Lake Huntington, NY 12752



Arts Nesi

A Fun Space for Serious Music



Come for the Songs. Stay for the Songs.



Tuesdavs

6:00 - 8:00 pm sign-up 5:30pm



Caunction 6692 Rte 52, Lake Huntington, NY 12752





Daniel Pierce Library

Wide variety from action, thrillers, mystery, romance, comedies, series and more!

\$1.00 each



Sullivan County Intervention Line for Parents and Teens

Are you a parent struggling with your family? Are you a teen having problems at home?

Help is available now!

We are here anytime you need to talk.

Give us a call or send us a text and someone will always be there to listen and help you deal with your situation.



Calls and texts are answered 24/7

A program of the DRC

COVID-19 Vaccines Save Lives

Friends

Who will you protect?



¿A quien protegerás?

Amigos Family

Get the facts.



Obtenga los hechos.

Talk to your healthcare provider about the COVID vaccine.



Hable con su proveedor de salud sobre la vacuna del COVID-19.

Communidad



For more information, visit www.sullivanny.us



Sullivan County **Text For Teens**

4pm-10pm & Sunday 5pm-12am



GET SIGNED UP TODAY FOR **OUR UPCOMING**

CERTIFICATION CLASS!!

Sullivan County Department of Social Services is looking for families who can help fulfill the DESPERATE NEED for ages 8-18!

Contact:

Alyssa Wowk (845) 645-6544 awowk@chowc.net



FOSTER HOMES

NEEDED!



HELP WANTED

Blooming Green Lawn and Landscape Sevice

Full time work.
Salary based on experience.
Call: 845-665-3348
or 945-985-0516

tfn

Legal Secretary/Typist for busy law office in Grahamsville, full or part-time. Knowledge of Computers. William Brenner, PO Box 369, 157 Main St., Grahamsville, NY 12740. Phone 845-985-7411, email: williamabrenner@hotmail.com

FOR RENT

2 Bedroom Apartment with balcony, Tri-ValleySchool District in Grahamsville.

Available Immediately. Call 845-985-7411

Classified Ads
Only \$5.00 a week!



Gnome Home Virtual Mall

gnomehomeinc@yahoo.com

... if you just want to have some 'gnome made' fun..

Visit the gnome's virtual on-line local shop

at:

http://www.gnomehomeinc.com



Miracle on 34th Street

1947 • PG • 1 HR 36 MIN American Holiday • Comedy-drama Prime Paramont YouTube Pluto TV



Miracle on 34th Street is an American Christmas comedy-drama film released by 20th Century-Fox, written and directed by George Seaton and based on a story by Valentine Davies. It stars Maureen O'Hara, John Payne, Natalie Wood, and Edmund Gwenn. The story takes place between Thanksgiving and Christmas in New York City, and focuses on the effect of a department store Santa Claus who claims to be the real Santa. The film has become a Thanksgiving and Christmas favorite.

Kris Kringle (Edmund Gwenn) is indignant when he find the man assigned to play Santa in the annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade is intoxicated.

When Kris Kringle (Edmund Gwenn) complains to event director Doris Walker (Maureen O'Hara), she persuades Kringle to take his place. He

does such a fine job that he is hired as the Santa for Macy's flagship New York City store in Macy's Herald Square. Ignoring instructions to steer parents to buy from Macy's, Kringle directs one shopper (Thelma Ritter) to another store. Impressed, she tells Julian Shellhammer (Philip Tonge), head of the toy department, that she will become a loyal customer. Kris finds himself devided between those who believe in him, and those who don't.



If you haven't seen *Miracle on 34th*Street, you will be in for a warm treat as you watch the spirit of Christmas make everything right in the most unusual ways.

To many, including our family, *Miracle on 34th Street* is a must watch movie on Thanksgiving Day –usually right after the Thanksgiving Parade.

You can watch the Thanksgiving Parade on NBC starting at 8:30 a.m. You can also stream it on Peacock and Fubo with a subscription. NBC will also host an encore at 2 p.m.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving and a blessed Advent Season!

Stay safe, and stay well Knarf Odnamoc Gnome

Answer to last week's Trivia Question: False: Obsessive Compulsive Disorder

This weeks' Trivia question: *Pride and Prejudice* is based on the book by what author?